

Outreach Abroad

OPERATION AGRI'S MAGAZINE



PAKISTAN

*Sewing
training*

brings hope
and financial
security

UGANDA

*Fresh start
and new
skills*

for young people
in a Kampala slum

Supporting
rural and urban
development
projects in
Christ's name



1961-2021



Operation
AGRI

Christian love in action

AUTUMN 2021



Operation Agri

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Operation Agri,
Registered Charity No:
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Operation Agri is a CIO

Operation Agri works with local Christian partners in ten countries. Operation Agri helps grow food, increase incomes, teach skills, empower women and much more.

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Pastor Paul Kyalimpa
with his wife Christine



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Welcome from the Editor

In the UK we have seen a significant resumption in international travel and the relaxation of self-isolation regulations for people who are fully vaccinated.

However, the UK Government's guidance still states: 'Coronavirus remains a serious health risk. You should stay cautious to help protect yourself and others.'

Those words should remind us that many poor communities still face this deadly pandemic which brings loss of work, income, and food. Operation Agri continues, with your generosity, to support development projects which give long-term hope to so many people.

Your partnership with Operation Agri makes a difference.

Thank you, Nigel.

NigelJones@operationagri.org.uk

◀ Paul (in the grey shirt) overseeing a training session



Pastor Paul Kyalimpa

The Trustees of Operation Agri pay tribute to the life and legacy of a man who changed lives and led by example

Rev Paul Kyalimpa had led much of our work in Uganda since 2003. After training for the Christian ministry, he studied agriculture at Reading University and then took a course in networking and sustainable agricultural development in The Netherlands. At one time Paul was the Deputy General Secretary of the Baptist Union of Uganda.

Our first contact with Paul was through Jane Hanger (now an OA Trustee) who was then working for the African Pastors Fellowship. This contact led to us adopting the Busia Project in Western Uganda – which trained farmers in the practice of sustainable organic agriculture. That set the pattern for Paul's work in Uganda and Tanzania in subsequent years.

In much of his work, Paul was supported by Operation Agri, who also helped him

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What made Paul so exceptional was that he constantly adapted his teaching to the circumstances.

publish his book *'Sustainable Agriculture'*.

It is impossible to convey the great value of Paul's training for struggling farmers in East Africa. He leaves a great legacy in farming communities where lives have been changed by his teaching and practical demonstrations, in farming and through Christian care for those in need. He also developed the **Women's Adult Literacy Project (WALP)** when his wife, Christine, discovered that some ladies in her knitting groups were unable to read. The project teaches illiterate women to read and write in Rutooro, and to calculate,

to enable them to access information so they can successfully run 'businesses'. This was open to everyone.

Paul's work is highlighted in the OA appeal video which will be shown in churches and other venues during the harvest season this year. What made Paul so exceptional was that he constantly adapted his teaching to the circumstances. He learnt from things he observed and experienced, and incorporated new ideas into his courses. He made use of local resources and ingredients found on people's farms to produce animal feed, plant feed, pesticides and herbal medicines, in fact most things a small-scale farmer needs to succeed, rather than expensive bought-in products. He used his own farm to demonstrate how all this could be done. We trust his work will be continued through those he has trained.

Our thoughts and prayers are with his wife Christine, and his three remaining adult children, already grieving the recent loss of Moses, the youngest child. Please pray that the health of the family will remain good and that they, and the orphans they support, will receive the help they need.



▲ Basanti Syangtan

Project boosts well-being

Dipak Raj Rai reflects on how an integrated approach to healthcare is changing lives in Nepal

Poor health practice, low quality education, and poverty, were major problems for the families of Ikudol and Malta villages of the Bagmati Rural Municipality, Nepal. However, an ambitious four-year project – designed to improve the health, education, economic status and leadership capacity of indigenous, disadvantaged, and marginalised families – has brought many positive changes.

The Community Health and Engineering for Social Transformation (CHEST) project of the Multipurpose Community Development Service (MCDS) supported the communities by conducting community development



◀ Basanti with her father, sister-in-law and niece

activities and emergency/disaster response initiatives. Changes in behaviour were noticed in health and sanitation, agriculture and animal husbandry, as well as leadership capacity in women and children.

Covid response

During the Covid-19 pandemic the entire community of Ikudol was supported with help to raise awareness of the dangers of the disease, as well as hygiene and medical kits to individuals and health units. There was also capacity building of health post staff in treating and educating people on the new variants and vaccination. It should be noted

that Operation Agri is not empowered to support relief work. The COVID-19 work was not undertaken with project funds.

MCDS helped to set-up an isolation centre and later upgraded to a hospital at Bagmati Rural Municipality with medical kits, oxygen concentrator, oxygen cylinders, beds, medical box and stands, vaccine refrigerator, vaccine portable box and daily supplies of masks, gloves, PPE, sanitizers, and sodium hypochlorite.

