

Outreach Abroad

OPERATION AGRI'S MAGAZINE

TANZANIA

Sunflowers generate
income opportunities

NICARAGUA
Empowering
community
health
volunteers

Supporting
rural and urban
development
projects in
Christ's name



1961-2026



**Operation
AGRI**

Christian love in action

SUMMER 2026



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Operation Agri is a CIO

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

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Making organic compost in Malawi

Welcome
from the Editor

Empowerment

Throughout this edition
of *Outreach Abroad*,
you will frequently
encounter the words
'Empowered' or
'Empowering'.

These terms are central
to the themes explored
in the magazine and
reflect the focus of the
projects included, on
equipping, enabling
and encouraging
individuals and
communities.

The emphasis on
empowerment
highlights our
commitment to
supporting people in
their journey towards
greater resilience and
independence.

The articles featured
demonstrate how
providing the means
to equip and enable
others can set in motion
enduring positive
transformation. This
change affects not only
individuals but also
the wider community,
particularly when
empowerment is placed
directly in the hands of
those who need it most.

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in Tanzania

Practical training promotes community *empowerment* in Tanzania



**The IMARIKA
PROJECT:**
Empowering
communities

Jesca Mgimba, Project lead in Iringa, shows how a community loan system helps provide for basic needs

In rural areas in The Iringa region in Tanzania many local people face difficulties in affording basics like shelter, food, clothes, health and education. Using local resources, and working cooperatively, is a successful way of empowering these communities. The IMARIKA project facilitates local communities to do just that.

Empowerment

The IMARIKA project works with community members through training programmes to encourage them to respond and take action. Many of the training sessions revolve around discussing resources they already have like land, trees, and rivers etc. and how those resources can become a source of economic, environmental and general improvement in the community.

The training sessions help them to make their farms and businesses more productive, which enables them to save money. They save their money in VICOPA, a village level savings and loans group. The

name is from *Village Community Banks*. The savings and loans now available via VICOPA mean that many villagers are able to afford school fees and therefore children can return to school.



Ester Changa says, 'I first took a VICOPA loan of TZS 250,000 and cultivated a sunflower plot on which I harvested 35 sacks of sunflowers and after selling them I

got enough money to send my daughter to college.'

A number of villagers who had poor houses have managed to build better houses for their families. Oscar Kikoti comments, 'After getting a VICOPA loan twice, I have succeeded in making bricks and building a two room house. I also bought 30 chickens and three roosters, now I have 130 chickens.'



Perhaps, most importantly, the majority of community members are now able to afford basics such as food, shelter and clothing. Also community members are able to help conserve their environment



▲ IMARIKA training at a school
Tree seedlings ▶



They have been able to produce tree seedlings and plant them in their school compounds; through conservation agriculture they have established demonstration farms and vegetable gardens.

by producing different tree seedlings and planting them in their farms. Titus Sanga says, 'I am highly benefiting from the training because I have become a successful farmer with increased harvest after practicing conservation agriculture advocated in the training. Also I have been able to save with VICOBA.'

IMARIKA prefers practical training because it allows community members to understand easily and earlier. For instance, IMARIKA provides training on conservation agriculture on actual farms, and every example will be given as actual practice. This is done for every package of training. If the training is about environmental conservation, it can be provided on actual tree nurseries.

Youth

Young people from secondary schools are also benefiting from IMARIKA's training on agriculture, environmental conservation and horticulture. They have been able to produce tree seedlings and plant them in their school compounds;

through conservation agriculture they have established demonstration farms and vegetable gardens. The training will have lasting benefit as they can apply the lessons learnt, in adulthood, to develop their economy.



It is also not just the economy that benefits. Jakinda Msungu says, 'I received TZS 700,000 as a donation from all members

of IMARIKA group to go to hospital in Dar es Salaam for leg surgery and I have recovered; I am so grateful to my IMARIKA group.'

Jesca Mgimba





Could Christians *positively affect* farming by changing their buying and eating habits?

