



2004–2020

The Arisaig Partners Foundation Review

ARISAIG PARTNERS



“Arisaig’s support over more than a decade has allowed us to implement far-reaching work that will continue to create lasting change.”

Chance for Childhood

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Opening letter

Arisaig Partners was founded in 1996, as a boutique fund management company with a focus on investing in small companies listed on the stock markets across Asia. Its client base was (and remains) institutions including university endowment funds, charities, pension funds and family offices.

Having survived the Asian Financial Crisis of 1997/1998 as well as the so-called “dot. com bubble” of 2000, Arisaig went on to prosper through the 2000’s. Taking a leaf out of the book of many of our clients, the firm’s three co-founders decided in 2004 to set up in-house the Arisaig Partners Foundation. They committed to gift 2.5% of profits to the Foundation each year.

Arisaig’s three co-founders were the first Trustees of the Foundation along with office manager Prisca Lim, also our first employee. Capital was invested in a selection of blue-chip businesses listed in developed markets as well as the firm’s emerging market focussed funds.

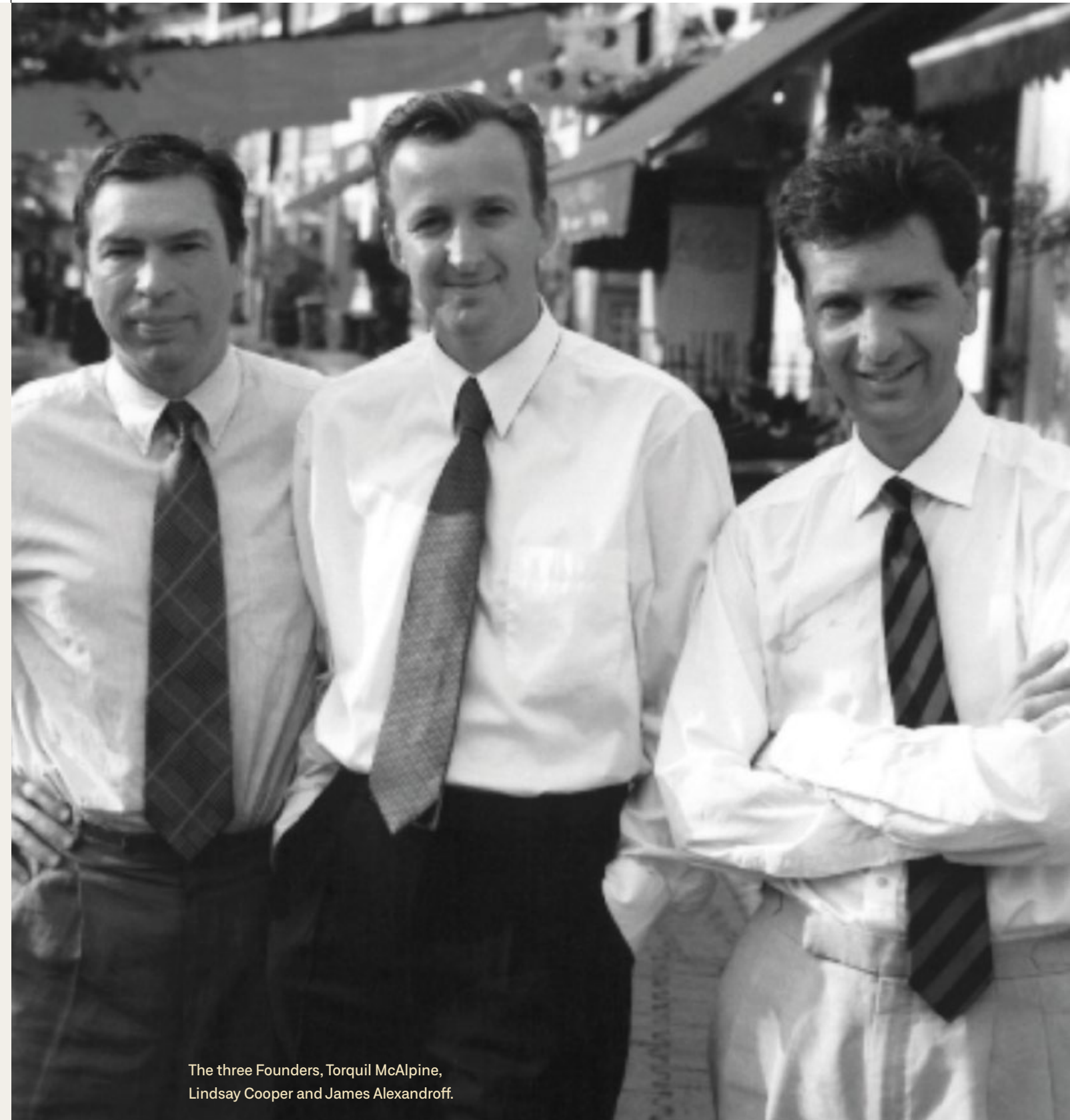
The Trustees chose to support a range of charities based mostly in Asia and in time some in Africa, the majority catering to the educational needs of children in poor and disadvantaged communities, typically in countries where Arisaig was focussing its investment efforts. This meant that meetings with charity staff could form part of our regular company visiting programme.

They also chose to support various worthy causes involving the population of the town of Arisaig in the Western Highlands after which the firm takes its name.

Responsibility for the Foundation was passed to the successor group of Partners, who have been running the firm in 2016. They have recently refocused the Foundation’s giving to be more directly aligned to their evolving goals around positive impact investing.

It gives all concerned great pride to note that the Foundation, having made grants of more than £4 million to date to many wonderful organisations, is now over £20 million in size.

The Founders



The three Founders, Torquil McAlpine, Lindsay Cooper and James Alexandroff.



Introduction

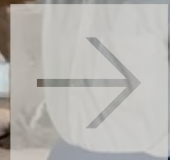
The Arisaig Partners Foundation ('Arisaig' and 'the Foundation') was registered with the Charity Commission on 13 January 2004 with the objective of making grants for charitable purposes for the benefit of the public in any part of the world as the Trustees may in their absolute discretion think fit.

For a decade-and-a-half, between 2004 and 2020, the Foundation delivered on this objective by supporting several established organisations focused on providing education opportunities for the under-privileged young, principally in developing countries. Charities were selected based on their track record, financial transparency, and operational capability, and were typically supported with regular grants over several years subject to them delivering maximum value to their beneficiaries. The Trustees reviewed performance by assessing report updates from the organisations and through regular site visits.

In 2019, the Trustees conducted a review of the activities of the Foundation and determined that the emphasis of the grants would be altered to focus on supporting long-term sustainable development (particularly through female empowerment) in emerging markets, an issue which is closely aligned with the work and Fund investments carried out by Arisaig Partners, the donor to the Foundation.

This review summarises how the Foundation awarded funds in its 'first phase', from 2004 to 2020, provides details on the many wonderful organisations supported over the years, and sheds light on the outcomes and impact achieved, of which we feel proud.

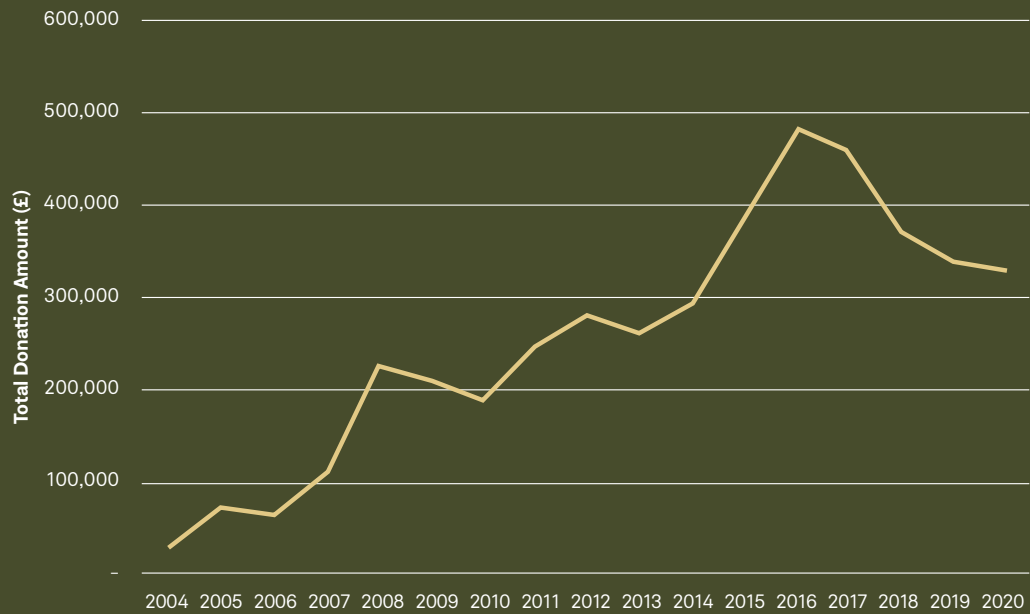




Overview of awards made

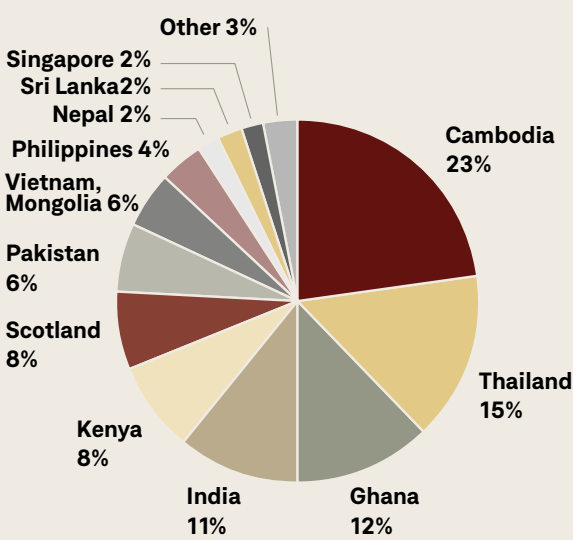
Between 2004 and 2020, The Arisaig Partners Foundation made awards totalling GBP 4.3m.

