

Annual Review 2005-6



Our vision

is of a world without poverty, injustice and inequality where people, regardless of cultural, social and political divides, come together for mutual benefit, living in peaceful co-existence.



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CEO's Introduction

2005 will be remembered as the year when the issue of world poverty came to the forefront in the UK on an unprecedented scale. Make Poverty History saw millions of people wearing white bands, participating in events and engaging in international development issues as never before. The G8 response to such a high profile campaign was to commit more resources to fighting poverty; some would argue not enough, but their decision was certainly influenced by the Make Poverty History campaign and the Global Call to Action against Poverty as the worldwide campaign developed.

A central theme of Make Poverty History was the emphasis on solidarity with disadvantaged communities, rather than just charitable giving. While recognising that providing our money and resources is vitally important, it is not enough. We have to change the way the world works if we really want to end poverty.

For Skillshare International, 2005 saw the launch of our new five-year corporate strategy and central to that strategy is working for social change. It is our endorsement of the mood of Make Poverty History. We are fully committed to working with our local partner organisations in Africa and Asia to build their capacity to fulfil their vision, but this will not be successful if we do not also address the broader context in which this takes place. Working with them on policy questions and indeed engaging in advocacy ourselves will become a greater priority for us over the next five years.

The recognition that by working collectively we can achieve more is reflected in the importance we give to working with other organisations in strategic partnerships. Over the past year we forged or extended several inspiring partnerships:

- A new six-year partnership agreement with DFID, running until 2011.
- Developing our partnership with Irish Aid, with enhanced collaboration on project based initiatives and aiming towards a programmatic model in 2006-7.
- A new partnership with Australian Volunteers International to manage their African international volunteering programme until 2008.
- Deepening our partnership with Responding to Conflict and so securing almost £1.5 million from DFID for the Integrating Development and Conflict Transformation project.

- Extending our relationship with the Tribal Group to bring in high quality short term consultancy to support the work of our partners.

In the past year we have worked to reduce poverty, injustice and inequality in Southern Africa, East Africa and Asia with partner organisations in our four priority sectors: Health, Education, Environment and Economic Empowerment. In this annual review we highlight an example of our work in each of these sectors and we showcase our contribution to building awareness of development issues. I would encourage you to look at our work and think of ways we might better work together to meet the challenges faced by the world's disadvantaged communities.

This first year of our corporate strategy has seen many significant achievements and innovative projects thanks to the dedication of our colleagues, development workers, trustees, programme advisory committees, partner organisations and supporters across the world. Together, we will continue to reduce poverty, injustice and inequality, and to further economic and social development in partnership with people and communities throughout the world.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Cliff Allum'.

Cliff Allum
CEO



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Health

Community Health Care in Tanzania

Skillshare International in partnership with the Uru North Community Development Trust (UNCODET), embarked on a project to bring vital health facilities and health education to Uru North District in Tanzania. The five-year Community Health Care Project aims to improve facilities at Rononi and Fumbuni dispensaries, improve access to health services and raise awareness of health issues amongst the Mrawi, Msuni, Njari and Ongoma communities.

In 2005–6, there has been an enormous impact on the community, particularly in the areas of gender, family planning, HIV and AIDS awareness, hygiene, sanitation and nutrition. Dispensary staff are being given further professional training and 30 Community Health Practitioners (CHPs) have been recruited in the villages and are now working to improve health in their communities. As the local government is working hand in hand with the project team, the community has full ownership of the project.

The project has upgraded the maternity ward, outpatients' clinic, laboratory and staff quarters at the Rononi dispensary and improvements are also being made at Fumbuni dispensary. Through house-to-house discussions CHPs have encouraged women of childbearing age to enrol in the family planning programmes based in the dispensaries, and more and more women are asking for condoms and contraceptives. Vaccination and immunisation programmes

for the under-fives are expanding. CHPs are conducting nutritional programmes with mothers as well as hygiene and sanitation programmes to eliminate communicable diseases. Children's skin disease has already decreased after a combined campaign through village meetings, medical staff, health promoters and after church services. Also, attendance at clinics has increased and records show that many parents are now taking their children to the dispensaries instead of the local traditional doctors. This trend is put down to increased confidence in dispensary staff following capacity building and skill upgrading by the District Medical Officer's team.