Flynn Duane examines the tangible and intangible benefits of Farmers' Markets

Most of us already know about the environmental problems currently facing food production – most hear about them regularly, if not daily. We are all too familiar with soil degradation, ecological catastrophe, poor animal welfare, and carbon emissions. We are reminded too of the numerous burdens upon farmers; the harsh physical reality of the job, the loneliness epidemic, and the inequalities of the highly-competitive global market. Considering the state of our food-systems, it is difficult not to get overwhelmed. Where do we begin? What power do we actually have to effect positive change in the world? More specifically, how can we as Christians turn the tide?

What lens should we view these issues through? Let us consider it through culture.

As the 19th-century Dutch theologian Kuyper understood it, 'culture-making' is a

divine mandate for every Christian. Kuyper's belief was that because Christ holds the ultimate truth in every sphere, the believer can therefore bring something of this truth into every aspect of their life. There is no avenue of life, no interaction nor conversation, no big question into which Christ's truth cannot be injected. Cultural change is – for the Christian – where the rubber hits the road. We must not underestimate its potency.

It seems to me that many of the issues we currently face in food production are issues of culture. The system channelling food from farm-to-plate is, on the whole, a culture which values profit above all else. At cost to person-person interaction, the rise of the supermarket has replaced traditional community dialogues with long faceless supply chains, and as markets have globalised, farmers face competition on

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Meeting with a farmer reminds us that our food really comes from creation, and when they meet us, they are reminded that we really have a reason to care about the way that that creation is stewarded.’



unprecedented levels – pressurising them to follow the demands of the market, or perish. This system over the decades has become abstracted as we become further and further removed from food production at its source. It has become a fragmented and broken culture.

Contrast that picture with the lively and cheerful experience I have had at the farmers' markets here in Edinburgh. Although in Britain, the term may have a certain middle-class air to it, in other parts of the world, they are known simply as 'markets' and are routine to buying food for everyday people. In Edinburgh, for years, farmers have sold their produce directly to the customer – with incredible results. For most farmers, a healthy proportion of their yearly income is earned here, with some existing entirely upon their market sales. These farmers are able to cut out 'the middleman', opening up their profit margins, which, crucially, eases their production-pressures.

From a Christian perspective, the potential for culture-building here is vast. Suddenly, buying food transforms from a monotonous and lonely transaction – standing at the self-service checkouts with AirPods in – to a conversation with a real, living person.

These are the key aspects which we miss in conventional consumption-culture of today – namely, people and the creation which they interact with. Both of these must be centre-stage.

Farmers' markets go beyond merely 'dollar-voting' (how our spending influences which goods are produced) because they enable face-to-face conversation. This fundamentally changes the whole transaction. Through my conversations with farmers, I can ask questions about their food, I can be challenged on my preconceptions, and am often called to give an account of why I care about stewardship. Meeting with a farmer reminds us that our food really comes from creation, and when they meet us, they are reminded that we really have a reason to care about the way that that creation is stewarded. For Christians, attending farmers' markets is a way of remembering the people we rely on, inviting them back into our communities, and opening the dialogue for how creation is used.

*Flynn Duane,
A Friend of Operation Agri*



SIERRA LEONE

In Sierra Leone, the Joy Agricultural Project have been helping farmers to understand what helps plants to grow. (Pages 10–11)

Can you work out what a plant needs to grow?

© yuravectr / Adobe Stock



S _ _ _ What are the seeds are sown into to provide food for the plant?

S _ _ What provides the light and warmth for the plant?

R _ _ _ What gives water for the plants?

S _ _ _ _ _ What helps the farmers know when it's right to sow the seeds?



Draw in each box one of the key things that help a plant to grow

Farmers in Malawi discover *alternatives* as fertiliser prices surge

Geoff Holder, for the African Pastors Fellowship, reports on how farmers are being empowered to make organic compost

The rising cost of fertiliser has become one of the most painful consequences of global instability.

The war in Iran and the closure of the Strait of Hormuz, a major artery for global fertiliser trade, sent shockwaves through global agricultural markets. As a consequence fertiliser prices have surged worldwide, but poorer import-dependent countries like Malawi are feeling the impact most quickly and severely.