APF Total Donations by Year (GBP)



The Arisaig Partners Foundation grants have reached more than 13 countries since 2004. Around 70% of these donations were to organisations located in Asia (principally Cambodia and Thailand), and 20% in Africa (principally Ghana and Kenya).

Share of Funds Awarded per Country, 2004–2020



The Foundation has always looked to provide long-term support to those organisations it has formed a relationship with. Indeed, the seven charities that received the most funds from the Foundation, as shown in the chart below, have all been supported for 10 years or more.

APF Total Donations by Year (GBP)



While it is interesting to review how the funds have been donated, the achievements of the Foundation cannot and should not be measured by the amount of money invested; what really matters is what has been achieved in terms of the positive effects on people's lives. The Foundation therefore asked the beneficiaries to provide

as much information as possible on what has been accomplished with its support. Over the following pages, details are provided on the work each organisation does and the positive impact they have been able to achieve with the Foundation's help.



Green Gecko, Cambodia 2008–2020

£735,000

Grantee Summaries

<https://www.greengeckoproject.org/>



The Green Gecko Project is a registered organisation in Cambodia which has been working alongside families, communities, Child Protection Authorities, and the Cambodian Government since 2005. Green Gecko is recognised for bringing effective and sustainable positive change to the communities they work with. Through their holistic approach and long-term programmes, they have empowered 32 families who previously lived and worked on the streets of Siem Reap, Cambodia, to care for their children in a safe and nurturing environment. ➔

Green Gecko supports families by providing their children with a comprehensive quality education and opportunities for development. This has had a real positive and sustainable impact; the first Green Gecko graduates are not only well-balanced individuals but are also reconnecting with their communities and creating a ripple effect of positive change throughout society.

The Arisaig and Green Gecko story

After reading an article about children in need, Australian-born Tania Palmer went to Siem Reap, Cambodia in 2004 where, in stifling tropical heat and humidity, she first encountered the plight of Siem Reap’s street kids, beggar children, vulnerable to abduction, abuse and disease. They stole Tania’s heart, as did a local man named Rem Poum. Together they founded the Green Gecko Project for street children and their families.

A few years later, two Executives from Arisaig Partners, Lindsay Cooper and Justin Seow, saw an article in the Wall Street Journal about innovative Cambodian NGOs, which featured Green Gecko because of its holistic approach and unique way of working with whole families, not just focusing on the children. In January 2008 Lindsay and Justin flew to Cambodia to meet the Green Gecko team face to face. This marked the beginning of the Arisaig – Green Gecko story, a long and prosperous bond that was to create effective and sustainable positive change in the years to come.

Arriving to a large open block of land with one traditional Khmer house and a few bamboo huts, Lindsay and Justin were welcomed into the newly established ‘Gecko Central’. Green Gecko shared their ideas, aspirations and dreams for the project’s future. The immediate goals were to enhance the children’s basic educational programme, to broaden their horizons by offering them subjects not typically available in Cambodia, and to provide them with life and vocational skills that would one day serve them and their communities well.

Lindsay and Justin tasked Green Gecko with writing down everything that had been discussed and putting a dollar figure beside each point. Without realising it, Green Gecko had just completed their first ever donor proposal! Plans centred on creating a physical space for the programme suitable for teaching new skills and embracing strong ethics, a place where kids could be kids and explore, learn and dream. They envisioned an education block with 2 open classrooms, a multi-

purpose assembly area, first aid and storage rooms, a simple space with concrete floors and a grass roof. The one-off set up costs totalled US\$73,500 which included the building, solar panels, classroom equipment, computer lab, and 12 months of a manager’s salary. Arisaig provided this funding in full and since then, over the next 12 years, Arisaig contributed US\$5,000 per month to ensure the programme was successful and sustainable.

In their original proposal, Green Gecko wrote: “The Green Gecko Project strives to empower these children with the skills, education, values and self-esteem they need to break the begging cycle and become proactive members of society. Many of the children have already expressed ambitions to follow humanitarian careers... so that they can in turn help others.” Twelve years on and with Arisaig’s support this is exactly what Green Gecko’s children have been able to achieve; the ‘Geckos’ have become well-rounded, problem-solving, passionate and compassionate young people. Green Gecko attributes Arisaig’s consistent and reliable support for the courage and confidence they needed to go forth with their dreams when others believed they would fail.

Child protection was their first goal and highest priority. Once that was achieved their focus turned to lessening the hurt and abuse their kids had experienced by nourishing their minds, bodies and souls. Through love and care and a range of empowering, extracurricular activities (including traditional martial arts, modern and traditional music, computer, sports, English, ‘me and my planet’ general studies, and, most uniquely, logic and living values classes), the children learned about their culture, strengthened their bodies, broadened their horizons and opened their hearts to a new way of living.

Through this success with their children Green Gecko has a positive and sustainable impact in the wider community. Their first Green Geckos graduates, who were waist high kids when Lindsay and Justin first visited and the first to be educated in the school Arisaig funded, are now reconnecting with their communities and creating a ripple effect of positive change throughout society. Their children and young adults have reached goals never before dreamed of, achieving many firsts in their families: the first to finish primary school; the first to finish Year 9; the first to finish Year 12; the first to go to university; the first to perform in front of an audience; the first to travel overseas; the first to gain an amazing job with safe conditions and fair wages; the first to buy land and invest in their futures.



Here are just some of Green Gecko’s amazing young people who, with Arisaig’s funding, belief and long-term support, are, in 2020, living and loving life and doing themselves, their families and Green Gecko proud:

- **KIM SUAN is a UNESCO delegate, leader of her Family Village and a Community and Development Scholarship recipient, currently studying International Relations.**
- **SOKUN is a 3rd year Dental Scholar and a wonderful role model to her seven younger siblings who are all still at school.**
- **LA is a National Football star, who recently represented Cambodia in Japan.**
- **SREY NEANG won Social Worker Student of the Year and is in her final semester of a 4-year Social Work Degree, being only one of 25 students country-wide to be accepted.**
- **SARM is an Award-Winning actor for his lead role in ‘Buoyancy’, taking him to International Film Festivals around the world and highlighting the plight of human trafficking and slavery.**
- **BORAM graduated first place in his Business and Administration Degree and is now working in an International NGO after dedicating 12 months to running Green Gecko.**
- **SREY has recently graduated Medical Science University as a Physiotherapist, placing in the top three and gaining a position in a leading disabilities NGO.**
- **LARN and RATHANAK have just begun their 5-year university degree in Civil Engineering alongside their Green Gecko brother HUA who is enrolled in Architecture.**
- **KUNTHERA is about to complete her course in Mental Health Counselling, the first of its kind in Cambodia and a resource desperately needed by its people.**



Other Green Gecko graduates are employed in excellent jobs in top businesses, NGOs, hotels and schools throughout Siem Reap, from tourism to teaching, and counselling to chauffeuring. As of 2020, 12 graduates are at university studying a range of courses including Dentistry, Administrative Law, Architecture, Engineering, Information Technology, Business and Economics, International Relations and Physiotherapy; four students are studying Year 12 National Baccalaureate and aiming for university; and nine students are studying the Year 9 National Certificate.