HIV and AIDS is an increasing problem in Uru North and awareness raising and education campaigns have been mounted in all four communities across the district. The community is now aware of the main issues in the spread, prevention and control of HIV and AIDS. The equipment for voluntary counselling and testing in the

Fumbuni dispensary has already shown positive impact. Other equipment to be provided after refurbishment of the dispensaries will enable HIV testing to start in Rononi. Two staff from each dispensary have been earmarked for further training in HIV and AIDS testing and counselling. As a consequence of increased awareness on HIV and AIDS increasingly more people than expected are attending testing and counselling services and on nutritional and income generating programmes for people living with HIV and AIDS.



Economic Empowerment

On the beaches of Southern India

Before the Tsunami struck, Skillshare International had already been working with the Coastal Education and Cultural Trust (CECT) in the Kerala State in the southern part of India. This placed us in an ideal position to begin long-term rehabilitation work in the Tsunami-hit villages in the adjacent Tamil Nadu State in response to the request of the local communities. With funding from Christian Aid of over £300,000 this work began in earnest.

Unlike conventional approaches to disaster-response, Skillshare International's intervention in the coast of Tamil Nadu State in Southern India, was aimed at ensuring sustainable livelihoods as well as transferring skills in disaster management to the communities so that they could develop adequate coping strategies. Self-help groups and fishing co-operatives have also been set up to enable communities to manage the course of their own development. Provision of boats and fishing gear and the rebuilding of the surrounding infrastructure were vital to allow communities to restart their lives. By working in partnership with organisations and groups such as CECT, the benefits are more sustainable. For instance, the fishermen are not simply given boats but are enabled to work with local boat builders to make sure that their boat meets their own individual requirements in order to increase their catch.

Alternative skills training was also part of the programme in 2005-6, as fishing is a seasonal occupation and there are not enough employment opportunities during off-season periods. The Dalit and other disadvantaged communities which were marginalised and discriminated against before the Tsunami hit, found themselves in a worse state than before. The marginalised and excluded status of these communities, and in particular women among them, has prevented them from benefiting from the rehabilitation efforts of relief and development organisations and the increasing competition for resources has increased the levels of social exclusion. Through alternative skills training such as papier-mâché, seaweed cultivation and motor mechanic training, an improved economic and social status for marginalised communities (in particular women and youths) is being achieved.

The project which continues until the end of December 2006, will also provide replacement housing and repairs in three of the worst-affected villages in Southern India. As in the livelihood programme, the housing project is owned and managed by a community co-operative housing society, ensuring that development is sustained even as external agencies phase out their support.



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Environment

Renewable energy for Swaziland

The use of renewable energy can impact on the level of poverty in Swaziland, through improving access to energy services in rural areas and creating opportunities for economic development. Many successful renewable energy projects and installations have been completed in 2005-6 through the work of our partner, the Renewable Energy Association of Swaziland (REASWA), including the provision of sustainable water supplies to several schools and the installation of solar water heating systems at a hospice in Manzini. REASWA's goal is to promote the cost-effective use of renewable energy in Swaziland in an environmentally sustainable and socially acceptable manner.

The placement of a Skillshare International development worker, Amy Francis, with REASWA helped to build the organisation's capacity to achieve its vision. With her counterpart Khetsiwe Khumalo, Amy helped source sites for 'play pumps' that provide water to schools. As the children play, water is pumped from the borehole into a 2,500 litre tank that is stored on top of a large tank stand. The tank's sides can be sold as advertising space which pays for the system's maintenance, and the remaining billboard space for the Swaziland systems is used for educational HIV and AIDS messages by UNICEF.

Solar water heating was also a large part of REASWA's work in 2005-6. Hope House, a residential care facility based in Manzini, approached REASWA as they

were keen to use renewable energy to reduce their energy costs. The use of solar energy to heat water at Hope House was identified as an ideal solution to bring down their electricity costs. With a grant from the British High Commission, REASWA was able to facilitate the installation of solar water heating systems at the care facility.