Lives changed

Ms Basanti Syangtan, 15, and her family have seen their lives changed for the better as a result of the project. Basanti lives happily with her father, mother, brother, sister-in-law and niece. Agriculture and animal husbandry are their primary source of income. She is an active member of the school child club and participated in various activities of MCDS.

Her mother and sister-in-law are active members of a Self Help Group (SHG) and the co-operative formed and mobilised by MCDS. Her parents and sister-in-law received various training related to health promotion, income generation, leadership, management, cross cutting issues and environment protection.

Ms Basanti says, 'Being from a backward and remotely residing community we had poor health practice and felt uncomfortable to talk about adolescent health care and sexuality in community. After participating in different health training, we learnt about personal hygiene, sanitation, and adolescent health care and started maintaining proper health and menstrual hygiene. During our sickness, we started visiting health posts eradicating

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After participating in different health training, we learnt about personal hygiene, sanitation, and adolescent health care and started maintaining proper health and menstrual hygiene.



Participants in a health training course run by MCDS

traditional beliefs and superstition and maintaining proper hygiene and sanitation.

'I have also developed skill and capacity in leadership and self-esteem with ability to express myself. My sister-in-law and mother have also developed their capacity in management, leadership, decision making, income generation and institutional development. They are active members to lead the co-operative and inspire other people to be part of the co-operative. This co-operative will help us to maintain the regular

community development work and savings.'

She adds, 'Our financial status is also upgraded with improved skill, technique and implementation that were taught during different professional vegetable farming and animal husbandry training, along with regular savings and financial management.'

The Future

The project has been able to lift the well-being of individuals and families. MCDS is well recognised in the community and government in terms of transparency, integrity, quality work, delegation and community mobilisation. MCDS looks forward to a positive and continuous application of learning and change in the community.



SDKF: Setting Development and Keeping the Foundation started in 2006, and has trained over 1,500 disadvantaged youths in Tailoring and Design, Hairdressing and Motorcycle Maintenance.

Weathering the 'storm'

Pastor Dennis Ssettaala explains how a programme in a Kampala slum has continued to deliver marketable skills, such as how to be a motorcycle mechanic, despite the challenges of COVID-19

The Setting Development and Keeping the Foundation (SDKF) training centre is located in a deprived area of Kampala, the capital of Uganda. Life, in what amounts to a slum, is hard and many young people drop out of school at an early age.

When children from the slums drop out of school many of them run away to live on the streets and drift into drug abuse and prostitution. As most of them run away to the streets at a very young age, they have few skills. The skills they develop as street children are for survival. To get them into the mainstream of society, which is our main objective, they need vocational training where they can earn their own livelihood.

SDKF Vocational Skills Training Project was started in 2006 to cater for children and

youth who have dropped out of school at a very early age. Because they are so young most are unable to speak, read or write English.

Since the start of this project, we have trained over 1600 disadvantaged young people in vocational skills, of which 80% are now in employment. Currently, the project supports tailoring and design, hairdressing, and trains motorcycle mechanics.

What we do

SDKF specifically targets disadvantaged children and young people, who are out of school and aged between 10 and 20 years of age. They also need to be orphans or street children or children without family support systems. The approach used by SDKF to

deliver the Interventions to the target group include:

- Socio-economic empowerment – we do this through Vocational Skills training, Street Business Skills training, Internship Placement, Startup kit/ IGA Provision, Referral and Linkage to the private and public business sector for job placement and follow up during and after reintegration.

“ **... many young people are coping with the storm and have taken hold of their future with optimism, undeterred by the pandemic's challenge.** ”



SDKF's interventions, projects and programmes support skills and information building among the vulnerable communities in the following ways:

- Placement for Vocational Skills training at SDKF vocational skills training centre located in the slum community. This can handle a maximum of 60 young people that walk-in on a daily basis to access vocational skills training in hairdressing, tailoring and motorbike maintenance.

- Provision of Business Tool Kit training to all young people that attain vocational skills training, to enable them to draw up business plans and equip them with practical knowledge and skills to recognize and identify a business idea, build the idea into a practical scheme, plan costs and materials needed to start up a business and finally start up a small business locally.
- After a period of four to six months, in vocational and business skills training, the young people are helped to find internships with local artisans (a worker in a skilled trade, especially one that involves making things by hand) and some find employment immediately, while others start their small businesses locally.

Impact of Covid

When COVID-19 spread across borders, concerns grew for the future of SDKF students who were hit hard by the economic impact of the pandemic. For many, navigating an already complex job market, finding a job or starting a business became all the more challenging, particularly during the lockdowns.

