

MEETING THE MILLENNIUM DEVELOPMENT GOALS

London Challenge 2012

We will engage with the Millennium Development Goals and build on our existing partnerships with the church in Africa especially in Angola and Mozambique.

We will strive to achieve Fair Trade status as a Diocese.



Stories to Encourage

The Diocese of London Global Development Group*, a forum chaired by Bishop Peter Wheatley that brings together each Area's World Development Adviser along with the major mission and development agencies, has produced this paper to mark the two thirds point in the MDG timescale. Drawing on the wide experience of the agencies represented, including London Diocesan ones like ALMA, Just Share, MU and Fairtrade, we have collected some stories of success and encouragement in reaching MDG targets. There is a long way still to go in the next 5 years, but we hope these stories will encourage you to continue your advocacy and awareness raising work for the Millennium Development Goals and London Challenge 2012.

Be hungry for change for the world's poorest people

* See Appendix for Membership List

MDG 1: Eradicate Poverty and Extreme Hunger

Christian Aid: Nicaragua



Photo: Christian Aid/Sian Curry

"I earn a fixed salary, \$100 monthly. Now I'm earning triple what I was earning before."

Trade is one of the main routes out of poverty. In poor countries with a large informal sector, small businesses can play a key role in poverty reduction. Nochari manage a co-operative in Nandaime, Nicaragua that buys hibiscus flowers from local farmers. The flowers are then dried to produce 'flor de jamaica', a popular juice drink.

With new contracts and growing sales, Nochari is able to provide members like Fanny Tardencillo, pictured above, a full time job with a stable wage.

Christian Aid partner, **Nochari**, helps small-scale producers in the rural area of Nandaime, Nicaragua, to improve the way they process, market and sell their products, so they can earn a better wage. Women are then able to support their families by selling honey, jams, fruit wines, and medicines.

Nochari helps the women reach more customers, and to protect themselves and their produce from storms and floods. Christian Aid funds training sessions, market stalls and equipment – including solar panels to dry fruit and edible flowers.

Poverty is an outrage against humanity. It robs people of dignity, freedom and hope, of power over their own lives. Christian Aid has a vision-an end to poverty-and we believe that vision can become a reality. We urge you to join us: <http://www.christianaid.org.uk/>

MDG 2: Achieve Universal Primary Education

Leprosy Mission: China

Education and training is a priority in many of The Leprosy Mission's projects. In China, discrimination against people affected by leprosy is severe and families are forced to live in remote areas, in isolation and extreme poverty. The Leprosy Mission works with Bless China International to find and educate children from such families.

In Diqing, Bless China supports children through schooling and has established a dormitory for them to stay at in term time. These children are forbidden to go to local schools because they are known to be associated with leprosy. School teachers and parents in Diqing have a deep horror of leprosy and despite health education they continue to insist that children from families affected by leprosy will contaminate the other children.



Gill Lamu working in the dormitory in Diqing

Gili Lamu is one of the students on this scheme. She is a shy but hardworking girl. In her home environment she has no peers to play with (her sister was married two years previously when aged 14). Her father says it's important for her to get an education because after they die there'll be nobody to look after her. This is where Bless China has helped – without it these children would continue to be oppressed by disease and poverty. The project has given them new hope.

Gili Lamu's poverty-stricken home would have been her past, present and future. Although things continue to be difficult, the project has brought some peace of mind to her parents and offered their daughter a different kind of inheritance.

For further information see www.leprosymission.org.uk

Martin Davies, Area Coordinator London, The Leprosy Mission martind@lmew.org.uk

MDG 3: Promote gender equality and empower women **Church Mission Society: Nigeria**

99% of all maternal deaths occur in developing countries. For every woman who dies in childbirth, up to 30 suffer terrible injuries during prolonged and obstructed labour. For up to 100,000 women a year this results in a *vaginal fistula* – uncontrollable leakage of urine and/or faeces. A significant reason for difficulties in childbirth may be the practice of female circumcision, or female genital mutilation. In 28 African countries this practice is tradition in some tribes.

Ann-Marie Wilson, a CMS mission partner, has just returned from visiting FORWARD, Nigeria's Rehabilitation Centre where up to fifty women attend the centre for six months. They receive corrective surgery of their vaginal fistulae. They are taught personal hygiene, nutrition and healthcare and attend classes in numeracy, literacy and income generation.