Renewable energy can also help address issues related to gender and energy. Through improved, cleaner and more efficient energy sources, the burden on rural women can be reduced in terms of fire wood collection and the purchase and use of paraffin. Amy and Khetsiwe were involved in the EU funded TIE-ENERGIA project. The project's objectives are to mainstream gender issues into energy policy planning and programmes.

by strengthening human and institutional capacity. As part of a large consortium that includes partners across Africa and Europe, REASWA coordinated Swaziland's involvement in the project.

"The board appreciates and commends Amy for all her achievements at REASWA. Amy has achieved significantly with very limited resources and most of her focus is at grassroots level. She is a hard worker and has a lot to contribute in the area of renewable energy." Seth Maphalala, Chairperson of REASWA.



©SkhumbuzoBheki Cumella

Education

Enabling educational opportunities for people with disabilities

The ENABLE programme is unique in its approach to providing education, training and development for people with disabilities in South Africa. In working towards a society for all, ENABLE creates a barrier-free education, training and development programme for adults with disabilities and their carers. The programme empowers learners with adult basic education as well as life and work skills, promoting independence and self-reliance.

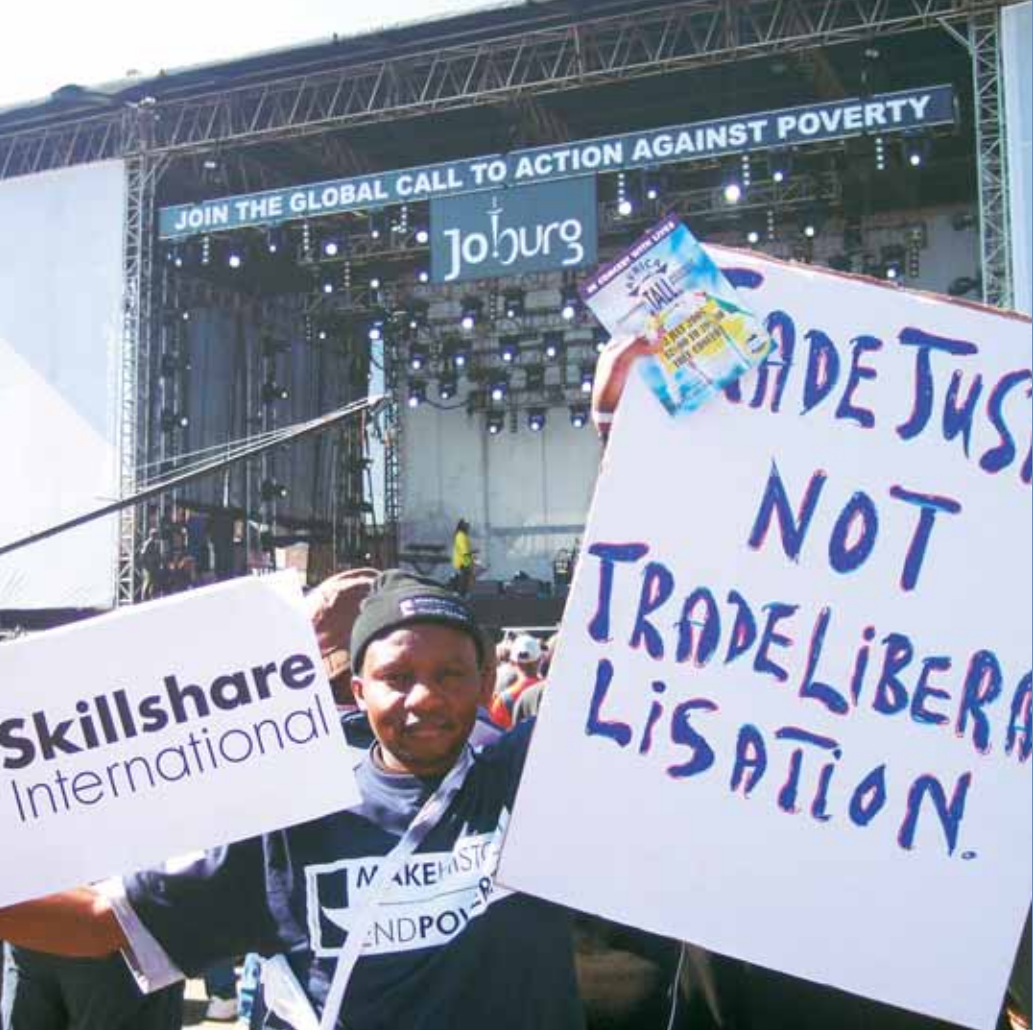
ENABLE was originally a programme of the Natal Adult Basic Education Support Agency (NASA) in Durban, Kwa-Zulu Natal. The closure of NASA at the end of August 2004 led ENABLE to register as a non-profit organisation and they have gone from strength to strength. ENABLE now supports six projects with three more projects due to commence soon in Gamalakhe, Vulomenhlo and Ithubalethu. Since becoming a registered non-profit organisation ENABLE has also registered as an adult basic education provider with Umalusi (an educational monitoring body) and the Independent Examinations Board.

