

Concern Worldwide (UK)
Annual Report and Accounts 2008

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Farmer Mekonnen Shumbulo in his maize field in the Kebele of Sadoye, Ethiopia.
June 2008.
Photographer: Julien Behal/ PA Wire.

Foreword

I took up the position of Chair of the Board of Concern Worldwide (UK) in the wake of 2005. That was a landmark year in the history of international development – the year of Make Poverty History, the Commission for Africa and the Gleneagles Summit. That all helped to develop momentum behind the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), set out in 2000, which have as their over-arching objective the halving of the proportion of people living in absolute poverty by 2015.

Progress towards the MDGs is now at serious risk – not because developing countries are failing to do the right thing, but because of the external environment. The international financial crisis has a huge impact on those of us in the West, but the consequences for developing countries can be disastrous. The soaring cost of food alone has had a dramatic impact on purchasing power; the forward movement towards the MDGs – of getting children into school, and providing basic health care for vulnerable groups - is not just at risk of stalling, but of going into reverse. And the spectre of climate change looms ever closer – driven almost entirely by the developed world, but with the consequences being felt most acutely in the developing world.

The truth is that we are in reality one world. This is not a time for us to draw in on ourselves. Charity may begin at home; but we must not let it end there. Concern Worldwide (UK) has a proud record of supporting poor communities in Africa and elsewhere in the developing world, in particular targeting hunger and nutrition. It is – as all our careful monitoring and evaluation demonstrate – money well spent.

2008 was the year in which we celebrated 40 years of Concern Worldwide, and a time to look back on its achievements with pride. We bade farewell to Lyndall Stein as Director of Concern Worldwide (UK) at the end of 2008, and owe her a huge debt for her commitment and her vision. We are fortunate indeed that Rose Caldwell – a former member of the Board, and Chair of the Finance and Audit Committee – has been appointed as Lyndall's successor.

As we look forward, we must ensure that we are ready to meet the challenges that lie ahead. We are looking carefully at our structures and staffing to satisfy ourselves that we are able to operate to optimum effect. But however good we are, we simply cannot function without continuing assistance and resolve from you, our supporters. As you read this Report, I hope that you will allow yourselves to take some pride in what has been achieved, with your help, and that we will be able to look to you for continuing support.

Foreword

There is something else to take pride in, too. Politicians rarely receive bouquets from the NGO community. 2005, which is where I started, was also a year which saw the development of a consensus amongst the political parties that they would increase official development assistance significantly in the period to 2012/2013. At a time when governments the world over have backed off similar commitments, the British Government has remained firm and steadfast under the Prime Minister's leadership, and the Leader of the Opposition has been absolutely clear that for his party too those commitments remain sacrosanct. This – together with international development activities supported by the devolved governments in Edinburgh, Belfast and Cardiff – gives me great hope that these islands can set a fine example for others to follow. The poor of the world deserve no less.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "Myles A. Wickstead". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Myles A. Wickstead, CBE

Chair of Board of Trustees

Concern Worldwide's identity, vision, mission and values

Our Identity – Who we are

Concern Worldwide is a non-governmental, international, humanitarian organisation dedicated to the reduction of suffering and working towards the ultimate elimination of extreme poverty in the world's poorest countries.

Our Vision – for change

A world where no-one lives in poverty, fear or oppression; where all have access to a decent standard of living and the opportunities and choices essential to a long, healthy and creative life; a world where everyone is treated with dignity and respect.

Our Mission – What we do

Our mission is to help people living in extreme poverty achieve major improvements in their lives which last and spread without ongoing support from Concern Worldwide.

Our Values – What guides our work

Concern Worldwide's core values derive from a single central value:

Extreme poverty must be targeted. The quality of our overall endeavour must ultimately be measured by its contribution to the rapid elimination of the extreme form of poverty defined by the United Nations as "absolute poverty".

Our other values, stated below, are subsidiary to this central value:

Respect for people comes first. Poverty, no matter how extreme, reduces people's choices - not their competence and abilities. Respect is shown to all people with whom we engage; and in particular in our overseas work, we respect the integrity and dignity of the poor with whom we work.

Gender equality is a prerequisite for development.

The establishment of equality of opportunities between men and women is fundamental to both the achievement of fairness and to poverty elimination.

Development is a process, not a gift.

Development is a process that occurs in people and is achieved by them at their pace, either on their own or with outside facilitation. We hold as a fundamental tenet that people living in absolute poverty have, in varying degrees, personal capacities, local resources and external opportunities for their own self-development. It is imperative that our work builds on these resources.

Greater participation leads to greater commitment.

At home and overseas participation in decision-making leads to a greater and more sustained commitment to achieving developmental objectives. We believe in a high level and quality of participation by the poor in decision-making about development initiatives taken in partnership with them.

Concern Worldwide's Identity, vision, mission and values

All governments have responsibility for poverty elimination.

Most of the poverty endured by countless numbers of people living in the developing world cannot be solved without changed national and international social, economic and political structures. Concern Worldwide engages in advocacy to this end.

Emergencies call for rapid response.

We value the importance of being able to respond quickly, effectively and creatively to people unable to meet their basic needs, especially in sudden onset emergencies.

Democracy accelerates development.

Lack of equity in the distribution of power within and between societies retards the struggle against absolute poverty. Participatory democratic environments are the most favourable settings in which states, markets and people can together solve the problem of global poverty.

The environment must be respected.

The destruction of the environment poses a major threat to our target groups. We acknowledge the importance of protecting the earth's environment and the need to ensure that our development and advocacy work promotes the concept of environmental responsibility and the conservation of natural resources and their sustainable management.

Good stewardship ensures trust.

We hold money in trust for all of our donors and for their intended beneficiaries. This creates a responsibility to ensure we are accountable and to give value for money both to our donors and to our project participants.

Experience is the best teacher.

Our current policies, strategies and practices have been developed through our learning over the years. We value the ongoing process of learning and of participating in networks with other organisations to share experiences and learn from them.



Sote Kilelit, displaced by the violence in Kenya, receives a transfer of money by mobile phone to allow her to purchase food.
Photographer: Concern Worldwide 2008.



Almaz Acha with her baby Alentsey in the doorway of her house in the Kebele of Sadoye, Southern Ethiopia. June 25, 2008. Photographer: Julien Behal/ PA Wire.

To achieve its mission, Concern Worldwide (UK) supports the overseas programmes of Concern Worldwide – we do not implement our own overseas programmes. We also seek to address the root causes of poverty directly through our advocacy and development education work.

In 2008, Concern Worldwide (UK) gave financial support to Concern Worldwide's overseas work in 30 countries as follows:

Afghanistan
Angola
Bangladesh
Burundi
Cambodia
Chad
Democratic People's Republic of Korea
Democratic Republic of Congo
Ethiopia
Haiti
India
Indonesia
Kenya
Lao People's Democratic Republic
Liberia
Malawi
Mozambique
Myanmar
Nepal
Niger
Pakistan
Rwanda
Sierra Leone
Somalia
Sudan, North and South
Tanzania
Timor Leste
Uganda
Zambia
Zimbabwe

As can be seen from the above listing, our countries of operation continued to be chosen from the poorest countries on earth as measured by the UN Human Development Index. In addition, the countries of operation spanned a variety of contexts from more secure developing countries to fragile, insecure states and states struggling with serious internal conflict.

In the course of the year we estimate that Concern Worldwide programmes reached 10 million women and men directly and 25 million women and men indirectly.

Details of the countries in which Concern Worldwide worked are set out below in 'Country Profiles' whilst details of the programmes implemented are set out in the section 'Overseas Work – Programme Information' from page 27. The information below is extracted from reports prepared by Concern Worldwide.

Afghanistan

The security situation in Afghanistan steadily deteriorated through 2008, with a 40% rise in civilian deaths, and aid workers consistently targeted for kidnapping and attack. Despite these difficulties, which were further compounded by a major drought affecting the entire country, we were able to continue the majority of our programming, focusing on improving conditions for the most vulnerable community members. Two major long-term water and livelihoods programmes got under way in the north, which will play a significant role in our future programming.

Key achievements

We successfully completed a project focusing on peer education for Mullahs. The project involved religious figures educating their congregations on HIV and AIDS-related issues. This innovative work is part of an ongoing HIV and AIDS education programme that addresses stigma and discrimination.

Nearly 30,000 people benefited from our water and environmental health programmes. As well as training more than 20,000 people in improved sanitation and hygiene measures, our 52 water provision schemes provided safe and accessible water systems to communities.

Villagers reported that the disaster risk reduction infrastructure put in place by Concern has enabled them to stay in their homes during flooding periods. This helped prevent forced economic migration to neighbouring cities and countries – a practice that was dangerous and left communities devoid of young males.

Concern helped 17,000 people improve their crop yields with irrigation projects, seed distribution and training in improved agricultural techniques. This has increased incomes and provided a more secure source of food. The irrigation structures in particular reduced the impact of drought on communities.

Angola

Following the first parliamentary elections in Angola for 16 years, an elected multi-party government took office in September 2008. The economy performed well in the year, although there was additional pressure in the country from both increased inflation and rising international food prices.

The Plan Alto area, traditionally Angola's food basket, was badly affected by the civil war (1975-2002), resulting in Angola having to import a large portion of its food requirements still to this day. As such, we continue to work to improve livelihoods, particularly in this region where 9,540 poor and vulnerable families have directly benefited from our livelihoods programme in 2008. The main focus of this programme has been livestock distribution credit schemes, improved and increased agricultural production and the strengthening of local institutions.

Key achievements

We reached 198 teachers through our distance learning programme, with basic and higher-level teacher training. At policy level, we participated in a number of education forums – including Educators' Day and national meetings of the Education for All Network. Concern also organised a conference which set in place an education coordination mechanism between the government and civil society.

We focused on forming and strengthening community development committees. These committees provide leadership support to a pool of community volunteers including farmers, HIV and AIDS activists, "goat-credit" group leaders and community animal health workers.

Through our community-run seed banks, 3,035 families accessed seed for the 2008/09 planting season. This is a significant step forward for communities that experience up to nine hunger months in a year and have depended on free food deliveries for more than three decades. Forty-five seed banks were built in 2008.

Life skills and AIDS education programmes are under way in 12 schools, where teachers run Anti AIDS clubs, each with approximately fifty student members. We also trained 114 community-based agents in 57 villages to raise awareness about HIV, AIDS, sexually transmitted diseases and gender issues.

Afghanistan

Area **652,000 sq km**
Population **25.1m**
GDP per Capita **n/a**
Infant Mortality (per thousand births) **165**
Life Expectancy **42.9**
Living with HIV and AIDS **n/a**
Literacy Rate **28%**
Access to safe water **39%**
Human Development Rank **n/a**
Global Hunger Rank/Index* **n/a**

Angola

Area **1,247,000 sq km**
Population **16.1 m**
GDP per Capita **US\$4,434**
Infant Mortality (per thousand births) **154**
Life Expectancy **42.1**
Living with HIV and AIDS **3.7%**
Literacy Rate **67.4%**
Access to safe water **53%**
Human Development Rank **157(out of 179)**
Global Hunger Rank/Index* **79 / 29.5**

Sources
UNDP Human Development Report 2007/2008
* IFPRI 2008

Bangladesh

Area **144,000 sq km**
Population **153.3 m**
GDP per Capita **US\$1,155**
Infant Mortality
(per thousand births) **54**
Life Expectancy **63.5**
Living with HIV and AIDS
<0.1%
Literacy Rate **52.5%**
Access to safe water **74%**
Human Development Rank
147 (out of 179)
Global Hunger Rank/Index*
70 / 25.2

Burundi

Area **28,000 sq km**
Population **7.9 m**
GDP per Capita **US\$333**
Infant Mortality
(per thousand births) **114**
Life Expectancy **48.9**
Living with HIV and AIDS
3.3%
Literacy Rate **59.3%**
Access to safe water **79%**
Human Development Rank
172 (out of 179)
Global Hunger Rank/Index*
86 / 38.3

United Kingdom

Area **242,514 sq km**
Population **60.2 m**
GDP per Capita **US\$32,654**
Infant Mortality
(per thousand births) **5**
Life Expectancy **79**
Living with HIV&AIDS **0.2%**
Literacy Rate **99%**
Access to safe water **100%**
Human Development Rank
21 (out of 179)

Sources

UNDP Human Development
Report 2007/2008
* IFPRI 2008

Bangladesh

Bangladesh continued to be under a state of emergency for most of 2008. The state of emergency was lifted in December 2008, and elections in the same month marked a return to democracy following two years of army-backed rule.

Like many NGOs, much of our work in 2008 focused on recovery and rehabilitation in the wake of the natural disasters of 2007, in particular the destruction caused by cyclone SIDR. Our continued response to SIDR included the provision of food relief and other essentials for 26,000 families, housing for 9,400 families, sanitary services, safe drinking water and income through cash-for-work. Our boat construction scheme was particularly successful in rapidly restoring the livelihoods of poor fishermen.

Key achievements

95 volunteer teachers attended training on basic teaching and learning processes. Concern-trained volunteer teachers are now supporting 1,611 children (includes 885 girls) from the poorest families in homes, centres and classrooms.

352,636 people benefited directly from our health and nutrition programme work. In rural areas we focused on reducing maternal, child and neonatal mortality and morbidity. We also helped some of the most marginalised sectors of society; pavement dwellers and sex workers, gain access to health facilities.

23,470 people in rural areas gained access to savings and credit services. Access to such services enables people to set up small businesses and provides financial assistance.

Access to land and water is central to earning a living for many extremely poor people. We assisted in the organisation of 608 landless people and 688 fishermen in claiming government-owned land and bodies of water on which to work.

Flooding in September 2008 forced 60,000 people from their homes for periods of up to three months. We provided emergency food relief and rehabilitation support to almost 6,000 families.

Burundi

The new 'ethically balanced' government that came into power towards the end of the year faced protests and unrest from the Batwa community and the army. In

April 2008, intensified fighting between the FNL (*Forces nationales de liberation*) and the army threatened the delicate peace that existed. This increased insecurity resulted in the suspension of our field work for a few weeks.

In spite of these difficulties, we continued our transition from emergency relief to longer-term work, launching new programmes in education, livelihoods and health. We worked with the government on disaster prevention and management, and helped the Ministry of Health respond to cholera outbreaks in February and December 2008.

Key achievements

We trained 38 rural education advisors, who in turn trained 630 teachers on the newly introduced curriculum covering subjects like Kiswahili, English and civics. We also provided training for 141 head teachers and teachers' representatives, and helped re-establish parent-teacher committees in 47 schools.

The training of 270 community health workers and 270 traditional birth attendants by Concern directly benefited 11,266 children and 2,967 pregnant women. The use of drama, folklore animations and video helped in raising community awareness of malaria, malnutrition and HIV and AIDS.

Women volunteers (known as Mamas Lumières) provided health and nutrition education for the mothers of 2,277 children using seasonal, locally-sourced menus.

To improve incomes and access to food, we provided training on farming techniques for 108 people, while 1,048 people received tools and seeds. Working in conjunction with farmers' associations, we also distributed small livestock to 1,320 people.

Improved support of local development committees and councils and their work with community members, ensuring development plans represented the needs and priorities of the whole community, from the grassroots up to the commune level.

Where we work

Cambodia

It is estimated that 42% of Cambodians live in extreme poverty. With the poor being increasingly affected by rising food and fuel prices, our response has been to step up our activities, primarily in the set up of rice banks and the provision of cash-for-work schemes, with a view to improving incomes and access to food for the poor.

We continued our work with partner organisations and communities, engaging people in local development planning processes, assisting them in setting their own priorities and mobilising available resources to bring about improvements to their lives. We also worked with government bodies and structures to increase their capacity to deliver services to poor rural communities.

Key achievements

163,416 people benefited from our livelihoods work, including natural resource management, food production and processing and increasing access to markets. Through farmer field schools, exchange visits and demonstration plots, we helped farmers learn new techniques in seed selection, fertilisers and pest control. Thirty-five new dams, canals and ponds improved access to water and allowed farmers to grow their produce year-round.

We are currently supporting approximately 962 village groups, and helped communities establish more than 200 village associations this year. All these associations received training on leadership, proposal writing, group management and natural resource management. As a result of this training, village groups representing the poor have become more engaged in village and commune council planning, meeting participation and presenting their priority needs.

We helped landless families in several provinces secure user access to common land, not only to grow rice and vegetables but also as a temporary residence. We helped communities secure support from local authorities in addressing illegal logging and land encroachment issues.

We responded to various small-scale isolated emergencies, including sudden high winds, fire, and food shortages. As a result of these small-scale emergencies, food and housing materials were provided to 299 families.

Chad

The spill-over of conflicts in Darfur and to a lesser extent in the Central African Republic, together with an internal rebellion against the Chadian government and widespread banditry continue to be destabilising factors in politically fragile Chad. The country is currently host to more than 240,000 Sudanese refugees and some 185,000 internally displaced people.

Despite continuing insecurity and swelling numbers in the four camps under Concern management, we were able to establish coordination mechanisms in each site, deliver humanitarian aid and collect and analyse data whilst also rolling out a new livelihoods programme.

Numbers in the camps now exceed 54,000 – compared to 38,000 in 2007. Within the camps we target the most vulnerable households, as well as support communities in the host villages immediately surrounding the sites.

Key achievements

Our co-ordination activities in the camps have helped increase dialogue between the community and the different agencies working there. As a result, people living in the camps have more say in determining the level and type of assistance available and are better able to discuss problems that arise.

We distributed seeds and tools to almost 3,000 vulnerable households in the four sites and surrounding areas; 2,500 households also received a tree (either fruit or forestry tree). Planting trees helps reduce the environmental degradation caused by the influx of people.

Concern taught 108 people to build portable, fuel-efficient stoves. They in turn trained more than 2,000 people. A large number of households are now using these stoves, which reduce both environmental damage (they use less wood to cook a meal) and the time people spend collecting firewood, leaving them less exposed to attack.

618 families each received two goats – one male and one female – to enable them to start breeding livestock. We also trained 65 people in animal feeding techniques: who in turn have trained a further five individuals each.

Cambodia

Area **181,000 sq km**
Population **14 m**
GDP per Capita **US\$1,619**
Infant Mortality (per thousand births) **98**
Life Expectancy **58**
Living with HIV and AIDS **1.6%**
Literacy Rate **75.6%**
Access to safe water **41%**
Human Development Rank **136 (out of 179)**
Global Hunger Rank/Index* **64 / 23.2**

Chad

Area **1,280,000 sq km**
Population **10.1 m**
GDP per Capita **US\$1,470**
Infant Mortality (per thousand births) **124**
Life Expectancy **50.4**
Living with HIV and AIDS **3.5%**
Literacy Rate **25.7%**
Access to safe water **42%**
Human Development Rank **170 (out of 179)**
Global Hunger Rank/Index* **81 / 29.90**

Sources
UNDP Human Development Report 2007/2008
* IFPRI 2008

DPR Korea

Area **121,000 sq km**
Population **23.6 m**
GDP per Capita **n/a**
Infant Mortality
(per thousand births) **42**
Life Expectancy **67**
Living with HIV and AIDS **n/a**
Literacy Rate **n/a**
Access to safe water **100%**
Human Development Rank
n/a
Global Hunger Rank/Index*
53 / 18.8

DR Congo

Area **2,345,000 sq km**
Population **58.7 m**
GDP per Capita **US\$281**
Infant Mortality
(per thousand births) **129**
Life Expectancy **46.1%**
Living with HIV and AIDS
3.2%
Literacy Rate **67.2%**
Access to safe water **46%**
Human Development Rank
177 (out of 179)
Global Hunger Rank/Index*
88 / 42.7

United Kingdom

Area **242,514 sq km**
Population **60.2 m**
GDP per Capita **US\$32,654**
Infant Mortality
(per thousand births) **5**
Life Expectancy **79**
Living with HIV&AIDS **0.2%**
Literacy Rate **99%**
Access to safe water **100%**
Human Development Rank
21 (out of 179)

Sources

UNDP Human Development
Report 2007/2008
* IFPRI 2008

DPR Korea

Although DPR Korea significantly improved relations with the US, relations with Japan and South Korea worsened in 2008. The declining economy had a detrimental impact on the humanitarian situation, particularly with regards to access and availability of food and resulting chronic malnutrition. This situation was further compounded by increased food and fuel prices, declining fuel and food aid and the loss of fertiliser donations from abroad.

Concern continued its work in improving water, sanitation and livelihoods in urban areas. Concern also continued to focus on halting deforestation while improving and diversifying farm production in rural communities. In total 170,000 people benefited from our work in 2008. We continued to develop and incorporate disaster risk reduction in all our work; a follow on from emergency work undertaken after the floods in 2007.

Key achievements

In all, 155,380 people benefited from our water and environmental health work. We linked 9,260 households to new drinking water supplies, while renovated pump stations are delivering better water quality and quantity to another 20,650 families.

We provided 270,000 potted seedlings to three community nurseries. Traditional bed-grown seedlings require between one and three years to grow and often have damaged roots. The poly pot system, on the other hand, grows seedlings with vigorous and undamaged root systems in three to nine months. The Ministry of Lands and Environmental Protection is keen to extend this technology to nurseries country-wide.

We protected communities at risk of flooding by managing 1,500 metres of vulnerable stream banks. With a combination of vegetation, gabions and stone facing, we reduced water velocity and material load in higher areas, thereby reducing destructive flooding further downstream.

