OXFAM ANNUAL REPORT
2013 - 2014
The past year – also my first as Executive Director – has been devoted to fighting and winning some important battles, and to the painstaking progress that is involved in empowering people against poverty. Oxfam’s work reached 20.7 million people across 96 countries in 2013/14.

I am proud of the achievements of our 10,000 colleagues around the world who work with devotion to campaign and lobby for justice; who work alongside communities and local partners to help people in poverty to thrive; and who save lives and help rebuild livelihoods after natural catastrophes and war.

When Typhoon Haiyan hit the Philippines, Oxfam was among the first agencies to start emergency operations, and we are still there, helping people to put their lives together again after the devastation. Much of our humanitarian effort through the year was fraught with obstacles, whether in the intractable humanitarian crisis in Syria, or the persistent conflict and increasing deprivation in South Sudan. From Gaza and Somalia to Central African Republic and Mali, there were enormous needs for our humanitarian operations. That has, of course, meant that we have often called on our supporters for the generous donations that allow us to be effective on the ground.

This year we put our new six-year strategic plan into operation, taking an Oxfam-wide approach to six areas of focus that build our capacity to empower people in poverty to shape their own future. We do that within communities – often by working with women’s groups to claim their rights or to adopt more efficient production methods and better ways to sell their produce and goods. And we do it on the global stage, by persuading governments, corporations and world bodies to respect the position of the world’s poorest people.

It was a huge victory that the decade-long efforts of Oxfam and its many partners finally paid off in a new global arms trade treaty. And we scored important progress by challenging the world’s biggest food companies to do better – and they are! They have taken Oxfam’s guidance on best practice for gender, climate change, land rights... and we will continue to campaign for more to come.
All of Oxfam’s work could be summed up as our outrage at the inequality in the world. So we wrote a report and ran a successful campaign pointing out that a mere 85 billionaires own as much as the poorest half of the of the world’s population. Watch for a lot more challenge to that inequality in the year to come.

But we don’t just challenge others: we have launched a major change process to re-engineer our own organization. In our Oxfam 2020 initiative, we have begun a significant process to become more efficient and sustainable, and especially to underpin our legitimacy and credibility by more fully incorporating the global south into the thinking and leadership and at all levels of Oxfam’s work. It will mean a change of structure and culture, becoming more decentralized; more present and with more power in the countries of the south; more focused on sharing knowledge. The self-examination and foundations laid in the past year will sustain the impact of Oxfam well into the future.

WINNIE BYANYIMA
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OXFAM INTERNATIONAL
About Oxfam

Who we are & what we do

One person in three in the world lives in poverty. Oxfam is determined to change that world by mobilizing the power of people against poverty. Around the globe, Oxfam works to find practical, innovative ways for people to lift themselves out of poverty and thrive. We save lives and help rebuild livelihoods when crisis strikes. And we campaign so that the voices of poor people are heard and can influence the local and global decisions that affect them. In all we do Oxfam works with partner organizations and alongside vulnerable women and men to end the injustices that cause poverty.

We are a confederation of 17 Oxfam organizations working together in more than 90 countries. Oxfam has more than 10,000 staff and nearly 50,000 interns/volunteers working across the world.

All of Oxfam’s work is framed by our commitment to five broad rights-based aims:

- the right to a sustainable livelihood
- the right to basic social services
- the right to life and security
- the right to be heard
- the right to an identity

The 17 Oxfam affiliates share a common vision, common philosophies and, to a large extent, common working practices. We all have the same brand values, the same passion and commitment. We have joined forces as an international confederation because we believe we will achieve greater impact by working together in collaboration with others.

Oxfam International is registered as a Foundation in The Hague, Netherlands. Each affiliate is a member of the Foundation and subscribes to the Foundation’s constitution through an affiliation agreement. The Oxfam International Secretariat provides co-ordination and support to the confederation. All affiliates share a single Strategic Plan that provides the shared agenda for all affiliates to choose the approaches and themes of work that will enable them to achieve the most impact in their specific contexts.

To ensure delivery of that Plan, all Oxfam affiliates have committed to improving the way we work together. By 2020 we will:

- Become more globally balanced: bringing people from the north and south together, in equality, including through stronger representation, power and influence from the global South;
- Strengthen our ability to influence by building and sharing knowledge within and beyond Oxfam;
- Simplify and streamline our ways of working, especially in country programs, diminishing complexity while remaining inclusive and open.
AROUND THE WORLD, OXFAM MOBILIZES THE POWER OF PEOPLE AGAINST POVERTY
Between 2013-19, all Oxfam affiliates have committed to working to achieve six ‘External Change Goals’ and six ‘Enabling Change Goals’, as set out in the Oxfam Strategic Plan ‘The Power of People against Poverty’. This provides the framework for all affiliates’ work in all countries in which Oxfam operates.

**EXTERNAL CHANGE GOALS: 6 GOALS TO CHANGE THE WORLD**

**GOAL 1**
**ACTIVE CITIZENS**

By 2019: More women, young people and other poor and marginalised people will exercise civil and political rights to influence decision-making by engaging with governments and by holding governments and businesses accountable.

**GOAL 2**
**ADVANCING GENDER JUSTICE**

By 2019: More poor and marginalised women will claim and advance their rights through the engagement and leadership of women and their organisations; and violence against women will be significantly less socially-acceptable and prevalent.

**GOAL 3**
**SAVING LIVES, NOW AND IN THE FUTURE**

By 2019: By reducing the impact of natural disasters, fewer men, women and children will die or suffer illness, insecurity and deprivation. Those most at risk will have exercised their right to have clean water, food and sanitation and other fundamental needs met, to be free from violence and coercion, and to take control of their own lives.