However, many young people are coping with the storm and have taken hold of their future with optimism, undeterred by the pandemic's challenge. Though the duration of study for completion is being lengthened by the lockdowns, our young people will overcome and accomplish their targeted goals.

Thank you so much Operation Agri for enabling us to impart skills to thousands of young people.



We couldn't do this without your support.

*Dennis Ssettaala
leads SDKF*



As the UK prepares to host the 26th UN Climate Change Conference in October, **Rev Jeannie Kendall**, and **Nigel Jones**, challenge us to consider how Christians should respond to this crisis

The well-being of humanity, the environment, and the functioning of the economy, ultimately depend upon the responsible management of the planet's natural resources.

“**Christians believe that the earth and all life on it is a gift from God ...**

Many of the Earth's eco-systems are nearing critical tipping points of depletion or irreversible change. By 2050 . . . we will need three planets to sustain our ways of living and consumption.

Christians believe that the earth and all life on it is a gift from God given us to share and develop, not to dominate and exploit.

Pray for wisdom and justice in the use of our resources, and for those at governmental level with responsibilities for law-making which impacts on the environment.

Rev. Jeannie Kendall

Did You Know?

1896: Svante Arrhenius was the first to attempt a calculation of the effect of changing levels of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere and is often credited with inventing the term, 'Greenhouse Gases'.

1975: The oceanographer Wallace Smith Broecker coined the term, 'global warming', in a paper called, 'Climate Change: Are We on the Brink of a Pronounced Global Warming?'

1981-1984: The hole in the ozone layer over Antarctica was observed and studied.

2019: The 15-year global effort to improve the lives of people everywhere through the achievement of the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by 2030 was already off track.

2020: The State of the UK Climate 2020 Report says that British summers are likely to regularly see temperatures of above 40°C.

2021: Colin Beale, Reader in Ecology at the University of York, said in a blog for A Rocha, 'Over-all, many of the changes necessary suggest conservation needs to shift from a species focus towards prioritisation of ecological and evolutionary processes that ensure conservation of a vibrant, but ever changing, diversity.'

2021: Spain may have experienced its hottest day after meteorologists recorded 47.2°C in the Andalusia region. This came days after Sicily registered a temperature of 48.8°C.

2021: A Spanish resort was hit by a meteo-tsunami, Germany and Belgium experienced flooding, Japan suffered a massive landslide, a mountainside collapsed in southern China, fires have been burning in Greece, and the list goes on.

2021: The UK will host the 26th UN Climate Change Conference of the Parties (COP26) in Glasgow on 31 October–12 November. The Rt. Hon. Alok Sharma said: 'failing to limit warming to 1.5°C would be "catastrophic"'. He added, 'The world is getting "dangerously close" to running out of time to avert catastrophic climate change.'

Nigel Jones



Nicola Ellul, OA's Marketing advisor, provides a snapshot of OA's social media and digital platforms

Social Media

If you are not on social media, but have friends and family that are on social media channels, please encourage them to follow us to stay up-to-date with news and information. You can find all our social media channels on our website. Please also leave comments, and share our content, as this helps to build awareness of Operation Agri and attract new interest to our charity.



Our Webinars Series Continues

We are holding our next webinar event on Monday 8 November at 7pm and would love you to take part, please contact:

admin@operationagri.org.uk to register your place. If this is your first webinar you will be very welcome. If you have joined us for the events this year and last you will know what to expect. Please spread the word and encourage your friends and family to join us.

We will share stories from our projects, news and updates and love to hear your feedback.

Website

We have worked hard to create a brand-new website with up-to-date information and news. Our new website allows you to navigate easier and quicker. We are always open to feedback so, if you spot something on the website or have any comments to share, please let us know.



Our *Presents with a Purpose* page is now easier for you to shop for those important gifts especially if you want to purchase multiple items.



Visit our financial section where we share, clearly and visibly, where our funds go.

We have made our magazine section more visual which makes it easier to look over our past articles. Our website is now the hub and digital hive of what we do, please visit regularly to keep updated with our projects and please donate if you can.

Marathon sponsorship

Remember you can still sponsor Paul Reddaway's London Marathon run (Sunday 3 October) until the end of December!

<https://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/PaulReddaway>





Sulekha Thapa looks at how Oasis India has provided vital aid to the residents of a Mumbai slum

Mumbai – a city of opportunities – attracts a lot of new arrivals. Kalwa East is a suburb in Mumbai that is fast-growing. A short distance from the Kalwa railway station is a settlement at the foothills known as Bhaskar Nagar. Most of the residents are low paid and unskilled, and this makes it difficult for them to feed and educate their children.

The major issue seen in Kalwa was unemployment among men, and a project was set up by Oasis India in late 2020 to address this. The impact of the Covid 19 pandemic has meant even more joblessness, an inability to access education, lack of adequate food, fear and anxiety.