To improve agriculture, we built access roads, provided crop and food processing machinery, encouraged crop diversification, and upgraded animal traction. We also implemented soil conservation technologies on 60 hectares of sloping lands to make it agriculturally sustainable.

DR Congo

Despite the signing of a peace deal in January 2008, clashes between the army and armed groups in the east of the country escalated over the course of the year into major conflicts. This led to the displacement of a further 250,000 people, antagonising an already precarious humanitarian situation.

Having previously suspended our livelihoods programme in Masisi North Kivu, we launched an emergency response in 2008. In Katanga, where the situation remained calm, we began the transition from emergency response to recovery and longer-term development work in the latter half of the year.

Key achievements

Despite various setbacks due to insecurity, 5,360 households in four camps in Masisi received plastic sheeting and soap, and 5,051 families received clothing and other non-food items. More than 1,000 people benefited from a cash-for-work scheme.

In Katanga we recruited and trained health and hygiene committees in 17 villages, who in turn devised a programme to raise awareness of how to prevent diseases borne by poor quality water and lack of hygiene. Four hand pumps were installed in Sangwa village, providing fresh water to 2,500 people.

We continued to address problems of malnutrition and lack of livelihoods through our community therapeutic care programme and agricultural support in Maniema province, contributing to a fall in general and severe acute malnutrition rates in the area.

We distributed tools and seeds, re-established seed banks, improved access for rural communities through road and bridge construction and replenished depleted livestock reserves in Katanga and Kasongo. Cash-for-work schemes also provided income for vulnerable community members.

Despite logistical delays owing to the remoteness of the area and other difficulties, 29 schools were completed in Katanga for the start of the 2008/2009 school year.

Where we work

Ethiopia

Drought in 2008 brought a sharp decline in food security for a large section of the population. According to government figures, those in need of emergency assistance leapt from 2.2 million people at the start of the year to 6.4 million people by October. This was in addition to the 8 million people already on the government’s production safety net programme. Our response, namely the provision of emergency nutrition, water and animal feed; seed and non-food items; and water and sanitation projects - benefited more than 450,000 people.

Concern also continued with other non-emergency work. Highlights include a number of television advertisements speaking out against stigma and discrimination against HIV-positive children, and our work with the Ministry of Education to produce a new curriculum for non-formal basic education in two areas.

Key achievements

Our education programme helped vulnerable children and youth who do not have access to basic education and women with no access to saving and credit. This year we reached 5,222 children and 309 vulnerable women. We continue to raise awareness on the importance of girls’ education, reinforcing the message via radio.

297,278 people benefited from our primary healthcare, malaria prevention and nutrition programmes. In one area, health centres reported a drop of 71% in malaria cases.

We helped more than 210,000 people earn a better living, through skills training, business development support, savings and credit schemes, farming support and developing water sources. While these were mostly in rural areas, nearly 20,000 were in the capital city.

More people are making use of HIV counselling and testing – take-up rates were up to 5,331, compared to 1,576 in 2007. At the same time, there has been increased acceptance of HIV-positive people, marking a change in attitude in communities.

Haiti

2008 was another difficult year for Haiti. Food riots, political instability and four hurricanes in the space of just three weeks were the main factors. In November 2008, the National Food Security Commission reported 206,607 people at risk of famine.

Concern provided post hurricane relief to 1,269 families and helped more than 8,000 people restore their long-term ability to produce food with seed, tools and livestock distribution to affected communities. Concern also provided cash for work opportunities.

Key achievements

We provided health and hygiene training for 1,271 teachers, parents and members of management committees in 120 schools. A total of 331 teachers and school directors also received training on children’s rights, lesson planning, French written and oral comprehension and Creole language. This level of training will enable these teachers and directors to obtain incremental levels of state certification.

Our maternal and infant health programme was strengthened through the addition of a nutrition element, including integrating outpatient treatment services for severely malnourished children. The new approach has received a lot of interest and support both at community and national level.

Our peace-building project in poor neighbourhoods of Port-au-Prince has trained more than 300 local people in dialogue and conflict management. This work has already shown positive results. During the food riots which swept the country in April 2008, the St Martin area of the capital (where most of our work was performed) was unaffected by looting and demonstrations.

Concern’s HIV and AIDS work linked in with the new National HIV and AIDS strategy, which includes peer counsellors in health centres. Our awareness-raising model to overcome discrimination against HIV-positive people by health personnel has been taken up by the public medical training university and nurse and midwife training schools.

Ethiopia

Area **1,104,000 sq km**
Population **79 m**
GDP per Capita **US\$700**
Infant Mortality (per thousand births) **109**
Life Expectancy **52.2**
Living with HIV and AIDS **0.9 – 3.5%**
Literacy Rate **35.9%**
Access to safe water **22%**
Human Development Rank **169 (out of 179)**
Global Hunger Rank/Index* **82 / 31**

Haiti

Area **28,000 sq km**
Population **9.3 m**
GDP per Capita **US\$1,109**
Infant Mortality (per thousand births) **84**
Life Expectancy **60**
Living with HIV and AIDS **3.8%**
Literacy Rate **61%**
Access to safe water **54%**
Human Development Rank **148 (out of 179)**
Global Hunger Rank/Index* **69 / 24.3**

Sources
UNDP Human Development Report 2007/2008
* IFPRI 2008

India

Area **3,288,000sq km**
Population **1,134.4 m**
GDP per Capita **US\$2,489**
Infant Mortality
(per thousand births) **56**
Life Expectancy **64.1**
Living with HIV and AIDS
0.9%
Literacy Rate **65.2%**
Access to safe water **86%**
Human Development Rank
132 (out of 179)
Global Hunger Rank/Index*
66 / 23.7

Kenya

Area **583,000sq km**
Population **35.6 m**
GDP per Capita **US\$1240**
Infant Mortality
(per thousand births) **120**
Life Expectancy **52.1**
Living with HIV and AIDS
6.1%
Literacy Rate **73.6%**
Access to safe water **61%**
Human Development Rank
148 (out of 179)
Global Hunger Rank/Index*
66 / 23.7

United Kingdom

Area **242,514 sq km**
Population **60.2 m**
GDP per Capita **US\$32,654**
Infant Mortality
(per thousand births) **5**
Life Expectancy **79**
Living with HIV&AIDS **0.2%**
Literacy Rate **99%**
Access to safe water **100%**
Human Development Rank
21 (out of 179)

Sources

UNDP Human Development
Report 2007/2008
* IFPRI 2008

India

The occurrence of repeated terrorist attacks in the larger cities of India throughout 2008 increased the level of pressure on both central and state governments in India. The deterioration in the global financial climate last year also had a big impact on India.

The Forest Rights Act finally came into force in January 2008, a year after it was originally passed. This act gives forest dwellers the right to claim legal possession of the land they have lived on and cultivated for generations. We helped more than 100,000 households in 2,475 villages stake their claims for recognition of their individual and community rights, following the procedures laid out in the Act. Around 90% of eligible households in the areas we work in have submitted their claims.

Key achievements

We provided support and training to Forest Rights Committee members, volunteers, and government officials on the Act. This support and training focused on their roles and responsibilities, and the procedures to be followed for staking claims.

We helped 10,000 households increase their incomes through access to credit, collection and processing of non-timber forest products, collective marketing, and training on sustainable farming methods. Many farmers were able to take up a second crop after land development work improved irrigation and thus water availability.

We reached 8,542 young people in urban areas, including college students, slum dwellers and street adolescents – through 1,153 HIV and AIDS awareness sessions. To get our message to young people in rural areas, we held two three-day training sessions on HIV and AIDS basic facts and a seven-day mobile awareness camp. As part of our support to building a network of people living with HIV and AIDS, we organised 52 support group meetings and 10 family awareness programmes. We also published a case study book featuring examples of positive living through a programme called Fear and Hope.

Our emergency relief responses reached 21,000 families affected by three separate flooding incidents in 2008. We provided food and non food items, temporary shelter and access to safe water.

Kenya

Kenya experienced one of its most turbulent years since independence. Violent, political unrest, high food prices and scarcity, high energy costs, drought, outbreaks of animal disease and the global economic downturn combined to devastating effect.

The year began with a complex humanitarian emergency caused by the violently disputed presidential election in December 2007 which left 1,133 dead and over 500,000 displaced people. Concern provided essential food and non-food items to 135,000 displaced people and strived to protect the human rights and wellbeing of victims of post-election violence. We also gave emergency cash transfers to 5,000 households using mobile phone technology.

The disruption of agricultural activities resulted in low agricultural yields, which threatened people's ability to meet their own food requirements. This problem was further exacerbated in the latter part of the year by high fuel costs and the global economic downturn. The government responded with food importation and price controls. Concern increased food, nutrition and cash support.

Key achievements

At least 163,678 people benefited directly from three emergency water projects, which saved both lives and livelihood assets.

To help deliver education services during the post-election violence, we provided psychosocial support training to teachers and pupils and guidance on counselling. We also helped schools cope with the increased number of students caused by internal displacement, providing books and hiring of part-time teachers.

We continued to work with out-of-school youth on HIV and AIDS awareness. Life skills training, peer education and interactive theatre encouraged more young people to seek counselling and testing.

Our successful media campaign persuaded the government to fund and recognise non-formal slum schools. We are now working with the Ministry of Education to ensure that 1,000 non-formal schools can benefit from, and effectively manage, public grants.

Where we work

Lao People’s Democratic Republic

The political and security situation remained stable throughout 2008, while limited integration with the international economy meant that Laos was not seriously affected by the global financial crisis. Nevertheless, there was little reduction in rural poverty, and spikes in food and fuel prices affected the general public.

Despite a number of challenges, our livelihoods work continued to have a steady impact, improving the lives of 60,352 people. We continued to work in partnership with the National Institute of Public Health to deliver our health programme, building two new mother-and-child hospitals and delivering quality health services to an additional 2,500 people in rural areas. Our health education work reached 21,109 people.

Key achievements

We helped 107 families gain temporary land entitlement certificates to nearly 180 hectares of land. Four new irrigation schemes helped farmers increase production, while a new variety of rice increased yields by nearly 50%. We established 11 community rice banks, and trained 55 people in rice bank management.

We helped 90 women in six weaving groups with loans, and provided raw materials and tools to improve their hand looms, along with marketing and management training. We built a permanent community market and encouraged communities to organise regular trade fairs, where they sold their products directly to consumers.

We provided training for staff in district hospitals and village health clinics, and supported a number of existing staff to train as midwives and doctors. Innovative use of information technology facilitated medical treatment in remote communities, as village clinic staff used Skype via solar-powered broadband to consult with doctors.

15,000 people gained access to safe, clean water. As well as building water systems and reservoirs, we helped establish and train water user groups and ran awareness campaigns on personal health and hygiene.

Liberia

Although Liberia enjoyed a buoyant economy in 2008, the sharp rise in food and fuel prices had a huge impact, particularly on the extremely poor. Concern continued to focus our work on improving incomes and access to food, water and sanitation. On a visit to one of our farmers’ resource centres, the President of Liberia, Ellen Johnson congratulated us, both for the initiative and for our contribution to her country’s recovery.

Five years after the official ending of the civil war, many formerly displaced people have returned home. We continued our emergency provision of water and sanitation infrastructure for the large proportion of people who remain without access to basic facilities.

Key achievements

We established a fourth farmers’ resource centre, where farmers learn how to solve local problems using organic and locally available materials. We ran 38 farmers field schools, which delivered training to 760 farmers for one season, in the community and on their own fields. We also provided advice, technical follow-up and seminars for a further 3,500 farmers.

8,740 people gained access to better sanitation through the construction of 296 latrines. We also improved access to clean water for 134,500 people, with 72 new tap stands and 106 new and rehabilitated wells. We also helped communities establish water and sanitation committees, to manage their environmental health and facilities.

We improved access to markets and other services for more than 74,980 people, building and rehabilitating 21 culverts, seven bridges and 69 km of earth roads.

In urban areas, we built eight timber deck footpaths and bridges to give island communities faster and cheaper access to main facilities. We also provided skills training for 205 people, and ran adult literacy courses for 248 people from four slum communities.

Lao PDR
Area **237,000 sq km**
Population **5.7 m**
GDP per Capita **US\$1,980**
Infant Mortality
(per thousand births) **62**
Life Expectancy **63.7**
Living with HIV and AIDS **0.1%**
Literacy Rate **72.5%**
Access to safe water **51%**
Human Development Rank **133 (out of 179)**
Global Hunger Rank/Index* **57 / 20.6**

Liberia
Area **111,000 sq km**
Population **3.44 m**
GDP per Capita **US\$335**
Infant Mortality
(per thousand births) **157**
Life Expectancy **45.1**
Living with HIV and AIDS **2-5 %**
Literacy Rate **54.4%**
Access to safe water **61%**
Human Development Rank **176 (out of 179)**
Global Hunger Rank/Index* **83 / 31.8**

Sources
UNDP Human Development
Report 2007/2008
* IFPRI 2008

Malawi

Area **118,000 sq km**
Population **13.2 m**
GDP per Capita **US\$703**
Infant Mortality
(per thousand births) **79**
Life Expectancy **47**
Living with HIV and AIDS
14.1%
Literacy Rate **70.9%**
Access to safe water **73%**
Human Development Rank
162 (out of 179)
Global Hunger Rank/Index*
62 / 21.8

Mozambique

Area **802,000 sq km**
Population **20.05 m**
GDP per Capita **US\$739**
Infant Mortality
(per thousand births) **100**
Life Expectancy **42.4**
Living with HIV and AIDS
16.1%
Literacy Rate **43.8%**
Access to safe water **43%**
Human Development Rank
172 (out of 179)
Global Hunger Rank/Index*
72 / 26.3

United Kingdom

Area **242,514 sq km**
Population **60.2 m**
GDP per Capita **US\$32,654**
Infant Mortality
(per thousand births) **5**
Life Expectancy **79**
Living with HIV/AIDS **0.2%**
Literacy Rate **99%**
Access to safe water **100%**
Human Development Rank
21 (out of 179)

Sources

UNDP Human Development
Report 2007/2008
* IFPRI 2008

Malawi

Malawi continues to register successive high economic growth rates, and a National Statistics Office survey revealed that poverty levels have dropped from 50% to 40%. Despite this statistic, 40 out of every 100 Malawians are still living on less than US\$1 a day. Within this context, we continued to address social and economic inequalities among the most vulnerable, supporting communities to assert their rights and demand services from duty bearers. As a result, communities are now working directly with local government representatives to resolve many issues, including access to food.

We continued to support the Ministry of Health on three fronts: scaling up community therapeutic care (CTC) to tackle malnutrition in all districts; producing a long-term operational plan to guide the institutionalisation of CTC into the health system over the next three years; and accessing donor funds to implement the service themselves. We also influenced and supported the government's new social protection policy.

Key achievements

We worked with community leaders, students, the Ministry of Education, teachers and parents to develop a new education programme that will address the inequalities that prevent and prohibit girls from continuing secondary education.

32,511 people benefited from our health work. As well as working with the Ministry of Health to implement and supervise CTC, we provided training for national and district-level health staff to make sure they can fully manage CTC within the primary healthcare system.

We helped 22,551 people improve their incomes and access to food, by helping them demand services as well as distributing seeds and tools, providing training on irrigation and farming techniques, diversifying cash crops and improving access to markets.

171,000 people benefited from our emergency work, which included disaster risk reduction and a response to small-scale flooding, when we worked with the government to provide seeds and fertiliser to 500 households.

Mozambique

A combination of an economic slowdown, rising food prices, climate change and instability in neighbouring countries meant that there were few positive changes for Mozambique's poor in 2008. Indicators show rising incidence of malnutrition, stalling literacy rates, stagnant agricultural production and irregular access to food and income.

The country's central region suffered its worst floods since 2000, with 90,000 people forced to leave their homes, – many whom were still recovering from the floods of 2007. After forming part of the rescue and evacuation effort, our response focused on immediate humanitarian needs, distributing plastic sheeting to 3,485 flood-affected households and blankets and clothes to 2,000 vulnerable children and old people. We also helped ensure that 2,400 children continued their education in resettlement areas – providing 12 school tents and materials for children and teachers – and supported households to build and maintain their livelihoods.

Key achievements

We helped improve access to education for 65,405 vulnerable children. Working with 123 school councils, we provided training for 2,000 school council members on planning and designing school development plans and school management. We also provided education materials to more than 10,000 orphans and vulnerable children.

Working with district authorities, we provided ethics and regulations training for teachers and school councils. We also supported school councils to design user-friendly codes of conduct and hold teachers and principals to account for any breaches of these.

18,630 people benefited from our livelihoods work, which included establishing groups to raise livestock, keep bees and grow crops. These groups help members generate additional income to meet household needs and reinvest in livestock.

We helped communities influence their future development, supporting local forums to challenge the government for equitable allocation and appropriate use of resources for district and community development.

Where we work

Myanmar

On 2nd May, 2008, Cyclone Nargis made landfall at the southern tip of Myanmar's Irrawaddy Delta. Between 120,000 and 140,000 people were killed, a further 19,000 were badly injured, and 550,000 were temporarily displaced. Of the 9 million people living in the path of the cyclone, it is estimated at 2.4 million were directly affected.

Concern responded to the impact of Cyclone Nargis by helping to fund the emergency intervention of two of our Alliance 2015 partners, Cesvi and Welthungerhilfe, (WHH) and by seconding five staff from our Emergency Response Team (ERT) and the Logistics Unit.

Key achievements

Concern ERT staff visited programmes run by Cesvi and Welthungerhilfe both of whom had a prior presence in Myanmar. We conducted an assessment of needs and the likelihood of the government being willing to allow new international agencies to establish a presence in the country. We concluded that although Concern would not be allowed to respond directly but we could support the disaster response programmes of both WHH and Cesvi.

We supported WHH with cash donations and Cesvi and with both cash and in-kind donations. Cesvi's response focused on the areas around Dedaye town which was deemed to be a highest priority area in terms of the level of need for humanitarian assistance. Work concentrated on supplying drinking water, shelter and non-food items such as blankets and kitchen sets, as well as health interventions and support to people to rebuild their livelihoods.

Nepal

The first elections since the end of the civil war late in 2006 were held relatively peacefully in 2008. The new government quickly abolished the unpopular monarchy but will continue to face massive challenges to meet its agenda of economic and social transformation.

With the country teetering on the brink of a critical food crisis brought on by rising food and commodity prices, localised crop failures and floods in its major food production areas, we launched our pilot project on the community management of acute malnutrition this year. Our other work mainly focused on improving access to water and sanitation services and preparatory work for a new livelihoods programme. We also responded to two major flooding disasters within the space of a few weeks.

Key achievements

We worked closely with the Ministry of Health and Population to strengthen local health structures and thus enable them to treat and manage the appalling rates of severe acute malnutrition at community level.

13 water schemes were constructed, delivering quality drinking water to some of the most remote and poorest communities in Nepal. These have significantly decreased the amount of time women and girls spend in collecting water. In some cases time savings have been up to 4 hours per day.

We built 1,015 household latrines and five institutional latrines, and raised awareness about hygiene and basic health issues.

Our emergency programme helped some 10,500 people this year. With two back-to-back flood disasters in August and September, the government's capacity to respond effectively was severely stretched. Thanks to the competency and hard work of our emergency partner RRN, we were one of very few organisations who were able to respond effectively to both disasters, providing supplementary feeding, non-food items and water and sanitation services to the worst-affected and most marginalised households.

Myanmar

Area **678,000 sq km**
Population **48m**
GDP per Capita **US\$1027**
Infant Mortality (per thousand births) **48**
Life Expectancy **64**
Living with HIV and AIDS **0.7%**
Literacy Rate **90%**
Access to safe water **78%**
Human Development Rank **132 (out of 179)**
Global Hunger Rank/Index* **39 / 15**

Nepal

Area **140.800 sq km**
Population **27.1 m**
GDP per Capita **US\$999**
Infant Mortality (per thousand births) **56**
Life Expectancy **63**
Living with HIV and AIDS **0.5%**
Literacy Rate **55.2%**
Access to safe water **90%**
Human Development Rank **145 (out of 179)**
Global Hunger Rank/Index* **57 / 20.6**

Sources
UNDP Human Development Report 2007/2008
* IFPRI 2008

Niger

Area **1,267,000 sq km**
Population **13.3 m**
GDP per Capita **US\$612**
Infant Mortality
(per thousand births) **150**
Life Expectancy **56.2**
Living with HIV and AIDS
1.1%
Literacy Rate **29.8**
Access to safe water **46%**
Human Development Rank
174 (out of 179)
Global Hunger Rank/Index*
85 / 32.4

Pakistan

Area **804,000 sq km**
Population **158.1 m**
GDP per Capita **US\$2,361**
Infant Mortality
(per thousand births) **79**
Life Expectancy **64.9**
Living with HIV and AIDS
0.1%
Literacy Rate **54.2%**
Access to safe water **91%**
Human Development Rank
139 (out of 179)
Global Hunger Rank/Index*
61 / 21.70

United Kingdom

Area **242,514 sq km**
Population **60.2 m**
GDP per Capita **US\$32,654**
Infant Mortality
(per thousand births) **5**
Life Expectancy **79**
Living with HIV&AIDS **0.2%**
Literacy Rate **99%**
Access to safe water **100%**
Human Development Rank
21 (out of 179)

Sources

UNDP Human Development
Report 2007/2008
* IFPRI 2008

Niger

The conflict that started in February 2007 in the north of Niger continued throughout the year, though its scale and impact on the nomadic population remained opaque. No formal state/rebel negotiations took place, and neither side seemed to gain any military advantage. The 2007 harvest was satisfactory and, together with government subsidies, helped keep access to food at normal levels. We continued to focus on education, health and improving access to food for the most vulnerable members of communities.