**GOAL 4**
**SUSTAINABLE FOOD**

By 2019: More people who live in rural poverty will enjoy greater food security, income, prosperity and resilience through significantly more equitable sustainable food systems.

**GOAL 5**
**FAIR SHARING OF NATURAL RESOURCES**

By 2019: The world’s most marginalised people will be significantly more prosperous and resilient, despite rising competition for land, water, food and energy sources; and stresses caused by a changing climate.

**GOAL 6**
**FINANCING FOR DEVELOPMENT AND UNIVERSAL ESSENTIAL SERVICES**

By 2019: There will be higher quality and quantity of financial flows that target poverty and inequality, and empower citizens, especially women, to hold governments, donors and the private sector to account of how revenue is raised and spent. More women, men, girls and boys will exercise their right to universal quality health and education services, making them full participants in their communities and strengthening the economic, social and democratic fabric of their societies.
ENABLiNG CHANgE gOALS: 6 gOALS TO CHANgE THE WAY WE WORK

GOAL 1
CREATiNG A WORLDWiDE iNFLUENCiNg NETWORk

By 2019: There will be profound and lasting changes in the lives of people living with poverty and injustice as a result of a worldwide influencing network united by a common vision for change, that will demonstrably amplify our impact, bolster our international influence and support progressive movements at all levels.

GOAL 2
PRoGRAM QUALiTy, MONiTRiNg, EVALUATiNg AND LEARNiNg (MEL)

BY 2019:

Oxfam will be able to demonstrate that it has created a culture of evidence-based learning and innovation that has contributed to progressive improvement of program quality and increased our accountability and our capacity to achieve transformational change in people’s lives.

GOAL 3
STRENgThENiNg ACCOUNTABiLiTy

BY 2019:

Oxfam will be able to demonstrate that our commitment to strengthened accountability contributes to greater impact.

GOAL 4
iNvESTiNg iN PEOPLE

BY 2019: Oxfam will be an agile, flexible network of organisations with skilled and motivated staff and volunteers delivering the change goals.

GOAL 5
COST EFFECTivENESS

BY 2019: Throughout the period of the Strategic Plan, Oxfam will be cost-effective in all aspects of its work.

Savings released by cost effectiveness measures will be reinvested in the achievement of the Strategic Plan goals.

GOAL 6
iNCOME STRATEgiES

BY 2019: A step-change in investment, fundraising and cooperation among affiliates will secure €100m-€300m more than our forecast income, and position us to match our future ambitions to significantly increase the scale and impact of Oxfam’s work.

1. We consider direct beneficiaries all project participants if they are engaged in project activities and have direct access (benefit) to the products / services of the project. We additionally include those who, without being engaged in project activities, also obtain direct benefit from activities / products / services of the project if the following three criteria apply concurrently: 1) non-project participants are explicitly identified as intended direct beneficiaries in the project plan; 2) the benefit has occurred during the relevant financial year (2013/14), i.e. at the time of counting, the benefit should already have materialized with sufficient certainty that the access (benefit) is direct rather than potential (if doubts existed as to the occurrence or materialization of the access (benefit), the beneficiary was not counted), if there is a direct relationship with the project participants (usually through being part of the same household).

2. This figure is based on Oxfam’s joint output reporting which was carried out this year for the first time according to shared definitions. We counted as partnerships those funding relationships with autonomous, independent, accountable organizations that are mediated by a written contractual agreement and where Oxfam has contributed funding during the FY 2013/14 to achieve shared specific or long-term goals. Partnerships that did not involve funding were only reported if the relationship was based on a written agreement, or if the relationship was established at least one year ago and the partner was actively involved in the different stages of the project management cycle including planning & design, implementation and MEL. Institutional, suppliers, consultants and contractors have not been considered as partners.
In our efforts to improve our accountability to stakeholders, we have for the first time this year started to collate statistical information from all affiliates about the number of direct beneficiaries of Oxfam’s work. Given the breadth and depth of our work, we acknowledge the difficulties in measuring this. We have used our own monitoring systems to compile the data, and figures have been rounded as appropriate. We have worked hard to avoid any double counting, however, there is likely to be some overlap between specific activities, as some individuals will be supported in more than one area of our work; and we cannot guarantee that in this first full round of joint data collection, the data quality assurance process has been followed in all country offices to the same extent. No data is available for France, Japan, Ireland and Sudan. For South Sudan, Myanmar, the Maghreb Country Cluster and Guatemala data is only available in draft form and therefore not included. Additional data gaps may occur in relation to our regional programming. Additional data quality issues: For Australia the figures are based on interim data from July 2013 to April 2014. In Cambodia the beneficiary numbers may present a slight under-estimation as not all partner reports for the financial year 2013/14 were available by the time this report was produced. Oxfam Novib’s data includes all data for the period 1/1/2013 – 31/3/2014 (15 months).
SECTION 2

THE RIGHT TO BE HEARD

INTRODUCTION

A world without poverty is a world where all voices are heard and all human beings are treated equally. Poverty is more than a lack of food, shelter or health insurance. Emerging from poverty means being a full member of a community and able to participate in decision-making processes. Oxfam’s governance work enables people to voice their concerns and priorities with those in power and demand their rights as full citizens. The Right To Be Heard approach will enable more people to claim their rights to a better life.