The response

Families were supported with dry ration kits. Covid safe behaviours were encouraged and masks were distributed.

One hundred and thirty children joined the After School Programme (ASP) which provides extra tuition. When schools closed and education went online the ASP helped those who could not access on-line learning, and children were provided with nutritious snacks after their studies.

180 families given relief

With the city under restrictions, job opportunities were scarce. In response eight youths were enrolled in the Job readiness programme run by Oasis, and 24 others were engaged in sports; especially cricket. Gathering young people for games provided opportunities to talk to them about skills training.

Life skills sessions and health awareness sessions were organised for children and youth. Topics covered included Personal care/

hygiene, Physical care routine, care during COVID-19, Symptoms and Effect – COVID-19, and Physical Changes in adolescence.

Trafficking

Awareness of human trafficking is very important as Kalwa has had an influx of women from the red light district. Residents are given more knowledge about anti-human trafficking to bring about community transformation.

Second wave

The second wave of Covid from mid-April meant more disruption. The team prepared and distributed worksheets to school children. The centre was

open so that children could come and study and use the internet. The team has been in touch with all of those who have accessed the programme, and have kept a note of their well-being and encouraged them to stay safe not just from COVID, but also from unsafe people.

Since June, staff have been coming to the project and running an education programme for the children, in spite of many restrictions and minimum access to public transport.

Life in the city

The livelihoods of many have been affected in the city by the pandemic. When lockdown was lifted briefly, earlier this year, there was not sufficient time to find a job. Whilst many returned to their villages, a large number continued to stay in the city and lived on hand outs.

Oasis India supplied nearly 550 families in Mumbai with health and nutrition kits and worked with the Department of Women and Child Development to enable women to get some financial support and nutrition.

Gathering young people for games provided opportunities to talk to them about skills training.



One family's story ...

A brother and sister, aged 13 and 12, part of ASP, were both struggling with studying. The team learned the children's father had left them and the mother felt helpless. The daughter also had a psychological problem that required constant attention. The mother had a cooking job, but the income from that only allowed her to provide one or two meals for the family each day.

As a result the children were given extra attention to help them cope with their studies. On their first day they were given a packet of biscuits each. The next day the boy came early to the project and said that he was so happy to have a biscuit for breakfast.

From then on the children were given additional nutrition. Although the mother is now unemployed (due to the pandemic) she is trying to take up odd jobs. The boy wanted to find a job to support his mother, but Oasis India stepped in and offered to support his education.

Currently the children are continuing their school studies and are doing well.



Anuj, 13



As many will remember Oppy retired from travelling to different Operation Agri projects. However, as part of Operation Agri's 60th birthday celebrations several of the friends he met on his travels have come to visit him in the UK.

So far, he has had visits from Rusty the Red Panda from Nepal, Vikki the Vervet Monkey from Uganda and Silky the Sloth from Nicaragua.

The fourth visitor is Sasha the Striped Squirrel from SRI LANKA.

Sasha told Oppy all about the work going on in Sri

Lanka to help people raise their children in a safe and healthy environment.



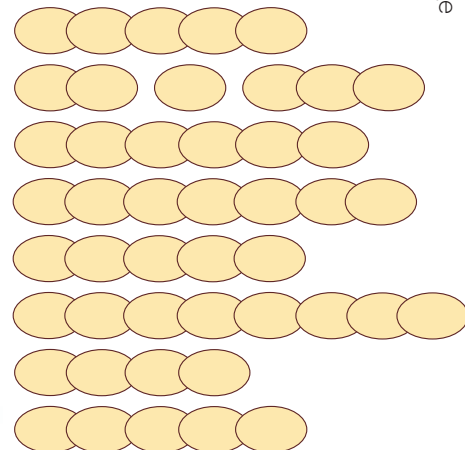
WORD SEARCH



This word search puzzle has a hidden message in it.

1. First find all the words in the list. Words can go in any direction and share letters as well as cross over each other.

2. Once you find all the words, copy the unused letters starting in the top left corner into the blanks to reveal the hidden message.



Answers from the Summer Children's Page:

THE PARTNERSHIP IS BETWEEN OPERATION AGRI AND AMOS HEALTH AND HOPE.

THE NEAREST HEALTH CENTRE FOR ELCREDO IS OVER 6 HOURS AWAY.