Key achievements

Working with the Ministry of Education, we trained 955 teachers on the curriculum and child rights, as part of a new process of cyclical training for untrained teachers. We also provided monthly decentralised training for 434 teachers in key subjects including maths, French and teaching first year primary school level.

We supported 192 school committees to develop school management skills and hold teachers and directors to account for absences. We also provided training in school management for 422 school directors.

We continued to work with the Ministry of Health to develop a sustainable system to identify, prevent and treat acute malnutrition and integrate it into state and civic health structures and activities. By end of year, outpatient therapeutic activities had been incorporated into all 12 target health centres.

We trained 668 traditional birth attendants in infant and young child feeding practices, screening and referral of malnourished children. We also distributed visual aids to 1,740 volunteers, traditional birth attendants and health committee members, to help them raise awareness of child malnutrition.

We provided improved seed to 2,202 households, while 425 extremely vulnerable women received three goats each. Some of the women were also trained to support their peers in best practice in animal feed, hygiene, medical care and financial management. We helped 200 people develop vegetable gardens for off-season gardening, and built four cereal banks.

Pakistan

In 2008 there were significant political and security-related developments in Pakistan. At the same time, food prices rocketed, resulting in regular food shortages and increasing malnutrition. By the end of the year the country was on the brink of bankruptcy and turned to the IMF for a rescue package. It is likely that the conditions attached to any rescue package will lead to further hardship in 2009.

Our work in urban and rural areas focused on health and livelihoods. We also continued our post-flooding and post-earthquake rehabilitation and recovery work, and responded to new emergencies. In December we were involved in the high-profile launch of an HIV and AIDS DVD.

Key achievements

We provided over 20,000 people with access to safe drinking water close to their homes in North West Frontier Province, while eight new gravity flow water supply schemes provided clean water to more than 5,000 people in Punjab. Such projects have reduced the spread of water-borne diseases and significantly improve the lives of women in particular, who often spend many hours fetching water.

We organised regular health and hygiene sessions for over 2,000 working children in Quetta City, and also provided daily supplementary food to 3,000 children. We also organised vocational skills training for hundreds of working children, to help them switch from hazardous forms of child labour to safer, more productive ways of earning a living.

Our natural resource management programme reached over 51,000 people. We distributed fruit and forest trees so community members could establish nurseries and orchards, as well as rehabilitating arable land and irrigation systems.

We distributed food, health and hygiene kits, jerry cans, buckets, tents and plastic sheeting to 5,600 flood-affected people when 150 villages were impacted in Southern Punjab. We also provided non-food items and 49 latrine slabs to 200 families following an earthquake in Balochistan.

Where we work

Rwanda

Fourteen years after the genocide, Rwanda is enjoying a period of security and stability. However, the escalating conflict and displacement of more than 250,000 people in neighbouring DRC posed security and humanitarian concerns in some border areas this year, while the global food crisis led to a 15% increase in the price of imported food commodities.

We worked with people in poor communities to increase their access to food and improve incomes, while we successfully scaled up community treatment of malaria, diarrhoea and pneumonia. We also worked with the Ministry of Education to develop a trainer’s manual to increase community involvement in the management of primary schools.

Key achievements

38,841 children and 493 teachers benefited from our education work. We helped establish parent-teacher committees, and provided training and networking opportunities for 761 parents and teachers, helping them fulfil their roles and responsibilities.

54,681 people benefited from our health work, which focused on integrating community-based care into the Ministry of Health’s overall structure. We supported the training of 668 community health workers on the integrated management of child illness.

We helped 980 households set up small businesses or improve food production. We also trained 560 people in a range of farming techniques, and set up a seed banking system to help farmers’ associations establish and manage a stock of adequately preserved seeds.

Our HIV outreach activities supported 7,669 people in remote villages to undergo voluntary HIV testing. We also helped 320 people living with HIV and AIDS to improve their income and access to food. We set up 43 anti-AIDS clubs, which use drama and competitions to raise awareness on HIV prevention, stigma and discrimination.

Following an earthquake in February, we provided plastic sheeting and 2,210 blankets to 1,105 households.

Sierra Leone

An optimistic mood ushered in the New Year as Sierra Leone awaited the newly elected government’s promises for sustainable electricity, better roads and clean water. Despite complaints about intimidation and vote rigging during local government elections in July, the process signified a crucial consolidation to the country’s peace and stability. In September a new anti-corruption law was passed and President Koroma became the first sitting African president to declare his assets. However, the country is still in transition, and recovery from its 11-year conflict will take time. Concern continues to work hard to face up to the significant challenges that remain.

Key achievements

We distributed 17,137 text books to 33 primary schools and 5,051 text books to four junior and secondary schools. We provided training for teachers and administrators of 66 primary schools and held a trainers’ workshop for 132 teachers on adult literacy facilitation skills. Our distance education programme continued to expand, as 368 teachers enrolled, 14 were certified and 136 awaited their final examination result.

We trained 462 school management committee members and 330 community members in developing and managing small projects for school development, with a focus on farm-based income generation projects.

To help improving health-seeking practices and access to quality healthcare services, we continued to fill gaps within existing health services. This included training 286 traditional health practitioners to promote the rational use of alternative medicines.

The rehabilitation and building of 22 wells provided safe water facilities for 12,046 people; while 480 new latrines gave 12,437 people access to reliable sanitation facilities.

We trained 642 traditional birth attendants to provide monitoring and care during pregnancy. Our pregnant women’s clubs – which promote regular check-ups and exclusive breastfeeding as well as running ante-natal and post-natal group sessions – reached 424 women.

Rwanda

Area **23,000 sq km**
Population **9.2 m**
GDP per Capita **US\$819**
Infant Mortality (per thousand births) **118**
Life Expectancy **45.8**
Living with HIV and AIDS **3.1%**
Literacy Rate **64.9%**
Access to safe water **74%**
Human Development Rank **165 (out of 179)**
Global Hunger Rank/Index* **63 / 22.3**

Sierra Leone

Area **72,000 sq km**
Population **5.6 m**
GDP per Capita **US\$630**
Infant Mortality (per thousand births) **165**
Life Expectancy **42.1**
Living with HIV and AIDS **1.6 %**
Literacy Rate **37.1%**
Access to safe water **57%**
Human Development Rank **179 (out of 179)**
Global Hunger Rank/Index* **84 / 32.2**

Sources
UNDP Human Development Report 2007/2008
* IFPRI 2008

Somalia

Area **638,000 sq km**

Population **8 m**

GDP per Capita **n/a**

Infant Mortality
(per thousand births) **133**

Life Expectancy **47**

Living with HIV and AIDS **n/a**

Literacy Rate **n/a**

Access to safe water **29%**

Human Development Rank

n/a

Global Hunger Rank/Index*

n/a

Sudan

Area **2,506,000 sq km**

Population **36.9m**

GDP per Capita **US\$1,887**

Infant Mortality
(per thousand births) **62**

Life Expectancy **57.8**

Living with HIV and AIDS

1.6%

Literacy Rate **60.9%**

Access to safe water **70 %**

Human Development Rank

146 (out of 179)

Global Hunger Rank/Index*

56 / 20.5

United Kingdom

Area **242,514 sq km**

Population **60.2 m**

GDP per Capita **US\$32,654**

Infant Mortality
(per thousand births) **5**

Life Expectancy **79**

Living with HIV&AIDS **0.2%**

Literacy Rate **99%**

Access to safe water **100%**

Human Development Rank

21 (out of 179)

Sources

UNDP Human Development
Report 2007/2008

* IFPRI 2008

Somalia

Somalia is in the midst of a brutal war which has so far claimed over 16,000 lives. The Somali people continue to suffer unimaginable insecurity, with little hope of any short-term improvement. Piracy has brought significant international attention to the country, while the scale of these attacks reinforces the complete breakdown of law and order.

Despite the extremely challenging circumstances, we continued operating in four regions in south and central Somalia delivering assistance to more than 800,000 people, whilst maintaining the safety and security of our 85 Somali staff.

Key achievements

9,323 children benefited from our education work. We provided incentives and training for 287 teachers and 190 community education committees, built three new schools and repaired 15 others. We also helped 156 older girls gain access to vocational skills training.

14,619 people are now enjoying clean, safe drinking water from 15 wells. We helped establish or strengthen 17 water and sanitation committees and provided training on water management, hygiene and sanitation for 119 committee members and 150 women hygiene promoters. We also trained 34 technicians to repair and maintain the wells and hand pumps.

485 people attended our HIV awareness sessions, and now will hopefully spread behaviour change messages in their communities. We also trained 87 peer educators to become actors for behaviour change among their peers – at work, school and in the community.

Additionally, we ran 63 ‘community conversation’ sessions, where 445 illiterate people learnt about HIV and AIDS within their community, to identify risk behaviours and reflect on how to address these. This work is crucial in a country where more than 78% of the population is illiterate.

We continued to support people displaced by the recent conflict and food crisis. 343,914 people benefited from cash-for-work, non-food items, psychosocial support, access to clean water and training for water committees.

Sudan North

Political developments in 2008 added ever-increasing layers of complexity to this country ravaged by wars, inequality and competing political creeds. The conflict in Darfur continued to rage, displacing a further 250,000 people – the total is now over 2.5 million. Despite challenging security issues, we continued to implement an emergency programme in West Darfur and a development oriented capacity building programme in South Kordofan.

The fighting and insecurity restricts communities’ ability to grow food and access water, markets and labour opportunities. As well as providing shelter, water and sanitation items for 175,000 displaced people, we focused on reducing acute malnutrition, improving health and hygiene practices, and helping people grow food and earn a living.

Key achievements

We coordinated two camps for displaced people and refugees, helping to provide proper site planning, identification of needs and security coordination, and protection of the population while ensuring the particular needs of vulnerable groups – women, children, elders and people with disabilities – were taken into consideration.

Seven new or rehabilitated water structures significantly improved access to water for 29,876 people in Abyei, reducing their need to migrate, improving health and hygiene and helping secure crops and harvests.

875 households received seeds, pesticides and horticultural training. We also built and improved seed banks to help communities save seed for future harvests, provided seeds and tools to women’s groups and goats for 50 female-headed households.

7,404 people were treated through our community therapeutic care programme, leading to a significant decrease in global and severe acute malnutrition. We provided training for community volunteers and Ministry of Health staff to ensure rapid identification and treatment of malnutrition cases.

Where we work

Sudan South

Three years after signing the comprehensive peace agreement, Sudan’s central government continues to mature. Against this background, we have continued our work with returnees and the most vulnerable host communities in the Aweils and Nuba.

Our focus remained on livelihoods, health, nutrition, water, sanitation and education. We met the immediate shelter, domestic and hygiene needs of 5,571 returnee and impoverished host community households and, following floods in October, provided relief items to 855 vulnerable households.

Key achievements

52,745 people accessed health services. We helped train 150 traditional birth attendants to perform safe and clean home deliveries, thereby mitigating the negative impact of unattended childbirth on women’s and neonatal health. Reproductive health services are now available in all supported health facilities and the community, with 3,096 antenatal care visits recorded this year.

10,292 people including 9,776 children benefited from our education work. Training and refresher courses for 259 teachers and head teachers and coaching, mentoring and technical assistance for 48 other staff increased the capacity of local authorities to provide basic education. Training for 209 PTA members helped improve school resources and encourage girls’ education.

51,731 people benefited from water and sanitation works, with 23 new and rehabilitated boreholes and wells significantly reducing water collection times from 2 hours to 30 minutes. We also trained 19 village water management committees and 28 pump mechanics to manage and maintain the water points.

Acute malnutrition continues to be a chronic problem. We provided supplementary feeding for 4,602 children and 718 adults, while 709 children received outpatient care.

We distributed seeds and tools to 14,988 vulnerable households and trained 368 farmers in animal traction, allowing them to increase their harvest and supplement their income by offering ploughing services to others.

Tanzania

Despite economic growth of approximately 7% in the early part of 2008, Tanzania remains one of the world’s forty poorest countries. More than one-third of the population lives below the poverty line, and rising food and fuel prices in 2008 have had a negative impact on the lives of the poorest people.

In this context, we continued to focus our efforts on improving incomes and access to food, water and environmental health, HIV and AIDS and good governance. Our refugee work came to an end in September, following the closure of Lukole camp earlier in the year.

Key achievements

We introduced hygiene and sanitation services in schools and helped to raise community awareness on how poor sanitation leads to the transmission of disease, and how this can be prevented. As well as improving latrines, we selected hygiene promoters and trained them on participatory communication skills, and used a child-to-child approach to spread hygiene messages and good practice.

We worked with government agriculture departments to help improve incomes and access to food. We trained 224 community-based trainers, while our farmer’s field schools and training for quality declared seed producers helped 2,428 individuals learn new skills and farming techniques. As a result, 10,215 poor and vulnerable households have adopted improved farming methods, while 8,267 households are cultivating an improved or new crop variety.

We provided training on the contents and meaning of various land acts and land-related laws and consequently supported communities in the formulation of land use plans, land committees and tribunals.

34,897 people benefited from our water and environmental health work. We also helped provide adequate and safe water, sanitation services and vector control for 25,450 refugees in the Lukole camp.

Sudan

Area **2,506,000 sq km**
Population **36.9m**
GDP per Capita **US\$1,887**
Infant Mortality (per thousand births) **62**
Life Expectancy **57.8**
Living with HIV and AIDS **1.6%**
Literacy Rate **60.9%**
Access to safe water **70 %**
Human Development Rank **146 (out of 179)**
Global Hunger Rank/Index* **56 / 20.5**

Tanzania

Area **945,000 sq km**
Population **38.5 m**
GDP per Capita **US\$1,126**
Infant Mortality (per thousand births) **76**
Life Expectancy **51.6**
Living with HIV and AIDS **6.5 %**
Literacy Rate **72%**
Access to safe water **62 %**
Human Development Rank **152 (out of 179)**
Global Hunger Rank/Index* **68 / 24.2**

Sources
UNDP Human Development Report 2007/2008
* IFPRI 2008

Timor Leste

Area **19,000 sq km**
Population **1.1 m**
GDP per Capita **US\$668**
Infant Mortality
(per thousand births) **52**
Life Expectancy **60.2**
Living with HIV and AIDS
<0.2
Literacy Rate **50.1%**
Access to safe water **58%**
Human Development Rank
158 (out of 179)
Global Hunger Rank/Index*
50 / 18.4

Uganda

Area **241,000 sq km**
Population **28.9 m**
GDP per Capita **US\$888**
Infant Mortality
(per thousand births) **79**
Life Expectancy **50.5**
Living with HIV and AIDS
6.7 %
Literacy Rate **72.6%**
Access to safe water **60%**
Human Development Rank
156 (out of 179)
Global Hunger Rank/Index*
44 / 17.1

United Kingdom

Area **242,514 sq km**
Population **60.2 m**
GDP per Capita **US\$32,654**
Infant Mortality
(per thousand births) **5**
Life Expectancy **79**
Living with HIV&AIDS **0.2%**
Literacy Rate **99%**
Access to safe water **100%**
Human Development Rank
21 (out of 179)

Sources

UNDP Human Development
Report 2007/2008
* IFPRI 2008

Timor Leste

Despite political unrest and a 13.8% increase in the cost of living driven by food and fuel price rises, the Timorese government made progress on a number of issues in 2008, in particular compensating internally displaced people for their lost assets and introducing old-age and veteran pensions.

Our work on malnutrition and livelihoods achieved high impact with communities, government and donors, and government-led replications of our malnutrition and disaster risk reduction models are in progress. Sharing our practice of community planning influenced the development of the State Administration's guidelines and will lead to the inclusion of 'community land' in a Land Law Draft in 2009.

Key achievements

57 farmers learned and compared four different rice production methods at our farmer's field schools. Farmer's field days provided an opportunity to successfully lobby support for community action plans from the government.

We supported the development and roll-out of disaster risk reduction policies at national, district and local levels. This included training, reviewing early warning systems and evacuation plans, building riverbank protections and evacuation centres and establishing grain banks.

3,333 people benefited from various activities to improve health and nutrition such as cooking demonstrations, nutrition education, water purification methods and information on malaria and diarrhoea.

Our camp management work in Dili ended in November, when displaced people received compensation for their material losses. We helped 4,417 people move to transitional shelters or return back to their homes.

Our supplementary feeding programme supported 3,182 children under five years of age and 1,979 pregnant and breastfeeding women. We provided training to 122 health workers on managing malnutrition, and gave mentoring support to improve their planning, implementation, monitoring and reporting skills. We also trained 235 community health volunteers on nutrition assessment, signs of malnutrition, delivering health education messages and community mobilisation.

Uganda

Despite ongoing negotiations to end the conflict in the north, a peace agreement remained elusive in 2008. Nevertheless, progress was made towards peace and security, and internally displaced persons started returning to their homes after nearly 20 years.

We helped returnees access seeds, tools and land to rebuild and recover their livelihoods, and responded to an outbreak of hepatitis E in displacement camps and returnee areas by intensifying health and hygiene promotion. We also conducted a health and nutrition assessment in Karamoja region, with a view to working with communities to improve their access to food, and supported the civil society network CSOPNU, which lobbied both sides to end the conflict, and facilitated peace talks in three regions.

Key achievements

We provided training for local government officials and other local organisations to help them work with communities to identify their livelihood needs and implement projects. This work has improved the quality of life of more than 69,256 poor and marginalised people.

Working with communities in Rakai district to identify the poorest households, we distributed seeds, tools and livestock as well as providing training in farming techniques and health and hygiene improvements. Targeted households reported increased incomes and reduced sickness.

We improved sanitation and hygiene for returnee communities and in displacement camps – drilling boreholes, building latrines and distributing mosquito nets. We also helped over 11,200 people in flood-affected communities gain access to clean water.

We provided training for 722 village heads and health teams in sanitation monitoring, food and household hygiene and hand washing. Drama performances were used to spread these messages to communities. The health teams run hygiene promotion in their communities and supervise the construction of latrines.

Where we work

Zambia

The Zambian economy has been badly affected by the global recession – particularly plummeting international copper prices, which make up 80% of all Zambian exports. Against this difficult background, we continued to work with local organisations and farmers' associations, improving incomes and food access, reducing disaster risk, and improving the quality of life and access to treatment and services for people living with HIV.

Key achievements

A total of 54,138 people benefited from our livelihoods work. We worked closely with farmers' associations and disaster management committees, building their capacity to improve the lives of community members and claim support from official channels.

We helped communities clear a total of 875 kilometres of canal, opening up more land for crop production and reducing flooding. One community recovered 60 hectares of previously flooded land by clearing 45 kilometres of canal.

Our food production, processing and marketing training increased incomes and left small-scale farmers less vulnerable to environmental shocks.

21,354 people living with HIV and AIDS directly benefited from our work. Our positive living programme has helped reduce stigmatisation and assisted individuals in regaining their self esteem and desire to be productive. We also helped people access anti-retroviral treatment (ART), by lobbying local health services to open more centres where people can access ART and organising transport to such centres.

Cooking demonstrations and lessons have been a great success. HIV-positive people learn what to eat, how to prevent infections and how to deal with those that occur. We also helped promote the herbs to treat minor infections and boost appetite, as well as emphasising locally available nutritious foods. We have assisted people in setting up backyard gardens for easy access to vitamins as well as being an additional source of income.

Zimbabwe

In one of the worst years in the country's history, most Zimbabweans fell into greater poverty and vulnerability. The economy continued to collapse, political violence and uncertainty were rife, many social services broke down and continuing erratic rains contributed to the lowest industrial and agricultural production levels since 1992. Towards the end of the year cholera struck the country, with a case load and death rate that exceeded all expectation.

We launched a vulnerable group feeding programme in all our areas of work, and coordinated water, sanitation and hygiene responses to the cholera outbreak. Outside of these emergencies, we focused on livelihoods and HIV. However, our work was badly undermined by the political situation, which prevented field work between March and August.

Key achievements

The provision of training on vegetable growing, marketing, pest control and water management have resulted in 1,559 households growing vegetables in 97 community gardens. We also distributed seeds and fertiliser to 38,723 households.

We provided training on conservation farming practices for 2,729 households, 54 government technicians and 24 village-level facilitators. We also established community-based structures to extend this training to more households. Conservation farming will improve yields of crops, even in drought years.

We provided training for 114 community facilitators to help break the silence around HIV and AIDS. They lead discussions with community groups to increase knowledge of HIV, encourage behaviour change and promote counselling and testing.

Working in tandem with the Ministry of Education, we trained 187 teachers and heads from 73 schools to coordinate schools-based HIV activities. Each school established an Anti Aids Club, where some 2,190 students learn about HIV and make informed decisions on their sexual behaviour.