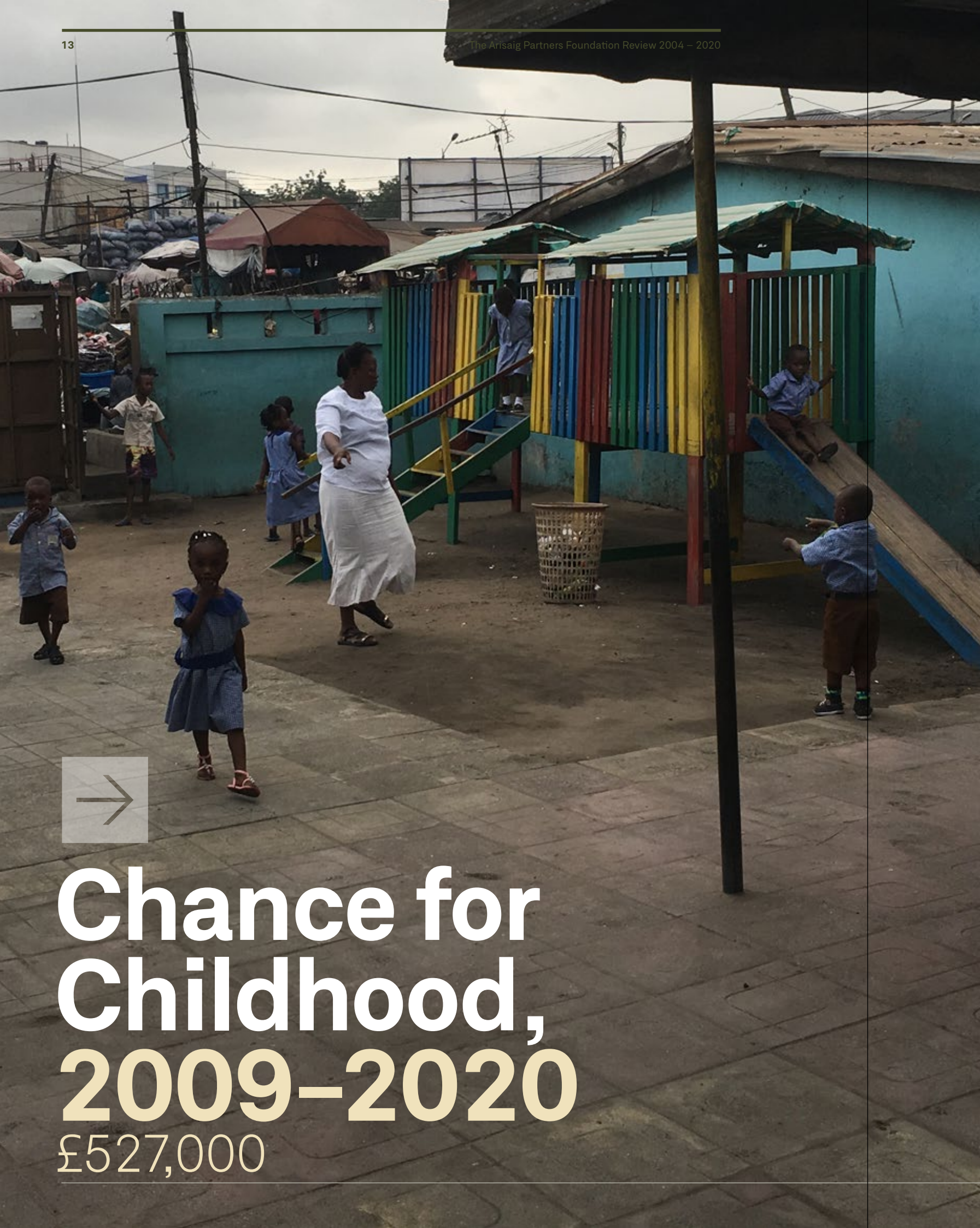
Through the fundamental opportunities of having an extensive and comprehensive education, feeling safe and protected, thriving on balanced and nutritious meals, being guided by behavioural boundaries and feeling genuinely loved and cared for, Green Gecko's children have changed their life trajectories and avoided the fate that many of their older siblings were not so fortunate to escape. Below are some sobering statistics that compare children from the same families, with the determining difference being Green Gecko.

Young adults from the SAME families who reached 18 and:	WITH Gecko	WITHOUT Gecko
Completed Primary School	100%	14%
Completed Secondary School or Tertiary Education	92%	8%
FREE from teenage parenting	100%	38%
FREE from addictions; gambling, drugs and alcohol	96%	38%
Sisters FREE from working in the sex industry	100%	45%
Brothers FREE from incarceration / trouble with the law	100%	53%

Green Gecko's impact is staggering, and the charity emphatically believes that the results achieved are due to the strong holistic education Arisaig believed in and facilitated in their early years.

“Thank you Arisaig for investing in the aspirations of an emerging change-making local Cambodian NGO in 2008. Not only did your investments deliver long term, compounding returns for our Geckos and their families, but also for their people, their community and their country too. From the bottom of our Green Gecko hearts we offer our greatest gratitude for having you join us and our families on this incredible journey. We wish you well in your future projects, may they grow and prosper as much as we have with Arisaig beneath our wings. And may our future donors provide us with the same courage and confidence to go forth – albeit with less intensity – through our final decade. On behalf of Tania, Rem, Gecko Crew, Gecko kids and their families, we say ‘Awkun Chiran’, THANK YOU VERY MUCH!”

Tania Palmer, Co-Founding Director



**Chance for
Childhood,
2009–2020**
£527,000

Grantee Summaries

<https://chanceforchildhood.org/>



Chance for Childhood is an award-winning charity working in Africa to support the most vulnerable children, such as street children, disabled children, children affected by conflict and those behind bars. Street Child Africa was established by Father Patrick Shanahan, who had lived and worked in Africa for over 35 years. In 2016 Street Child Africa merged with Chance for Childhood. As two organisations supporting vulnerable children across Africa, they saw a huge opportunity to maximise their impact and help more children whilst reducing their administrative costs. In 2018 Chance for Childhood was supporting 7,300 children in seven countries. ➔



Arisaig has been supporting the organisation in Ghana since 2009. In Ghana 25% of the population live on less than \$1.90 a day, 22% of 5- to 14-year olds have to work and there are over 61,000 street children, 57% of whom are girls. Children of young street-connected mothers are among the most vulnerable children found in Accra. They are often found playing around the lorry stations and markets where their mothers sell items or hang around looking for menial jobs, and so miss out on early education opportunities.

Chance for Childhood have used Arisaig's funds to support local partner Street Girls Aid's Early Childhood Development Centres at Railways and Kinbu. These centres set out to provide quality and affordable early childhood education to the children of the street-connected mothers whilst also educating the women on the importance of early childhood development and

providing them with financial literacy training which helps them improve their financial situation. The centres offer safe haven, proper meals and a nurturing environment for the street children.

Arisaig's support over more than a decade has allowed Chance for Childhood to implement far-reaching work that will continue to create lasting change. Highlights include:

- **Improved quality of teaching and care of children:** Arisaig's funding allowed for the employment of more trained day care attendants, bringing the number of attendants to 7. All the staff were trained in various aspects of early childhood care, covering the preparation and use of lesson plans and appropriate learning templates and activities.
- **Increased number of yearly beneficiaries:** The number of children using the centre increased from 75 to 190 per year.
- **Giving children the opportunity to attend primary school:** Since 2008 480 children have progressed from the Railways centre to attend primary school.
- **Improved nutrition:** Arisaig's support has allowed the centre to provide three meals a day to all the children. The health of many severely malnourished children has improved as a result of getting these meals.

Over the decade of support, Street Girls Aid and Chance for Childhood have been able to provide care and safety to almost 700 children who otherwise would have missed out on quality early childhood education.



Kofi's story – Chance for Childhood, Ghana

"After his father refused to take care of them, Kofi's mother was forced to move away from her home region in search of a better life when Kofi was just 2. Arriving in Ghana's capital, Accra, they found they could not afford a proper place to live so they ended sharing an unsafe wooden shack with twenty other women and their children in Accra's large slum area. Kofi's mother found work as a porter in the market. She would carry heavy loads for long hours in return for just a few pence a day, barely enough to survive on. Thankfully, some other porters told her about Street Girls Aid's nurseries. When Kofi was first brought to the Kinbu nursery he was malnourished, his hair was pale, he

had swollen feet and sores on his lips, his clothes were torn, and he had no sandals. At first Kofi did not play with the other children, he was shy and could not communicate well. But the centre gave him the care he needed with three healthy meals a day, activities such as colouring and singing, healthcare and a caring environment. One year later, Kofi was unrecognisable. His pale hair had returned to black, he was healthy and his sores had vanished. His shyness had disappeared, and he was playing and laughing with his friends. With Kofi spending his days at the nursery his mother was able to find better work and could provide properly for her son."



Mercy Centre (Human Development Foundation), Thailand 2007–2020 £457,000

Grantee Summaries

<https://www.mercycentre.org/>



The Human Development Foundation (HDF) is a community-based organisation that strives to improve the lives of underprivileged children and communities in Bangkok. Founded by Father Joseph Maier and Sister Maria in 1972, HDF has been supporting poor communities in the slums around Bangkok for over 47 years. HDF has built and operated schools, educating more than 50,000 children since it was founded. It has improved family health and welfare, protected street children's rights, combated the AIDS crisis, responded to daily emergencies, and offered shelter to orphans, to street children, and to children and adults with AIDS. →

More than 10,000 underprivileged and at-risk children have been educated through their sponsorship program. Through training and workshops, HDF equips people with the skills that they need to get jobs or to start small businesses of their own and support their families.

In 2020, HDF is:

- Running 22 pre-schools, educating around 2,500 poor children daily.
- Providing full-time care to over 120 children in Mercy homes, many of whom have been abused, neglected, trafficked or sold.
- Facilitating the educational, health, nutritional and accommodation needs of 400 children through the 'Sponsor-a-Child' programme.
- Providing home-based care for impoverished people living with HIV/AIDS.
- Providing legal advice, advocacy, support and outreach to displaced children living on the streets.
- Creating and mobilizing community services emergency relief funds and assistance for poor communities affected by natural and man-made disasters such as flood, tropical storms, and fires.
- Providing practical solutions to improve poor sanitation practices in underprivileged communities.

Since 2007, Arisaig has provided financial support for two preschools, 'Flat 10 Dindaeng' and 'Landin', providing 2,595 slum children with hope of a brighter future. Education is critically important in breaking the poverty cycle. Arisaig's contributions have provided a holistic education and nutritious meals to the children aged between 3 and 6. For some of the children, the lunch that they receive will be the only meal they get for the day. Via a community outreach programme the Landin school also helps identify children who suffer abuse at home or need extra attention in their development skills and has saved children from being trafficked by their parents or guardians.

The main curriculum at the preschools is the Thai curriculum but Arisaig's support has enabled HDF to also introduce English lessons. Being able to speak, read and write in another language will open more opportunities for the children of Landin and Flat 10. For these children, preschools are not only a place for studying but also a place where they feel loved, safe and secure. Having their children attend preschool allows parents to secure employment and thus leads to some financial security.