The basic subjects taught at ENABLE centres are English as a second language, mother tongue Isizulu, and basic accounting. The learners then move to level three and four which include other subjects such as life orientation, human and social sciences, ancillary health, and

economic and management sciences. The learners then get credit certificates to allow them to move to further education and training colleges. In some instances, the learners go to vocational training colleges to learn further skills leading them to employment or to start their own business. For example, several learners at the Nduduzwini ABET Centre have been employed by the Department of Social Welfare.

Skillshare International continues to work with both ENABLE in South Africa and the Tribal Group Foundation in the UK, which matches European Commission funding for the ENABLE project. Cliff Allum (CEO Skillshare International) and Elijah Adera (Regional Programme Manager, Skillshare International) joined Martin Cumella (Chair of the Tribal Group Foundation) for a visit to three of the centres ENABLE supports. "I was overwhelmed by the high level of need

evident in this sector of the community, but also how a comparatively small injection of resources can have a major impact on the everyday lives of people, as well as their futures." Martin Cumella. ENABLE has made a real impact on the ground. Teachers report that mixing learners with different disabilities promotes tolerance and understanding. They explain that learners have a sense of purpose of community and of worth. For a sector of society that has faced nothing other than rejection and a sense of worthlessness, this is a great achievement indeed.



Building Awareness

During 2005-6 we have started to implement the social change aspect of our corporate strategy. This has meant looking at the different areas of our work within the context of broader social change.

Make Poverty History

Make Poverty History activities throughout 2005 including the three 'white band days' helped to develop the role of our supporters in campaigning and grow our links with local people and organisations. Throughout the year we promoted the campaign to our supporters and they got involved by wearing the white band and attending events including the G8 rally in Edinburgh. In Johannesburg Skillshare International staff and supporters got involved in the Africa Standing Tall Against Poverty march. In Leicester we took a lead role in organising white band day publicity stunts and supported the development of the local Make Poverty History group as an established and effective campaign group that is continuing to raise awareness. We also played a lead role in a regional Make Poverty History youth event. These local activities had a significant impact in the city and region, through direct participation of hundreds of people and media coverage including regional radio

and television, and contributed to Make Poverty History's success.

Development Awareness

In early 2006 we agreed a new partnership with the medical school at the University of Nottingham. This enabled us to develop a new Special Study Module on Global Health and Development which will be offered from August 2006. The module will be jointly coordinated by Skillshare International and the medical school. Guest speakers include Skillshare International's returned development workers, medical school staff and medical professionals from the Best Practice Network on Global Health Education. The Special Study Module on Global Health and Development for third year medical students in Leicester in September and October has now been running for four years.

Supporters

During 2005-6, our work with supporters in Lesotho developed further with supporters organising a Fun Walk and Run

to raise funds for Katleho 'Moho, a community based group working in rural Lesotho, and raising awareness on tourism issues in Semonkong, building on the previous year's work. Skillshare International supporters, including some development workers, participated in the International Volunteer Day event in collaboration with United Nations Volunteers (UNV). Our partner, St. Angela Cheshire Home for Disabled Children, received donations of garden tools through the supporters association partnership with UNV. Supporters also donated clothes to the Basali 'Moho project for women living with HIV and AIDS.