Zambia

Area **752,000 sq km**
Population **11.5 m**
GDP per Capita **US\$1,273**
Infant Mortality (per thousand births) **102**
Life Expectancy **41.2**
Living with HIV and AIDS **17 %**
Literacy Rate **68 %**
Access to safe water **58%**
Human Development Rank **163 (out of 179)**
Global Hunger Rank/Index* **78 / 29.2**

Zimbabwe

Area **390,000 sq km**
Population **13.1 m**
GDP per Capita **n/a**
Infant Mortality (per thousand births) **81**
Life Expectancy **41.7**
Living with HIV and AIDS **20.1%**
Literacy Rate **90.7%**
Access to safe water **81%**
Human Development Rank **n/a**
Global Hunger Rank/Index* **67 / 23.8**

Sources

UNDP Human Development Report 2007/2008
* IFPRI 2008



This photograph by Julian Behal, taken at one of Concern's projects, was used on the front cover of Time Magazine in July 2008, drawing international attention to the effects of the food crisis in Ethiopia.



Aynate Desta and her son Abebe at the Concern supported Edo Health Clinic, Ethiopia. June 2008
Photographer: Julien Behal/ PA Wire.



A young girl in Giarra Clinic eating some BP-100 food supplement, Southern Ethiopia. 2008.
Photographer: Julien Behal/ PA Wire.

As explained above, Concern Worldwide (UK) gives financial support to the overseas programmes of Concern Worldwide – we do not implement our own overseas programmes. The information below is extracted from reports prepared by Concern Worldwide.

In our countries of operations our work focuses on our five core organisational programmes which are:
Health

Basic education

Livelihood Security

HIV and AIDS programming

Emergency response and preparedness

The overall objectives and activities of each programme in 2008 are detailed in the following pages. Concern Worldwide programmes result in measurable outcomes. However, these outcomes are difficult to aggregate at organisational level. This is largely because project / programmes are very context specific i.e. they are designed to address specific local needs in local conditions and hence aggregation can be very difficult. In describing the programmes, we have outlined the objectives and activities and given examples of what we have achieved during the year, summarised the conclusions from programme reviews and evaluations and provided a case study to illustrate the type of work that we do in each programme. Further examples of the specific work done in each country are contained in the country narratives on pages 9 to 24.



Mothers returning from a visit to a "Health Satellite Clinic" in the remote Char area of Bangladesh where their children were vaccinated against diphtheria, whooping cough, tetanus and polio. The clinic has been setup through the partnership of Concern with local government. 2008
Photographer: Kieron Crawley.

Supporting lives

In 2008 Concern implemented health programmes in 21 countries. These programmes target the poorest areas where there is minimal access to quality health services. To ensure sustainability, we prioritise working in partnership with ministries of health. Our interventions focus on primary health care interventions which have the greatest public health impact. Within this, we work to target the most vulnerable sub-groups: children under-five and pregnant women. Continued outreach and monitoring of our programmes helps to ensure that equal access to health services is enjoyed by the poor and extremely poor.



Health Programme

The table below details the range of activities conducted in 2008:

Sub Programme	Activities
Nutrition	Community Therapeutic Care (supplementary feeding activities); growth monitoring; targeted demonstrative therapeutic feeding; micronutrients supplementation; de-worming; nutrition education; economic opportunity enhancement; development of community/district level nutrition management committees
Mother Child Health	Support to Ministry of Health at district/ national level immunisation delivery; prevention and treatment of malaria, diarrhoea, pneumonia; community case management of the above diseases; promotion of behavioural change; prevention of HIV and AIDS and sexually transmitted infection transmission; family planning; epidemic surveillance
Water Supply and Sanitation	Construction of water delivery systems; drainage; wells; solid waste management; construction of latrines; health and hygiene awareness raising and training; vector control

During 2008 the health sector programme reached the following numbers of people:

	Direct			Indirect		
	girls/women	boys/men	Total	girls/women	boys/men	Total
Mother Child Health	223,225	158,766	381,991	518,920	472,298	991,218
Nutrition	58,078	50,581	108,659	358,078	330,986	689,064
Environmental Health	476,428	466,976	943,404	450,675	406,106	856,781
Total	757,731	676,323	1,434,054	1,327,673	1,209,390	2,537,063

Examples of programme achievements in 2008:

- » We contributed to the World Health Organisation’s consultation on the introduction of the new growth standards for children under-5, and became a member of the newly established steering committee on the Management of Acute Malnutrition in Infants (MAMI).
- » We continued to integrate Community Therapeutic Care and Community Management of Acute Malnutrition (CTC/CMAM) programmes into existing health systems including in Malawi, Ethiopia and Timor Leste. In Rwanda, we successfully piloted the initiative within one district of an existing Child Survival Project for which the cure rate was 91%.
- » The consideration of gender issues at the outset of projects led to a reduction in time spent by women collecting water in a number of countries, for example, Nepal, Somalia, Pakistan and Uganda. This greatly increases women’s security, while the freeing up their time has benefits for their children’s health and nutrition.
- » Increasing the level of hygiene training together with infrastructural improvements, resulted in a reduction in the levels of water-borne diseases, for example, lower incidences of diarrhoea and malaria in Uganda.
- » More country programmes moved towards an integrated health strategy and away from groupings of individual project. For example, Malawi’s new strategy will see them expanding into broader health programming and preventative nutrition in 2009.

In 2008 evaluations were conducted in six programmes in the health sector. All reported positive outcomes although there are some lessons to be learned.

- » Concern needs to continuously monitor and improve how our programmes are integrated within state health systems. For example in Uganda, the training and support element to local government was well delivered but the improvement in their capacity to manage was not comprehensively assessed.
- » The challenges of achieving satisfactory cure rates in supplementary feeding centres in the context of emergencies and displacement was illustrated in the context of West Darfur. Contextual issues such as belief in faith healers and an aversion to use of maize based foodstuffs (non native to Sudan) have been recognised. Weaknesses in the programme’s community mobilisation strategy were also recognised. A plan has been drawn up to address this in 2009.

Health Case Study

Aynate Desta - Ethiopia

The small and basic health centre in Edo, Wolayita stands at the end of the town's barren and dusty market place. Locals have gathered by the fence curiously watching the crowds of mums and small babies sitting quietly on the front steps of the clinic.

Among the throng Aynate Desta sits holding her fragile looking baby son Abebe. Her seven year old daughter carries this baby's twin sister, Pseyhay. Although the twins are the size of newborns their mother insists they are almost twelve months old. As Aynate begins to explain her situation other mothers nod their head at the similarity of their stories. "Life has been miserable for us. My babies are malnourished because I cannot breastfeed them anymore. I have nothing to eat myself and am hungry as are the rest of my family. My husband has been ill for a long time and has not been able to farm the land. It's not just because of that this year has been bad. We have had no rains and because of that have had nothing to harvest. It is like that with my neighbours too."

Soon a nurse motions to Aynate that they are ready to examine her children. Once both children are weighed and their arm measurements recorded as being 9.5 centimetres, the same measurement as a healthy child at birth, the twins are immediately registered into the nutrition programme.

Clinic staff quickly set about giving out rations of 'plumpy nut'. These silver sachets of peanut paste contain enough nutrients and calories to have a child back to its normal weight and health within six to eight weeks. Mothers are given enough of a supply to feed their child at home for one to two weeks until they return to the clinic for their next check-up. It means that mothers like Aynate can return to their homes and continue to care for the rest of their children as well as the weakest.

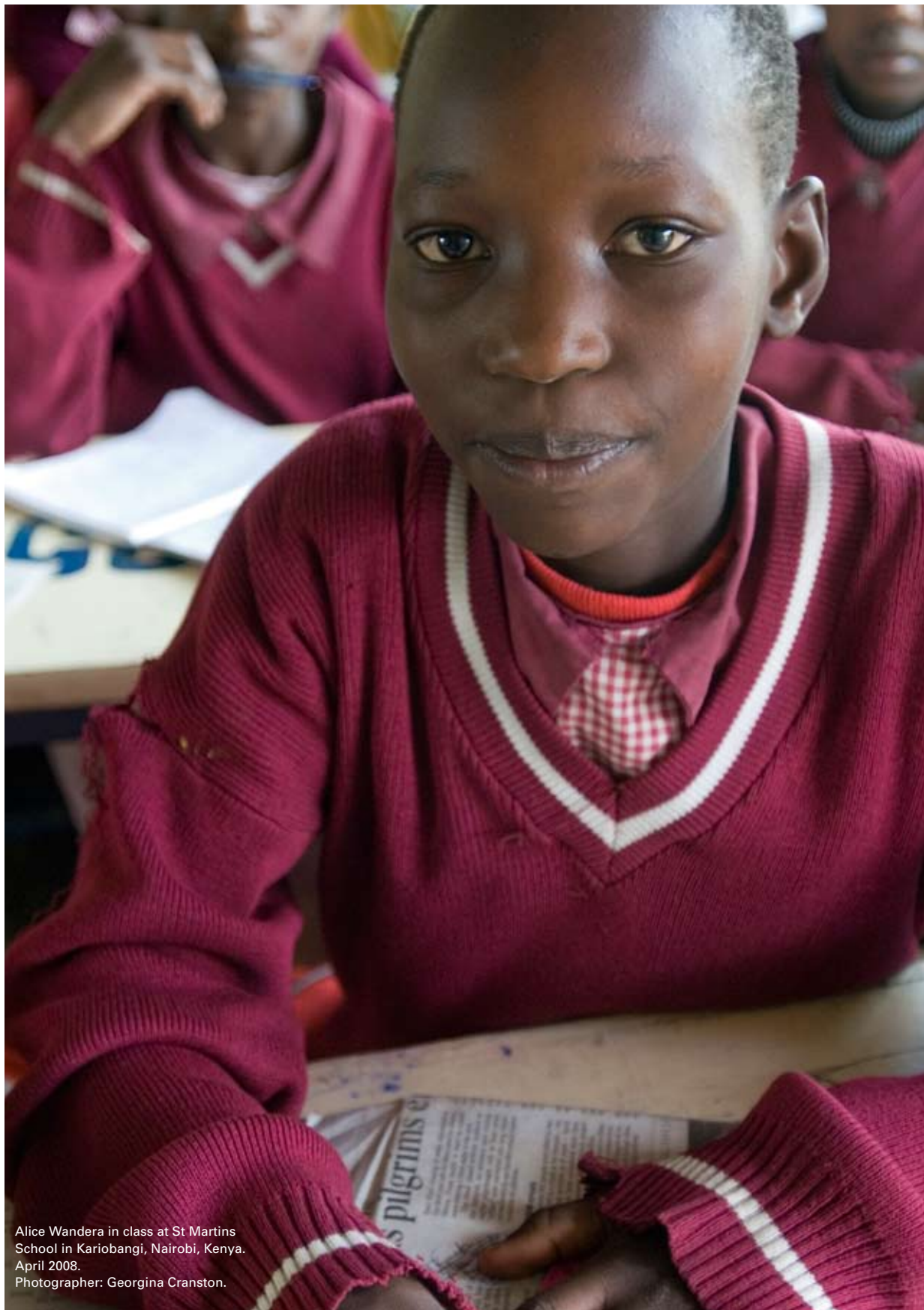
We meet Aynate again two months later and Abebe is much improved.

"Two months ago, life was very different for me. I had no hope, no food, my children especially Abebe were very thin, I really thought he would die. Now he is so much better because he has been getting the plumpy nut and I have also been getting some oil and flour for the rest of the family."

Aynate is doing as much as she can to ensure the rest of her family get the food they need. "I sell grass and firewood to get money to buy the children milk, some days I make two or three birr and some days nothing at all. The price of everything has gone up. Last year I could buy five cups of maize for 10 birr but now for the same price I only get three cups."

Although Aynate has been trying to ensure there will be food for her family for some months after the harvest, the recent drought depleted her seed stock, leaving her with little to plant in the quarter of a hectare of land that she owns. "We have maize and haricot seeds in the ground, which will help us for maybe two months, but I worry for the time after that. If the help I am receiving from Concern stops only God knows how we will manage."

As hard as it maybe to look to the future for Aynate, she is now happy to see her children doing well. "I feel very happy to have this help and support and it has made a difference for us. We are now eating two meals a day, and my children are healthier, life is better."



Alice Wandera in class at St Martins
School in Kariobangi, Nairobi, Kenya.
April 2008.
Photographer: Georgina Cranston.

Education Programme

Helping people learn

Concern implemented education programmes in 12 countries in 2008. The objective of our education programme is to strengthen formal education provision among the poorer sections of society by addressing the obstacles that hinder access to and successful completion of formal primary education.



Education Programme

The table below details the range of activities undertaken in 2008:

Sub Programme	Activities
Primary Education (PE)	Support to community involvement in the provision of education e.g. catch-up classes, formation of Parent Teacher Committees, parents as volunteer teachers/coaches, school construction, advocacy on obstacles to education for specific groups
Non formal Education (NF)	Literacy training

During 2008 the education sector programme reached the following numbers of people:

Country Programme	Direct			Indirect		
	girls/women	boys/men	Total	girls/women	boys/men	Total
Primary Education	223,503	238,591	462,094	897,407	940,507	1,837,914
Non Formal Education	178,099	175,480	353,579	1,070,485	996,593	2,067,078
Total	401,602	414,071	815,673	1,967,892	1,937,100	3,904,992

Examples of significant achievements by the programme include:

- » The “Basic Education Programme for Vulnerable Children” project in Ethiopia saw the successful transition of over 90% of students finishing the 3 year cycle to upper primary school. 55.9% of the students were female and the drop-out rate in the centres was lower than the national average.
- » In West Aweil County in South Sudan, enrolment in the 20 schools that Concern has been supporting since 2006 has increased by 92%.
- » Library services in the Kenya and Ethiopia programmes were able to reach out to the wider community as well as promoting the reading culture in the area, by increasing the availability of school and non-school texts to children who may not otherwise have access. In both countries the libraries also provided a place to study for students whose home conditions may not necessarily permit it.

The education programmes in three countries were evaluated during 2008 to ensure they were meeting our objectives. Overall the outcomes were very positive but some challenges were identified:

- » Gender equality remains a big issue as the disparity in attendance between boys and girls is marked.
- » We need to improve monitoring to ensure that the precise effects of the projects are well understood so that good practice can be shared with other actors.
- » The provision of the materials and textbooks is not necessarily effective on its own without training and direction on the effective use of the materials.

We will be building this learning into future programmes.

Education Case Study

Concern's Gemma Oakley reports on her visit to an adult literacy class in Sierra Leone where 70% of the population is unable to read and write

Memuna M Kanu lives in Tonkolili District in Sierra Leone and as a member of her School Management Committee she is part of a new adult literacy programme set up by Concern. Sierra Leone has very high rates of illiteracy with 70% of the population unable to read and write. As a result, it is very difficult for illiterate members of the School Management Committees, who are responsible for the day to day management of their schools, to report effectively to the District Education authority and to manage the budgets of their schools. The adult literacy programme is being run by Concern for illiterate members of the School Management Committees in the 66 schools in which Concern is working in Tonkolili.

Memuna proudly stood and told her story at the adult literacy class I visited. I had not realised how much it means for someone to learn to read and write - a skill so taken for granted in the UK. The sheer pride on Memuna's face as she wrote her name on the blackboard for the first time summed up for me my whole trip to Sierra Leone and people's commitment to creating a better future for all.

Memuna told me "I am so very happy to be in the programme. I pray that I live long enough to see the full benefit. The adult literacy programme is moving me from the dark into the light. It is difficult to learn to read and write but when you are moving into the light you do not feel the weight of it. I can now write my alphabet A-Z and my numbers from 1-100. I am working hard to advance and continue."

"As a cassava farmer I sell my crop by transporting the bags of cassava to market on a shared lorry. Because I could not write my name or count the quantities the lorry driver always fooled me and gave me less bags back than I put on the truck at the start of the journey. A few days ago I sold my cassava again at market. This time I wrote my initials "MK" on every bag before I put them on the lorry and counted the ten bags so I couldn't be tricked. The truck driver tried to fool me again by only giving me eight bags back but I got on the truck and found the other two bags I had written my initials on. The driver asked if I wrote on the bags and when I said yes he asked me how. I said Concern Worldwide."

"Learning to read and write is a big advantage because I can now help my grandchildren at home. I check their books. Can I write my name on the blackboard now for the first time to show you how much I am learning?"



Making clay pots in a livelihood project
in Shohal Mazullah, North West Frontier
Province, Pakistan.
Photographer: Stewart Attwood.

Giving people options

In 2008 we implemented Livelihood Security projects in 27 countries. Our projects have been designed to meet the Livelihood Security objective to relieve the impacts and/or reduce the incidence of extreme poverty. We do this by supporting opportunities to increase livelihood options that lead to real improvements in people's lives over the short and long term



Livelihood Security Programme

The table below details the range of activities carried out in 2008:

Sub Programme	Activities
Natural Resource Management (NRM)	Watershed management, disaster risk reduction, emergency preparedness and mitigation, advocacy, initiatives to increase community access and control over land, water/forest resources, integrated farming, crop diversification and rights awareness
Food Production and Processing (FPP)	Crop production, livestock, horticulture and gardens, preservation and processing, forestry, fisheries, distribution of seeds, livestock and tools, construction of roads, paths, bridges, agricultural training, vocational and entrepreneurial skills training, shelter construction, agricultural systems, crop diversification, irrigation, orchard development, terrace reclamation and food diversity exhibitions
Market Interaction (MI)	Microfinance, support to micro enterprise, marketing, vocational training, enterprise development through grants and training, biogas plants, access to savings and credit, small business training and market analysis
Responsive Institutions (SIP)	Support to de-centralisation, advocacy, institutional development, institutional support to small microfinance organisations, village level development planning, government budget allocation monitoring, support to mainstreaming gender, HIV and AIDS, disaster risk reduction, equality and accountability

During 2008 the livelihoods programme reached the following numbers of people:

	Direct			Indirect		
	girls/women	boys/men	Total	girls/women	boys/men	Total
Natural Resource Management	575,093	659,591	1,234,684	2,243,864	2,484,486	4,728,350
Food Production and Processing	355,757	335,182	690,939	980,187	938,021	1,918,208
Market Interaction	189,148	171,019	360,167	393,923	313,342	707,265
Responsive Institutions	528,486	862,814	1,391,300	3,163,324	3,579,491	6,742,815
Total	1,648,484	2,028,606	3,677,090	6,781,298	7,315,340	14,096,638

Examples of some activities in and achievements by the programme in 2008 were as follows:

- » In Kisenso in the Democratic Republic of Congo, up to 90% of all women who received start-up grants and financial management training, were able to start to save money, on average \$5 per week. 84% of the businesses that were started as a result of the savings and grants project were still in operation six months after the last cash installment.
- » In Zimbabwe, beneficiaries of our food security programme were able to produce and sell more crops. The highest gains were in Gokwe South District where farmers produced 39% - 47% more than non-beneficiaries which contributed around a quarter of their annual food needs.
- » In Afghanistan, Concern helped 17,000 people improve their crop yields with irrigation projects, seed distribution and training in improved agricultural techniques. This has increased their incomes and provided them with a more secure source of food. The irrigation structures in particular reduced the impact of drought on communities.

Evaluations were carried out in six country programmes to ensure that we are meeting our livelihood programme objectives. Overall, the evaluations were positive and indicated that programmes were successful. They did, however, identify some areas that could be improved:

- » there is a need for a careful analysis of the impacts that activities may have on the relations between genders. While programmes that successfully target marginalized women can bring important benefits they can also lead to tensions and stresses between the sexes and these can have significant adverse consequences. Programmes need to be designed so as to identify and mitigate against these unintended consequences.
- » the extreme poor that we target are not a homogenous group and there is a need to tailor programmes so that they respond to the specific needs of individuals and groups

We will build these lessons into future programming.

Concern's pioneering project, the Farmers' Resource Centre in Liberia, is an innovative way of helping the very poorest farmers equip themselves with the skills, knowledge and resources to build their own way out of poverty.

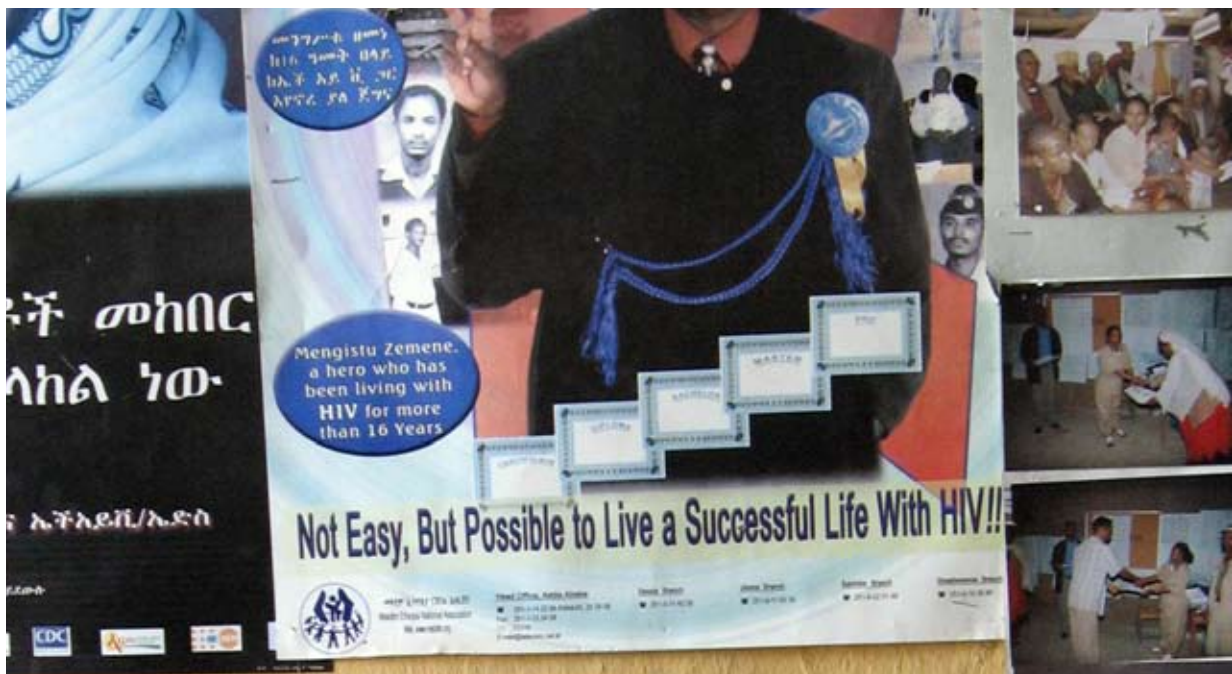
The centres are built in very remote areas, to ensure that Concern reaches the communities who are most in need of support. The centre offers training on topics as diverse as animal husbandry, pest control and compost making. The participants are introduced to new crop types to help increase yields and are encouraged to plant a wider variety of fruit, vegetables and grains to improve overall nutrition and to diversify crop production.