**ACE Africa,
Kenya
2008–2020
£327,000**

Grantee Summaries

<https://www.ace-africa.org/>



Action in the Community Environment (ACE) Africa was established as a Community Based Organisation in Kenya in 2003, following research into the lack of community infrastructure to support the increasing number of orphans and vulnerable children in highly HIV affected and resource poor communities in Western Kenya. The organisation addresses short-term emergency needs and long-term developmental issues that impact communities. They focus on building community capacity across three interlinking components: Child Development, Community Health and Wellbeing, and Community Livelihoods. →



Their aim is to help communities become self-sustaining over the life cycle of the project. Today ACE Africa continues to go from strength to strength. Through their 70 indigenous staff in Africa and engaging over 13,000 community volunteers, ACE Africa has helped over 1.6 million children and their communities.

Arisaig is a long-term supporter of ACE Africa's programmes in Bungoma, Western Kenya and have given over £327,000 since first becoming involved in 2008. Bungoma County is characterised by informal settlement in the town centre and many of the children from these homes are not able to access quality education. Despite the government's efforts to provide free primary education, overcrowding in the public schools coupled with understaffing has led to poor performance of the children. Lack of food, proper school uniform, stationery and examination fees make it difficult for these children even to attend school on a regular basis. These children are forced to roam the streets of Bungoma to beg for money to meet these needs, in turn missing out on education.

In 2006, ACE Africa first identified Southend Academy and planned to implement its Child to Child Club initiative to improve the health and wellbeing of children in the school. At the time, the school served a vulnerable and disadvantaged school population including orphans and street children from neighbouring informal settlements. The school itself was in disrepair and struggled to provide a quality education to its students. Over the past 11 years, Arisaig has funded ACE Africa to transform Southend Academy and support vulnerable students to access education, have better protection from abuse and exploitation, and improve their health and nutrition. During this period Arisaig's direct support has improved the welfare and education of up to 2,000 children.

Over the years, Arisaig has supported many initiatives to improve the school setting and create a more conducive learning environment:

- **Renovated classrooms and dormitory (2014):** New beds were purchased for the dormitory for boarding students. Arisaig also provided support for one new classroom to be built at the school, alongside renovation and improvement for the remainder of the school.
- **Girls' dormitory construction (2016):** At the beginning of 2016 it was recognised that the girls' dormitories were dilapidated, congested and unventilated. A new space was constructed for girls and both dormitories were fitted with new beds, windows and electric lights.
- **Eco-friendly toilets (2016):** Arisaig also supported ACE Africa to build a new eco-friendly set of toilet blocks. The 'Eco-San' toilets contain no water and therefore have a reduced risk of groundwater contamination.
- **Resourcing for teachers, support staff and volunteers (2011 onwards):** Arisaig's funding has reliably provided for up to 10 trained teachers per year, and additional support staff including a school social worker, cook and labourer. This has been essential in providing a safe and comfortable learning environment for students in the school.
- **Improving learning and performance of staff and leadership team (2018–19):** ACE Africa has provided direct support to the School Director when completing appraisals for current staff. This led to two teachers leaving because of their poor performance. It also led to two teachers being identified for additional government training, to keep their skills in line with the Kenyan national curriculum.



Arisaig's support has enabled ACE Africa to establish a self-sustaining Child to Child Club at Southend Academy, a weekly after-school club, providing education to student members via trained teachers on child rights, life skills, health and nutrition. Through the active Child to Child Club and other innovations, children at Southend have improved their overall health, confidence and self-esteem and had access to improved food and nutrition, as explained below:

- **Child to Child Club:** The club has grown and improved since it was first established in 2008, new teachers have been trained and refresher training has been delivered to continuously update teachers' skills. In weekly sessions children learn about their sexual health and rights, preventing issues such as early pregnancy and early marriage; basic hygiene and how to help prevent the spread of disease through handwashing; essential nutrition; how to build their confidence and communication skills. In 2019, the teachers introduced new positive masculinity sessions to support boys to develop responsible attitudes and behaviours. In 2019 there were no cases of pregnancy in the school.
- **Kitchen Gardens:** This has become an essential part of the school life and culture. Children in the Child to Child Club are actively involved in planting and managing vegetables such as spinach and kale, which help to contribute to three nutritious meals a day for all students.
- **Academic Achievements:** With improved health, nutrition and self-esteem children at Southend Academy are better able to learn and develop. This is reflected in school exam results which have improved over the past 11 years. ACE was delighted to support 18 children with taking their end of school exam last year and continuing to secondary education.

After a visit by Arisaig staff in 2016, ACE Africa and Southend Academy initiated a programme of income generating activities for the school to increase sustainability. Arisaig's extra generous support in 2017 enabled the staff and students at Southend to establish new farming projects to provide a reliable income source for the school in future years:

- **Piggery Project:** The project began with four pigs (1 boar and 3 sows) in 2017, construction of a pigsty and recruitment of a volunteer project support officer. In 2017–19, the pigs bred 49 piglets which were sold to the local community, creating a profit for the school. The project faced some challenges, as the school found it difficult to maintain a clean and suitable environment for the pigs, and feed also proved to be expensive. However, with the support of volunteers and students in 2019, the school was able to generate an income of 144,000 Ksh from sale of pigs and maintain the health of the remaining pigs for forthcoming years.
- **Poultry-farming Project:** A more reliable profit has been generated through the poultry project, which is less intensive than pig farming. Last year, the two projects overall generated a profit of £3,174 which bought essential items for the school:
 - 10 new mattresses for the boarding section.
 - Firewood for preparing meals for children.
 - Paying electricity bills.
 - New curriculum textbooks.

After the success of this project, ACE Africa has also supported teachers at Southend to make a sustainability plan. The schoolteachers will provide technical support and training to community members interested in setting up their own poultry farms at home, and fees will be charged to generate income. As community interest grows, there will be a multiplier effect to Southend's successful income generating poultry project.

Over the life of the project, ACE Africa has established three functioning ICT centres in Bungoma to support Southend Academy alumni students and other local children without this opportunity elsewhere. Through the support of teachers and volunteers, the project has provided essential skills in ICT to students, vital for future careers and study. This would not have been possible without the equipment, training and volunteer support funded by Arisaig.

ACE Africa was also delighted to receive support from Arisaig towards ACE UK's Annual Reviews between 2017 and 2020, one of their main fundraising and communication tools. The Review features inspirational stories and images from ACE's projects in Kenya and Tanzania.



The Arisaig Fund, Scotland 2004–2020 £325,000

Grantee Summaries

The Arisaig Community Council's Common Good Fund is used for the benefit of the community of Arisaig, a sea-side village of approximately 1,000 people in the Western Highlands of Scotland, after which Arisaig Partners takes its name. Donations are contributed to an independently managed fund and benefit a wide range of local people and associations including schools, youth activity associations, community and recreation centres, councils, and churches as well as supporting special educational courses for individuals. ➔



A summary of the help given since the Fund's inception breaks down as follows:

- £90,000 has helped a total of 47 students with further and higher education course costs.
- £26,000 has been awarded to local primary schools and £34,000 to the local High School to help with equipment, educational visits, establishing a school breakfast club etc. 12 individuals were separately assisted to ensure that they could participate in some extra-curricular activities.
- The local community trust (Arisaig Community Trust/ ACT) has received various sums over the years which have helped it to take responsibility for several vital local amenities and run them successfully. These include the public toilets, the village playing field and the visitor centre. The very first award ACT received from the Arisaig Fund helped to establish it as a charitable trust and proved to be a catalyst in the development of the organisation, which is run entirely by volunteers. Small amounts of funding have acted as a lever in successfully applying for bigger grants.
- £120,000 has been awarded to 35 local community groups, catering for all ages and a huge variety of interests.
- 5 local music and literary festivals have received assistance, helping to bring diversity and cultural experience to this remote area.
- 24 individuals have been helped with personal and social care costs.

The executives of the Arisaig Fund expressed their sincere gratitude for the support received over the years and for the opportunities and possibilities this has opened up for the young people of Arisaig.





Magic Bus,
India
2011–2020
 £285,000

Grantee Summaries

www.magicbus.org



According to Matthew Spacie, Founder of Magic Bus, "Children must have the power and the dignity to be the master of their own destiny". Mumbai is home to millions of marginalised children who do not receive an adequate education to help them break the poverty cycle into which they are born. Magic Bus runs a unique after-school programme where local youth volunteers use a sport- and activity-based curriculum to deliver lessons to other children. The volunteers are trained to be mentors and role models and act as catalysts for community change; the children that they reach out to grow up more confident, respected, and responsible within their communities. ➔



Studies have shown that children who participate in Magic Bus after school activities attend school more regularly and drop out less; this in turn increases the possibility of those children moving into higher grades and finishing their education. Participation has also been proven to break down gender discrimination and raise children's understanding of the importance of hygiene to protect their health.

Arisaig has supported Magic Bus India's childhood to livelihood programme in the Bombay Port Trust (BPT) area on the western shore of Mumbai Harbour, along the eastern edge of Mumbai city. Approximately 500,000 people live in illegal unrecognised shanties located on the government owned Port Trust land. These communities have existed for more than 50 years, when people migrated to the area from mostly southern Indian states because of the lack of employment opportunities in those states. Over time, these populations constructed settlements and they and their descendants have stayed permanently. Most of the community members work in the informal sector with vulnerable daily wage employment that is low paid and insecure. The most common occupation is metal salvaging, a business that often employs small children who can fit into ships that come to the port for repair and many of the children Magic Bus supports have been involved with this work in the past. Women tend to work with local industries or as domestic help.