Yet in Malawi's Ncheu, Chikwawa and Nsanje Districts, a quiet but remarkable transformation is taking place. As the joint Operation Agri and African Pastors Fellowship supported training programme restarts, smallholder farmers are discovering that empowerment can begin with something as simple, and as powerful, as learning to make their own organic compost.

For many families, the cost of fertiliser had become overwhelming. Some reduced the size of their fields and others planted without fertiliser at all, knowing their yields would fall. The training sessions have changed that. By teaching farmers how to produce high-quality organic compost from plant and animal waste, already available in their communities, they

have discovered a practical, sustainable, and free alternative.

The savings are significant. Several farmers have reduced their fertiliser purchases by half, while others have been able to stop buying it altogether. What once felt like an unavoidable burden has become an area where farmers now feel confident and in control.

Eliza Mwayenda from Nsanje District says, 'I feel empowered again. I have control over how I can feed my family and earn a living.'

This renewed confidence is visible everywhere: in the compost pits behind people's homes, in the optimism with which farmers speak about the coming season, and in the pride of parents who can now afford school fees again. 'When others saw my field, they asked what I had done,' Alfred Markford, a participant from Ntcheu District, explains. 'Now we are many farmers making compost together in our village.'

Environmental empowerment has been one of the most encouraging outcomes. Unlike synthetic fertiliser – which requires huge amounts of fossil fuels to produce, can exhaust soils, acidify fields, and leaves



Making organic compost



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Several farmers have reduced their fertiliser purchases by half, while others have been able to stop buying it altogether.

farmers dependent on volatile global markets – organic compost restores what the land has lost. It rebuilds soil structure, increases moisture retention during long dry spells, and feeds the microbial life that keeps fields fertile year after year.

Farmers are noticing the difference. ‘We used to throw away crop residues or burn them off. Now we use everything and our soil is improving,’ says Emmanuel Clement from Nteheu. ‘We see the difference even when the rains are not good.’

The training is also strengthening bonds between generations. Older farmers are passing on knowledge they feared would be lost, while younger people, many of

whom had begun to see farming as a dead end, are discovering new opportunities. As one young participant, Nalesi Ndoma, puts it, ‘This training has shown me that agriculture is not just hard work, it is a business and a future I can build.’

As these stories unfold, one theme shines through: empowerment comes from the ground up. With each compost pit dug and each field renewed, rural communities in Malawi are reclaiming their future, and Operation Agri supporters are walking with them.

*Rev Geoff Holder,
Projects Coordinator, African Pastors Fellowship*

Hope grows from the ground up in Sierra Leone

Steven Thoronka takes stock after the first year of the Joy Agricultural Project and looks at how farmers are being equipped through knowledge rather than handouts

In the rural communities of northern Sierra Leone, hope is beginning to grow – quite literally from the ground up. After its first year, the Joy Agricultural Project is already seeing encouraging and lasting change. Across fourteen communities, farmers are producing more food, saving money for the first time, rebuilding relationships, and finding renewed purpose in their work.

From the beginning, the project set out to empower people through knowledge rather than handouts. By equipping smallholder farmers with practical agricultural skills and village savings training, the project has helped communities build resilience and independence that will last beyond the life of the programme.

Skills that strengthen livelihoods

Training has focused on practical, locally relevant, agricultural knowledge: preparing



Young girls group mobilise themselves to do some very early planting for economic gain

“

Across fourteen communities, farmers are producing more food, saving money for the first time, rebuilding relationships, and finding renewed purpose in their work.

land properly, understanding planting seasons, producing organic fertiliser, spacing crops correctly, and managing different soil types. For many farmers, learning the importance of planting at the right time marked a significant shift. In Sierra Leone, where rains typically begin in May, farmers who planted early while the soil was still warm from the dry season, and before weeds had taken the soils nutrients, saw significantly improved yields. As one farmer puts it, ‘We have farmed all our lives, but we never knew the secret was planting earlier rather than later.’

These lessons, shared simply and without technical jargon, lifted what many described as a ‘veil from their eyes’, helping farmers understand how soil, sunlight, rainfall, and timing work together. For the first time, many families were able not only to feed themselves, but also to save seed for the next season, ending a long cycle of low yields and dependency.