**It's time to ride! At the time of writing,
I have started my sponsored cycle for OA.**

**My first ride was 19.48 kilometres long and consisted
of country lanes and Farthing Downs,
at the tip of the North Downs.**

**The rest of the rides will be over more Downs areas as
well as some spectacular viewpoints!**

**Stay tuned for the next issue for a full report of my
rides along with some amazing pictures.**



Distance
19.48 km

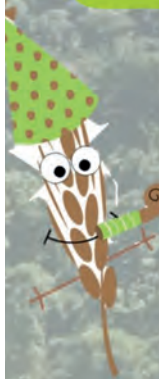
Elevation Gain
214 m

Moving Time
1:32:55

Avg Speed
12.6 km/h

Max Elevation
191 m

Max Speed
42.8 km/h



Busy bees boost

Farming Partnership Initiatives, (FPI), in Karagwe, led by Pastor Heavenlight Luoga, trains up to 125 farmers in sustainable farming in each two-year phase, to improve crop yields in the face of climate change.

Farming Partnership Initiatives' goal is to empower small-scale farmers to fight against poverty and lack of self-confidence. **Pastor Luoga** shines a light on their stories.

↑
Income
generating
beehives

Yes bees

The Tugenderere farmers group decided to establish a Local Beehives Project. Each of them will be able to produce at least 20 litres of honey a year, which means expecting to harvest 800 litres of honey per year. One litre makes TZS 10,000/= (about £3.30), so, per year, the project will make approximately TZS 8,000,000/= (about £2,500). The money will be used to invest in their Village Community Bank, (VICOPA) helping them to borrow more money instead of depending on the membership shares only. Their VICOPA is going very well and they have qualified to receive an FPI loan in order to support them. The project also focuses on environmental conservation by stopping grass burning and the cutting down of trees.

Vegetable crops allow couple to build home

Farming is the main livelihood in Kyerwa District. Nelson, 30, lives in Nyamweza village, Kyerwa. Together with his wife, Lydia, Nelson

planted cabbages and carrots in their garden. They then sold vegetable crops to their neighbours. At that time, the revenue was just enough to pay for the family's daily needs. Nelson's farming methods have changed since he received training from Farming Partnership Initiatives (FPI). He now not only sells vegetable crops to his neighbours, but also to traditional markets in other villages. His wife, Lydia, 26, is a mother of two sons, Antelimo, five and Anteliakio, one and a half. She says, 'When my husband told me that he was going to establish a vegetable garden I was so angry with him. I thought he's going to waste his time for nothing, but now I am happy. I got involved in helping him after seeing the profit we got from our first harvest. We have now bought a new piece of farmland. We used the income from the second harvest to pay our helpers to do weeding on our farm, and the surplus to get iron sheets for our planned new house. I am now the one who sells the vegetables.' She adds, 'I've also

confidence in Tanzania

decided to have more kids, but only when the two I already have, have grown up a bit more.'

Income Generation and Community Impact

Albina James, from Tugenderere farmers group – Nelson and Lydia are also members – in Nyamweza village, explains that thanks to participating in the FPI programme she has improved her agricultural knowledge and skills. She comments, 'My neighbours have changed their attitude towards me. They see that I'm able to make my own living, that I can save money and, if needed, I'm able to cover medical expenses and that I can make a commitment. They respect me now. For example, they come to ask me for advice, that's why I have established a demonstration plot.'

She adds, 'I now have my financial resources, and it's me who decides what to do with them. This makes me feel that I am on the same level as my husband. Generally, I feel I have more control over my life. I can plan better, and I rely on my own work and things I produce.'

Growing confidence

Mrs Valentine lacked confidence. She was working very hard to feed her six children, five boys and one girl. But since she joined the FPI programme she has a good farm, and she's building a new home and is full of joy. She employs others on her farm. This means that she has created short-term employment for others in her community.

'You turned my weakness into power,' she says. 'Life was so difficult for me and my children, not enough food because we didn't own our own farm, my husband sold everything, and remained empty handed. But

today we have our own farm, glory to God! From working for a day-bread to farm owner for me is a great miracle.'

She continues, 'It was not easy, but I had to make a choice with my husband, to encourage ourselves to live up to our dreams. Thank you, Pastor Luoga, you changed our lives, and thanks to those in the UK who contributed to change our status. Today we're somebody, we can say something, and people listen.'

“**Generally, I feel I have more control over my life. I can plan better, and I rely on my own work and things I produce.**

True friend

FPI value OA's support and we have particularly valued it during the world Corona-virus pandemic. In Tanzania we have a proverb, 'Rafiki wa kweli ni yule akufaaye wakati wa dhiki'. In English, 'A true friend is one who is always there for you in times of distress.' We're wishing you all the best.



Antelimo Nelson – little farmer ▶

Sewing hope for women as pandemic increases poverty

Nargus Azhar reveals how Light for the Nations skills-training helps women escape the virtual slavery of Pakistan's brick making units

The economic and social disruption caused by the pandemic is devastating here in Pakistan, with tens of millions of people at risk of falling into extreme poverty.