The community faces many challenges, including lack of access to clean drinking water; no protection of their land; insecurity of their housing; drug addiction; and lack of sanitation facilities. Magic Bus looks to support the holistic development of the children belonging to these underserved communities, helping them to evolve positive attitudes and behaviour with regards to their approaches to learning and education, health, self-management, teamwork and promoting gender equality. The goal is to help children evolve into confident and competent young people, thus empowering them to get a better livelihood of their choice and thereby giving them a fair chance of moving out of poverty.

The programme reaches out to 700 children in 2 different community areas of BPT, Darukhana and Sewri. Arisaig has supported 180 children in BPT by helping to provide community leader training and the materials required for the activities.

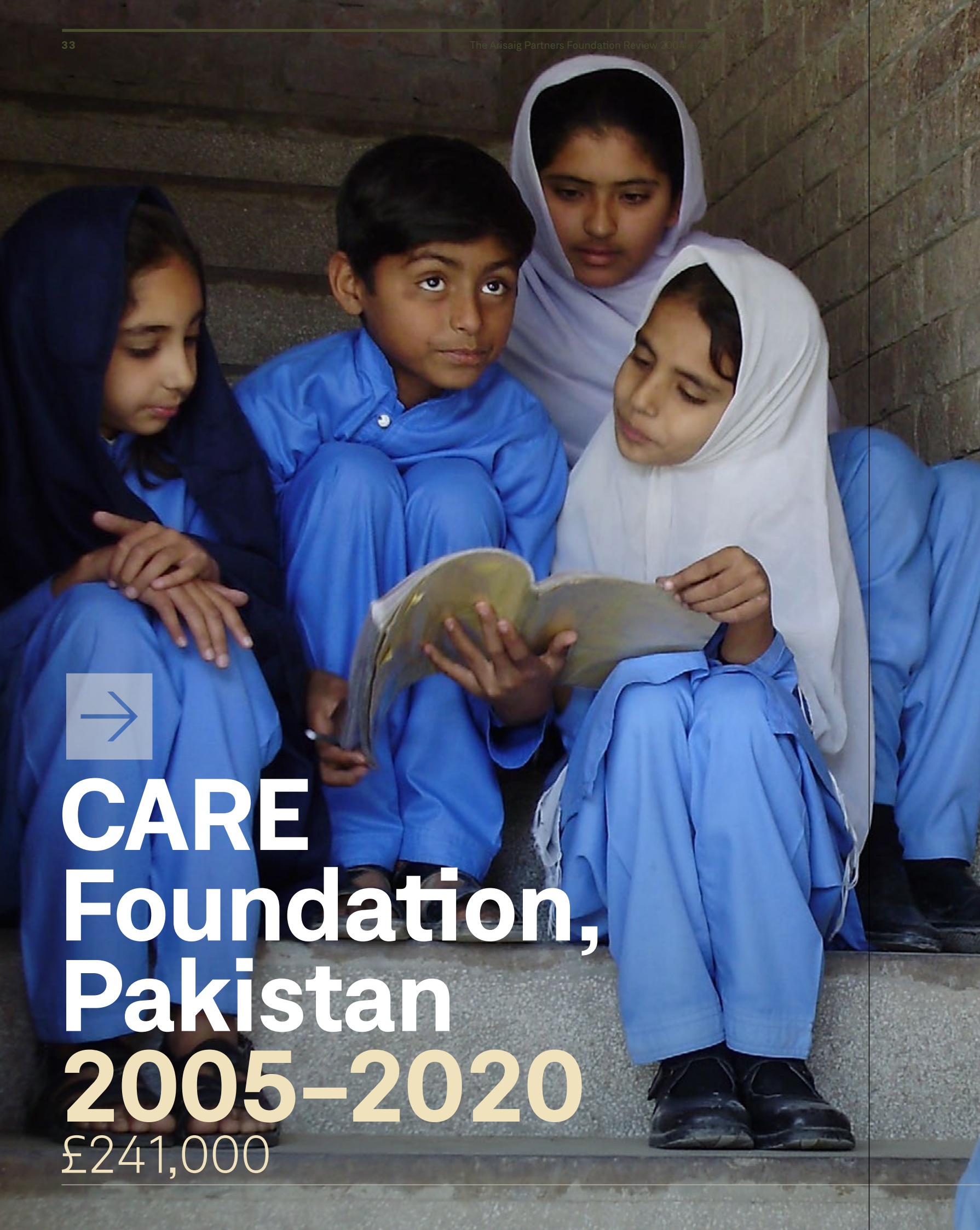


In late 2018 Magic Bus conducted an impact assessment study of this programme with the objective of analysing the impact of the Arisaig-supported Magic Bus Childhood Program on slum children participants from the BPT community. Impact was assessed in four areas: Awareness, Aspiration, Attitude and Application. The survey sample comprised 31 randomly selected former programme participants who had been engaged with Magic Bus for a minimum of 2 years. All respondents were aged 18-26, 55% were female, 26% were married, most had completed early education (39% to 10th grade and 32% to 12th grade).

The following summarises key results of the impact study:

- 55% of the alumni expressed an interest in continuing their education to graduate degrees, with 13% hoping to study to postgraduate level.
- 80% believed that education of girls is important, a reflection of changing attitudes to gender parity.
- 77% reported an improvement in their communication skills, 65% became more self-disciplined and 55% experienced an increase in leadership and teamwork skills.
- 77% were now aware of their individual strengths and able to articulate them, while 81% were conscious of their individual limitations.
- 97% expressed increased confidence in dealing with new situations.

In summary, the alumni impact study found a strong sense of confidence and leadership skills in the alumni with a high percentage of individuals currently enrolled in graduation-level courses. Most of the survey respondents were employed and were able to overcome financial constraints and other barriers to pursue their higher education. Other key impacts reported were an increased sense of civic responsibility, an understanding of the importance of gender equality, an interest in sharing knowledge about topics such as sports and sanitation with family and peers, and a strong ability to express individual ideas and needs.



CARE Foundation, Pakistan 2005–2020

£241,000

Grantee Summaries

<https://carepakistan.org/>



The Cooperation for Advancement, Rehabilitation & Education (CARE) Foundation's founder, Seema Aziz, was traveling to flood-affected areas in Pakistan in 1988 to help people reconstruct their homes when she noticed that children were roaming the streets freely because no school was available. Believing that children were being deprived of a basic right she decided to take action and set up CARE with the mission to eradicate illiteracy and provide a marketable education to every child in Pakistan. That same year CARE opened its first school on Sheikhpura Road, in the Pakistani province of Punjab. ➔



On its first day over 250 children lined up outside, barely clothed but eager to learn. One school turned into several more, and CARE is now Pakistan's largest non-profit for education, on a mission to provide quality education to all.

CARE builds and operates new schools on donated land. CARE also 'adopts' public schools, implementing the same high academic standards as other CARE schools. After adopting a public school, CARE pays for urgent infrastructure upgrades, such as building boundary walls and installing computer and science labs and libraries. CARE schools follow the Oxford syllabus until 7th grade, then follow the government syllabus so students are prepared for their board exams. CARE believes that its students are no less capable than children attending private schools around the country and this has been proven by CARE's children often topping their board exams. As of 2020, CARE has built 33 schools and adopted 683 government schools. CARE views its work as nation-building: By empowering children with a good education, CARE aims to make them productive members of society.

In 2007 Arisaig paid the costs of building 6 rooms in CARE 5, going on to pay the running costs of the school in 2011. Since 2015 Arisaig has paid the running costs of the Arisaig CARE school in Iqbal, Lahore and CARE 9 school in Dina Nath, District Kasur, serving a total of about 2,450 students per year.





Christina Noble Children's Foundation, Vietnam, Mongolia 2004–2020

£206,000



Grantee Summaries

<https://www.cncf.org/>

The Christina Noble Children's Foundation (CNCF) is an international partnership of people dedicated to serving children in need in the hope of helping each child recognise their potential and achieve their dreams. CNCF launched a child sponsorship programme in Vietnam in 1996, to provide support to families that could not afford to continue to send their child to school or that faced inaccessible medical costs. The sponsorship provides financial and medical assistance for families with 3- to 16-year olds to ensure that they are kept in education and properly cared for. ➔



Since then CNCF has expanded its work and now runs child sponsorship, healthcare, education, and community development programmes in both Vietnam and Mongolia. As of 2020 CNCF have established over 160 projects providing education, healthcare and community development humanitarian services to vulnerable and destitute children and their families and poor rural communities, assisting almost 900,000 children and impacting the lives of over 1,000,000 children and adults.

Arisaig Partners started supporting the Christina Noble Children's Foundation in 1998. From 2003 the Arisaig Partners Foundation sponsored 39 children in Ho Chi Minh. At that time Arisaig also increased its commitment to CNCF by sponsoring the Phat Huy Education and Social Centre in Vietnam to provide education to street children. Unfortunately, this centre was closed in 2008 due to policy changes by the local authorities of District 1, however, CNCF continued to be involved with the children from the Centre, conducting home visits and supporting the children in their schooling and daily activities until the end of 2008.