Alongside farming skills, Village Savings and Loan Associations (VSLAs) were established in eight of the communities where they didn't previously exist. Members meet weekly to save small amounts, building collective funds that are loaned out at low interest for school fees, farming investments, or small businesses. For many, this is their first experience of saving or borrowing money in a safe and supportive system. Excluded for years by poverty and social divisions, members now experience trust, accountability, and shared responsibility, across gender, faith, and background. As one group explained, 'Every Friday, we give a loan to one or two people. This is helping us to lift people out of poverty within our own community.'

Growing more than crops

One widow, Auntie Aminata, applied what she learned to produce charcoal responsibly, invest in farming, and time her crops to meet market demand. 'I no longer need the support of others,' she says. 'I can take care of myself.'

Beyond improved incomes, community relationships are being transformed. Where crop farmers and cattle herders once clashed, cooperation has replaced conflict as farmers recognise the value of animal manure for organic fertiliser. Local leaders

▲ Steven (far left) at a Village Savings and Loan Association meeting

report fewer disputes and growing unity, as shared purpose and productivity restore dignity.

Rooted in Christian love and service, the project goes beyond practical skills. As trust has grown, many have experienced spiritual renewal – some returning to faith, others encountering Christ's love for the first time through action, not words.

Looking ahead, demand from neighbouring communities continues to rise as more people see what is possible when knowledge is put into their own hands. After just one year, the Joy Agricultural Project shows that skills, not handouts, create lasting change. Farmers are improving harvests, strengthening finances, and lifting their families out of poverty through what they have learned. Crucially, this shift is changing how agriculture is viewed by the next generation. Young people are embracing farming as a smart livelihood and business opportunity, not a sign of failure. As confidence grows, agriculture is becoming a source of pride, purpose, and possibility – proof that when people are equipped with knowledge, they can build a better future for themselves and their communities.

Steven Yirah M. Thoronka, (Project Coordinator)

Operation Agri: *Growing hope* where it's needed most



When a local church prays, 'Give us this day our daily bread', it joins a global chorus. For millions, that prayer is more than words – it's a daily struggle. Bread, and the grain behind it, depends not only on rainfall but on access to skills, tools, and the courage to try new ways of growing and sharing.

That's where Operation Agri (OA) steps in.

Who we are and why we exist

Operation Agri began over 60 years ago as a simple response to hunger and poverty. Today, we are a UK-based Christian development charity with a clear mission: Christian love in action. Our calling is to tackle poverty at its roots – not with handouts, but with hope and empowerment.

We partner with locally led Christian organisations across Africa, Asia, and Central America. Why local? Because lasting change happens when communities themselves lead the way. Every project we

support is culturally rooted, community-driven, and designed to endure long after the initial funding ends.

Our work spans:

- **Agricultural training and irrigation** – helping farmers grow more food sustainably.
- **Women's empowerment and skills development** – enabling families to thrive.
- **Health clinics and clean water systems** – saving lives and restoring dignity.
- **Education and non-formal learning** – opening doors for the next generation.

Instead of quick fixes, we invest in training, tools, and trust to build resilience and confidence so communities can lift themselves out of poverty.

“

**Operation Agri
isn't about charity,
it's about empowerment.**



Mary's goats bring resilience in Sri Lanka

When Mary's husband died, poverty threatened to overwhelm her family.

Then came a gift that changed everything: a simple goat shelter through the Lanka Evangelical Alliance Development Service (LEADS) project. With her goats safe from monsoon rains, Mary began producing milk and selling livestock. Today, her income feeds her family and funds her children's schooling. Even more inspiring, Mary now mentors other widows, proof that dignity and hope can grow from the smallest seeds of support.

Sunflowers shine in Tanzania

For Hillary and Deus, farming was a constant battle against poor soils and rising costs. But when the Farming Partnership Initiative introduced sunflower cultivation, everything changed. With training and seeds, they now press their own cooking oil – saving money and earning extra income from surplus seeds. Their dream is to establish a local oil mill to serve the whole community. Sunflowers have turned hardship into opportunity, and these farmers are leading the way.