In 2013, with Oxfam’s help, marginalized communities, youth-led and women’s movements were already overcoming economic hardship, inequality and sometimes risks to their lives. In India 1,500 families from 15 slum settlements successfully fought eviction during a major religious festival and a waste-picking community achieved free education for their pre-school children after 14 years of lobbying and support from Oxfam. In Armenia, women are confidently negotiating with local government in letter-writing campaigns to bring improvements to their communities, thanks to Oxfam’s Raising Her Voice (RHV) program.

However, much more needs to done to support these grassroots movements, especially where governments are restricting the basic right of citizens to organize. Oxfam and its partners are urging governments to lift the laws that deny civil and political rights. We strengthen the capacity of civil society organizations to address the priorities of poor, marginalized and indigenous groups. The best way to achieve this is to create opportunities for people express their needs, in their own words, so that their legitimate voices can be heard.

In 2013 Oxfam promoted four overarching objectives in its Right to be Heard programming:

VOICE: Young people, women and other marginalized groups will exercise their right to organize, to access information freely, to participate in public decision making and to use the law to overcome injustice.

RESPONSIVENESS: Governments and private sector organizations will develop policies that meet the needs of young people, women and other marginalized groups so that they benefit from improved services and an enhanced standard of living.

ACCOUNTABILITY: Governments and private sector organizations will become increasingly accountable for the fulfilment of pro-poor promises and respect for the legal rights of their citizens.
ACTIVE GLOBAL CITIZENSHIP:

More people around the world will contribute to overcoming poverty and injustice through personal choices as consumers (for example by purchasing Fair Trade products), taking action in solidarity with poor and marginalized people and influencing governments and business as active global citizens.

Effective and purposeful Right to Be Heard work is complex and Oxfam uses a mix of approaches in a wide range of settings and countries to promote social and political change. This could involve helping to build the confidence of local groups, promoting access to information and technology, forming networks with people in different countries, or engaging with governments and other institutions to influence policy-making decisions. In the stories below, this mix of interventions can be recognized.

PROMISES KEPT, AFRICA

Too many African governments are reneging on their promises to improve the rights and living conditions of their people as part of their Millennium Development Goals commitments for 2015. The Oxfam-backed “State of the Union” [SOTU] project tracks the progress and commitments of African Union (AU) countries and creates opportunities for people to hold their governments to account.

“A LOT CAN BE ACHIEVED WHEN PROMISES ARE KEPT AND SOME GENUINE PROGRESS HAS BEEN MADE”

Africa’s food supply is a glaring example of preventable poverty. In 2003 54 African nations agreed to invest ten per cent of their annual budgets to make agricultural improvements so as to increase food self-sufficiency. Yet Africa now imports a third of its grain and food crises are more frequent than ever. Some governments lease fertile land to international companies, further increasing competition for scarce pasture and resources.

One in eight children in Africa die before their fifth birthday [UNICEF 2013] and AU leaders have promised new policies and investments to cut child mortality. But while Algeria, Egypt and Rwanda have made considerable progress, other countries, such as Kenya and Cameroon, have gone backwards and more children there now die of preventable deaths than five years ago.

A lot can be achieved when promises are kept and some genuine progress has been made. Although serious corruption problems remain, Africa today is governed more transparently and democratically than it has been in decades. Kenya and Uganda have made great strides in providing free primary education. Policies such as free access to treatment for HIV and tuberculosis are becoming more accepted. And Egypt’s investment in healthcare and family planning has resulted in a 50 per cent fewer women dying in childbirth.

SOTU, together with local partners such as the Institute for Democratic Governance (IDEG), has persuaded the Government of Ghana to ratify a Youth Charter to address the priorities of young people, who represent 60 per cent of Ghana’s population. An Inter-Ministerial Coordination Framework has been established in Malawi to promote more transparency in government, including fair elections. And in response to lobbying from Oxfam’s partner, the Centre for Learning and Capacity Building of Civil Society (CESCI), the government of Mozambique reported on the state of human and civil rights in the country.
As we approach 2015, SOTU is increasing the pressure on governments by providing national platforms for civil society groups to raise their concerns. A new social media campaign – ‘My African Union’ – injects a digital element into SOTU’s campaign, in order to mobilize Africa’s young people in a wide-reaching popular effort to tackle Africa’s challenges during this critical period.

VISION OF THE YOUNG

Oxfam’s International Youth Partnerships Program (OIYP) formed a global network of young people who share a vision of a just world and are committed to working toward peaceful, equitable and sustainable social change. Every three years another 300 young men and women with potential to create change in communities join the OIYP network as action partners. OIYP then supports them in a program to build practical knowledge and skills in the fields of disability rights, food justice, disaster management and human rights.

Margaret Sirrengo, a Youth Coordinator with Values Interdevelopmental Network Techniques (VINE), has been a member of Kenya’s OIYP programme from 2010-2013. She works with a community-based organisation, Everblazing Candles, to promote equal rights for women. “OIYP has done so much to change my life and my community. In 2010, as a young woman with very little education, I left my village [to join the OIYP program]... Afterwards] people looked at me with a different eye. They started taking a keen interest in my activities and showed great enthusiasm. I have done more than I ever imagined. OIYP has created me and put my community on a different course!”

In 2013, Oxfam increased support for the OIYP global network by launching a Youth Partnerships Programme (YPP), designed to focus more specifically on training young people to take on leadership roles by exposing them to the work of Oxfam, and our allies and partners. Three pilot programs will be established – in Timor Leste, the Solomon Islands and the Mekong region in Vietnam – so that participants will learn the skills to challenge some of the inherent values, attitudes and behaviours in their communities and society.