Another of CNCF's projects in Ho Chi Minh, the CNCF Boys' Residential Centre, provides a safe environment for 26 boys between 7 and 20 years old who are at risk of starvation, commercial exploitation, drug trafficking and violence. Arisaig supported this centre by contributing to its operational costs including its staff, meals, supplies, and study materials.

From 2006 Arisaig also started supporting an education project in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia, where children who have fallen out of mainstream education are given a second chance in learning. CNCF's Blue Skies Kindergarten provides 2- to 4- year old children with pre-school education in a caring environment. The children are taught basic skills such as speech development, counting and English. The kindergarten also provides primary healthcare, medical check-ups and daily meals. Arisaig was the sole sponsor of the kindergarten which accommodated 40 children.





Temple Garden Foundation, Cambodia

2008–2020

£203,000

Grantee Summaries

<https://www.tgfcambodia.com/>



Temple Garden Foundation (TGF) was founded in 2008 to support disadvantaged, rural communities in Cambodia. In order to understand the nature of TGF's work, it is important to understand the country's background: Cambodia has a recent history very different to the rest of South East Asia, with cooperation and trust disrupted in Cambodian communities during the years of the Khmer Rouge and the ensuing decades of conflict, which left a fractured society with a generation of leaders and knowledge wiped out or discouraged. ➔



TGF works in four interconnected areas: Health, Early Childhood Education, Water & Sanitation, and Income Generation. The organisation aims to help people from the most disadvantaged households and communities to break out of the cycle of poverty. Through their projects, they engage with households, provide support to villages, and collaborate with municipal government resources at the community level to enable greater access to available resources, improved health and educational outcomes, and sustainable livelihoods.

Arisaig supported TGF's Children's Education Programme, through which it has created sustainable change in the educational opportunities of thousands of children and adults in the Chi Kraeng (rice-growing) district of Siem Reap Province. By providing them with higher quality education, children are given a better start in life, achieve more from their studies, and are equipped to seek more constructive employment when they graduate school. TGF works to improve the reach and quality of pre and primary school education in 33 villages through a number of activities.

- **Construction of the Dong Pav Primary School:** This five-room school was completed in 2009, with Arisaig's support and was then handed over to the Siem Reap District Department of Education to ensure it would be sustained permanently by the government. In its first year the school had an average total attendance of 160 students. One village, Rolean Tokea, saw 27 children enrol in school for the first time; previously children had not received any formal education as the village was so far away from the nearest school.
- **Establishment of Community Kindergartens:** Kindergarten classes were established in villages where children previously had no access to pre-school education. TGF also provided kindergarten teachers with pedagogical training so that they would understand how to manage a classroom and aid the learning process. In 2019, 14 kindergarten classes were run in 10 villages with 490 children attending, and 15 teachers were trained. These classes have been run each year since then.

- **Provision of School Supplies:** Many children in the TGF target area lack the basic supplies needed for school. Since school uniforms are mandatory, children who cannot afford the standard white tops and dark blue bottoms cannot attend. Many parents who do manage to find money to buy school uniforms are not able to provide the basic learning materials (e.g. paper, pens, pencils, chalk, etc.) that make an education possible. Working with families and local leaders to ensure equitable selection of the students most in need, TGF distributed school supplies to 1,153 children between 2009 and 2011.
- **Encouraging dental hygiene and hand washing:** In 2009, brushing teeth was uncommon in Cambodia, especially amongst children. To encourage regular brushing, TGF started providing toothpaste and toothbrushes to all children entering primary school in the TGF target area. In 2014, TGF started also providing hand washing materials. Since 2009, 7,295 children have been provided with dental hygiene kits and instructions on how to brush their teeth, and 11,326 have received hand washing materials and instructions in hand washing.
- **Teacher training:** There are two categories of teachers in the public schools in the TGF target area: formally trained teachers and contract teachers (the latter generally from the local area). In discussions with contract teachers, TGF discovered that none of them had ever received training. As a result, many of them struggled with classroom management and had difficulties teaching the government approved curriculum. In 2009, TGF started providing instruction to primary school teachers in classroom management, time management, lesson planning and basic pedagogical techniques to enhance the learning process. Trained teachers receive a certificate at the end of the course approved by the Ministry of Education. Between 2009 and 2014, 106 teachers received training.

- **Providing scholarships and bicycles:** In 2009, only 23.7% of students from rural areas nationwide enrolled in secondary school, with enrolment in the TGF communities even lower. To encourage higher attendance, TGF implemented a scholarship project for students at the end of primary school and the beginning of secondary school. Students selected by community groups were provided scholarships of \$45, \$60 or \$90 per year to cover basic transport, housing, materials and food costs related to their secondary school education. They could also apply for and receive a bicycle from TGF for transit to school. Between 2009 and 2019, 505 children benefitted from scholarships, and 43 received bicycles.
- **Sports activities:** Students were provided with the opportunity to play volleyball at local schools. Five schools set up boys and girls volleyball teams between 2010 and 2014, with 120 students taking part each year.
- **Life skills training:** Holistic experiential training sessions were run to teach students about "real world" subjects such as agriculture, environmental awareness, hygiene, and planning their futures. Between 2010 and 2019, life skills training was provided to 10,446 children. Through this project, children grew up to 1,923kg of vegetables for the schools per year.
- **Parent Counselling and School Support:** Parent counselling groups were formed in 2010 to encourage parents to better understand and discuss their children's education progress and challenges. Up to 195 groups were formed between 2010 and 2012 with up to 2,260 villagers participating each year. In May 2013 TGF stopped supporting these groups and began helping School Support Committees (SSCs) to develop the capacity to provide improved management and information collecting responsibilities for their schools. Since then TGF has supported 8 SSCs from 10 villages each year with up to 103 members. SSC members also conduct home visits to households with students missing for 5 or more days per month, encouraging families to send their children back to school.

- **Providing English Classes:** English language skills increase the potential for students to access employment opportunities in the tourism industry, a major local employer, and to access further education courses taught in English. Between 2014 and 2019 1,885 children attended English classes, with around 90% of those sitting final exams passing English.

Arisaig's support since 2008 has enabled TGF to continuously enhance the basic education services in the communities in which they work. When starting its journey TGF had no idea that they would have been able to impact so many and achieve so much. Since 2009 they have run their programme activities in 33 villages benefitting as many as 7,000 students in some years and impacting 57,739 lives directly up to 2019.



"TGF would like to take this opportunity to express our profound gratitude to Arisaig Partners Foundation for the considerable support you have provided over the course of the last 12 years. It is thanks to Arisaig's support that we have been able to impact so many through education projects which hopefully we can continue well into the future. From all at TGF and the communities of Chi Kraeng, Thank you"

Samuel Flint, Country Director, TGF



Child's Dream Foundation, Thailand

2015–2019

£201,000

Grantee Summaries

<https://childsdream.org/>



Child's Dream Foundation (Child's Dream) is a registered Swiss Charity and Thai Foundation established in 2003 by two Swiss bankers, Marc Jenni and Daniel Siegfried. Based on their experiences working in Asia, the founders had a vision to try and empower children, youth and young adults to responsibly shape their communities. ➔



Child's Dream achieves this by designing, implementing, and partnering with other organisations to support interventions for children and young adults in the areas of healthcare, education, justice and environmental sustainability in Myanmar, Laos, Cambodia and Thailand. Through their Health and Basic Education projects they aim to build a solid foundation in rural and impoverished communities for their long-term progress. Through their Higher Education projects they aim to create a new generation of responsible leaders and specialists who will go on to contribute to sustainable development in their home countries. As of 2019 Child's Dream was reaching over 400,000 people per year.

Child's Dream started collaborating with the Burmese High School for Orphans and Helpless Youth (BHSOH), a Migrant Learning Centre in Mae Sot, Thailand, in 2010. The school provides affordable or fully subsidised basic education to the children of marginalised migrant workers

from Myanmar who otherwise could not afford to go to school. Structured under the Myanmar curriculum and Thai MOE curriculum, the learning centre provides fundamental subjects including Mathematics, Computer, English language, Burmese language, Thai language, History, Art, Science, Geography, and also supports the children in their application for a student ID card from the Thai Ministry of Education.

Child's Dream initially funded the construction of two new school buildings and two new boarding houses to alleviate the overcrowding situation in the centre. In 2014, Child's Dream started covering the running costs of the centre. Between 2015 and 2019 Arisaig helped fund Child's Dream's support to the centre, providing \$267,000 which has paid for 1,217 children and young people to attend the school over the period and around 33 students to stay in a boarding house next to the school each year.





Akanksha Foundation, India

2009–2020

£173,000

Grantee Summaries

<https://www.akanksha.org/>



The mission of the Akanksha Foundation (Akanksha) is to build a network of innovative schools that empower children from low-income communities to maximise their potential and influence systemic reform. For over 28 years, Akanksha has educated children from low-income communities across Mumbai and Pune, first, through after-school centres, and, since 2007, through the Akanksha Schools. Today, Akanksha runs one of the largest urban networks of public-private partnership schools in India. →



Since 2009, Arisaig has supported the Akanksha Foundation in delivering high quality education to children from low income communities.

From 2013 to 2018, Arisaig's support was extended towards Akanksha's Centres in Mankhurd. The Centres are no-fee education centres providing three hours of classes a day, five days a week, to children from local low-income communities. The Centres are focused on three core areas: Maths, English and Social Values. Classes are led by Akanksha-trained teachers, assisted by volunteers and social workers. During the period of its support, Arisaig also conducted several engagement activities for the children visiting the Centres.