Ann-Marie has a vision for a web-enabled learning community, influencing governments, UN agencies, community elders and families to improve the health of girls and women. The women will acquire new skills and can access small loans to enable them to start their own businesses. Some have been divorced by their husbands as a result of their fistula or childlessness, or rejected by their families. Some of the women are now back with their husbands and families and some have gone on to have a baby. Such women become advocates for better women's healthcare and encourage other women to become literate and skilled, thus empowering their whole community.



For further information
Website:
<http://www.cms-uk.org/>

MDG 4: Reduce child mortality

USPG: Bangladesh

Bollobhpur is a 30-bed Christian hospital, with a nursing school for 80 students. Run by the Church of Bangladesh, with funding from USPG, it operates on a shoestring and delivers up to 135 babies per month.



Nurse Deepa Roy with new-born baby at Bollobhpur Hospital, Bangladesh.
Photo: Leah Gordon/USPG

Poverty and malnourishment mean babies are often very small at birth, so much so that a baby as small as 2kg (4lb 6oz) would not usually warrant cause for alarm. The hospital does not have the specialist equipment needed to treat babies born very premature or small, but staff there have saved the lives of many.

Staff at Bollobhpur monitor babies until they have achieved a healthy weight. This is in contrast to many other hospitals where, due to a lack of resources more severe than at Bollobhpur, babies are often sent home after only a couple of days – often with tragic consequences.

USPG mission companion Dr Helen Brannam, who completed an 18-month placement at Bollobhpur, said: 'It's very frustrating to see babies die, who - in a British hospital - would have been fine after a couple of days of intensive treatment. But one of the most gratifying experiences of being at Bollobhpur has been seeing babies as small as 800g (1.8lb) being nursed into health.'

Bollobhpur Hospital is a vital source of healthcare in a country where pensions and social services are virtually non-existent.

To support this work, contact USPG: 0845 273 1701 or enquiries@uspg.org.uk. Website: www.uspg.org.uk

MDG 5: Improve Maternal Health

Mothers Union: Angola

Angola's bitter civil war ended less than a decade ago. Poverty and the deprivation caused by the war still affects many – especially women. Life for them continues to be a daily struggle to care for themselves and their families. Angola has a rating of 157th out of 177 in the UN's human development index (2008). Women continue to have fewer opportunities for education and training.

The London Diocese MU is linked with MU Angola. The membership there has doubled in the last 18 months to 3,000 members and the majority of these members will be living in very poor circumstances.

In 2009 MU Angola established literacy and development programmes and when women become literate it enables them to tackle many other difficulties of daily life. Through MU programmes, the women are given health education on HIV/AIDS, Sexually Transmitted Diseases, TB, malaria, good nutrition, child protection and parenting skills. As well as the women learning about looking after their health and that of their families, such programmes enhance the status and dignity of the women. When women become members of the MU they take seriously their responsibility for care in their communities, visiting new mothers who give birth at home, those who are in hospital, prison, visiting the elderly and the sick and meeting need wherever they can. As they say 'We need to work hard to have healthy families in Angola, so we need your prayers and your support'.



For more information contact: <http://www.mothersunion-london.org.uk>

MDG 6: HIV AIDS MALARIA

ALMA: Equipas da Vida – Life Teams in Mozambique

Their T shirts proclaim 'In Christ there is no difference between positive and negative'. Their lives give substance to this bold message of hope: they dig vegetable plots and pit latrines; interact daily with child headed households and the dying - sharing both food and skills; promote a culture of honesty and openness about HIV; encourage testing and engage in HIV awareness and education –frequently via football.

Who are they? Simply teams of volunteers – over 160 teams in total – almost one for every Anglican church in Niassa, who with the support of the church, are living the Gospel in a way that can transform and mobilise whole communities.



Because of their demonstrable and measurable commitment over the last six years HIV testing is now available in very remote regions and anti retroviral medication (ARV) is giving hope to very sick people. Many Equipas members are also involved in the Diocese of Niassa Salt, Light and Health Project and the creation of community health and maternity posts

In 2009 the Equipas da Vida widened their remit to include malaria, water and community development work. They have trained 'Adeptos' or fieldworkers to live and work alongside communities, identifying priorities and drawing up community action plans.