There are additional problems for Christians. The numbers of Christian women who are abducted every year and forced to marry Muslim men has increased three-fold, and women working as domestic servants in Muslim households are particularly vulnerable to harassment.

For these reasons, Light for the Nations (LFTN) started providing skills training for poor women. LFTN's goal is to promote and implement community services, vocational training and formal/non-formal education.

Because of COVID-19 we moved our Centres from urban areas, which were in lockdown, to brick kiln units where we saw another painful picture of women's life. Two Sewing and Two Adult literacy Centres and Ten Advocacy Training sessions were set up to help women working in the kilns.

Female brick kiln workers

Brick manufacturing involves three main steps: clay shaping with water (moulding), drying with solar energy and firing with fuel (baking). Workers at a brick kiln are involved in carrying the clay dust and bricks, moulding or baking. Apart from hard work, sanitation is an issue. There are

no proper toilets for the workers and fresh water is scarce.

Women are usually involved in the making of mud bricks and they have to work even during pregnancy. Along with this hard labour they have to prepare food, collect wood for the fire, bring water, wash clothes and arrange fodder for the animals. They also have to take care of the sick and elderly in the family. Women are even exposed to sexual harassment if their male, head of family, runs away from the brick kiln.

The worst thing is that these women are not paid anything for their work, only the male family members, working at the brick kiln, get money for the bricks made.

The condition of pregnant women, young mothers and their children, working at the brick kilns is worrying. There are high rates of child mortality and many children suffer in terms of nutrition and health care. There are no family planning or health education services. Hence, health programmes must reach out to women and girls at their workplace to increase their knowledge of options they may not know exist.



The Trainees

MARYYAM SOHAN says, 'I went through unending stress after my mother's death. I took all the household responsibilities and, after completing my chores, I went to help my father at the brick kiln unit. My younger brother wanted to go to school, but we were not able to pay his fee. I did not want to because the owner misbehaves with me when my father is not around. I used to pray and ask my father not to leave me alone. When this sewing centre was opened here, I enrolled, completed my course and received a sewing machine. Now, at my home, I sew clothes for other ladies and earn money and help my Father. I am so happy and relaxed, thank you for setting me free from my stress and giving me new hope in my darkness.'



“

... women are not paid anything for their work, only the male family members, working at the brick kiln, get money for the bricks made.



FOZIA SAFDAR is an orphan. She has two brothers and one sister. She says, 'At our brick kiln unit there are families who were struggling with food shortages even before the pandemic. Most families starve or live on minimal resources. There are few employment opportunities locally.

The access for the poor to institutional credit is almost non-existent, resulting in their total dependence on money lenders and relatives for small loans. But I am the lucky one, you gave me training and for the festival of Eid, for my Muslim friends, I sewed and embroidered dresses for many ladies and saved a big amount.

During lockdown my brother was very worried about how we would survive. I gave him hope from the money saved in my money box, with my sewing skill. I feel peace in my heart that my God is with us. God bless you all.'



C-Sixty Challenge

Operation Agri celebrates its 60th Anniversary this year but, due to COVID-19, we have not been able to complete all our planned events. We came up with the *C-Sixty Challenge*.

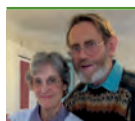
If you'd like to undertake your own challenge, please get in touch and members of the team can help you to organise a fundraising page that will benefit Operation Agri.



Nigel – The Magazine Editor and Trustee

'I will direct all sponsorship money for my 60 mile walk to Operation Agri's *Presents with a Purpose* which support children. As of late August, I have completed four walks totalling 31 miles. For short videos on OA projects that support the education and livelihood of children please go to the Operation Agri YouTube site.'

<https://qr.go.page.link/gQVPe>



Russell and Gill – Trustees

'To mark our Golden Wedding last July, we invited relatives and friends to join us in raising money towards a project – helping over 500 people in a remote village in Rukum, West Nepal have a reliable water supply. We have been flabbergasted at the response, we initially set a target of £1000 and wondered if we were being too optimistic. The total is now over £2,200 (including Gift Aid). *O ye of little faith*. Any balance remaining after the water project has been funded will be used to train local

farmers in aspects of small-scale vegetable and livestock farming.

A former trustee and good friend, Rev. Bruce Hardy, wrote telling of his forthcoming Diamond Wedding Anniversary and said, "What you can do, we can ...". He and his wife Anne are going to ask friends and relatives to raise £500 towards the Imarika project.'

Perhaps you might like to mark a significant event in your life in a similar way. Operation Agri will be pleased to suggest suitable projects or go to *Presents with a Purpose*:

www.operationagri.org.uk/item/presents-with-a-purpose/



To sponsor Russell and Gill:

<https://donate.giveasyoulive.com/fundraising/nepal-water-project>



Josh

'I am doing a sponsored cycle ride and will aim to do 75 miles. That's the distance from Croydon to

Canterbury' For an update on Josh please see the Youth Page on page 13. The money raised will be going towards water filtration systems for families that OA support.