Beyond the bricks in Pakistan

For 43 years, Rani endured gruelling labour, loans, and abuse at a brick kiln alongside her children. After Light for the Nation (LFTN), intervened, she joined sewing and literacy classes, learning to sew, knit, crochet, embroider and read. This new skill set led to a factory supervisor role, where she now oversees and safeguards other women. Overwhelmed with gratitude, she celebrates freedom, leadership, and dignity.



▲ Light for the Nation: Sewing Graduation Ceremony

How your church can get involved

- **Harvest Appeals:** OA provides free resources for Harvest services, including videos, stories, and prayer guides. See page 19–20 for further details.
- **Mission Sundays:** Share OA's work during worship and invite your congregation to respond.
- **Youth Engagement:** Use OA's materials to teach young people about global justice and practical faith. See the annual appeal for details of a Youth Challenge you could run with your young people.
- **Prayer Partnerships:** Commit to praying for OA projects and the communities they serve, as a Church or in home groups.

Operation Agri isn't about charity, it's about empowerment. A gift of £25 can provide seeds and tools for a family; £500 can fund training for a village savings group; £1,000 can help install a clean water system. Every pound is a practical prayer for justice and hope.

If you're interested in finding out more, or would like to talk to someone about how Operation Agri could create a tailored package to help your Church or home group engage with some of these global initiatives, contact Alexandra on: alexandra.lear@operationagri.org.uk



*Alexandra Lear,
OA Charity Development Manager*

PRAYER we invite you to *pray*

Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer. ROMANS 12:12

Bangladesh

Project name: **Duaripara Family Development Project**

Partner: **Christian Ministry to Children and Youth**

Empowering girls through education

PRAYER REQUEST:

Early marriage continues to be a critical issue due to poverty, social norms, and gender inequality. Pray for the seminar on 'Stopping Early Marriage' on 17 August 2026, which aims to raise awareness and promote the rights and well-being of girls.

India

Project name: **Community Empowerment Project, Mumbai**

Partner: **Oasis India**

Empowering the urban poor

PRAYER REQUEST:

Pray for the newly appointed Social Worker, that he adapts quickly to the role and contributes effectively toward achieving positive outcomes for the community.

Malawi

Project name: **Growing Greener in Malawi**

Partner: **African Pastors Fellowship**

Sustainable farming in Malawi

PRAYER REQUEST:

Pray that the farmers can willingly adopt and practice the new farming methods being taught, leading to improved livelihoods and food security. Also, pray for safety and protection for the volunteer team as they travel for monitoring and evaluation activities.

Nepal

Project name: **CHEP Rukum**

Partner: **Multipurpose Community Development Service**

Wisdom and open dialogue

PRAYER REQUEST:

As the current MCDS-CHEP project ends in July we are seeking to discern the way ahead. Please pray for wisdom and open dialogue as we work with MCDS in Nepal and BMS on the most appropriate way forward.

Nicaragua

Project name: **Community-based primary healthcare**

Partner: **AMOS (A Ministry of Sharing)**

Bringing health and hope

PRAYER REQUEST:

Pray for the community health volunteers trained by AMOS as they serve rural villages in Nicaragua, bringing care, hope, and prevention to mothers and children, and helping reduce maternal and child deaths.

Pakistan

Project name: **Women's literacy centres**

Partner: **Light for the Nation**

Empowering women with literacy and skills training

PRAYER REQUEST:

Praise God for last year's successful training centres and Advocacy workshops, and may this year's training bring lasting transformation. Pray for continued protection and well-being for all brick kiln workers, trainees, and staff.

Sierra Leone

Project name: **Joy Agricultural Project**

Partner: **BMS World Mission and New Harvest Development Office (NEHADO)**

Building the capacity of subsistence farmers

PRAYER REQUEST:

Pray for good health for the project coordinator as he travels between villages for monitoring visits, for the project's success in its second year, and for farmers to continue applying the knowledge they have been taught.