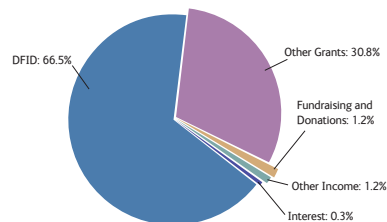
Financial Review

Our income in 2005-6 was £3.96 million which shows a 34.2% increase on income from 2004-5. Our grant from DFID was £2.64 million in 2005-6, comprising 66.5% of our total income, compared with 72.1% in 2004-5, and 74.8% in 2003-4. Other significant funders include the European Commission, Big Lottery Fund, Comic Relief, the Elton John Foundation, Christian Aid and the Tribal Group Foundation. Irish Aid is a major funder through Skillshare International Ireland.

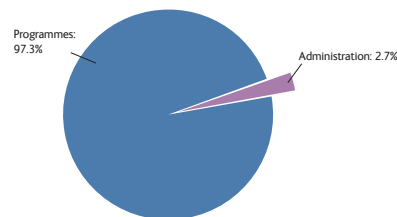
Overall, Skillshare International has managed financial resources effectively and within budget. 97.3% of our expenditure is directly related to our charitable objectives, meeting the costs of running our programmes in Africa and Asia. The continued support of our funders and donors makes this possible.

The partnership approach of Skillshare International, and the direct involvement of our development workers, regularly provides the means for our partner organisations in Africa, India and Europe to gain their own access to resources. We recognise this to have a powerful financial impact, although it cannot be reflected in these accounts. Skillshare International also receives some benefits in kind. The governments of Botswana and Lesotho make office premises available to us rent free, and our partner organisations in Africa and India provide housing and other support for our development workers.

Where the money came from
Total income: £3,963,701



Where the money went
Total expenditure: £3,514,294



These figures have been taken from the audited accounts of Skillshare International for 2005-6. Please contact the Leicester office for more information.

Funders during 2005-2006

Key partnerships



US Ambassadors
Fund Botswana
UNIFEM

Workplace partners

Key Travel

Trusts and major donations

- The Besom Foundation
- The Christadelphian Meal a Day Foundation
- The Dorfred Charitable Trust
- The Edith Murphy Foundation
- The Florence Turner Trust
- Leicester Medical School
- Leicester University
- Charities Appeal
- The Paragon Trust
- Rufford Maurice Lang
- Mrs Sheila Douglas
- The Trusthouse Charitable Foundation
- World Bank

Partner Organisations (1 April 2005 - 31 March 2006)

India

ASHWINI
Adarsh Yuva Samiti (AYUS)
Costal Education and Cultural Trust (CECT)
Himalayan Study Circle Health
& Research (HSC)
Health Education for Social
Action Trust (HESAT)
India Society for Life
Development (ISLD)
Kairali Mahila Samajam
Kovel Foundation
Kumaun Agriculture and Greenery
Advancement Society (KAGAS)
Manipur Rural Institute Society
Manav Adhikar Seva Samitee (MASS)
Manav Seva Sansthan (SEVA)
Narikurwar Educational and
Welfare Society (NEWS)
Paraj Samajik Sanstha
Prayas Bharati Trust
Rapid Action for Human
Advancement Tradition (RAHAT)
Rural Health Organisation (RHOD)
Samraksha
Save the Children (India)
Seba Jagat
Seva Bharati
Singhhum Legal Aid and
Development Society (SLADS)
South Orissa Voluntary Action (SOVA)
Sustainable Human Development
Association (SHDA)
Tribal Health Initiative (THI)
Vidya Sagar
UNIFEM (South Asia Regional Office,
New Delhi)

Nepal

ABC
HomeNet
Nari Bikash Sangh
Shakti Samuha
SAATHI
Vijaya Development Resource Centre (VDRC)

Botswana

Baylor Children's Centre
BOCONGO (NGO Umbrella Organisation)
Botlhale Jwa Phla
Botswana Network of People Living
with AIDS (BONEPWA)
Botshello Project
Botswana Christian AIDS
Intervention (BOCAIP)
DITSHWANELO – Centre for Human Rights
Emang Bafelo
Gantsi Brigade Development Trust
Holy Cross Hospice