To sponsor Josh and/or Nigel:

www.operationagri.org.uk/c60/



Alternatively send your donation to the individuals themselves or contact Malcolm: Operation Agri, 361 Firs Lane, Palmers Green, London, N13 5LX
Tel: 020 8803 0113

admin@operationagri.org.uk

Closing date

Sponsorship links will close on Saturday 6 November and the results will be published in the January, (winter), issue of *Outreach Abroad*. Thank you.

Prayer: we invite you to pray

Planning for an uncertain future

Our passion at OA is always to help the poorest in our world have the future God intends. We prioritise agricultural work and, more recently, income generation. These remain crucial but an extra dimension has been added in the current situation. Public health and the importance of 'WASH' – water, sanitation and hygiene.

Bangladesh

Mery Nokrek, DFDP Project Manager, from our partner CMCY:

COVID-19 is a great threat to humanity. It has made people prisoners at home. The poor become poorer, and many lives are lost unexpectedly. There is chaos, poverty, anxiety and crying everywhere. Still today, we:

Thank you, Lord, for keeping us and those we work for healthy and alive
Thank our supporters, as your kindness keeps us safe in these difficult times.

Malawi

Lloyd, from our partner African Pastor's Fellowship:

Give praise that people are so excited after seeing a good harvest

Give thanks for the 'Growing Greener Project' and its impact as a 'poverty lifter'

Pray for Malawi as the third wave is causing much devastation. The numbers of people found with COVID-19 is increasing day by day and there have been no vaccinations for some time now.

Nepal

From our partner Multipurpose Community Development Service (MCDS), which has two projects in partnership with OA and BMS:

CHEP in East Rukum District – which provides basic veterinary training and livestock and cattle care to villagers in remote areas – is starting its final year. Pray for health, that activities can continue and hand-over to a new local co-operative is positive

A new proposal to replace the now completed Bhagmati project requires wisdom for OA, BMS and the MCDS team. Please pray for them all.

Nicaragua

From our partner AMOS (A Ministry Of Sharing Health and Hope)

Nicaragua has begun its vaccination programme, but the pandemic and the consequences associated with it remain a reality in everyday life.

Please join us in praying for strength, encouragement, and hope for Nicaraguans, especially those suffering from poverty and injustice

Pray for the AMOS Health Promoters and Community Health Workers as they continue to conduct rounds of supervision

Finally, there are national elections in Nicaragua this November, pray that, despite increased political and social tensions, we may all see each other through Jesus' eyes and with His love.

Tanzania

Pastor Heavenlight Luoga from Farming Partners Initiative (FPI):

The COVID situation, in Karagwe, is stable.

Thank God that FPI work isn't affected by COVID-19

Pray for Boazi Kashubi who is taking over the facilitator role

Pray for decisions about future training led by Boazi with support from Apolo, and possible involvement of a trained agriculturist named Agnes, who lives in Karagwe.

From our partner Imarika, via Jane Hanger, OA Trustee:

Thank God the communities are having good feedback that VICOPA (Village Community Banks), organic farming and tree planting are very profitable for them.

Please pray for the work in the new villages of Mlowa and Kising, may God continue to strengthen their groups.

Pray that the Ibumu group will make good use of the maize threshing machine they bought with the money they were saving in VICOPA.

Uganda

Dennis Ssettaala from our Partner SDKF:

Pray that SDKF staff and students can be kept safe during this wave of COVID-19

Due to the lockdowns most people aren't working and have nothing to eat. May God provide food for those who don't have any in these hard times

Pray that the government will be able to procure vaccines to vaccinate the entire population

Thank you so much for standing with us in prayer. May God richly bless you.

60 years of transforming lives: 1961-2021

Working together with our project partners

Operation Agri is a Christian charity run mainly by volunteers. We currently support projects in 10 countries, managed by Christian-led in-country partners. We help to bring lasting change to struggling communities, showing Christian love in action.