Every year students from the Centres graduate through SSC exams and move on to higher education: Muzakkir Sayyed passed his exams at a Centre in 2013-14, scoring an overall 75% and in early 2020 was pursuing a Bachelor of Pharmacy degree at the VDF School of Pharmacy; Haji Shaikh passed her exams in 2017-18 scoring an overall 81.20% and was studying Science at Oriental College; and Tayabali Shaikh scored 72.40% in his exams in 2017-18 and was also studying Science at Rizvi College.

Since 2019, Arisaig's support has funded Akanksha's Schools Project, supporting the Mahatma Jyotiba Phule (MJP) Mumbai Public School which has 212 students

studying in Grades 4 to 7. The community for the school catchment is mainly made up of migrants who have moved to Mumbai, residing in slums close to the Masjid Bunder Railway station and grocery godowns in Dana Bunder and Carnac Bunder. The students are all first generation learners whose parents are daily wage earners and cannot afford private school education. There is no other English medium public school in the community, where violence and addiction are rife. The MJP school is not only focused on the academic and socio-emotional development of the students but also on the development of the larger community.

The MJP school faced and continues to face innumerable challenges with regards to infrastructure. Due to this, Akanksha has not been able to add grades to the school and continues to run just the existing grades. Akanksha is committed to graduating the current set of students to grade 10 and engaging with the community to build parent support and awareness about their children's education.

As Akanksha forges new paths to scale itself, its journey with Arisaig has helped build a nurturing relationship that is focused on developing strong tangible outcomes for the children it serves and influencing systemic reforms in the overall education system.



Virianie Foundation, Philippines 2015–2020 £165,000

Grantee Summaries

<https://www.virianie.org/>



The Virianie Foundation (Virianie) was established in 1992 by Dominique Lemay, a French social worker, with the help of his Filipino friends. Virianie cares for children in need of special protection, those who are among the poorest of the poor, the abandoned, abused, exploited, neglected, and orphaned. Through its various programmes and services, Virianie strives to build a better future for these children by ‘giving back their smiles’. Virianie’s main goal is to advocate and lobby for the rights of children, care for those in need of special protection, and enable them to become independent. →



With Arisaig's support, Virlian was able to launch a new project in May 2015 called 'Walk Your Way to School' (WAYS) to help street children. A street child is one for whom the street is their habitual abode and/or source of livelihood, and who is inadequately protected, supervised or directed by responsible adults. WAYS is a street-based childcare programme which promotes the social integration of children and their families in street situations and prepares the children to enter, resume, or pursue formal schooling by:

- Providing the children with non-formal street education for one year, using an innovative pedagogical tool which is well-suited to their living environment: a mobile school.
- Involving and preparing parents and guardians to proactively support their children's education by assessing needs, maintaining regular contact with them through family and home visits, and organising seminars on Parenting Effectiveness.
- Supporting the school-aged children to enrol and succeed in the formal school system through provision of their required legal documents and school materials, and monitoring their attendance and performance at school.

In contrast to conventional schooling, the mobile school offers an interactive method of learning using games and activities tailored to the specific needs of the street children. The sessions cover functional literacy but also ways to deal with the various circumstances they encounter. Workshops on health education and personal safety emphasise healthy lifestyles, prevention of accidents, prevention of common diseases related to poor sanitation or improper personal hygiene practices, and prevention of different forms of abuse including child sexual abuse. Training is provided on legal rights, conflict resolution, control of emotions and values formation.

For parents and guardians, film-viewing sessions are offered at weekends, which are followed by seminars and focus-group discussions on specific topics such as parental responsibilities, family planning, and processing of legal documents. Children accompany their parents and have their own structured activities simultaneously. These family sessions are much appreciated, as evidenced by the presence of families of former batches attending each activity.

Through its 4 years of support to the WAYS project, Arisaig has helped 175 children aged 3 to 14 from 120 families, typically illegal settlers living in very poor conditions in the slums of Manila. Most of the children faced issues such as neglect, poor hygiene, and lack of parental guidance, and there were high levels of absenteeism, underperformance, and dropping out of school.



During this time, 437 street education sessions were conducted, with the children divided into 3 sub-groups according to their age, abilities and specific needs. In addition, more than 22,000 home-made nutritious meals were distributed to the beneficiaries, basic hygiene supplies (toothbrushes, toothpaste, soap, and anti-lice shampoo) were given to the children, 134 children were helped to get a birth certificate, and the children were provided with school supplies (uniforms, shoes, bag and stationery) for three consecutive school years.

In 2019 Virlian conducted an assessment of the extent to which the street children in Delpan have been prepared to enter or resume formal schooling, and whether the children and their families have acquired skills and competencies to help protect themselves, be socially functioning and better able to access the resources they need to obtain their rights and prepare better futures.

The results show that the programme has been successful. Over the project period:

- the number of children enrolled in school had doubled and at least 88% of the children supported through the programme were still attending school; and
- the number of children living on the streets had reduced from 39% at the start of the project, to 13% as of June 2019.

In assessing the project overall, Virlian found the following:

- Street education served as a springboard to equip the children with the skills and competencies needed for success in the formal school system.
- The flow and content of activities was effective, with equal importance given to all aspects of child development (cognitive, physical, emotional, social and aesthetic), and the programme gave all the children a chance to feel included and to enhance their self-esteem and motivation to learn.
- The team successfully applied strategies that fostered a learning environment for their clientele group, and the children received the attention they needed, were able to learn at their own pace and make sense of their learnings.
- Activities with parents were also effective: information was disseminated based on the insights gained from getting the parents to share and confront their own views, values and struggles in parenting after the film sessions, and to engage in peer counselling.

Having proven that the programme can be successful, in 2019 Virlian replicated the project to two new locations, Aroma and Metropolitan. Arisaig's final award in 2020 is being used to help implement the WAYS project in the two new locations, with the aim of supporting 120 new children there.



Jeff and Mary's* stories

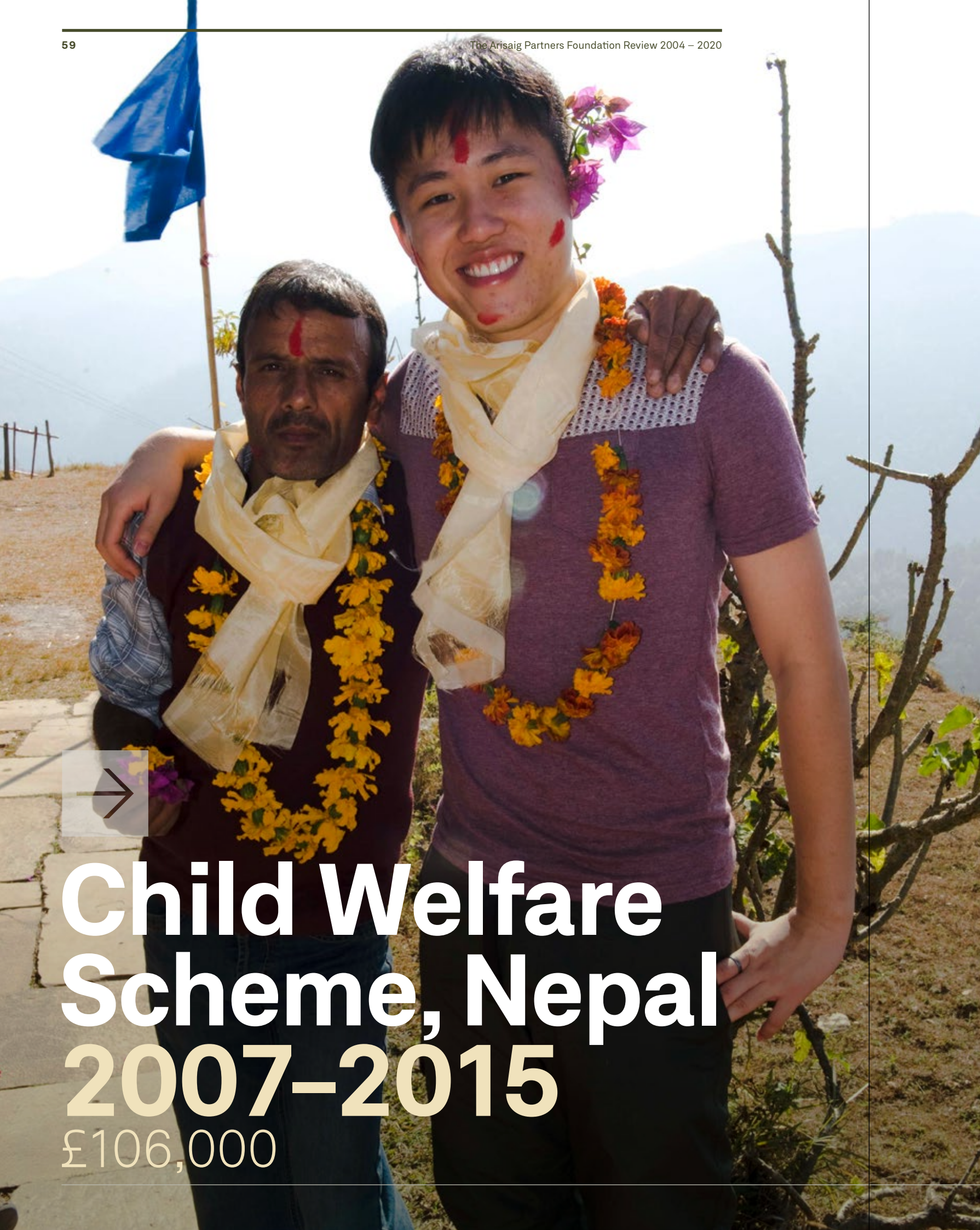
Jeff was a beneficiary of the WAYS project in the 2015–2016 school year. While he was enrolled in regular school at the time, he did not cope at all with the lessons, nor with the school system. He was tagged as a troublemaker and bully. He was retained in Grade 2 but still lacked basic knowledge and focus, he was hyperactive and showed impulsive reactions, symptoms of Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder. His parents, feeling helpless, agreed to have him assessed by the psychologists at Virlanie in 2017, who referred him for a neurodevelopmental test which showed that he had a language-based learning disability. He was recommended for Occupational Therapy that he received through the Mobile Unit for several months in 2018. This addressed improving his work behaviours, visual-perceptual skills and reasoning skills. Jeff was cooperative and worked independently, with minimal verbal cues from the therapist. He was then enrolled in SPED education for the 2018–2019 school year, where, according to his teacher, he performed very well. He listened well, showed self-control and was able to follow the lessons with supervision. He even demonstrated empathy for his classmates and helped them in doing their activities. As a result, Jeff was able to return to regular school class for 2019–2020.