Musu Junius from Juah Town in Grand Bassa County is 44 years old and has been a farmer all her life. She grows cassava, rice, corn, bitter ball, okra and hot pepper. She used to have a lot of problems with rodents damaging her crops, and she didn't have enough food to feed her family for the whole year.

In times of hunger and when something unexpected occurred, like a death or illness, she was forced to depend on her friends and neighbours to lend her money and give her food. Last year she had to pay for one burial and bring her oldest son to the hospital. The result was that she had to sell most of her harvest to pay for it, which meant that she and her family went hungry for several months.

This year she has attended to Concern's Farmers Workshops and learned the best ways to grow crops, when to plant them, when to weed them and when to harvest them. She proudly shows her farm displaying these new methods. Her farm is fenced against the rodents, her cassava is planted on mounds, and her rice is planted in rows where she has used a method of covering the seeds from the birds when planting.

When asked if she has noticed any change since learning about these new methods, she laughs. Yes, she smiles, her yields are much higher, which means that she can feed her family. The higher yields and knowing when to plant means that she can provide vegetables to the market when others are looking for them. This makes a small income possible, to pay for school fees, soap and kerosene. She is really looking forward to going to the next monthly workshop, and to come home and teach the other farmers in her village what the FRC has taught her.



Fatima Haji Seid, who lives with HIV, runs the Negat Association in Kallu, Ethiopia for people living with HIV and AIDS and children orphaned by the disease. April 2008. Photographer: Laura O'Mahony.

HIV and AIDS Programme

Our part in the response

Our HIV and AIDS programme aims to reduce the prevalence of HIV and the impact of AIDS on Concern target populations in all of our emergency and development projects. In 2008 Concern implemented programmes directly addressing the HIV and AIDS pandemic in 16 countries. We also integrated HIV and AIDS interventions through programmes in the education, livelihoods and health sectors.



HIV and AIDS Programme

The table below indicates the range of activities undertaken in 2008:

Sub Programme	Activities
HIV and AIDS	Treatment, care and support, prevention, awareness and information, lobbying, advocacy and human rights, network development, organizational building/ capacity building, research and development, voluntary counselling and testing training
HIV and AIDS mainstreaming	Advocacy on HIV and AIDS mainstreaming, support to national HIV and AIDS networks, awareness and information.

During 2008 the HIV and AIDS programme reached the following numbers of people:

	Direct		Indirect			
	girls/women	boys/men	Total girls/women	boys/men	Total	
HIV and AIDS	985,276	542,352	1,527,628	2,396,771	2,227,753	4,624,524

Examples of significant achievements by the programme in 2008 are:

- » In Rwanda, increased access to information about HIV and AIDS, how to prevent it and how to live with it, has led to considerable improvements in the quality of life of people living with HIV and AIDS. Affected people talked of stigma and discrimination being reduced and many now feel much less marginalised. Mobile clinics have made it easier for people to access voluntary counselling and therapy.
 - » In Angola, we started life skills and AIDS education programmes in 12 schools, where teachers run anti-AIDS clubs, each with approximately fifty student members. We also trained 114 community-based agents in 57 villages to raise awareness about HIV, AIDS, sexually transmitted diseases and gender issues.
 - » Partners and beneficiaries in Kenya reported positive outcomes as a result of the work with people with HIV, families affected by HIV, orphans, vulnerable children, and communities. The outcomes ranged from social changes such as increased acceptance of people's HIV status, reduced levels of stigma and changes in sexual behaviour, to economic improvements. These include increased household income and improved nutrition, and cultural changes, for example, changes in traditional beliefs about wife inheritance which had been driving up infection rates.
- During 2008, four programmes in the HIV and AIDS sector were evaluated to ensure they were meeting the programme objectives. Overall the results were good but some areas for improvement were identified:
- » It is important to carefully monitor and quantify the effects of each intervention so that successful projects can be scaled-up and replicated. While evaluations reported very positive outcomes in this programme, detailed numbers were frequently not available to demonstrate and to quantify results.
 - » Where working through local organisations and partners it is important to respect their ethos and ways of working and to avoid imposing change.

We will aim to build these lessons into our ongoing work.

HIV and AIDS Case Study

Coping with HIV: Ezihasi's story

Ezihasi Kumwenda from Malawi was diagnosed as HIV positive in 2007.

Although she quickly began to receive treatment, Ezihasi, who is 32, still suffered from long bouts of illness. This made looking after her two young children very difficult.

Through her health clinic, Ezihasi was introduced to members of Liwaladzi HIV and AIDS Support Organization, also known as Lihaso. They were able to provide her with help around the home and also provide emotional support to her and her family.

Lihaso, with the support of Concern are now also providing Ezihasi with weekly sachets of a highly nutritious food called 'plumpy nut'. This has also been making a difference to her life. It helps keep her healthy and strong, enabling her to work and travel. Often when Ezihasi felt too weak to work, she could not afford to make it to her hospital once a month for her treatment. She explains "I knew I could get treatment but it hasn't been easy. The hospital is 45km away and it costs me 1600 Kwacha (11 US dollars) to get there and back by mini bus once a month. Sometimes I just don't have that money."

With the additional nutritional support of plumpy nut, Ezihasi is now feeling stronger and healthier. "If my health keeps improving I think I can take care of the children on my own. But I also need to earn more money to do this. I would really like to start a small business, selling fruit and maybe fish. If I can borrow some money to start this, I think it will work. I want to provide a foundation for my children and a good education, god willing this will happen for me," smiles Ezihasi.

With the support Ezihasi has received from Concern, Lihaso and her family, she has found it easier to tell her neighbours and friends that she is HIV positive. She is now part of a Lihaso support group and is proactively educating those around her. "I have learned to accept my situation and don't feel afraid to talk about it with anyone who wants me to", Ezihasi says.



Women who have been displaced sewing at a Concern project in a Chad IDP camp near Gozbeida. 2008.
Photographer: Hu O'Reilly.

Meeting urgent needs

During 2008 Concern responded to 34 emergencies in 18 countries. In all emergency responses we aim to address the immediate needs of the affected population by building their capacity to cope. In the short term this is mainly centred on distributing food and non food items. In the medium term Concern links emergency interventions with recovery and rehabilitation projects supporting people to return to their homes and rebuild their lives.

Emergency Response and Preparedness Programme

All of the emergency responses in 2008 took place in countries with existing programmes except for the response to the Cyclone Nargis in Myanmar which was implemented through Concern's Alliance2015 partner CESVI.

A summary of all responses and beneficiary numbers in 2008 is below:

Country	Emergency Types	Level and Scope of Response	Total Direct Beneficiaries
Bangladesh	Natural disasters	Shelter support, sanitary pit latrines, cash grants, cash-for-work, seed distributions, asset replacement, emergency food rations	114,414
Chad	Conflict	Site management, non-food item (NFI) distributions	54,489
DRC	Conflict	NFI distributions, cash-for-work, provision of seeds and tools, camp maintenance	14,282
Ethiopia	Drought/food price rise	Nutrition, water, and animal feed provision, NFI distributions, water supply and sanitation	456,943
Haiti	Natural disasters	NFI distributions, agricultural inputs, capacity building local government authorities, disaster risk reduction	7,226
India	Flooding	Asset replacement, technology transfer, agricultural inputs, microfinance, shelter	120,000
Kenya	Conflict/drought	Food aid, cash transfers, agricultural inputs, off farm grants, screening/case finding for malnutrition, training/support to Ministry of Health	686,854
Malawi	Heavy rainfall	Agricultural inputs	1,250
Mozambique	Flooding	Distributions of NFIs and education kits	33,130
Myanmar	Cyclone Nargis	Distributions of NFIs, shelter, water supply and sanitation	90,000
Nepal	Flooding	Shallow tube wells, water supply and sanitation, emergency latrines, supplementary feeding, infrastructure repair	10,766
Niger	Global Acute Malnutrition	Community management of acute malnutrition	10,501
Pakistan	Flooding	Disaster risk reduction, NFI distributions	39,518
Somalia	Conflict/drought	Water supply and sanitation, psychosocial support	354,178
South Sudan	Conflict/drought	NFI distributions, agricultural inputs	7,973
Sudan	Conflict	Health and nutrition, water and sanitation, livelihoods, camp coordination, emergency relief distributions	302,783
Tanzania	Conflict	Water supply and sanitation and hygiene messaging	12,617
Timor Leste	Conflict	Supplementary ration distribution, nutrition and health education, gender based violence training, NFI distribution, camp coordination	12,650
Zimbabwe	Disease/government land reforms/drought	Food distribution	379,954
Total			2,709,528

Concern undertook three emergency evaluations in 2008. The emergency responses were evaluated in terms of their timeliness, efficiency and appropriateness. The evaluations concluded that the projects were implemented effectively despite facing considerable challenges. They also reported rigorous monitoring and evaluation. Our targeting was robust and beneficiary involvement was appropriate to each context.

The Kerio Valley lies in Kenya's Great Rift Valley. It is one of the most remote regions of Kenya accessible only by a 100km dirt road. In early January 2008, post election violence rocked Kenya and many communities in this area lost their livestock and livelihoods. Concern decided to provide emergency food support to the families in the region but ran into difficulties in transporting and distributing in such a remote and insecure area. The alternative is delivering cash aid rather than food aid. This works through a mobile phone operator, Safaricom, which runs a money transfer scheme called M-PESA. It allows people to send cash from one end of the country to others and Concern thought that this system would be ideal for them to distribute cash to people in the Kerio Valley.

Anne O'Mahony, Country Director for Concern in Kenya explains, "Safaricom is one of the biggest companies in East Africa and I noticed that outside their offices in Nairobi there were queues and queues of people. When I asked someone in the office about it they told me that the queues were mainly for M-PESA which is a way of transferring money through the use of text messages. This sowed a seed for us and we came up with the idea of approaching Safaricom with a proposal to use this cash transfer technology as part of our emergency response."

The Concern team met with Michael Joseph, the Chief Executive of Safaricom, who was very enthusiastic about the proposal. Safaricom then set to work on adapting the M-PESA technology for use in an emergency distribution situation as proposed by Concern. Safaricom then trained Concern staff to use the MPESA system for bulk payment and generating relevant reports.

Two pilot runs were carried out in May 2008. Concern selected beneficiaries from the community and each received a SIM card, a shared handset and solar charger. Each beneficiary then received an SMS message with a code that allowed them to collect money lodged by Concern.

Milka John Talaa is 20 years old and is married with three children. She received 1600 Kenyan shillings (€160) in the first pilot and bought food – flour, honey and sugar - and soap. "We have nothing except two goats for milking and my husband has no job. I think the M-PESA system is very good – we don't mind waiting for something that is very good for us. I got a phone from Concern that I share with the rest of the group – I just give it to them when they ask for it. I had never used a phone before but it isn't hard – even using the solar charger is not hard," she says.

Concern believes that M-PESA technology offers a unique approach to effective aid distribution that Anne O'Mahony says has a multitude of benefits. "It's quick and easy - we lodge the money, distribute the phones and the SMS messages deliver the codes to people to collect the cash. It cuts down on distribution time and it's good for the environment as we don't need to send dozens of trucks across hundreds of kilometres of dirt roads. The cash transfer aid system also supports the local economy as instead of trucking in food people can buy at local markets with cash. But most importantly this system has the knock on effect of empowering the local community."

UK Events

We organised a number of events across the UK throughout 2008 – these included receptions for supporters to learn in more detail about aspects of our work, photographic exhibitions, and workshops. We also continued to play a role as members of coalitions campaigning on global issues

Building Unity through Diversity

In August, Concern hosted 'Building Unity through Diversity', a large outdoor exhibition in the grounds of Belfast City Hall. '1000 Families' is a collection of photos from around the globe that aims to challenge perceptions of the developing world and celebrate an increasingly multicultural society. The accompanying programme of events included discussions on diversity in the workplace and the portrayal of Africa in the media, drawing speakers and guests from a range of sectors. A Multicultural Family Fun Day attracted over 5000 people to the City Hall to enjoy musical entertainment, dancing and creative workshops. Photographs of families present at the event were taken for inclusion in 'Belfast's Family Album'.



The Brady Family from Belfast help to launch Building Unity through Diversity at City Hall.

An evening at Edinburgh Castle

Concern Worldwide (UK) hosted a well-attended event for donors at Edinburgh Castle, attended by Rt Hon Jack McConnell MSP, Concern Chief Executive, Tom Arnold, and UK Chair of Trustee, Myles Wickstead. The theme of the evening was the 'Fight Against Poverty and Hunger' with each speaker exploring a different aspect of the theme.

Sunday Herald visits Pakistan

Sunday Herald Editor, Richard Walker hosted an event for donors at the Sunday Herald offices. The focus of the evening was Richard's visit to Pakistan during which he saw Concern's earthquake rehabilitation programme and the Quetta Working Children's project. A series of his articles was also published in the Sunday Herald over the summer, together with an appeal for support for our work in Pakistan.

John Daly in Rwanda

Long term Concern supporter and Northern Irish media personality John Daly visited Concern projects in Rwanda in September. Concern has worked in Rwanda since the 1994 genocide and current projects include health, education and income generating schemes. John's visit focused on how money raised in Northern Ireland is being used in livelihoods and child survival projects, and he reported extensively on his experiences, through the media and by talking with local schools and businesses.



John Daly with Bukwiu Miyigema, Gikore Health Centre, Rwanda.

CIVICUS World Assembly

For the third and final year, the city of Glasgow was host to the CIVICUS World Assembly, a gathering of hundreds of delegates from around the world campaigning for a fairer world. As in the previous two years we took this opportunity to showcase our work, holding a workshop on making African agriculture work for the poor. We also exhibited photographs from Tanzania taken as part of our 'Unheard Voices' campaign.

CTC Workshop in Glasgow

We held a second CTC (Community Therapeutic Care) workshop as part of the funding requirements of our grant for the programme from the Scottish Government. CTC is a successful and proven approach to addressing malnutrition, and is being rolled out in Malawi thanks to the support of the Scottish Government. Kate Golden, Concern nutrition advisor and Stanley Mwase, Concern programme manager, spoke at the event in Glasgow, explaining how CTC is addressing malnutrition by equipping communities in the developing world with the skills and knowledge needed to tackle the problem.

Concern 40th Anniversary Celebrations - Stormont & Hillsborough

To mark the 40th Anniversary of the founding of Concern, the Belfast office organised a celebratory reception for past and present volunteers and staff. Hosted by the Assembly All Party Group on International Development, over 100 supporters were invited to enjoy updates on our work and catch up with old friends in the Long Gallery at Parliament Buildings.



Concern council member Paul Jeffcut, Concern Worldwide Chair Jim Miley, Head of Concern NI Karen Gallagher, Concern UK Chair Myles Wickstead, Carmel Hanna MLA with long term volunteer Hugh Donnelly – in the Long Gallery at Stormont.

In November, Hillsborough Castle was the venue for a special donor briefing which heard from Brid Kennedy, Worldwide Regional Director, Chair of the UK Board Myles Wickstead, and from Haiti Country Director Carine Roenen who gave a telephone update on the impact of recent tropical storms in the country.



'Worldwide' Regional Director Brid Kennedy, with head of Concern NI Karen Gallagher and UK Chair Myles Wickstead at Hillsborough Castle.

Irish News visits Bangladesh

In October 2008 Irish News reporter Aeneas Bonner travelled to Bangladesh to see the impact of Concern's work there. He was joined by Kenny Boyd, who funded his own trip to see the impact of money he raised through his 'Swim for Life' in 2007. Climate change and its impact on the lives of the poorest Bangladeshis were the key themes of their trip, to raise awareness and support campaigning work at home. Kenny and Aeneas visited several Concern projects and partner organisations, and met with key advocacy and media contacts. On his return Aeneas produced a number of reports for the Irish News, which also ran an appeal for donations from readers.

Overseas colleagues' visits

We were very pleased to welcome a number of our overseas Country Directors to the UK in May 2008. Representatives from Bangladesh, Sierra Leone, Zimbabwe, Rwanda, Kenya and Sudan attended a major donor event in London, where they were able to share and report back on their experiences in the field with an interested audience of supporters. A number of other meetings with MPs, DFID, co-funders and media were organised to tie in with this event.

Tanzanian and London Roundtables

As part of our campaign around marginal farmers, Roundtables were organised in Tanzania (Dar es Salaam) and London. The Tanzanian Roundtable took place in May and attracted a substantial audience from a wide range of organisations. The findings of this meeting, which included discussion of results from local research sponsored by Concern Worldwide (UK), were later fed into a Roundtable held in London in June. During this second Roundtable, the morning was devoted to a detailed overview of challenges facing marginal farmers in Tanzania, while in the afternoon the discussions were broadened to examine issues relating to poor farmers across the African continent. The London meeting attracted numerous participants from a number of Government and Non-Government Organisations.

UK Fundraising

Despite the difficult economic climate, especially towards the latter half of the year, our supporters continued generosity enabled us to raise a total of £10.2 million in voluntary donations. We ran a number of successful appeals during the year including an emergency appeal focussed on the food crisis in Ethiopia, and another to provide additional farmers resource centres in Liberia. Dedicated runners, swimmers and cyclists took on sporting challenges on our behalf, including the London and Belfast Marathons and the London Triathlon. School children from 400 schools took part in FoodAid and hundreds of people across Northern Ireland became Fast Friends by going without food for 24 hours. We are grateful to everybody who supported us in 2008 by bringing in much needed funds for our work, and for their on-going commitment.

London Marathon

On April 22nd an 18 strong team of dedicated Concern Worldwide runners took part in the Flora London Marathon. Between them they raised over £40,000 – a fantastic achievement and a vital contribution to Concern Worldwide's education work in Mozambique. Thanks to the support of all of our runners, Concern has been able to give over 6,000 of the most disadvantaged children in Zambezia – the poorest district in Mozambique, access to a proper education and a real chance in life.



Joe Gardner running in Concern Worldwide's 2008 Flora London Marathon Team.

FoodAid 2008

Nearly 400 schools and groups took part in our 2008 FoodAid campaign, raising a total of more than £85,000 for Concern Worldwide's food and hunger programmes across the globe. At South Hill Primary School in Hertfordshire, the whole school took part in a FoodAid fundraising day. Each class chose a different fundraising activity and got parents and teachers on board to raise £890. The money raised by South Hill Primary School, as well as thousands of other pupils, staff and parents, will be used in Concern Worldwide food programmes across the 28 countries in which we work. These funds will allow us to bring practical solutions to communities as they work to overcome poverty and hunger.



Children from South Hill School holding a cake sale to raise money for FoodAid.

Trust and Foundations

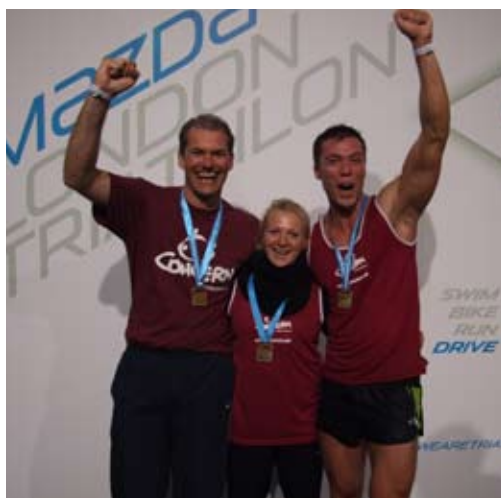
We continued to build relationships with a wide range of trusts, foundations and Institutions who were extremely generous in their support of our work. In 2008, 96 charitable organisations supported us, donating over £1,500,000. This vital support enables Concern Worldwide to work in partnership with some of the poorest communities in the world to make positive and lasting changes in their lives. We would particularly like to thank the following for their generosity: The Audrey and Stanley Burton Charitable Trust, Band Aid Charitable Trust, Big Lottery Fund, Byrne Charitable Trust, Comic Relief, CorTrust, Exit Trust, Garden Trust, Guernsey Overseas Aid, Herrod Foundation, Isle of Man Overseas Aid, Jersey Overseas Aid, Kathleen Hannay Memorial Charity, Medicor Foundation, Nadir Dinshaw Charitable Trust, Open Gate, Fondation Pro Victimis, Rufford Maurice Laing Foundation, S T Johnson Foundation, Vegfam and Zochonis Charitable Trust.