STAND WITH HEROES WORLDWIDE!

High quality development work should take full account of the expertise of those who are closest to program activities. This means listening and learning from others, and talking to individuals and communities that we work with about whether Oxfam’s projects and programs are working. We treat people equally and acknowledge that people living in poverty usually have answers to most of the problems that they face. They just need the means.

In 2013, Jacqueline Morette, Fatou Doumbia and Vuong Hoang Kim – leaders in their own communities – agreed to star in Oxfam’s campaign to persuade the US Congress to stop making deep cuts to foreign aid. They are heroes, achieving great results with very small financial investments.

We were convinced that if Congress could see what they had achieved, they would understand that aid directly contributes to saving lives.

All over the US, thousands of people joined Oxfam’s campaign, signing a petition to register that they wouldn’t stand by and allow Congress to slash a tiny fraction (one per cent) of the federal budget that was having such a huge impact and working effectively for millions people around the world.

In focusing on the experiences of real people, the “Heroes” campaign achieved its goal of building confidence among US policymakers and persuading them that community leaders in developing countries are capable partners who are worthy of trust and deserve to be heard.

The Congressional proposal to cut US Official Development Assistance (ODA) for a third year running was not ratified, and the US aid budget was protected for another year. Congress, Senators and the House of Representatives also agreed to adopt legislative language
that makes it easier for US aid agencies to work effectively with local development leaders, and promotes accountability to people in partner countries.

GETTING THE MAX OUT OF TAX

Fair and transparent government processes increase peoples’ power over their own lives. And more equitable taxation policies, can increase tax revenue and provide higher levels of funding for public services, and improve the lives of all people living in poverty.

Oxfam, together with Tax Justice Network Africa (TJN-A) and country-based partners, established the Capacity for Research and Advocacy for Fair Taxation (CRAFT) project to achieve accountable and fair tax systems in Uganda, Mali, Senegal, Nigeria, Niger, Tunisia, Egypt, Ghana and Bangladesh. Through CRAFT, Oxfam together with leaders from TJN-A, manages a consortium of non-governmental organizations and community-based groups working closely with tax authorities in each country to promote dialogue and share best practice in achieving fair taxation systems in these countries.

In Uganda, Oxfam’s partner, the Southern and Eastern African Trade, Information and Negotiations Institute (SEATINI), developed the evidence, policy work and contacts with members of parliament to persuade the government of Uganda to freeze all tax incentives for individuals. The program was enhanced by SEATINI’s publicity campaign, using leaflets, stickers and banners to raise awareness and enhance the public profile and popularity of a fair and transparent tax system.

PEOPLE POWER, UGANDA

Transparency and accountability are essential to building trust between citizens and power holders, whether in government or the private sector. It means that power holders can be held to account for how their policies

ABOVE RIGHT: A man transporting jute stalks by bicycle. Poverty is deep and widespread in Bangladesh; almost half of the population lives on less than one dollar per day. PHOTO © Evelien Schotsman | OXFAM
and practices affect people living in poverty; and they are encouraged to develop pro-poor and inclusive development strategies, policies and practices. Oxfam’s partner in Uganda, Citizen’s Watch-IT (CEW-IT) developed a popular campaign to hold the government to account for its public policy and commitment to exposing corruption. Their Citizen’s Manifesto is a social contract with the government enables ordinary Ugandans to ask questions, challenge decisions and become actively involved in the development of their country.

The citizen-driven campaign is active in 30 districts of Uganda, training activists in how to track money transfers from donors and governments to service delivery points, and to find ways to spot and challenge corruption. In 2013 CEW-IT trained 800 community monitors, in addition to the 5000 election observers engaged in the elections in 2011. Oversight communities were formed at schools, health management centers and water user committees to demand improved services in Uganda. Other monitors mobilized young people who joined together and used on-line resources (Uchaguzi, Huduma, E-Libraries, District web portals and community data centers) in an anti-corruption campaign to uncover evidence of substandard aid purchases (such as poor quality construction materials and desks at a primary school).

The behavior and practices of the service providers changed as a result of the anti-corruption campaign, as demonstrated by reduced staff absences and recovery of misappropriated public funds.

THE LAW ON THEIR SIDE, EGYPT

Discrimination, violence and the fear of violence are significant obstacles preventing Egyptian women from fully participating in their society, with the same rights as men. If a woman wants to make her voice heard in meetings, at work, or on behalf of her community, she needs to feel empowered. If she suffers violence in the home, she needs support and the confidence necessary to seek a place of safety, and redress.

Evidence shows that the best way to break through these discrimination barriers is to focus on the personal and economic circumstances of women, within a wider context of policies and legislation that holds women back. Oxfam and its partner CEWLA (The Centre for Egyptian Women Legal Assistance) use just such a strategy in Egypt. CEWLA increases women’s awareness of their civil and political rights and provides the support that they need before they have to go to court. If a woman needs a social security loan, for example, she will have the civil papers and legal documents that she needs for her application to be accepted.

Nearly 4000 people have benefitted from legal advice and arbitration involving conflict resolution in families, at work and in their homes.
divorce, sexual harassment, or guidance on female genital mutilation. CEWLA lawyers have won favorable rulings for mothers in child custody cases. Although CEWLA’s work is focused primarily on supporting and enabling women to stand up for their rights, their professional approach and legal successes are also helping to address broader issues of inequality in Egypt – within the family and wider society.