Projects (Clockwise from the left)

-  **NICARAGUA:** Community Based Primary Healthcare Activities
-  **UGANDA:** BUU Sustainable Agriculture Farming Initiatives;
WALP Women's Adult Literacy Project; SDKE Vocational Training
-  **TANZANIA:** FPI Regular Farming Training; IMARIKA
-  **INDIA:** Community Development Project
-  **NEPAL:** Community Health and Education Project;
Community Health and Engineering for Social Transformation
-  **BANGLADESH:** Duaripara Family Development Project
-  **SRI LANKA:** Rural Development of Post-Conflict Resettled Community
-  **PAKISTAN:** Women's Empowerment through Literacy and Skills Training
-  **MOZAMBIQUE:** Commercial Farming Training Project
-  **MALAWI:** Growing Greener in Malawi

Operation Agri
active
Local Partnerships
in 2021

Nicaragua
AMOS
(A Ministry of Sharing)



Tanzania
Emmanuel International and
Diocese of Ruaha
Farming Partners Initiative



Uganda
Baptist Union of Uganda
Setting Development and
Keeping the Foundation



India
Oasis, India



Nepal
Multi-purpose Community
Development Service



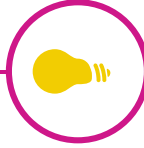
Bangladesh
Christian Ministry
to Children and Youth



Malawi
APF Farming



Mozambique
Oasis Mozambique via
Oasis Global



Pakistan
Light for the Nations



Sri Lanka
Lanka Evangelical Alliance Development Service



READ, PRAY, ACT
Go to: ukcop26.org
Pray for honest
discussions and
brave actions.



The earth is the LORD's, and everything
in it, the world, and all who live in it;
for he founded it on the seas and
established it on the waters. **PSALM 24:1-2**

Standing Order Form

To support Operation Agri regularly by standing order, please complete the details below, in BLOCK CAPITALS

My Bank Details

To The Manager:

Bank Name:

Bank Address 1:

Bank Address 2:

Town/City:

County:

Post Code:

Sort Code:

- - -

Account No:

Account Name:

Please pay to Operation Agri at: Bank of Scotland PLC, Edinburgh, PO Box 1000, BX2 1LB

Sort Code: **80-22-60**

Account No: **20935768**

The sum of £

Starting Date ____/____/____ and every Month / Quarter / Year until further notice from me in writing.

This order is in addition to / replaces my previous instructions to the charity.

(Please cross out words that do not apply).

Signature:

Date: ____/____/____

Please detach this Standing Order and Response Form from the magazine and send to:

The Administrator, Operation Agri, 361 Firs Lane, Palmers Green, London N13 5LX

A photocopy copy of this form is acceptable. Scanned copies or other images may be emailed to:

admin@operationagri.org.uk

Other Ways to Give

Gifts to Operation Agri may be made online: www.operationagri.org.uk/donate



GDPR We have procedures to keep your personal information secure.

We comply with the General Data Protection Regulation 2018.

We never sell your data and we will never share it with another company or charity for marketing purposes.

We only share data where we are required to do so by law.

Legacies

Please remember Operation Agri in your will. Many projects have been funded from legacies.

For guidance please ask the Administrator.

Operation Agri is registered in England and Wales as a charity, No. 1189098



Response Form

I want to support the work of Operation Agri:

- ☐ I enclose a personal gift towards the work of Operation Agri £
- ☐ I enclose a cheque / postal order / CAF charity voucher to the value above made payable to Operation Agri
(Please cross out words that do not apply).
- ☐ I enclose a gift from our church / organisation towards the work of Operation Agri
£
- ☐ I enclose a cheque / postal order / CAF charity voucher to the value above made payable to Operation Agri
(Please cross out words that do not apply).

Please send me the free 'Outreach Abroad' magazine by post every 3 months **Yes / No**

Please send me the Operation Agri email newsletter **Yes / No**

BLOCK CAPITALS please:

Full Name: Mr / Mrs / Ms / Rev / Dr:

Church or Organisation and Position (If applicable):

Address 1:

Address 2:

Town/City:

County:

Post Code:

GIFT AID DECLARATION

Boost your donation by 25p for every £1 you donate to Operation Agri.

Gift Aid can be reclaimed by Operation Agri from the tax you pay for the current tax year.

Your address is needed to identify you as a current UK taxpayer.

In order to Gift Aid your donation you must complete the information below:

I want to Gift Aid my donation of £ and any donations I make in the future
or have made in the past 4 years to:

Name of Charity: **Operation Agri**

I am a UK taxpayer and understand that if I pay less Income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax than the amount of
Gift Aid claimed on all my donations in that tax year it is my responsibility to pay any difference.

Title: First name or initial(s):

Surname:

Full Home address:

Postcode

Signature:

Date

Please notify Operation Agri if you

- ☐ want to cancel this declaration, ☐ change your name or home address,
☐ no longer pay sufficient tax on your income and/or capital gains

If you pay Income Tax at the higher or additional rate and want to receive the additional tax relief due to you, you
must include all your Gift Aid donations on your Self-Assessment tax return or ask HM Revenue and Customs to
adjust your tax code.

Please detach this Response Form from the magazine and send to:

The Administrator, Operation Agri, 361 Firs Lane, Palmers Green, London N13 5LX

A photocopy of this form is acceptable. Scanned copies or other images may be emailed to:

admin@operationagri.uk

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