Donations from trusts and foundations supported a range of work that included emergency food security work in Ethiopia, education in Bangladesh, improved livelihoods in Cambodia, emergency flood response in Pakistan and HIV and AIDS work in Zimbabwe.

London Triathlon

Eight corporate teams braved the wind and rain to take part in the 2008 London Triathlon, swimming, biking and running to raise money for Concern's work in Sierra Leone.

Teams from Marine Capital, Antrak Group, Meridian Marine Management, Ince and Co., Bank of Scotland, Orchestra and JLT Group, took part in the Olympic Relay, completing a 1,500 metre swim in the River Thames, a 40 kilometre bike ride and a 10 kilometre run. Places were sponsored by shipping company Marine Capital and altogether the teams raised almost £70,000 to build a much needed community health centre in Tonkolili District in Sierra Leone. The centre will provide mosquito nets and essential medication to a community of 35,000.



Will Freeborough, Agnieszka Giedroyc and Matthew Foster from Orchestra celebrate finishing the London Triathlon

Scottish Government funds Concern Worldwide

We were delighted to be awarded two substantial grants by the Scottish Government for our work. The first, for £400,000 over the next two years, will be used to fund our Community-based Therapeutic Care (CTC) programme in the Lilongwe and Nsanje districts of Malawi, and follows a previous grant from the Scottish Government, which allowed CTC to be expanded from the initial pilot stage in 2006.

The second grant awarded is a £1million block grant for Rwanda. The funding will be provided over three years and will allow Concern to integrate Community Management of Malnutrition into the Child Survival Programme in Rwanda. This is a groundbreaking approach to tackling malnutrition in children under five and will be implemented in the five districts of Rwanda most severely affected by acute malnutrition.

Save Lives – Fast

Some of Northern Ireland's most famous faces joined forces with Concern to help promote the Fast 2008. Patrick Kielty and Christine Bleakley were among those who lent their support to the campaign, which saw people across Ireland experiencing hunger first hand through the 24 Hour Fast, and raising over €1m across the island.



TV personality Patrick Kielty was one of a number of celebrities who supported the Concern Fast.

Make it Your Concern

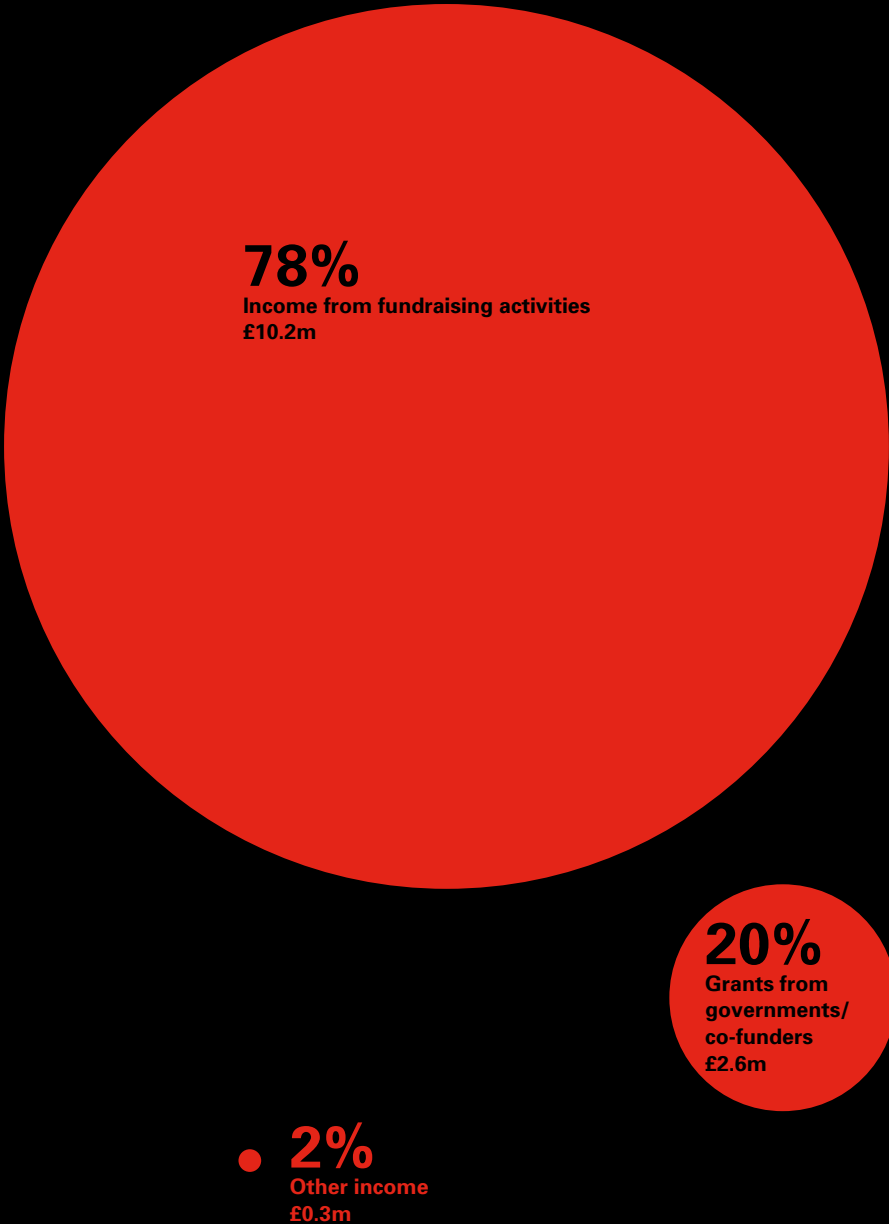
In June, the first 'Make it Your Concern' week in Northern Ireland invited people to brave the unseasonable weather and to host fundraising barbeques to raise money for people displaced by post-election violence in Kenya.

New Patron Appointed

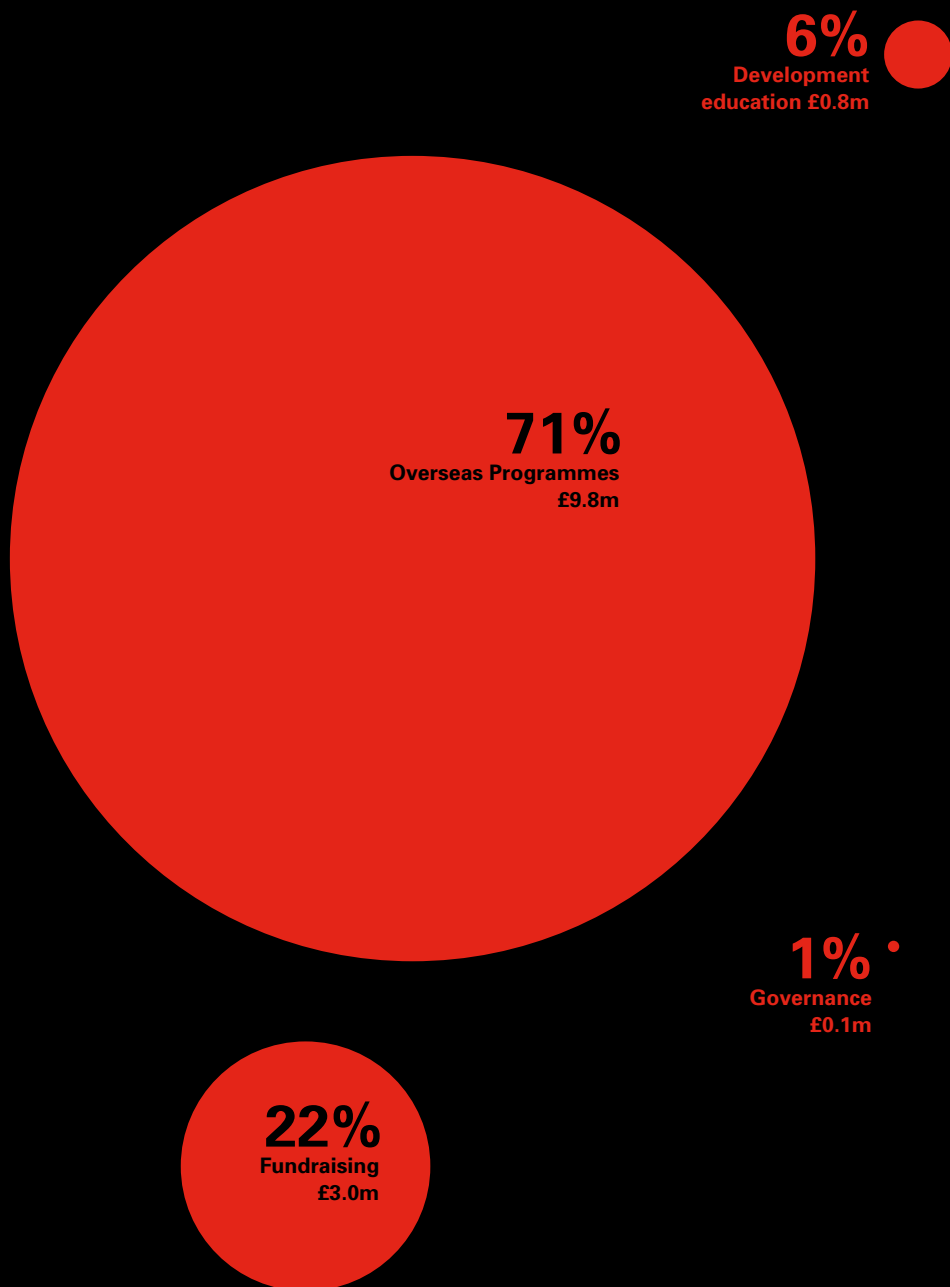
Iqbal Wahhab, the restaurateur behind Roast of Borough Market, London was appointed as a Patron of Concern Worldwide (UK) in 2008 with particular focus on increasing support for Concern from the food industry. Through Roast, Iqbal is supporting Concern Worldwide as an ambassador of the World Food Group, a new network committed to tackling global hunger through its support for Concern's innovative food projects.



Where our income came from



How your money was spent



Shalimwene Dondole, Agricultural Extension Officer, teaches farming skills in Tanzania in a project run in partnership by Concern and the Tanzanian government. 2008. Photographer: Mike Goldwater.





Concern Worldwide (UK)
Legal and Administrative Information

Trustees of the Charity

The following were members of the Board of Trustees (and also directors of Concern Worldwide (UK) for company law purposes), at the date on which the financial statements were approved:

Name

- Nuala O’Loan
- Vineet Bewtra
- Alan Christie
- Tim Cohen (Honorary Treasurer and Vice Chair)
- Chris Elliott
- Ian Hughes
- Howard Jones
- Laura Kelly
- Keefa Kiwanuka
- Nahid Majid
- Bryan Meehan
- Tom O’Higgins
- Nora Owen
- Myles Wickstead (Chair)

Rod MacLeod, Colette McAuley and Rose Caldwell resigned as trustees of the organisation on 1 April 2008, 23 April 2008 and 18 September 2008 respectively. Nuala O’Loan was appointed as a trustee of the organisation on 30 April 2008.

Executive Director	Rose Caldwell
Company Secretary	Alastair Land
Registered Office	Unit 13 & 14 Calico House Clove Hitch Quay Plantation Wharf London SW11 3TN
Other Offices	47 Frederick Street Belfast BT1 2LW Northern Ireland 40 St Enoch Square Glasgow G1 4DH Scotland
Auditor	KPMG Chartered Accountants 1 Stokes Place St. Stephen’s Green Dublin 2 Ireland
Bankers	Barclays Bank plc 1 Churchill Place London E14 5HP Bank of Ireland Belfast City Branch Belfast BT1 2BA The Royal Bank of Scotland Glasgow City Branch 10 Gordon Street Glasgow G1 3PL
Solicitor	Withers LLP 16 Old Bailey, London EC4M TEG

Concern Worldwide (UK)

Trustees' Report (incorporating a Director's Report)

The Trustees (who are also directors of Concern Worldwide (UK) for company law purposes), have pleasure in submitting their annual report and audited financial statements of the company for the year ended 31 December 2008.

1. Structure, Governance and Management

1.1 Legal Status

Concern Worldwide (UK) is a company limited by guarantee, not having a share capital, incorporated under the Companies Act 1985 (registered number 4323646). The company is registered as a charity with the Charity Commission for England and Wales (Charity Number 1092236).

1.2 Organisation and Related Organisations

The company commenced operations on 1 January 2004 when it received a grant of the net assets and trade previously carried out by Concern Worldwide (Northern Ireland).

The activities of Concern Worldwide (UK) are carried out in association with Concern Worldwide a company registered in the Republic of Ireland which is the sole member of Concern Worldwide (UK).

1.3 Board of Trustees

As indicated above, Concern Worldwide (UK) is a limited company and all of the trustees are also full directors of Concern Worldwide (UK) for company law purposes.

Trustees, all of whom are non-executive, are drawn from diverse backgrounds in business and professional life, and bring a broad range of experience and skills to Board deliberations. The trustees are elected on a rotational basis at the Annual General Meeting. Trustees attend an induction course shortly after the Annual General Meeting to familiarise themselves with their statutory responsibilities, their role as Board members, the governance framework within Concern Worldwide (UK), Concern Worldwide (UK)'s humanitarian work and the risk environment. A two day training conference was held for all trustees in early 2008 and on-going training is arranged as and when a need is identified.

There are clear distinctions between the role of the Board and the Executive Management Team to which day to day management is delegated. The principle that 'management proposes', 'Board decides', 'management implements', 'Board monitors', forms the basis of Board and the Executive Management Team interaction. Matters such as policy, strategic planning, and budgets are prepared by the Executive Management Team for consideration and approval by the Trustees. The members of the Board cannot under the governance

regulations of the charity, receive remuneration for services to Concern Worldwide (UK) and may only be reimbursed for incidental expenses claimed.

The Board meets at least three times a year. It has appointed an Audit and Finance Committee which is made up of the Honorary Treasurer, Vice Chair and one or more other trustees with relevant experience. The Audit and Finance Committee operates under specific terms of reference, which include responsibility for the monitoring of the organisation's financial systems and policies, including the audit and risk management systems. It met 5 times during 2008.

2. Identity, Vision and Mission

Our Identity – Who we are

Concern Worldwide (UK) is a non-governmental, international, humanitarian organisation dedicated to the reduction of suffering and working towards the ultimate elimination of extreme poverty in the world's poorest countries.

Our Vision – for change

A world where no-one lives in poverty, fear or oppression; where all have access to a decent standard of living and the opportunities and choices essential to a long, healthy and creative life; a world where everyone is treated with dignity and respect.

Our Mission – What we do

Our mission is to help people living in extreme poverty achieve major improvements in their lives which last and spread without ongoing external support.

3. Objectives, Achievements and Performance

To achieve its mission the organisation supports the overseas programmes of Concern Worldwide - it does not implement its own overseas programmes. Concern Worldwide (UK) does however seek to address the root causes of poverty directly through its own development education and advocacy work.

3.1 Support to Overseas Operations

a. Objectives

Our overall objectives in relation to the overseas operations are:

- » To maximise the amounts transferred to Concern Worldwide in order to finance its overseas activities.
- » To effectively monitor usage of transferred funds in order to ensure that it complied with donor requirements and was effective in targeting poverty.

b. Performance Review – Activities and Achievements

During 2008 Concern Worldwide (UK) funded Concern Worldwide operations in the following countries:

Afghanistan	Malawi
Angola	Mozambique
Bangladesh	Myanmar
Burundi	Nepal
Cambodia	Niger
Chad	Pakistan
Democratic People’s Republic of Korea	Rwanda
Democratic Republic of Congo	Sierra Leone
Ethiopia	Somalia
Haiti	Sudan, North and South
India	Tanzania
Indonesia	Timor Leste
Kenya	Uganda
Lao Peoples’ Democratic Republic	Zambia
Liberia	Zimbabwe

Within the above countries the work of Concern Worldwide focussed on five core organisational programmes:

- » Livelihood security
- » Health
- » Basic education
- » HIV/AIDS programming and mainstreaming
- » Emergency response and preparedness

Resources provided by Concern Worldwide (UK) funded 11% of the total cost of the overseas work of Concern Worldwide in 2008. Each of the above programmes was part-funded as follows:

Overseas programme	Concern Worldwide total cost £’000	Funded by Concern Worldwide (UK) £’000	Funded by Concern Worldwide (UK) %
Health	23,614	3,724	16%
Education	10,004	2,324	23%
Livelihoods	29,553	842	3%
HIV/AIDS	4,491	425	9%
Emergency	23,967	2,533	11%
Total	91,629	9,848	11%

We estimate that 10 million people benefited directly from the programmes while up to 25 million were indirect beneficiaries.

A description of the overall objectives, activities and achievements of Concern Worldwide in 2008 together with a number of examples of each of its programmes are set out in pages 9 to 47 of this Annual Report. The information is extracted from reports prepared by Concern Worldwide.

Overall we feel that we progressed our objectives significantly during 2008.

» In relation to maximising funds transferred, we made a total of £9.8 million available for overseas operations. This represents a fall from the £10.1 million transferred in 2007; reflecting the fall in co-funding and voluntary income in a year when the general economic environment had an impact on the resources available, and when there were no large scale emergencies that attracted media and public attention in the countries in which we operate. The full net amounts generated in 2008 were transferred and reserves were reduced to their minimum level.

» During 2008 we actively monitored the use of funds provided by Concern Worldwide (UK). We achieved this through a mixture of monitoring and support visits to overseas operations, visits to beneficiaries, review of formal evaluations, review of internal and external audit reports and review of project progress reports.

3.2 Campaigning, Advocacy and Influencing a. Objectives

Concern Worldwide (UK) invests in advocacy as a means to improve the effectiveness of emergency and long term development programmes, and to influence policy makers in order to remove the underlying causes of poverty.

b. Performance Review – Activities and Achievements

In 2008, Concern Worldwide continued to focus its international advocacy efforts on the central themes of hunger and emergencies. The highlight of our international activities was an important conference on hunger held in Dublin which brought together a range of leading thinkers and international development practitioners on issues relating to hunger and poverty. In the UK, our Policy and Campaigns team continued to work within the International End Hunger Advocacy Strategy framework established in 2007, which has four components: support for marginal farmers, social protection, the link between HIV and AIDS and food security and community management of acute malnutrition (CMAM), nutrition and health.

Our focus has been on the first two of those components and particularly on the first - marginal

farmers. Extremely good progress was made with our 'Unheard Voices' campaign, launched in 2007 to highlight the importance of providing support to marginal farmers – people who live on farms of less than an acre and struggle to grow enough food for their families for the year. Our campaign aim is to influence the UK government to prioritise the needs of marginal farmers and put them at the heart of international agriculture policy, a review of which started towards the end of 2008. Advocacy and campaigning activities around the Unheard Voices campaign included:

Building alliances with NGOs and academics:

In the UK, we have been instrumental in the establishment of the African Smallholder Farmers Group (ASFG) – an alliance of like-minded international NGOs who all work with smallholder farmers in Africa. The group made submissions to DFID and to Parliament and commissioned research to identify the lessons from our joint experience. We engaged with UK-based academics through the commissioning of research and invitations to events and seminars.

Strengthening the evidence base: we completed four pieces of research into: (a) the CAADP (Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme) process in Zambia (b) marginal farmers in Zambia (c) marginal farmers in Tanzania and (d) a review of donor approaches and research findings on marginal farmers.

Lobbying the UK Parliament: our Parliamentary lobbying included: a letter to MPs about the campaign, as a result of which an Early Day Motion that was tabled and signed by 46 MPs; individual meetings with several MPs; a submission to the International Development Committee's annual review of DFID; and letters from supporters to MPs as part of our public campaign.

Working with country programmes: our efforts have focused on working with the Concern teams in Tanzania and Zambia, and have included joint commissioning of research and the organisation of Roundtable meetings in London and Tanzania on making African agriculture work for the poor.

Direct engagement with DFID: we attended a number of meetings with the new Food and Agriculture Department in DFID to discuss responses to the food crisis. We also wrote to DFID as the co-ordinator of the ASFG and attended a meeting with DFID Ministers as a member of the UK Food Group. We were involved in the first stage of DFID's review of its agriculture policy in November and December 2008, and have contributed to a change in DFID's approach to

agriculture which is now increasingly looking beyond the links between agriculture and economic growth to address wider food security and hunger issues.

Social protection is another key strategic focus within our International End Hunger Strategy. Activities to support the provision and prioritisation of social protection as a pan-Africa initiative were taken through membership of and support to groups such as the Grow up Free From Poverty Coalition and the Hunger Alliance. In the UK we published learning papers on our Food and Cash Transfer (FACT) and Dowa Emergency Cash Transfer (DECT) projects.

The strategy for the second of our international advocacy themes, emergencies, continues to be developed at an international level. In the UK, we continued to advocate on national emergencies where possible. Somalia and Darfur were on-going priorities, and we met and lobbied MPs and senior FCO staff specifically on these two countries. We also attended DFID CHASE humanitarian meetings, Crisis Action and All Party Group meetings, and participated in other networks to try to influence change in humanitarian access and engagement in countries affected by crises.