TALES OF THE CITY, INDIA

All too often, decisions on infrastructure investments in India’s cities are taken at a high level, far away from the areas where poor and vulnerable live. Communities living in poor urban areas are rarely consulted about their needs for access to water, sanitation facilities and housing, and they lack the information and formal bureaucratic language to engage with local authorities to make their case for improved facilities, even if they are entitled to them by law. Local government officials, on the other hand, often lack the skills and experience to discuss and resolve these issues with these communities, sometimes interpreting requests as criticisms or threats.

India’s urban poor often face multiple levels of discrimination, as migrants, as women, or as the poorest of the poor. Once they believe that they have a right to be treated with dignity, they gain strength in the knowledge that they can voice their concerns and improve their lives. Oxfam is working with partners to make people aware of their rights and identifying opportunities to communicate their priorities to decision-makers. By speaking out at town hall meetings and organizing protests, they are putting pressure on local governments to meet their need for improved housing, water and sanitation facilities in urban slums.

The program, currently implemented in seven cities through six partner organizations, is directly reaching out to over 75,000 citizens in 90 urban settlements, and includes support for 6,500 homeless people. Oxfam is also talking to authorities responsible for urban development and growth at state and national level, to persuade them to make investments that benefit poor communities.

In a significant achievement in 2013-2014, Lucknow’s city planning department was persuaded to consult with urban workers - street vendors, construction workers, rickshaw pullers, female domestic helpers and home-based workers – to create a common vision for the city. An inclusive City Development Plan provided increased security, basic amenities and adequate space for street vendors and for homeless people. Persistent campaigning and advocacy by street vendors and civil society groups also resulted in the Government passing a Street Vendors Act in 2014 which further protects the rights of urban workers.

- **75,000** citizens
- **6,500** support for homeless
- **90** urban settlements
- **7** cities
- **6** partner organizations
RAISING HER VOICE

Every single issue that Oxfam works on, from climate change to economic justice, is affected in some way by the lack of women’s meaningful representation. From 2008-2013 Raising Her Voice (RHv), Oxfam’s first global program to enhance the participation and leadership opportunities of women has made significant steps to redress the balance.

Today, over one million marginalized women are estimated to have benefitted from RHv programs. This could involve helping women to gain a stronger political voice, or to strengthen their ability to influence decisions about social services, development investments, policies and legal frameworks.

In five years, Oxfam, together with 45 local partners, 141 community activist groups, and over 1,000 coalition members, have contributed to the shaping of 10 new laws to protect women against gender-based violence in countries such as Uganda, Nigeria and Pakistan. RHV partners took an active role in the establishment of a further nine new laws to promote a wider spectrum of women’s rights, including a law to prevent political violence against female candidates and voters in Bolivia.

When the voices and concerns of women are included in decision-making spaces, such as community meetings, resource management committees or coalitions for change, the results are powerful. In addressing issues of inequality, and encouraging the development of women’s confidence, RHv helped to unlock significant social, political and economic advantages for marginalized women. External evaluation of the RHv project confirmed that projects are most successful when

ABOVE LEFT: Learning the alphabet at Apna Kendra bridge school for working children. The rag-picking community of Shanti Busti (literally “Peace Slum”) comprises 210 households. The rag-pickers suffer insecurity of tenure over the land upon which Shanti Busti is built. Families pay a rent to a landlord who provides them some protection from eviction by the government. The rag-pickers have no access to any of the rights and services afforded to other Indians, including the right to vote. PHOTO © Tom Pietrasik | OXFAM
all stakeholders are treated equally and when grassroots initiatives are delivered in tandem with advocacy at a national level.

Although global RHV funding formally ended in March 2013, the individual, community activism and coalitions it supported remain very much alive and well in 25 countries – another important step along the path to future change.

**LOOKING FORWARD**

Oxfam will continue to focus on strengthening the voice of poor and vulnerable communities so that they can participate effectively in discussions that will influence a fairer distribution of resources. We will also work with our partners and allies to maintain pressure on governments and the private sector, so that they are responsive to the interests of poor people and fulfill the promises that have already been made.

Recent trends indicate an increase in restrictions on civil society and the ability of citizens to engage in freedom of assembly, free speech and association. In this context, it is essential that Oxfam, and our partners and allies, are agile in our response to complex and fast-moving social changes. We need to take decisive action to safeguard civil society space. Oxfam will continue to give priority to revenue monitoring [budgets and tax] and enhancing the participation of citizens in within their societies. In all of our work, we will continue to put women’s rights at the heart of our programs, to ensure that there is justice and a sustained and widespread change in power relations between women and men.
**INTRODUCTION**

Oxfam’s Strategic Plan puts the reinforcement of people’s rights, and especially women’s rights, at the heart of all we do. Beyond enabling women and marginalized people to have access to valued roles in the economy and society, we put a particular focus on gender justice and empowering poor people so that they can make their voices heard.

We focus on gender justice because systematic discrimination against women and girls is both a cause and a result of the inequality that drives poverty. Class, sexual orientation, ethnicity and age, as well as religious and other fundamentalisms can exacerbate it. Women who respond to disasters, defend rights to natural resources, campaign for freedom from physical and sexual abuse, and promote democratic participation often suffer physical and psychological violence.

There is growing evidence that when women take control over their lives and join together to achieve common goals, transformative progress and change can be achieved. Oxfam helps women to develop their own visions and strategies for change and works with organizations and movements that affirm women’s rights as a foundation for all development goals. We work alongside other pressure groups to persuade governments and institutions to improve policies and laws in favor of women but we know that if we are to achieve lasting change, our vision and aspirations need to be much bigger. We aim to achieve sustained, widespread changes at all levels in people’s attitudes and beliefs about power relationships between men and women, and in so doing to further women’s rights and gender justice.
STRAWBERRY FIELDS FOREVER!