For further information on ALMA - the Diocese of London's link with the Anglican Church in Angola and Mozambique see: www.almalink.org and for more information on the Equipas da Vida see: <http://www.almalink.org/documents/pamphletniassa.pdf>

MDG 7: Ensure Environmental Sustainability

A Rocha: India and the Asian Elephant

The Asian Elephant is threatened by the loss and degradation of its natural habitats. A Rocha India, led by Dr Vijay Anand, is based near Bannerghatta National Park in South India, where conflict between farmers and elephants has increased with the expansion of the nearby human settlements.



Dr Anand and his team are reducing elephant deaths through long-term research and trials with chilli-tobacco barriers which are protecting the villagers' crops.

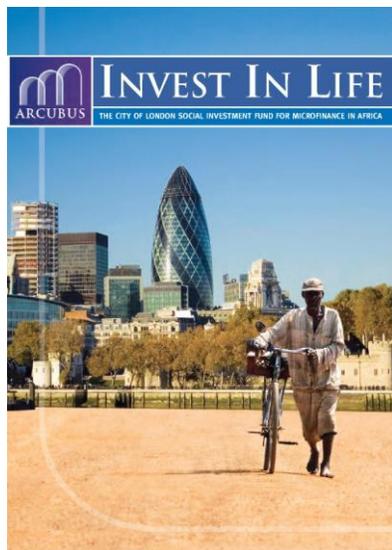
Vijay reports, 'After darkness falls you can see the small lights of farmers who spend the nights in their fields looking out for elephants so that they can protect their crops, but this is risky, as it is common to be killed or severely injured by the elephants. Chowraj is a Christian farmer who has been working closely with us, testing a chilli-tobacco rope fence, the smell of which has so far kept elephants away from his crops. There are many rural communities around the park and we are now expanding our work so that a greater number of farmers benefit. We want the elephants, and the villagers, to flourish here.'

The A Rocha UK team in Southall is sharing in the work through friendship, prayer, visits and financial support.

To contact A Rocha UK www.arocha.org/uk To watch a short video, 'Elephants and farmers – can they co-exist?' Go to www.arocha.org/india

MDG 8: Global partnership for Development

Just Share: Microfinance in Mozambique; Tanzania; Uganda



Arcubus is an exciting new partnership seeking to bring together 4 expert microfinance NGOs (Opportunity International, the Microloan Foundation, Five Talents UK and Microfinance Without Borders), the City of London, the Diocese of London and some of the world's poorest communities. Based in St Mary-le-Bow Church, Cheapside, Arcubus aims to raise £1m in the City and channel it to fund microfinance projects in Mozambique, Tanzania and Kenya.

Many of the poorest people do not have access to basic financial services such as savings, credit and insurance. This leaves them very vulnerable to shocks such as poor harvests, floods, illness or bereavement. Microfinance gives people the opportunity to invest in their own future and work their way out of poverty for good. Take Zawadi, for example. With a sick husband and their children to support, she struggled to make ends meet because her fruit and veg stall was too small to generate much profit. With the help of a microloan, she has expanded her business and increased her income. Now she is able to feed her children and her husband properly and all of her children are now going to school.



We hope that Arcubus, bringing together the City, the Church, expert microfinance charities and some of the world's poorest communities, will be a new model for partnership in global development for the common good.

For further information see: <http://www.arcubus.org.uk/>

FAIRTRADE: PAVING THE WAY TO THE MDGs - **NOW**

Fairtrade impacts on all 8 of the MDGs particularly through community projects funded by the fairtrade premium.

So - one of the simplest, most effective and just ways that we as churches and as individuals, can participate in lifting people in the developing world out of poverty is to ensure that we choose fairly traded products whenever that choice is available to us. Some 7 million producers benefit from Fairtrade at present and there are many millions more waiting to do so. Trading fairly restores life and dignity to impoverished producers, and a renewed sense of morality and justice within the global trading system.

The Diocese of London is working to achieve 'Fairtrade Diocese' status. This means that at least 50% of our churches will have made a commitment to using Fairtrade products and sharing the good news about fair trade. All fairtrade churches receive a 'Fairtrade Church' certificate from the Fairtrade Foundation. See the progress London Diocese is making and find out more on becoming a fairtrade church at:
<http://fairtrade.london.anglican.org>



Through our Diocesan link with Mozambique we are particularly delighted that the IKURU cooperative of nut growers in northern parts of Diocese of Niassa is part of the Liberation partnership of nut growers. We can support them by buying their peanuts and cashew nuts.