Kang Brigade
Kuru Development Trust
Lettoa
Light and Courage Centre
Maching Brigade
Mauje Community Junior School
Okavango Brigade
People & Nature Trust
Permaculture Trust
Pooler's Trust
Somarelang Tikologo
Thuso Rehabilitation Centre
TOCADT
TXY
Women Against Rape
Young Women Christian Association

Kenya

Coalition for Peace in Africa (COPA)
Greater Horn of Africa Rainwater
Partnership (GHARP)
Maasai Aids Awareness Programme (MAAP)
Ngei 1 Development Youth Group
(Ngei 1 DYG)

Lesotho

Mohlo Moyo Day Hospice
Itjareng vocational training centre
Ituseng vocational rehabilitation centre
Lesotho College of Education
Lesotho Council of Non-Governmental
Organisations (LCN)
Lesotho Society of Mentally
Handicapped People
LENEPVHA (Lesotho Network of
People living with HIV & AIDS)
Ministry of Health and Social Welfare
Morapel girls centre for the disabled
NGO coalition on the rights of
the child (NGOC)
Rural Self Help Organisation (RSDA)
St. Angela Cheshire home for
disabled children
St. Paul's school for the deaf and dumb
TVED

Mozambique

Angoche City Council
Angoche Rural Hospital
Beira Pedagogical University
Catholic University Cuamba
Eduardo Mondlane University (UEM)
IDPPE Angoche
IDPPE Quillimane
Mavalane General Hospital
Nampula University

Namibia

Association for Children with Language
Speech and Hearing Impairments (CLASH)

Joint Consultative Committee
NANASO
NAGOF
KOMEHO
NRDP
Project HOPE

South Africa

Action for Conflict Transformation
(ACTION)
Community-based Rehabilitation
Education and Training
Empowerment (CREATE)
Conquest for life
ENABLE Programme
HIV/AIDS Awareness Project &
Youth Development (HAPYD)
ENTOKOZWENI HIV/AIDS
Awareness and Support Project
Community Action
Sizanzani Cooperative Centre

Southern Africa Regional Programme

Southern Africa Council of NGOs
Southern Africa Regional Voluntary
Network (SARP)
Southern Africa Development
Community (SADC)
International Community of
Women living with HIV and AIDS
(ICW)
TOCADT

Swaziland

ACAT Lilima.
Care Nkelela
IMBITA, Swaziland Women's
Finance Trust
International Community of Women
Living with HIV/AIDS (ICW)
Ministry of Health and Social Welfare
Ministry of Natural Resources
and Energy
Moya Center
Red Cross
Renewable Energy
Association of
Swaziland (REASWA)
Save the Children
School of Health and
Population
Education (SHAPE)
Sebenta National
Institute
Swaziland Environmental
Authority (SEA)
Swaziland Tourist Authority (STA)
Swaziland Indigenous Product
Swaziland Coalition of Concerned Civic
Organisation (SCCCO)

Swaziland National Network of People
Living with HIV/AIDS (SWANNEPHA)
SWAPOL
Swaziland AIDS Support
Organisation (SASO)
Swaziland College of
Technology (SCOT)
Swaziland Hospice at Home (SHAH)
Swaziland National Trust
Commission (SNTC)
Swaziland Women's Action Group
Against Abuse (SWAGAA)
The National Emergency Response
Council on HIV and AIDS (NERCHA)
Yonge Nawe Environmental Action Group

Tanzania

Eastern African National Networks of AIDS
Service Organizations (EANNASO)
Kilimanjaro Christian Medical College
(KCMC) OT Training School
Longido Community Integrated
Programme Simanjoro District Council
Uru North Community Development
Trust (LUNCODET)

Uganda

Kiwoko Hospital
Ministry of Education & Sports
(BTVET Department)
Ministry of Health (OT District
Support Project)

East Africa Regional Programme

Peace Healing and Rehabilitation
Programme (PHARP)



Skillshare International

www.skillshare.org

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