In Glasgow, in conjunction with other NGOs we helped steer Scottish Government international development policy in a positive direction, and helped improve standards in the sector. In Northern Ireland, as a member of CADA we lobbied the Northern Ireland Assembly which led to the passing of an all-party motion on international development.

Overall, great headway was made during 2008 to progress our objectives. A strong Policy and Campaigns team in the UK successfully raised the issue of marginal farmers through our Unheard Voices campaign in various policy fora, amongst academics, NGOs and DFID. We feel that we had a significant positive impact on DFID's thinking around global hunger issues, as well as establishing Concern as an organisation with evidence-based opinions on agriculture and poor farmers. Networks were expanded and key relationships strengthened and we are in a good position to move forward in 2009.

3.3 Fundraising

a. Objectives

Our overall objectives in relation to fundraising was to maximise the amount of voluntary income raised and to ensure that we did so at a reasonable cost income ratio.

b. Performance Review – Activities and Achievements

In 2008 we had a successful year and raised a total of £10.2 million in voluntary donations and a further

£2.6 million in grants from government and other co-funders. We spent £233k (7%) less on fundraising campaigns in an effort to generate income as efficiently as possible. We are extremely grateful for the continuing generosity of all of our donors.

Committed giving continues to be a key element of voluntary funding contributing £3.5 million in 2008. The reliability of this income stream is vital in allowing us to plan ahead and commit to longer term development projects, whilst also providing us with the funds to respond quickly and effectively to emergencies. We are greatly indebted to the thousands of people who continue to support us in this way. Expenditure of £0.7 million in 2008 on marketing campaigns to recruit regular givers is fully expensed in the current year, this investment helped to increase our bank of regular givers by approximately 2,000 who we hope will continue to donate to the charity for many years to come. We expect to continue to invest in the recruitment of committed givers in 2009 and subsequent years.

Our income from **public appeals and events** fell from £3.9 million in 2007 to £3.2 million in 2008. Whilst there were no emergencies on the scale of the Tsunami during 2008, we were extremely pleased by the public response to our emergency appeal for Ethiopia food crisis which raised £254k. We also ran a successful appeal to help provide additional farmers resource centres in Liberia. Additionally, our community fundraisers helped us to raise money by participating in FoodAid, Fast Friends and other events such as the London and Belfast marathons.

Following on from the significant growth experienced in 2007, we have managed to sustain income for **trusts, corporates and major donors** at £1.5 million (2007: £1.5 million). We consider this to be a fantastic achievement in the current economic climate. We are extremely grateful to the very generous major donors and trusts with whom we believe we have developed strong and lasting relationships. We hope to build on these successes during 2009.

We raised £0.5 million of **legacy income** during 2008. This line of income is hard to predict and we feel honoured by the very loyal donors who have chosen to remember us in this way. We will be working to develop a new legacy marketing campaign during 2009.

We also received significant new grants from Jersey Overseas Aid, Guernsey Overseas Aid, Isle of Man Overseas Aid, Band Aid Charitable Trust, Ethiopia Aid and the Asia Foundation as well as the Disasters Emergency Committee in relation to appeals run for Darfur and Chad, Cyclone Sidr in Bangladesh, Niger and North Sudan.

4. Financial Review

The financial outcome for 2008 is set out in the Statement of Financial Activities on page 68.

4.1 Income

Concern Worldwide (UK) raised total income of £13.2 million in 2008, an increase 2% on 2007. Despite the overall increase in income, income from our two main sources; grants from governments and other co-funders; and voluntary donations from the public decreased by £151k and £212k respectively. This was partially offset during 2008 by income in the form of donated commodities, and by one off insurance income in relation to the 2005 fire in our London office.

Grants

Concern Worldwide (UK) received a total of £2.3 million from governments and other co-funders in 2008 – see note 1a to the financial statements for analysis by donor. This represents a decrease of 6% which is mainly the result of a few significant contracts with DFID (Department for International Development) for Tanzania and Malawi which came to an end in 2007. This decrease has been offset by new funding from the Asia Foundation received for Cambodia, and increased funding from the Big Lottery Fund for programmes in Bangladesh.

Public Donations

We received £10.2 million in public donations during 2008 – see note 1c to the financial statements for analysis of voluntary income. The difficult economic climate which really began to take hold in the last quarter of the year has contributed to the decline of £703k in responses to public appeals and events in 2008. Income from major donors, corporates and trusts has however stayed broadly in line with 2007 levels whilst committed giving and income from funders such as the Comic Relief, Isle of Man and the Disasters Emergency Committee increased significantly on 2007 levels. This has helped us to record an overall decrease of only 2% in voluntary income. The general consensus is that 2009 will present even greater challenges and we will be working hard to reduce costs, maximise efficiency and ensure continued engagement with our donors through this difficult time.

Donated Commodities

Commodities donated to the organisation as distributed as part of its relief programmes were valued at £349k in 2008. This is the first time that Concern Worldwide (UK) has received donated commodities. We received non-food items for our work in Zimbabwe from DFID (Department for International Development).

Insurance Income

We have recorded insurance income of £322k in relation to the fire that severely damaged our London office in October 2005. After more than two years in temporary office accommodation, we were finally able to return to Calico House in January 2008. The final insurance claim was submitted in the spring, and the money was received in late autumn 2008.

4.2 Expenditure

Our total expenditure for the year was made up as follows:

	£m	%
Charitable expenditure	10.6	77%
Fundraising costs	3.0	22%
Governance	0.1	1%
	13.7	100%

Expenditure on Charitable Activities

Expenditure on charitable activities was down by 4% on 2007 levels as a result of the decreases in both statutory and voluntary income described above. In order to minimise the impact of declining income on overseas programmes as far as possible, the UK organisation sought to reduce discretionary expenditure as much as possible without damaging our long-term income generating capacity.

Fundraising Costs

Fundraising costs have decreased by 7% on 2007 levels. Whilst we have sought to generate savings by working as efficiently as possible, we have also recognised the importance of maintaining investment in donor recruitment as a way of protecting the long-term income generating ability of the charity. We have used the strategic review of our Individual Giving programme during the early part of the year to help us to re-focus our recruitment activities on a more narrow range of recruitment channels that we believe will afford us the best return on invest over a 5 year period.

Governance Costs

Governance costs have remained broadly in line with 2007 levels.

The Board adopts a number of key performance indicators in order to measure the company's financial efficiency. The most important relate to efficiency of fundraising. Return on fundraising expenditure is benchmarked against sectoral standards for each major type of fundraising activity. Long-term targets are set and performance is evaluated against same. In addition, considerable attention is paid to the level of support costs relative to charitable spend. Performance was generally considered to be satisfactory in 2008 though we will continue to try to maximise efficiencies in 2009.

The trustees are confident that future incoming resources to the company will be adequate to support the continuation of existing projects and activities and also to meet other needs which may arise.

4.3 Reserves

It is the organisation's policy to retain only sufficient reserves to safeguard the continuity of its operations, thereby committing the maximum possible resources to its current programmes.

The organisation maintains two main types of reserves:

Restricted reserves (£0.6 million); are funds which can only be used for purposes specified by the donors. The level of restricted reserves at 31 December 2008 was in line with expectations. The trustees plan that all of the restricted funds held at that date will be fully utilised during 2009.

Unrestricted reserves (£1.0 million); these holdings fall into two categories:

» Designated funds of £0.9 million; these represent unrestricted funds which have been allocated by the Board for specific purposes. At the end of 2008, funds had been designated for two specific purposes as follows;

- To ensure the continuity of operations in the event of a temporary downturn in income.
- To recognise that a portion of reserves is invested in the charity's fixed assets and is not therefore available for other purposes.

The trustees have monitored the level of designated reserves at 31 December 2008 in order to ensure that amounts held are adequate for both of these purposes (see note 12(b)).

» General unrestricted funds £0.2m; these represent funds which are temporarily held pending their application for the general purposes of the charity. In 2006, the trustees' decided that the charity does not need to hold general reserves on an ongoing basis but that general unrestricted reserves should instead be fully utilised for overseas programmes within the year. In 2008, unrestricted reserves remain broadly in line with 2007 levels and within accepted tolerances.

The Board believe that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. For this reason the Board continues to adopt the 'going concern' basis in preparing the accounts.

5. Future Plans

2009 has brought with it additional challenges to be dealt with and managed by the organisation and these are mainly a result of the deteriorating global economic climate. We are entering a period of unprecedented uncertainty and the organisation is likely to face hard decisions about our costs and how we spend our resources most effectively.

The organisation has identified five key principles for 2009 and will use these to steer the difficult decisions that will have to be made in the year.

The five principles are as follows:

- » targeting the most vulnerable populations (in low income countries under stress)
- » enhancing programme quality
- » ensuring overall financial stability
- » implementing an integrated advocacy and communications strategy
- » protecting staff and their security

The strategic direction of the organisation is still governed by the overall strategic plan which runs up to 2010. This direction largely coincides with the priorities highlighted above, however the current economic climate is likely to have an impact on resources available to the organisation; this creates significant challenges as it strives to achieve its objectives. Within our current strategic plan, we have identified four key objectives for 2009.

1. To raise £9.2 million in voluntary income

2009 is likely to be a challenging year for fundraising, given the economic climate. However, the comprehensive review of individual giving that was carried out during 2008, together with the establishment of a number of core organisational working groups that focus on specific fundraising areas will put us in a good position to use our resources to greater impact. During the year we will be developing a series of carefully targeted appeals to our existing supporters and will be testing new channels to recruit regular givers.

Our major donor programme will build on the strong foundations already in place, and a planned programme to recruit patrons will help us to leverage income from new sources. Our Trusts and Foundations team will continue to work with established donors and to identify new ones. We will also work collaboratively with the DEC (Disasters Emergencies Committee) on joint appeals where applicable.

2. To raise £4.3 million in co-funding in collaboration with our overseas fields

Funds raised from statutory funders such as DFID (Department for International Development), the Scottish Government and other governments will be an area of increased focus for us. A review of income potential from the UK government that we commissioned in 2008 revealed this to be a potential growth area for us, and is one that we will be focussing attention on in 2009. This will require close collaboration with our colleagues both at Head Office level and in our overseas fields of operation. We will maintain and strengthen relationships with

the Scottish Government who have awarded us two grants worth £1.4 million over three years in 2008.

3. To advocate to effect policy change to address the root causes of poverty

Our advocacy plans for 2009 will build on the foundations established in 2008, with advocacy around marginal farmers continuing to be the major focus of our work. Recognising that we will be able to make the most impact through working collaboratively we will strengthen our relationships with key internal and external stakeholders. This will include building strong relationships with our overseas county programmes and contributing to the work of the International Advocacy Team. Specifically we will aim to:

- » influence the policy and practice of the Department for International Development to ensure that the voices of marginal farmers are heard
- » further increase understanding of the challenges faced by marginal farmers through research, including disseminating research findings through seminars
- » strengthen networks and alliances with other UK-based NGOs, particularly the UK Food Group and the Africa Smallholder Farmers Group
- » engage Concern supporters in our advocacy work on marginal farmers
- » engage with the UK Parliament so that pressure is brought to bear on DFID
- » work with the media to promote our advocacy objectives

4. To manage key resources to optimise results

During 2009, we will put in place a number of procedures to ensure that our targets are being reached as effectively as possible. Performance in all areas will be monitored against detailed operational plans drawn up by each department. We recognise that in order to achieve our targets we will need to integrate our approach with colleagues at Head Office and country programme level and will work collaboratively with them in all areas of our work.

In 2008, we were able to consolidate on work that focussed on building our credibility, communicating our campaign messages and building a more diverse income base. With these strong foundations in place, we are well placed to tackle the challenges that 2009 will bring in these economically turbulent times, and to maximise the positive impact that we can make on the lives of poor people.

6. Staff and Volunteers

The organisation acknowledges with gratitude the work of its staff and that of its volunteers in 2008. The major achievements during the year are due to the dedication and belief of all of these people.

Concern Worldwide (UK) is an equal opportunities employer. The aim of its equal opportunities policy is to ensure that all people receive equality of opportunity regardless of gender, race, religion, disability, nationality, marital/family status or sexual orientation.

7. Political Donations

No political donations were made during the year.

8. Risk Management and Internal Control

The major risks to which Concern Worldwide (UK) is exposed, are identified by the management team and reviewed by the trustees as part of the annual risk review process. Appropriate systems and procedures are in place to manage these risks and provide reasonable but not absolute assurance against occurrence.

The main risks identified, together with the methods adopted to manage them are summarised below and have not significantly changed since last year's report:

- » Governance risk: the organisation needs to ensure that appropriate corporate governance structures and practices are in place, to reduce the risk of organisation failure and support the long term survival and success of Concern Worldwide (UK). The Board regularly reviews the policies and structure of the company in order to ensure that they meet accepted good governance standards.
- » Continuity of funding: the organisation has no guaranteed income. If it is to continue its work it is entirely dependent on the goodwill of the public and on the relations it builds with governments and co-funders. In order to reduce the risk of significant fluctuations in income the organisation aims to maintain geographically diverse sources of income, to foster public commitment to the developing world and to maintain good relations with institutional donors. It has also set aside a portion of reserves to reduce disruption in the event of a temporary fall in income.
- » Effectiveness of expenditure: the company needs to be able to demonstrate that it is able to use resources effectively in order to achieve lasting results. Extensive systems have been put in place to monitor work quality.
- » Fraud or error: significant errors or fraud could severely damage the company reputation as well as resulting in the loss of resources. The company has developed financial controls and reporting systems to mitigate this risk.
- » IT security and continuity: in common with many companies we are dependent on information which is stored electronically, the loss or damage of these systems would severely disrupt operations. The company has developed detailed

IT policies and procedures designed to counter this risk.

The Board is satisfied that systems are in place to monitor, manage, and mitigate Concern Worldwide UK's exposure to major risks.

9. Post Balance Sheet Events

No significant events have taken place since the year end that would result in adjustment of the financial statements or inclusion of a note thereto.

10. Auditor

In accordance with Section 384 of the Companies Act 1985 a resolution for the re-appointment of KPMG as the auditor of the company is to be proposed at the forthcoming Annual General Meeting.

11. Subsidiary Undertakings

Details of subsidiary undertakings are set out in note 17 to the financial statements. The subsidiaries are not consolidated into these financial statements. All of the subsidiaries are dormant and none had material assets or liabilities at balance sheet date.

By order of the board



Tim Cohen
Trustee



Howard Jones
Trustee

**Statement of Trustees’ Responsibilities
in respect of the Trustees’ Report and the Financial Statements**

The trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees’ Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and regulations.

Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year in accordance with UK Accounting Standards and applicable law (UK Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

The financial statements are required by law to give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the excess of expenditure over income for that period.

In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- » select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- » make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- » state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- » prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the group and the charity will continue in its activities.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and enable them to ensure that its financial statements comply with the Companies Act 1985. They have general responsibility for taking such steps as are reasonably open to them to safeguard the assets of the charitable company and to prevent and detect fraud and other irregularities.

The trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on the charitable company’s website. Legislation in the UK governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

On behalf of the board



Tim Cohen
Trustee



Tim Cohen
Trustee

Independent Auditors' Report to the Members of Concern Worldwide (UK)

We have audited the financial statements of Concern Worldwide (UK) for the year ended 31 December 2008 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, the Balance Sheet and the related notes. These financial statements have been prepared under the accounting policies set out therein.

This report is made solely to the charitable company's members, as a body, in accordance with section 235 of the Companies Act 1985. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charitable company's members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charitable company and its members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and auditors

The responsibilities of the charitable company's trustees, who are also the directors of Concern Worldwide (UK) for the purposes of company law, for preparing the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and UK Accounting Standards (UK Generally Accepted Accounting Practice) are set out in the Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities on page 64.

Our responsibility is to audit the financial statements in accordance with relevant legal and regulatory requirements and International Standards on Auditing (UK and Ireland).

We report to you our opinion as to whether the financial statements give a true and fair view and are properly prepared in accordance with the Companies Act 1985. We also report to you whether in our opinion the information given in the Trustees' Annual Report is consistent with the financial statements.

In addition we report to you if, in our opinion, the charitable company has not kept proper accounting records, if we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit, or if information specified by law regarding trustees' remuneration and other transactions is not disclosed.

We read the Trustees' Report and consider the implications for our report if we become aware of any apparent misstatements within it. We read the other information contained in the Trustees' Report and consider whether it is consistent with the audited financial statements. We consider the implications for our report if we become aware of any apparent misstatements or material inconsistencies with the financial statements. Our responsibilities do not extend to any other information.

Basis of audit opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK and Ireland) issued by the Auditing Practices Board. An audit includes examination, on a test basis, of evidence relevant to the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. It also includes an assessment of the significant estimates and judgments made by the trustees in the preparation of the financial statements, and of whether the accounting policies are appropriate to the charitable company's circumstances, consistently applied and adequately disclosed.

We planned and performed our audit so as to obtain all the information and explanations which we considered necessary in order to provide us with sufficient evidence to give reasonable assurance that the financial statements are free from material misstatement, whether caused by fraud or other irregularity or error. In forming our opinion we also evaluated the overall adequacy of the presentation of information in the financial statements.

Opinion

In our opinion:

- » the financial statements give a true and fair view, in accordance with UK Generally Accepted Accounting Practice, of the state of the charitable company's affairs as at 31 December 2008 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the year then ended;
- » the financial statements have been properly prepared in accordance with the Companies Act 1985; and
- » the information given in the Trustees' Report is consistent with the financial statements.



KPMG

Chartered Accountants
Registered Auditor
Dublin
Ireland

17 April 2009

Concern Worldwide (UK) Statement of Accounting Policies

The following accounting policies have been applied consistently in dealing with items which are considered material in relation to the company's financial statements.

Basis Of Preparation

The financial statements are prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles under the historical cost convention and comply with financial reporting standards of the Accounting Standards Board, as promulgated by the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales and in accordance with the Companies Act 1985.

The financial statements have also been prepared to comply with "*Accounting and Reporting by Charities – Statement of Recommended Practice*" (Revised 2005) issued by the Accounting Standards Board.

Incoming Resources

Incoming resources are recognised by inclusion in the statement of financial activities only when the charity is legally entitled to the income, is virtually certain of receipt and the amount can be measured with sufficient reliability.

Incoming Resources from Charitable Activities

Grants from governments and co-funders, are included under *Incoming Resources from Charitable Activities* where entitlement to the grant income is strictly dependent on the provision of specific goods and services specified in the grant agreements. Income from such agreements (performance related grants) is recognised when receivable i.e. when there are written agreements specifying the amounts, when the activities which the grants are intended to fund have been undertaken, the related expenditure incurred, receipt is virtually certain and all other relevant performance conditions of the grant agreements have been met.

Income due from performance related grants which has not yet been received at year end is included in debtors in the balance sheet, funds already received but not yet utilised are shown in creditors.

Incoming Resources from Generated Funds

Voluntary income consists of monetary donations from the public (including Disasters Emergency Committee (DEC) appeals), and non-performance related grants from corporate and other donors.

Monetary donations from the public (including legacies), together with related gift aid are recognised in the period in which the organisation is entitled to the resource, receipt is virtually certain and when the amounts can be measured

with sufficient reliability. In the case of monetary donations from the public, this is generally when the donations are received; with legacies it is when we establish unconditional entitlement to the bequest; whereas, with gift aid it is when claims are compiled and submitted to the Inland Revenue authorities for reimbursement.

Grants from corporates and other donors are included in Voluntary Income when they are judged not to be performance related i.e. when entitlement to the grant income is not strictly dependent on the provision of specific goods and services specified in the grant agreements. Income from such agreements is recognised as soon as the organisation establishes entitlement, receipt is virtually certain and the amounts can be measured with sufficient reliability, (in practice this is generally when we receive written notification from the donor of entitlement to the funds). Income due but not yet received at year end is included in debtors, and any funds not yet utilised are shown as part of restricted reserves.

Resources Expended

Resources expended are analysed between costs of charitable activities, costs of generating funds and governance costs.

The costs of each activity are separately accumulated and disclosed, analysed according to their major components.

Support costs, which cannot be attributed directly to one activity, are allocated in proportion to estimated staff time spent on each activity.

The costs of public campaigns - together with related salary costs - which are undertaken to meet the dual purposes of raising funds and of promoting awareness of issues in the developing world, are split between costs of generating voluntary income and costs of charitable activities on the bases which seem the most reasonable and appropriate for each type of campaign.

Costs of Charitable Activities

The cost of charitable activities comprises costs of overseas programmes and of development education and advocacy work together with related support costs. Concern Worldwide (UK) works in the developing world by providing resources to the overseas branches of Concern Worldwide. Expenditure of these resources on goods and services on behalf of local branches is expensed when the costs are incurred by Concern Worldwide.

Costs of Generating Voluntary Income

Fundraising costs include the costs of advertising, producing publications, printing and mailing fundraising material, staff costs in these areas and

an appropriate allocation of central overhead costs. All costs of generating funds are recognised on an accruals basis.

Governance Costs

Governance costs represent the salaries, direct expenditure and overhead costs incurred on the strategic as opposed to day to day management of the charity, and on compliance with constitutional and statutory requirements.

FRS 1 Cash Flow Statement

The company is exempt from the requirements of FRS 1 (Revised) to include a cash flow statement as part of its financial statements because the company's cash flows are included in the consolidated cash flow statement prepared by its parent company (note 16).