When their eldest child, Mary*, enrolled in the WAYS project in June 2017, the family, consisting of the couple and their four children aged 2 to 11, were homeless and faced many challenges: the parents had insufficient incomes to provide for their children's basic needs; the mother lacked drive and the father engaged in vices that led to frequent

parental conflicts and child abuse; the children were not enrolled in school, were sickly and had developmental issues such as speech delay and poor social skills. At first, the project team found it difficult to build trusting relationships with the couple, especially with the father who was reluctant to disclose any information.

After a few months Mary, who had engaged in illicit and risky activities, dropped out of the street education but still approached the team to discuss her various family issues. She decided to be placed in the Foundation for temporary shelter in January 2018. Her parents visited her regularly and their trust with the team grew. They enrolled two of their other children in the next batch of WAYS project and started getting more involved in the decision-making related to interventions for their children. They also took part in the parents' seminars and the team observed positive behaviour modifications. The children themselves progressively developed self-esteem, friendships, joie-de-vivre and motivation to learn. In the first months of 2019, the couple took a major decision to reunite with their eldest daughter and improve their family's living conditions in the long-term: to leave the streets and start a new life in their province of origin, Bicol. The team coordinated with the Foundation's Family Reunification Program, who assessed the situation of their relatives in the province and requested transportation assistance from the local government. The family left for their province in the first days of June 2019. The children are enrolled in school and the couple does farming on the family land.

*names have been changed.



Child Welfare Scheme, Nepal

2007–2015

£106,000

Grantee Summaries

<http://www.cwsn.org/>



The Child Welfare Scheme (CWS) Nepal was established by Douglas Maclagan in 1997, with the objective of improving the lives of children in remote areas of the country where there has traditionally been substantial socioeconomic imbalance and a lack of community infrastructure. Children growing up in these areas often lack access to basic services such as healthcare and primary education. Douglas has lived in Nepal since then, designing and managing numerous projects that have changed the lives of over 800,000 disadvantaged Nepalese. →



Between 1995 and 2006, CWS set up 14 Day Care Health Centres (DCHCs), where young children in remote hill villages could be kept safe while their parents were working in the fields as well as receive pre-school education and primary healthcare. The main purpose of the centres was to combat child mortality as one in three children never reached their fifth birthday during the 1990s.

Arisaig contributed to the DCHC project, supporting the operating costs of a centre between 2007 and 2015. Children from the rural communities near the centres received free health care, while those up to 6 years old also attended early childhood development classes and

were provided with a nutritional meal every day. The rest of the community received health care at a substantially subsidised rate. CWC also trained and empowered local individuals to become teachers and health workers and encouraged the local community to be proactive in the health of their children.

Due to the DCHCs ability to decrease child mortality in the villages where they operated, the government made it national policy that all village children have access to such care. Recognizing the effectiveness of CWS's original centres, the Nepalese government took ownership of the 14 original centres. Today the child mortality rate in Nepal is down to less than 4%.



Educate-a-Child Trust, Sri Lanka 2004–2013 £90,000

Grantee Summaries

The Educate-a-Child Trust (EACT) project in Kalutara, Sri Lanka, is a small non-profit founded in 1984 by Dr. Pramilla Senanayake after she discovered that many children in the area were not attending the free public schools because they could not afford the uniforms of study materials.

Senanayake purchased these materials herself so that they could start going to school. Gaining wider funding EACT expanded its work to provide accommodation to 48 of the families it had been supporting who lost their homes in the 2004 Tsunami. EACT then built a community centre to provide an after-school educational programme and health and family services to hundreds of EACT children and families.

Between 2004 and 2013 Arisaig contributed to the running costs of the IT and English lessons provided at the community centre, helping 872 children from 570 families. English and IT are fundamental skills that will enable these children to apply for university education.





Angkor Hospital for Children, Cambodia 2014–2016 £62,000

Grantee Summaries

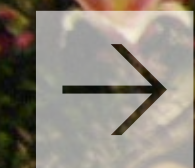
<https://angkorhospital.org/>



Angkor Hospital for Children (AHC) is an independent, non-profit paediatric healthcare organisation located in Siem Reap, Cambodia. AHC's mission is to improve healthcare for all of Cambodia's children by creating a sustainable, replicable model of a healthcare institution in cooperation with the Cambodian government.

Since 1999, AHC has provided high quality, compassionate care to children from every province in Cambodia, regardless of a family's ability to pay. The hospital offers comprehensive clinical services, from lifesaving specialty care to holistic support designed to treat the whole child. Across its 19 interconnected departments, the hospital provides over 150,000 quality treatments annually. Arisaig supported the hospital between 2014 and 2016.





Singapore Management University, Singapore

2008–2019

£24,000

Grantee Summaries



Between 2008 and 2019 Arisaig sponsored the Singapore Management University to make two awards of SGD5,000 each year to undergraduates at the Lee Kong Chian School of Business.

The Awards are aimed at motivating exceptional talent and spurring students to achieve greater heights of academic excellence.

- The Arisaig Partners Foundation Award in Analysis of Equity Investments was given to the top undergraduate student in the Analysis of Equity Investments course.
- The Arisaig Partners Foundation Award in Portfolio Management was given to the top undergraduate student in the Portfolio Management course.





Future direction and end note

As the Foundation transitions its focus in 2020, the Foundation will cease its support to the above organisations.

This document gives a sense of the incredible work done and enormous achievements made by the organisations supported to date, which the Foundation is honoured to have worked with and to be associated with. Many thousands of people have benefited directly and indirectly from the work of these organisations and will continue to do so.

On behalf of the Foundation and the staff of Arisaig Partners, the Trustees would like to thank all the staff and volunteers of these organisations for your selfless work and for allowing us to contribute in a small way to your achievements. We congratulate you and remain inspired by you.

Closing letter

We are all very proud of the more than 15 years’ support that The Arisaig Partners Foundation – set in motion by our three co-Founders – provided to a range of wonderful charities that have and continue to ensure better education opportunities for some of Asia and Africa’s most disadvantaged. Having the chance to visit some of these charities at work on company visit trips (photos from which adorn the pages of this review) opened our eyes to the fantastic work being carried out, and indeed to the impact that each was having on villages of schoolchildren. It is therefore with something of a heavy heart that the Foundation Committee wraps up ‘chapter one’.

We are excited in equal measure though about what ‘chapter two’ holds. Arisaig Partners’ business vision is to generate consistent, solid investment returns for long-term emerging market investors. As dependable stewards of patient, semi-permanent capital, we actively engage in the development of a more sustainable world by lacing ESG and impact considerations into our investment decision making while addressing areas for improvement with company management. We want to ensure this drive to develop a more sustainable world is threaded throughout the organisation in the broadest possible way. The Foundation is therefore being repositioned by the incoming Committee to enhance this alignment.

We believe that supporting women’s livelihood is the key to building more prosperous communities across Asia, Africa and Latin America. Empowering women both socially and economically – enabling them to make choices and take decisions – is proven to accelerate development and sustainably reduce poverty. Indeed, when resources are placed in women’s hands, they typically ‘invest’ in their households and communities significantly more than men. This in turn leads to greater child school attendance and lower dropout rates at puberty; less malnourishment; better understanding of the right to live free from abuse and exploitation; less urban drift to city slums; improved community integration and, ultimately, a greater quality of life for themselves and their families.

We plan to find and partner with social empowerment projects in the Water, Sanitation & Hygiene (WASH), violence, and livelihood training spaces. At the same time, instead of investing the Foundation’s portfolio in the Arisaig regional funds and in a selection of blue-chip multinational businesses, as was the case in ‘chapter one’, we will now be investing in our own NextGen Impact Fund while also allocating to microfinance organisations that facilitate women’s access to credit in emerging markets.

The Foundation Committee looks back fondly on the relationships we built with the many education charities over the past decade and a half; and looks ahead with great enthusiasm as we turn our support to female social and economic empowerment in emerging markets.

The Foundation Committee

Alan Healy, Alice Townshend, Charlie Carnegie, Rebecca Lewis and Vatsal Mody.



The Arisaig Partners Foundation:
Registered Charity 1701494

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