Morocco’s strawberry industry has increased dramatically in recent years to supply Europe’s shops and supermarkets. But workers, 80 per cent of whom are women, have not benefitted from the “red gold”. Oxfam has been working with women in northern Morocco since 2008 to help improve their working conditions. Most of the time, the rights of workers are not respected. They have no contract, and employers do not respect minimum wage or compliance with legal working hours. Health and safety standards are often poor, as are transport conditions, and children are also used as pickers. Women do not know of all their rights, as illustrated in the low take-up of registration for social security payments to supplement income.

Oxfam and our partners have been working with stakeholders across the production chain – with the pickers themselves, the owners of strawberry farms, local government, and the European buyers – on a series of joint projects to improve working conditions. An alliance of civil society organizations and women workers, known as the “Unity”, has coordinated and managed the projects, organizing awareness-raising ‘caravans’ in villages to inform and support women workers and find ways to resolve difficulties with their employers or government authorities.

At the international level, Oxfam collaborated with European importers and Moroccan retailers to change practice. In 2011, we won agreement for an Action Plan (2012-2015) to improve wages, adhere to a minimum legal age for work, and enable registration for social security, and respect for health, safety and transport conditions. This plan formalized work relations and set reasonable progressive targets. The importers then established mechanisms to track progress with Oxfam.

Some producers have changed and improved their ways of working. They understood that providing better working conditions for their employees made good financial sense for growing their businesses. Even if some are still lagging behind, more importers from different countries are now joining the program and requesting the same basic standards for employees.

We believe that this program will have a widespread and beneficial impact on the strawberry sector in Morocco, and that standards will continue to improve. For the women themselves, rather than being recipients of a program, they see themselves as primary agents of change. They have leaders who can shape their destiny, and have now established their own association, Al Karama (meaning Dignity) to protect and defend their labor rights.
Although women were at the forefront of uprisings in the Arab world in 2011, their opinions are still often sidelined. Oxfam’s partner, AMAL (‘hope’ in Arabic) works in Tunisia, Morocco, Palestine and Yemen, in partnership with 13 local organizations, to ensure that the momentum achieved by women in recent years is not lost.

Three years ago, images of women protesting and interviews with young women activists were all over global media. A window of opportunity for real change seemed wide open: the governments of Egypt, Libya, Tunisia and Yemen were overthrown, new transitional political processes were introduced and leaders sworn in. This seemed a time ripe with opportunities for the advancement of women’s rights in most Arab countries.

However, many women have been sidelined or targeted for their activism. The AMAL Program enables these women to become leaders who can, together with their communities, reclaim their right to political and civic participation to achieve long lasting positive change. Oxfam’s partners in Morocco are all working to mobilize civil society to call for the implementation of Article 19 of their 2011 Constitution, which requires an end to gender discrimination and equality between men and women.

Approaches include awareness-raising events, public meetings and outreach through literacy classes in rural and poor urban areas. The Yemeni Women’s Union is creating spaces for women in rural areas to come together to share their experiences, needs and aspirations and equip them with the practical skills and confidence to influence change in their lives and communities.

These women have not only learned to write and read. They have produced materials that help them to identify their communities’ problems, and
demonstrate solutions. In one example, women drew a map of the district identifying infrastructure needs such as a road, power, school, hospital, and water project.

“They are now confident to raise their voice, and ask for their needs, but still they need more support to overcome the reasons that undermine their ability to have a say in their lives; poverty, domestic violence, and the power of tribal, social norms over women are among these obstacles,” said Thikra, project coordinator at Yemeni Women Union.

Word spread fast among Yemeni women and more discussion sessions than anticipated were organized. In Tunisia, our partner, the League of Tunisian Female Electors (lET) trained and mentored women political leaders. As a result, no less than seven women reached leadership positions in their respective parties and three women were elected to leadership roles in union and in civil society organizations. Because of the youth and women oriented awareness campaigns organized by our partners we have reached over 2500 people in four intervention sites.

In the Occupied Palestinian Territories (OPT) our partner in Gaza, the Women’s Affairs Center trained women in political parties and 36 community leaders (15 men and 21 women) in leadership skills, gender and women’s rights. They also trained 38 journalists (15 men and 23 women) on how to promote gender-sensitive images around women’s political participation and leadership.

UNTOLD STORIES, TOLD

Over the last four years, Oxfam has worked with 20 women’s organizations in South America in a regional program to strengthen the skills and talent of “Popular and Diverse Women” and to share their testimony and experience of achieving transformative change in their communities. The stories that they told provided the content for four books describing the untold and forgotten stories of poor, indigenous, afro descendant and rural women’s leaders from Brazil, Ecuador, Peru and Colombia.

More than 600 women from partner organizations were interviewed by researchers who asked each of them to describe their lives and roles as leaders in their communities. Sensitive interview techniques were used to draw out the individual experience of each of the women. Many of them had grown up in patriarchal societies with no possibility of ever being seen as agents of knowledge or wisdom. Some of the women interviewed had achieved change through raising awareness of inequality and putting things in place in their communities for women to meet their practical and strategic needs.

The stories featured in the research positioned these powerful women as instigators of change for many thousands of people, and is a great example of the extent to which women have transformed the attitudes and beliefs of their communities and wider society.