Look out for Harry's nuts, Sainsbury's own brand Fairtrade nuts and Equal Exchange Peanut Butter. Read their story:

<http://fairtrade.london.anglican.org/news>

Picture: Moises Raposo, Director of IKURU

Appendix 1:

The Diocese of London Global Development Group

<http://www.london.anglican.org/Page3104>

Chair: The Bishop Of Edmonton, The Rt Revd Peter Wheatley

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Representatives of the Mission, Development & Environment Agencies:

A Rocha Liz Wadland (See above)

Christian Aid, Jo Marshall jmarshall@christian-aid.org

CMS Liz Wadland (see above)

JustShare, Revd George Bush / Rachel Lindley JustShare@stmarylebow.org.uk

Latin Link, Jonathan Leeson englandsoutheast@latinlink.org

London Churches Environment Network, Roy Tindle roytindle@gmail.com

TearFund, vacant

TLM Revd Martin Davies martind@tlmew.org.uk

USPG, Maggie Rich maggier@uspg.org.uk

GDG LIST OF USEFUL WEBSITES

Two London Diocese Ministries:

ALMA: the Diocesan link with Angola and Mozambique www.almalink.org

London Diocesan Fairtrade Campaign Website: <http://fairtrade.london.anglican.org>

Agencies/Campaigns we have worked alongside

A Rocha: www.arocha.org.uk

Bond: British Overseas Networks for Development <http://www.bond.org.uk/>

Christian Aid www.christianaid.org.uk

Climate Justice Fund <http://www.climatejusticefund.org/>

CMS www.cms-uk.org

Coalition Against Malaria <http://www.coalitionagainstmalaria.org.uk/>

Crosslinks www.crosslinks.org

Fairtrade Foundation www.fairtrade.org.uk

JDC www.jubileedebtcampaign.org.uk

Jubilee research www.jubileeresearch.org

Just Share www.justshare.org.uk

Mother's Union www.themothersunion.org

Operation Noah www.operationnoah.org

Partners in World Development (WDAs' website) <http://www.wdanetwork.org.uk/index.shtml>

Shrinking the Footprint <http://www.shrinkingthefootprint.org/>

Stand Up Against Poverty www.standagainstpoverity.org

Tearfund www.tearfund.org

Trade Justice Movement www.tradejusticemovement.org.uk

USPG www.uspg.org.uk

World Development Movement www.wdm.org.uk

The Millennium Development Goals were drawn up by the UN in 2000, the millennium year, as a response to global poverty.

'We will spare no effort to free our fellow men, women and children from the abject and dehumanizing conditions of extreme poverty, to which more than a billion of them are currently subjected'.

The Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) are the most broadly supported, comprehensive and specific development goals the world has ever agreed upon. These eight time-bound goals provide concrete, numerical benchmarks for tackling extreme poverty in its many dimensions. They include goals and targets on income poverty, hunger, maternal and child mortality, disease, inadequate shelter, gender inequality, environmental degradation and the Global Partnership for Development. Adopted by world leaders in the year 2000 and set to be achieved by 2015, the MDGs are both global and local, tailored by each country to suit specific development needs. They provide a framework for the entire international community to work together towards a common end – making sure that human development reaches everyone, everywhere. If these goals are achieved, world poverty will be cut by half, tens of millions of lives will be saved, and billions more people will have the opportunity to benefit from the global economy.

20-22 September 2010: Summit on the Millennium Development Goals

UN Secretary General Ban Ki-moon has called world leaders to attend the summit in New York to accelerate progress towards the MDGs

What can I do? What can my church do?



On Sunday 10th October 2010 (10.10.10), 100 million people worldwide will stand united in prayer and commitment to a life that remembers those in poverty. Bishops are encouraging their dioceses to use 10.10.10 to work and pray for a more just world. In Sunday services and special events from Sydney to Mumbai to London, Christians will share stories about the promises they've made and pray together in unity. Will you and your church be part of it? In a year of big decisions on international issues, our testimony could help world leaders prioritise the poorest amongst us.

To be part of 10.10.10: See www.whatsyourpromise.org.uk for the 10.10.10 prayer and other service suggestions including resource pack and promise handprints.