Sri Lanka

Project name: **Helping vulnerable communities and protecting children**

Partner: **LEADS**

Building resilient communities

PRAYER REQUEST:

Pray for the child and community sessions in July that will be conducted using the child and community lab tool. May these sessions bring meaningful transformation, fostering hope and resilience within the children and their communities.

Tanzania

Project name: **Sustainable Agriculture and Rural Development**

Partner: **Farming Partnership Initiative (FPI)**

Training Farmers Groups Facilitators

PRAYER REQUEST:

The FPI vision is to train trainers who can act as farmers groups facilitators. Please pray for the impact of FPI training to be useful within the community and provide much fruit.

Give thanks to God for FPI staff, pray that God will give them good health, volunteer spirit, strength and energy in their role as FPI trainers.

Tanzania

Project name: **IMARIKA**

Partner: **Emmanuel International and Diocese of Ruaha**

Community development in Tanzania

PRAYER REQUEST:

Pray for the poor rural IMARIKA communities struggling financially with the recent 35% increase in fuel costs.

After partial drought in 2025, and floods in early 2026, pray for good harvests in the coming months.

Uganda

Project name: **Sustainable Agriculture Farming Initiatives**

Partner: **Baptist Union of Uganda**

Building farm businesses in Uganda

PRAYER REQUEST:

Please pray for upcoming intensive agriculture workshop, organic field training and BSF training to equip farmers. May they gain spiritually and economically through open hearts, good attendance, practical skills, and pray that lives may be truly transformed for Christ Jesus.

Uganda

Project name: **Women's Adult Literacy Project**

Partner: **Baptist Union of Uganda**

Capacity building in Uganda through literacy

PRAYER REQUEST:

Pray for the women learning to read, write and build livelihoods together. Ask God to give them real courage and wisdom. May their growing skills bring hope and lasting change to their families and communities.

Uganda

Project name: **SDKF vocational training**

Partner: **SDKF – Setting Development and Keeping the Foundation**

Providing vocational training

PRAYER REQUEST:

Pray that the teachers will be filled with the patience, love and care of Christ as they teach.

Pray that the students will be enabled to put their learning into practice.

Zambia

Project name: **Nyampande Organic Farmers Project**

Partner: **African Pastors Fellowship**

Organic farming in Zambia

PRAYER REQUEST:

Thank God for the good 2025–2026 harvests after the organic training programme. Pray for the farmers in the project area to continue implementing the knowledge and that they will share with others the importance and benefits of organic fertiliser farming methods.

ANSWERS to CHILDREN'S PAGE
Soil Sun Rain Seasons



Lydia Caldera shows how empowering community health volunteers brings hope in times of crisis in Nicaragua

Last year, in the rural Nicaraguan community of Malacatoya 1, a mother named Griselda* lived through one of the most frightening moments of her life. It was pouring with rain. The river was uncrossable. And her three-year-old son, José Andrés* was struggling to breathe.

At 10 pm, desperate and afraid, she called Fátima González, a local community health volunteer trained by A Ministry of Sharing (AMOS).

‘She was crying ... desperate,’ Fátima recalls. ‘José Andrés had a fever and was breathing heavily. She feared he wouldn’t make it to dawn.’

Confidence

Fátima is not a doctor. She is a community member, a neighbour, a mother, but one who has been trained to recognise signs of alarm and respond with confidence.

That night, her training became a lifeline.

She stayed close to the phone, asking careful questions, guiding Griselda step by step, and helping her give the correct dose of medicine to lower the child’s fever.

“**She feared he wouldn’t make it to dawn.**”

At sunrise, when the river finally dropped, Griselda crossed with her son. Fátima examined him and drawing from her training with AMOS, she recognised severe pneumonia. She arranged urgent transport to the health centre, where the diagnosis was confirmed. José Andrés spent five days in the hospital. Today, he is home, healthy and smiling.

Authority

Through training, community health volunteers, like Fátima, gain not only knowledge, but also the confidence and authority to act in critical moments. They become trusted leaders, people their neighbours turn to in times of fear and uncertainty.