Strengthening women’s transformative leadership has been a key way for Oxfam to contribute in ending injustice and build equal societies.
EMPHATIC ‘NO’ TO VIOLENCE

Oxfam has focused on ending violence against women in programs across India since 2004 and our expertise is well regarded at a community and national level. Recent disturbing reports of abuse and the high profile murders of several women was deeply shocking. We responded with a high profile campaign urging the people of India to do something about the inequality and endemic violence that women face on a daily basis. The Close the Gap Campaign used online and traditional media, and creative installations in markets and shopping malls, to challenge the public – what would they do to make a safer, more equal society?

Thanks to the great work of Oxfam’s partners - including Youth Ki Awaz, GotStaredAt, the YP Foundation, Gram Vaani and Purple Mangoes - Oxfam reached more than half a million people. The public overwhelmingly wanted to see a change in the attitudes and behaviors of men in the household and on the street. They also thought that women should have greater awareness of their rights and that women should be better represented in positions of power.

Even though violence against women is deeply entrenched in Indian society, change can happen for the better. To achieve this, it is essential that we push the campaign message on all fronts – to re-write laws, to force a change of attitude at government level, and to influence other formal and private sector institutions. Only then will attitudes and beliefs change, and with this social and cultural norms, and ultimately the building of a more equal society.

Close the Gap has contributed to this process in creating a powerful new conversation, in which ordinary citizens and those usually on the margins of political debates have had the chance to take action and raise their voices.

BEHIND CLOSED DOORS.

“I was regularly beaten by my alcoholic husband for bearing four girls in a row,” says 25 year old, Minoti Naik. “He and my in-laws put pressure on me to get pregnant until I delivered a boy. They wanted a son to continue their dynasty.” As the harassment continued, Minouti asked the Women’s Support Centre (WSC) in Dhenkenal district, Odisha, for help. The Centre responded with a strong warning to her husband and in-laws that violence against women is a criminal act and punishable under law. “Had it not been for their support, I would not have survived this torture”, added Minuoti. WSC has been a ray of hope for many such women who otherwise would have no alternative but to suffer in silence, at some risk to their lives.

The same story is true for many women in India. Domestic violence is pervasive and considered to be a family affair. It is not yet recognized as a violation of a woman’s human rights. India’s National Family Health Survey (NFHS) Round III report (2005-06) cites that one-third of women aged between 15-49 have experienced physical violence. In total, 35 per cent of all women have experienced physical or sexual violence, and 37.2 per cent of married women have experienced spousal violence. The National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) in 2012 also stated that 43.6 per cent of cases reported as a crime against women were the result of cruelty by a husband and in-laws.

The progressive “Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act”, passed by the Indian Parliament 2005 was a brave response to the appalling situation that women face in India. However, implementing this Act has been a major challenge. Oxfam has responded with an innovative government-supported project that helps survivors of domestic violence to recover, with counselling, legal aid, shelter, financial support and contacts for them to use to build a new life outside their family by marriage. “Promoting Violence Free Lives for Women in India” projects operate
from 17 police station premises in Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Odisha and Uttar Pradesh, and have been set up in collaboration with the Department of Women and Child Development and Department of Home.

Oxfam India has directly supported almost 39,000 women through these Support Centers and has reached out to raise awareness and provide advice to more than 8,00,000 people through a country-wide community mobilization program [2009-2014]. Evaluation of the program showed that where Oxfam’s programs were operational, there was a significant increase in understanding of men and boys as compared to adjacent areas and a prominent shift in awareness of existing legislation. Armed with this knowledge, women become empowered to stand up for their rights, and to seek redress for the violence that has been inflicted upon them.

**WOMEN JOIN THE AFGHAN POLICE FORCE**

If Oxfam is to achieve a just world without poverty, it is essential to reduce the endemic levels of violence that exist within and against individuals and communities. In Afghanistan, women are particularly vulnerable because of conflict and their unequal status in society. Just one per cent of the Afghan National Police is female which makes it more difficult for women to report crimes and harder for them to access desperately needed justice.

Often shunned by their communities and even their families, Afghanistan’s policewomen are bravely taking on a role that has already led to one woman being killed because of her choice or work. Recruiting more women into the police force - and eroding the current stigma associated with female policing - is critical for the safety of Afghan women and the increased stability of Afghanistan.
Nadia and Tuba are two of 22 policewomen in the remote province of Kunduz. Over 820,000 people live in Kunduz, and, while a force of 22 policewomen may seem like progress, the provinces of Panjshir and Nuristan, in the northeast of the country, have no policewomen at all.

“When I became a policewoman, I faced a lot of difficulties,” says Nadia. “Our society does not accept women police. They haven’t realized the value of a policewoman and the benefits that she can bring to society, and especially to other women. I have even heard educated people say that whoever works in the police is a ‘loose woman’. I was crushed to hear this but I am compelled to continue this work. We need women police in the same way as society needs women doctors.”

Oxfam is working alongside the Research Institute of Women, Peace and Security (RIWPS) to deliver a national campaign highlighting the need and value of policewomen in the community.

In September 2013, Oxfam launched a report “Women and the Afghan Police: Why a law enforcement agency that respects and protects females is crucial for progress”. It aimed to combat ingrained attitudes and perceptions so as to reduce the risks that female police officers face.

“The most important way to bring female police closer to the community is to show that they are just as competent as a male officers and that there are no moral challenges. They need to be made into role models,” says Wazhma Frogh, executive director of RIWPS. In Kunduz, Tuba agrees. “We must have discussions about women police and more women must be encouraged to be policewomen. I want to be respected by society.”