Funds

Concern Worldwide (UK) maintains various types of funds as follows:

Restricted Funds

Restricted funds represent grants, donations and legacies received which can only be used for particular purposes specified by the donors. Such purposes are within the overall aims of the organisation.

Unrestricted Funds

Unrestricted funds represent amounts which are expendable at the discretion of Board in furtherance of the overall objectives of the charity. They consist of Designated Funds and General Funds.

Designated Funds represent amounts that the company has set aside for specific purposes, which would otherwise form part of the general reserves of the organisation. Specifically, Concern Worldwide (UK), sets aside funds so that it can protect its ongoing programme of work from unexpected variations in income and to finance fixed assets for on-going use by the charity.

General Funds represent amounts which are expendable at the discretion of the Board in furtherance of the objectives of the charity. Such funds may be held in order to finance working capital or to finance start-up of new programmes pending receipts of funds.

Tangible Fixed Assets

Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost less accumulated depreciation. Assets which cost less than £750 are not capitalised.

Depreciation is calculated to write off the original cost of the tangible fixed assets, less estimated residual value, over their expected useful lives, on a straight line basis at the following annual rates:

Leasehold premises	3%
Furniture	10%
Other equipment	20%
Computer equipment	33%
Motor vehicles	20%

A full year's depreciation is charged in the year of acquisition with none in the year of disposal. Provision is also made for any impairment of tangible fixed assets below their carrying amounts.

Pensions

The company makes payments into individual externally administered defined contribution pension schemes for qualifying members of staff. Annual payments to the schemes are charged to the statement of financial activities in the year to which they relate.

Foreign Currencies

The financial statements are prepared in sterling (Stg£). Transactions denominated in other currencies are translated into sterling at the rate of exchange prevailing at the transaction date or at a contracted rate. Monetary assets and liabilities denominated in other currencies have been translated into sterling at the exchange rates ruling at the balance sheet date or the contracted rate, and any resulting gains or losses are taken to the statement of financial activities.

Taxation

To the extent that they are applied to its charitable objectives, Concern Worldwide (UK), as a registered charity, is exempt from taxation on its income and gains falling within Section 505 of the Taxes Act 1988 or Section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992. Irrecoverable value added tax is expensed as incurred.

Concern Worldwide (UK)

Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31 December 2008

	Notes	Restricted Funds Stg£	Unrestricted Funds Stg£	Total 2008 Stg£	Total 2007 Stg£
Incoming resources					
Incoming resources from charitable activities					
- grants from governments and other cofunders	1a	2,261,603	-	2,261,603	2,412,997
- donated commodities	1b	348,733	-	348,733	-
Incoming resources from generated funds					
- voluntary income	1c	4,022,601	6,223,651	10,246,252	10,458,207
Other incoming resources					
- deposit interest		-	19,667	19,667	17,656
- insurance income		-	322,248	322,248	-
Total incoming resources		6,632,937	6,565,566	13,198,503	12,888,860
Resources expended					
Charitable activities	2	6,555,629	4,100,705	10,656,334	11,108,389
Cost of generating voluntary income	3	242,754	2,722,745	2,965,499	3,198,604
Governance costs	4	-	95,123	95,123	92,222
Total resources expended		6,798,383	6,918,573	13,716,956	14,399,215
Net expenditure for the year		(165,446)	(353,007)	(518,453)	(1,510,355)
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds at 31 December 2007		745,696	1,411,694	2,157,390	3,667,745
Net movement in funds for the year		(165,446)	(353,007)	(518,453)	(1,510,355)
Total funds at end of year	12	580,250	1,058,687	1,638,937	2,157,390

The company had no recognised gains and losses in the financial year or preceeding year other than those dealt with in the statement of financial activities.

The notes form an integral part of these financial statements.

On behalf of the Board



Tim Cohen
Trustee



Howard Jones
Trustee

Concern Worldwide (UK)
Balance Sheet at 31 December 2008

	Notes	2008 Stg£	2007 Stg£
Fixed assets			
Tangible fixed assets	8	206,218	158,032
Current assets			
Debtors and prepayments	9	1,937,472	2,421,002
Cash at bank and in hand	10	309,680	508,784
		2,247,152	2,929,786
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	11	(814,433)	(930,428)
Net current assets		1,432,719	1,999,358
Net assets		1,638,937	2,157,390
Funded by:			
Restricted funds	12	580,250	745,696
Unrestricted funds	12	1,058,687	1,411,694
Funds		1,638,937	2,157,390

The notes form an integral part of these financial statements.

On behalf of the Board



Tim Cohen
Trustee



Howard Jones
Trustee

Concern Worldwide (UK)
Notes forming part of the Financial Statements

1 INCOMING RESOURCES

a Grants from governments and other co-funders		Total 2008 Stg£	Total 2007 Stg£
Department for International Development		1,589,700	2,034,145
Big Lottery Fund		291,400	105,974
Scottish Executive		65,483	213,910
Guernsey Overseas Aid		40,000	58,968
Asia Foundation		275,020	-
Total		2,261,603	2,412,997
b Incoming resources from charitable activities - donated commodities		Total 2008 Stg£	Total 2007 Stg£
Donor	Commodity received		
DFID	Non food items	348,733	-
c Voluntary income		Total 2008 Stg£	Total 2007 Stg£
Committed giving		3,497,251	3,386,213
Legacy income		479,215	795,441
Public appeals and events		3,231,993	3,935,067
Trusts, corporates and major donors		1,524,595	1,525,237
Comic Relief		110,994	-
Isle of Man Overseas Aid		209,987	80,000
Jersey Overseas Aid		260,500	351,124
Disaster Emergency Committee (DEC)		892,492	385,125
Ethiopia Aid		39,225	-
Total		10,246,252	10,458,207

Concern Worldwide (UK)
Notes forming part of the Financial Statements

2 CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

Expenditure on charitable activities can be analysed as shown below. Expenditure on overseas programmes represents contributions by Concern Worldwide (UK), to the overseas programmes of Concern Worldwide. Many of these programmes achieve results in more than one of these categories, but are analysed for these purposes under the principal category only.

	Own work	Distribution of donated commodities	Total direct costs	Support costs	2008 Total costs	2007 Total costs
	Stg£	Stg£	Stg£	Stg£	Stg£	Stg£
Overseas programmes						
Health	3,707,865	-	3,707,865	16,331	3,724,196	4,486,969
Education	2,318,194	-	2,318,194	5,766	2,323,960	2,515,720
Livelihoods	818,418	-	818,418	23,040	841,458	781,837
HIV/AIDS	422,363	-	422,363	2,975	425,338	439,822
Emergency	2,169,142	348,733	2,517,875	15,281	2,533,156	1,846,159
	9,435,982	348,733	9,784,715	63,393	9,848,108	10,070,507
Development education and advocacy programme	651,923	-	651,923	156,303	808,226	1,037,882
Total charitable expenditure	10,087,905	348,733	10,436,638	219,696	10,656,334	11,108,389

3 COSTS OF GENERATING VOLUNTARY INCOME

	Campaign costs	Staff costs	Occupancy & other direct costs	Total direct costs	Support costs	2008 Total costs	2007 Total costs
	Stg£	Stg£	Stg£	Stg£	Stg£	Stg£	Stg£
Committed giving	2,146	598,679	68,728	669,553	47,297	716,850	808,727
Public appeals and events	792,966	725,395	352,422	1,870,783	132,150	2,002,933	2,156,388
Trusts, corporates and major donors	51,290	125,807	52,407	229,504	16,212	245,716	233,489
Total	846,402	1,449,881	473,557	2,769,840	195,659	2,965,499	3,198,604

4 GOVERNANCE COSTS

	2008 Stg£	2007 Stg£
Staff costs	34,483	33,911
Legal & professional fees	26,713	28,845
Office & other costs	33,927	29,466
Total	95,123	92,222

Concern Worldwide (UK)
Notes forming part of the Financial Statements

5 SUPPORT COSTS

Where support costs are attributable to a particular activity they are allocated directly to it. Where support costs are incurred to further more than one activity they are apportioned between the relevant activities based on the amount of staff time that each activity absorbs. The allocation of the main types of support costs is detailed below.

	Overseas programmes	Development education and advocacy	Charitable Activities		2008 Total	2007 Total
	Stg£	Stg£	Fundraising Stg£	Governance Stg£	Stg£	Stg£
Administration and finance	14,688	88,130	161,573	56,647	321,038	265,260
Other support costs	48,705	68,173	34,086	-	150,964	194,831
Total support costs	63,393	156,303	195,659	56,647	472,002	460,091

6 OTHER INFORMATION

	2008 Stg£	2007 Stg£
The deficit for the year is after charging the following items:		
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	54,433	26,566
Auditor’s remuneration	16,538	15,750
Reimbursement of travel expenses claimed by board members	1,859	1,720
Payments under operating leases for premises	85,932	86,682

7 STAFF

(a) Numbers and costs

The average number of employees during the year analysed by function was as follows:

	2008 No.	2007 No.
Management	8	7
Development	7	10
Marketing	61	64
Administration	3	5
	79	86

The aggregate payroll costs of these employees were as follows:

	2008 Stg£	2007 Stg£
Wages and salaries	1,686,910	1,767,892
Social welfare costs	171,787	170,383
Other pension costs	123,425	176,901
	1,982,122	2,115,176

Other pension costs include employer contributions to individual staff member pension schemes of £115,158 (2007: 122,591), as well as the cost of insurance policies that provide benefits in the event of the death or ongoing incapacity of staff members totalling £8,267 (2007: £54,310).

The staff numbers and costs reflected above include 35 staff (2007; 41), who have contracts of employment with another group company but who work exclusively on fundraising for Concern Worldwide (UK). Their salary costs which amounted to £586,215 (2007; £638,010), are recharged to Concern Worldwide (UK) as they are incurred.

Concern Worldwide (UK)
Notes forming part of the Financial Statements

7 STAFF

(b) Salary range

The number of employees whose remuneration amounted to over £60,000 in the year was as follows:

	2008 No. employees	2007 No. employees
£60,001 to £70,000	1	1

Remuneration includes salaries and benefits in kind but excludes employer pension scheme contributions. No contributions were made to defined benefit schemes for employees whose remuneration was greater than £60,000. Contributions to defined contribution schemes amounted to 7.5% of salary.

None of the members of the Concern Worldwide (UK) board received remuneration for their services. Expenses incurred in travelling to meetings, that were reimbursed to directors amounted to £1,859 (2007; £1,720).

8 TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Leasehold premises Stg£	Furniture & equipment Stg£	Computer equipment Stg£	Motor vehicles Stg£	Total Stg£
Cost					
At beginning of year	192,285	96,264	261,006	11,650	561,205
Additions in year	-	84,207	18,412	-	102,619
At end of year	192,285	180,471	279,418	11,650	663,824
Depreciation					
At beginning of year	84,048	56,749	255,389	6,987	403,173
Charge for year	5,769	23,841	22,493	2,330	54,433
At end of year	89,817	80,590	277,882	9,317	457,606
Net book value					
At 31 December 2008	102,468	99,881	1,536	2,333	206,218
At 31 December 2007	108,237	39,515	5,617	4,663	158,032

9 DEBTORS AND PREPAYMENTS

	2008 Stg£	2007 Stg£
Grant income receivable	609,157	1,075,998
Amounts due from Disasters Emergency Committee (DEC)	136,000	200,404
Gift Aid receivable	590,701	698,043
Sundry debtors and prepayments	40,530	28,899
Amount due from immediate parent undertaking	561,084	417,658
	1,937,472	2,421,002

All amounts included within debtors and prepayments fall due within one year.

Concern Worldwide (UK)
Notes forming part of the Financial Statements

10 CASH AT BANK AND IN HAND

	2008 Stg£	2007 Stg£
Funds held in UK banks	309,680	508,784

11 CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2008 Stg£	2007 Stg£
Trade creditors and accruals	355,774	733,511
Bank overdraft	19,670	111,886
Amounts received from co-funders but unspent	438,989	85,031
	814,433	930,428

12 FUNDS

(a) Reconciliation of funds

	Restricted Funds Stg£	Unrestricted Funds Stg£	Total 2008 Stg£	Total 2007 Stg£
Total funds at beginning of year	745,696	1,411,694	2,157,390	3,667,745
Net movement in funds for the year	(165,446)	(353,007)	(518,453)	(1,510,355)
Total funds at end of year	580,250	1,058,687	1,638,937	2,157,390

Concern Worldwide (UK)
Notes forming part of the Financial Statements

12 FUNDS (continued)
(b) Movements in funds

The movements in funds, classified in accordance with the organisation's accounting policies are as follows:

		Opening balance 1 January 2008 Stg£	Income Stg£	Expenditure Stg£	Transfers Stg£	Closing balance 31 December 2008 Stg£
Restricted funds						
Afghanistan		-	51,246	(51,246)	-	-
Angola		-	84	(84)	-	-
Bangladesh		109,439	1,110,827	(1,102,639)	-	117,627
Burundi		1,796	248	384	-	2,428
Cambodia		-	494,056	(484,822)	-	9,234
Chad		-	263,012	(207,012)	-	56,000
DPR Korea		-	3,691	(3,691)	-	-
DR Congo		14,985	50,395	(49,727)	-	15,653
Ethiopia		67,117	1,285,679	(1,222,015)	-	130,781
Haiti		-	43,904	(43,904)	-	-
India		-	9,376	(9,376)	-	-
Indonesia		-	-	-	-	-
Kenya		-	251,691	(251,691)	-	-
Laos		6,288	-	(6,288)	-	-
Liberia		-	255,960	(255,960)	-	-
Malawi		455,445	110,214	(490,397)	-	75,262
Mozambique		-	76,983	(76,983)	-	-
Myanmar		-	49,212	(49,212)	-	-
Nepal		-	91,525	(91,525)	-	-
Niger		-	383,580	(302,016)	-	81,564
Pakistan		-	163,995	(163,995)	-	-
Rwanda		-	38,279	(38,279)	-	-
Sierra Leone		90,626	308,176	(398,802)	-	-
Somalia		-	87,220	(87,220)	-	-
Sudan North		-	107,185	(101,145)	-	6,040
Sudan South		-	-	-	-	-
Tanzania		-	(773)	773	-	-
Timor Leste		-	-	-	-	-
Uganda		-	32,244	(32,244)	-	-
Zambia		-	108,639	(22,978)	-	85,661
Zimbabwe		-	818,873	(818,873)	-	-
HQ Projects		-	437,416	(437,416)	-	-
Others		-	-	-	-	-
Total restricted funds	(i)	745,696	6,632,937	(6,798,383)	-	580,250
Unrestricted funds						
General funds	(ii)	116,766	6,565,566	(6,918,573)	411,663	175,422
Designated funds:						
Tangible fixed asset fund	(iii)	158,032	-	-	48,187	206,219
Programme continuity fund	(iv)	1,136,896	-	-	(459,850)	677,046
Total unrestricted funds		1,411,694	6,565,566	(6,918,573)	-	1,058,687
Total funds		2,157,390	13,198,503	(13,716,956)	-	1,638,937

Concern Worldwide (UK)

Notes forming part of the Financial Statements

12 FUNDS (continued)

(c) Movements in funds (continued)

The above funds carried forward at 31 December 2008 represent:

(i) Income from appeals and donations which were not yet applied in the countries to which the appeals related.

(ii) Funds for use at the discretion of the Board to expand the activities of the charity.

(iii) The net book amounts already invested in or contractually committed to tangible fixed assets for use by the charity.

(iv) The net amount that the Trustees have agreed to be set aside to ensure that it can protect its ongoing programme of work from unexpected variances in income.

(v) Analysis of net assets between funds

	Restricted Funds Stg£	Unrestricted Funds Stg£	Total Funds Stg£
Funds balances at 31 December 2008 are represented by:			
Tangible fixed assets	-	206,218	206,218
Current assets	1,019,239	1,227,913	2,247,152
Current liabilities	(438,989)	(375,444)	(814,433)
	580,250	1,058,687	1,638,937

13 PENSIONS

The company contributes to individual pension schemes for eligible staff. The total pension contributions charged to the statement of financial activities amounted to £115,158 (2007: £122,591). An accrual of £8,251 (2007: £13,445), in respect of pension costs is included in creditors at 31 December 2008.

14 RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURE

The company has availed of the exemption under Financial Reporting Standard No. 8 – Related Party Disclosures, not to give details of related party transactions with group companies, as it is a wholly owned subsidiary of Concern Worldwide, a company incorporated in the Republic of Ireland, which is preparing consolidated financial statements which include this company, and such financial statements are publicly available.

In order to achieve its mission, Concern Worldwide (UK) supports the overseas programmes of Concern Worldwide. During 2008 Concern Worldwide (UK) provided total funds of £9,784,715 (2007: £9,992,080) to Concern Worldwide for those programmes. Details of the activities funded are set out in note 2.

Concern Worldwide (UK)

Notes forming part of the Financial Statements

15 COMMITMENTS AND CONTINGENCIES

(i) The 2009 Annual Plan, as approved by the Trustees, allows for overseas expenditure in 2009 of £9,538,588. The company is also committed to assist certain overseas projects for periods in excess of one year.

(ii) Annual commitments under operating lease agreements in respect of premises for use by the group are as follows:

	Stg£
Payable on leases in which the commitment expires within :	
- one year	-
- two to five years	-
- more than five years	85,932
	85,932

16 ULTIMATE PARENT UNDERTAKING

The company is consolidated into its ultimate parent undertaking, Concern Worldwide, a company incorporated in the Republic of Ireland. The group accounts are available to the public at 52-55 Lower Camden Street, Dublin 2, Ireland.

17 SUBSIDIARY UNDERTAKINGS

The company is the sole member of and controls three subsidiary undertakings as follows:

(i) Concern Worldwide (Northern Ireland) has its registered office at 47 Frederick Street, Belfast, Northern Ireland. The company is dormant and there are no plans for it to resume activities.

(ii) Children's Aid Direct has its registered office is at Unit 13 & 14 Calico House, Clove Hitch Quay, Plantation Wharf, London. The company ceased to trade at the end of 2003 and has been dormant since that date. Children's Aid Direct was dissolved on Companies House records on 25 November 2008.

(iii) Trading for Concern Worldwide (UK) Charity Trading Limited has its registered office at Unit 13 & 14 Calico House, Clove Hitch Quay, Plantation Wharf, London. The company is dormant and there are no plans for it to commence activities.

18 SUBSEQUENT EVENTS

No significant events have taken place since the year end that would result in adjustment to 2008 financial information or inclusion of a note thereto.

19 APPROVAL OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

These financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees on 14th April 2009.

Appendix 1 – Expenditure on overseas programmes

In order to achieve its mission, Concern Worldwide (UK) supports the overseas programmes of Concern Worldwide. During 2008 Concern Worldwide (UK) funded Concern Worldwide operations in the following countries:

	2008 Stg£	2007 Stg£
Afghanistan	332,684	315,930
Angola	67	170,222
Bangladesh	1,089,533	717,033
Burundi	289,901	143,381
Cambodia	441,076	159,533
Chad	251,754	287,896
DPR Korea	60,363	67,911
DR Congo	435,243	454,640
Ethiopia	1,134,738	367,972
Haiti	596,326	598,694
India	8,566	131,336
Indonesia	218	127,270
Kenya	335,626	192,388
Laos	6,288	195,042
Liberia	485,312	426,220
Malawi	477,625	858,492
Mozambique	61,586	120,787
Myanmar	48,977	-
Nepal	145,133	194,389
Niger	301,336	276,365
Pakistan	161,490	868,815
Rwanda	34,449	59,680
Sierra Leone	426,682	265,308
Somalia	203,206	86,981
Sudan North	295,163	540,703
Sudan South	360,985	287,721
Tanzania	(3,597)	451,891
Timor Leste	129,049	124,321
Uganda	283,829	431,164
Zambia	22,978	262,736
Zimbabwe	930,713	84,985
Other projects	437,416	722,274
Total direct overseas programme costs	9,784,715	9,992,080
Support costs	63,393	78,427
Total overseas programme costs	9,848,108	10,070,507

Appendix 2 – Analysis of movement in accrued and deferred income for the year ended 31 December 2008

	Opening balance 1 January 2008 Stg£	Cash received Stg£	Income earned Stg£	Closing balance 31 December 2008 Stg£
Voluntary donations				
Disasters Emergency Committee (DEC)	200,404	(956,896)	892,492	136,000
Gift aid	698,043	(1,230,176)	1,122,834	590,701
Other voluntary income	78,075	(8,325,550)	8,230,926	(16,549)
Grants from governments and other cofunders				
Department for International Development	901,425	(2,467,780)	1,938,432	372,077
Big Lottery Fund	29,749	(206,887)	291,400	114,262
Scottish Executive	(18,282)	(333,100)	65,483	(285,899)
Guernsey Overseas Aid	-	(40,000)	40,000	-
Asia Foundation	-	(288,739)	275,020	(13,719)
	1,889,414	(13,849,128)	12,856,587	896,873
			Closing balance 31 December 2007 Stg£	Closing balance 31 December 2008 Stg£
Comprising:				
Grant income receivable			1,075,998	609,157
Amounts due from DEC			200,404	136,000
Amounts received from co-funders but unspent			(85,031)	(438,985)
Gift aid receivable			698,043	590,701
			1,889,414	896,873



Simon Obaoba and his wife Catherine,
with their 5 month old daughter in
Makefu village, Tanzania. Photographer:
Mike Goldwater.