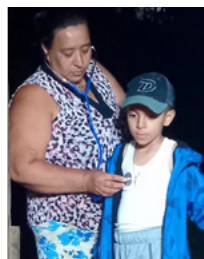
Griselda, now part of the local health committee, knows how close she came to losing her son. She says, 'I feel joyful to keep serving my community; to help save lives.'

This is one example of how health volunteers, who once felt uncertain, now speak with clarity, make informed decisions, and are recognised by their communities as reliable sources of care and guidance.

Zero maternal deaths

Through the partnership between Operation Agri and AMOS, community members are equipped with practical, life-saving knowledge: how to recognise signs of alarm during pregnancy, how to care for new-borns, how to improve child nutrition and understand practices for ensuring safe drinking water and sanitation and respond in emergencies.

These may seem like simple tools, but in remote communities, they make the



Fátima examining a child with pneumonia

difference between life and death. This approach is rooted in a powerful belief: the greatest strength of a community is its own people.

By investing in local leaders, we are building sustainable systems of care that remain long after a programme ends. In many communities where AMOS has worked for years, there have been zero maternal deaths and significant reductions in child mortality.

Even in areas where AMOS has transitioned out, volunteers continue serving, applying what they have learned, maintaining relationships with health authorities, and promoting health within their communities.

Looking ahead with hope

Today, AMOS is expanding into new, remote regions where access to healthcare is limited and needs are great. The vision remains the same: to empower local leaders to care for their neighbours with knowledge, compassion, and faith.

Because of this work, families are no longer alone in moments of crisis.

There is someone trained who answers the phone at midnight. Someone who knows what to do. Someone who brings hope.

And through your support, that someone is already there.

**Names have been changed for privacy.*



Lydia Caldera



Daniel triumphs again for OA in the London Marathon

Please join us in saying a huge congratulations and thank you to Daniel Lloyd, who ran the London Marathon, for the third time in support of Operation Agri, in 5 hours, 16 minutes.

The first part of the race went very much to plan. However, at the 30km mark he started to feel very tired. He says, 'My legs suddenly felt heavy and unresponsive, my calves started cramping and every step required far more effort than before. The pace I'd been comfortably holding slipped away, replaced by a slow grind forward. Mentally, this was the toughest part of the day. The noise of the crowd faded into the background as I focused entirely on simply keeping moving and getting out of Canary Wharf and back towards the City. I drew motivation from the knowledge that I was running not just for myself, but to raise money for Operation Agri. Knowing that people had donated generously gave me a

strong sense of purpose and helped me ignore the pain and keep going.'

He felt intense gratitude as he turned into The Mall and saw the finish line and this gave him an extra surge of energy which helped him get to the end. He says, 'Crossing the finish line on the Mall was an emotional and rewarding moment, made even more meaningful by raising over £1,500 for Operation Agri.'

Daniel's fundraising page is still open if you'd like to make a last-minute donation:

https://2026tcslondonmarathon.enthuse.com/pf/daniel-lloyd?utm_id=97758_v0_s00_e0_tv0

If a Marathon is not for you, but you would like to raise funds for Operation Agri – individually or as a group – how about a sponsored walk? For Youth groups, or the young at heart, see our new Annual Appeal Pack for a suggestion for a Youth Challenge sponsored walk.



Giving thanks for the life of Jane Hanger

It is with deep sadness that we inform you of the passing of our dear friend and colleague Jane Hanger, who died on 4 May at the age of 81. Operation Agri Trustees, Russell and Gill Ashley-Smith said, 'Jane has been an invaluable, wise and much-loved Operation Agri Trustee, with her long experience of working in Africa.'

Jane, alongside her husband Ralph, worked for the African Pastors' Fellowship (APF) – an OA partner – from 1998 until 2010. After retirement Jane became an Operation Agri Trustee and maintained links with five of OA's Africa projects.

Rev Geoff Holder, for APF, said, 'Dave and I have known Jane and Ralph for more than 20 years and it's been especially good working with Jane on joint projects in Malawi and Zambia in recent

years.' Joseph Alinda, with SAFI in Uganda, commented on Jane's loss, 'Thank you for all she poured into Operation Agri, and into us here in Uganda. That legacy is in the farms and in the families who can now feed their children.'

Trustees and those who worked at OA, and encountered Jane in recent years, were impressed by her knowledge and passion and heart for Africa, as well as her agricultural knowledge and the personal relationships she developed with her link projects and their leaders. OA Charity Development Manager, Alexandra Lear, concluded, 'She was a force of nature! Passionate about Jesus, passionate about agriculture and passionate about helping rural, subsistence farmers improve their livelihoods. I hope that we can continue to do the spirit she worked in justice.'

Good health for rural farming families



◀ Leyla explains how to maintain a water filter



water – a great boost to the health and welfare of children.

This Appeal Pack video and Resource Book are great to use for harvest events, and also for events on health and helping others (see order form on back page).

- Worship themes include having the commitment to serve our local community

This year's Operation Agri video appeal is *Healthy Food, Water, Families*, featuring OA's partner **AMOS Health and Hope in Nicaragua**, the poorest country in Central America.

The report 'When Training Saves a Life' (page 16) shows how effective is the training given by AMOS, and the commitment of those involved.



In the video we meet Petronilo, in a remote farming area, serving his scattered community as a volunteer health worker. With skills and

equipment provided by AMOS, he can check children's health, advise mothers on nutritious food, stitch wounds and recognise signs of serious illness. If he can't treat this himself, he calls an ambulance from the hospital in town, which may be an hour's drive away!

AMOS has developed ways to provide basic water filters. We meet Leyla, who helps families to set these up, and regularly maintain them. River or well water put through this bio-filter gives safe drinking

- Ideas for children to explore healthy diets, (with fruit and greens)
- Youth are challenged to plan a local sponsored walk – like the long distances the community workers walk, with no transport
- Midweek or community meetings can compare healthcare here and in Nicaragua. Could we cope with no local doctor?

Operation Agri is keen to continue to support this valuable life-giving work, done with Christian love – 'Amor', as 'A Ministry Of Sharing' – AMOS.



◀ Teaching children about healthy food



Good health for rural communities

Operation Agri: transforming lives

2026 OA Resource Pack

Video, poster, handouts, ideas for services and events:
- harvest, children, healthy living, coffee mornings etc.

To order by post

Full Pack: USB stick with video, A2 poster, Resource Book, 25 leaflets, 25 envelopes <i>(delete items not needed)</i>	Quantity
	packs
Extra handout Leaflets (25 per set)	sets
Extra Gift Envelopes (25 per set)	sets
Extra Poster	
Extra Resource Book	
Contribution to production costs and postage	£7.00
Donation to Operation Agri	£
<i>(Cheques to 'Operation Agri')</i> TOTAL	£

Name

Address

Tel

Email

Church

Please send me email news updates Yes ☐ No ☐

Ask about an OA speaker for your church or group

Post this order form to:
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Or order online:
operationagri.org.uk/current-appeal



The video can also be downloaded

Contact: admin@operationagri.org.uk
Tel: 07842 717680

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AGRI
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by standing order

Sierra Leone,
Mamuduya Koro village.
Clearing and weeding
cabbages to enable
the plants to grow well



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Name and full postal address of your Bank

To the Manager:

Bank name

Bank address

Postcode

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 (Please delete those not applicable)

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, (within the UK use) FREEPOST, OPERATION AGRI

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

admin@operationagri.org.uk

● Please fill in your name, address and email overleaf, and whether you would like our magazine.

● Please tick below as appropriate:

- ☐ I have left a gift to Operation Agri in my Will
- ☐ I am considering leaving a gift to Operation Agri in my Will
- ☐ I would like guidance on setting this up

Other ways to give

Gifts to Operation Agri may be made online:

www.operationagri.org.uk/product/make-a-donation

Legacies

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

For guidance please ask the Administrator.

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.

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



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- ☐ **Please send me the free *Outreach Abroad* magazine by post every 3 months**
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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.

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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.

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Surname

Full Home address:

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Please notify Operation Agri if you:

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- change your name or home address,
- no longer pay sufficient tax on your income and/or capital gains

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