WOMEN FARMERS ASSERT THEIR RIGHTS

Oxfam is working with Women on Farms, a South African organization determined that women farmers achieve the same constitutional rights as men. Their work builds the confidence and skills of women so that they understand their rights and have the knowledge they need to make a strong case for fair treatment as farmers. They have also established South Africa’s first and only female-led labor union of farm workers.

Women on Farms brings together women who formerly felt isolated and powerless. This is important for building a strong sense of solidarity and an environment for sharing skills and experiences.

The only example of leadership that Jacoba Armoed had ever experienced was the bullying style of her white male landowner. But thanks to the work of Women on Farms, Jacoba’s understanding of leadership has now completely changed. When she looks
in the mirror, reflected back is a woman of strength with leadership qualities of her own.

Jacoba was introduced to other women who had faced similar abuses. As they began to talk and share their stories, they quickly picked up issues that they had all experienced – a common thread of poverty, evictions, violent acts and lack of respect. Soon, they also started to learn more about their rights, and to understand that things could change.

Jacoba used what she had learned to challenge her landowner. She successfully applied for a restraining order after which her abuse ceased. She feels empowered. Her husband has also stopped beating her and is taking pride in her work. In private, he still sometimes has to accept that she is often out of the house for meetings, but in public he proudly talks of her success.

BOYS BECOME MEN, ZAMBIA

Violence against women is highly prevalent in Zambia, where it is estimated that 51.6 per cent of women have experienced physical or sexual violence in their lifetime (UN Women, 2007). To address this, Oxfam launched the ‘I Care About Her’ program in 2012, a national campaign to change attitudes and beliefs and address the power inequalities that are at the root of violence against women. The program includes a media campaign, community-based education circles where men and boys mobilize as champions to end violence against women, and advocacy and lobbying for better implementation of laws.

Working with the Men’s Network (of the Young Women’s Christian Association), the campaign has done an amazing job of mobilizing men and boys to advocate for change at grassroots level through community discussion groups and other means. A weekly Saturday morning television show has created the space for men to discuss their roles and non-violent forms of masculinity. The show receives calls from all over the country where women and men share their stories of violence and seek advice or services. A “2000 Man March” in 2013, which sought to bring attention to the reality of violence against women in Zambian communities, saw over 2,500 men marching in three communities (Lusaka, Rufunsa and Choma). On the occasion of International Women’s Day, Oxfam partners ZNW and YWCA organized 350 men and 200 boys to take part in celebrations.

Oxfam took the campaign to a new level by partnering with the Forum For African Women Educationists of Zambia (FAWEZAI) to extend the popular campaign to schools. Working with partners, Oxfam has expanded the discussion groups to twenty schools in Zambia. Through discussions, boys and girls talk about gender inequality and how they can lead a new generation where violence against women and girls is obsolete. The Permanent Secretary at the Ministry of Education, Mr. Chishimba Nkosa, praised the campaign, saying: “It is time for our communities and all stakeholders to demonstrate a commitment to change their perceptions, attitudes and beliefs not just in words but also in actions.”

Addressing the boys, Oxfam in Zambia Country Director, Nellie Nyang’wa said: “Boys, you are going to be men in 10 years and we expect you to be positive change agents. We believe in you and we are committed to providing you with the support you need.”
INTRODUCTION

We believe that all people affected by conflicts and disasters have a basic right to clean water, food and sanitation, and other fundamental needs. They must also be protected from violence and coercion, and be able to live in dignity and take control of their own lives.

In 2013-2014, Oxfam responded to over 50 humanitarian emergencies, meeting the needs of an unprecedented number of people during the year. Determined to protect the rights of people affected by crises, we have delivered lifesaving assistance and ensured that the plight of people affected by major crises in Syria, Central African Republic, the Philippines and South Sudan, and those in many smaller emergencies, remains in the public eye.

This year has sadly been marked by an appalling number of conflicts, with the UN reporting that the number of people forcibly displaced this year was unparalleled, and not seen since World War II. At the end of 2013, 51.2 million people had fled their homes and communities as a result of violence - 6 million more people than reported in 2012. This massive increase is mainly due to the three-year deteriorating situation in Syria; conflict in the Central African Republic and South Sudan; and protracted (and often forgotten) crises in Yemen, Mali, Democratic Republic of Congo, Somalia and Sudan.

If the biggest calamities this year were manmade disasters, natural hazards also increased, affecting the lives of dozens of millions of people. Typhoon Haiyan, one of the most destructive storms ever, swept through the Philippines killing more than 8,000 people and affecting the lives of 14 million. In India, Cyclone Phailin left 12 million people in need of assistance; Mexico was battered by simultaneous hurricanes on both coasts and a 7.0 earthquake hit China. Oxfam responded to each of these disasters and to many other smaller ones that did not feature in global media coverage. These smaller, weather-related hazards, accounting for 80 per cent of people affected by natural events - and are a reminder of the increasingly devastating impact of climate change.

A common element of all of these crises is that poor people are always hardest hit. Women are particularly vulnerable, with fewer resources to face and recover from emergencies. Of all the people living in poverty in the world today, half live in conflict-affected states (by the 2030s this may be two-thirds) and in areas exposed to natural hazards.

As humanitarian needs increase, government aid budgets are shrinking, which limits the international community’s ability to respond. In 2013, despite significant endeavours to mobilise international funding, just 62 per cent of UN humanitarian funding needs were met - the smallest proportion for a decade. In the face of
this shortfall, and increased numbers of people suffering, Oxfam has set itself a bold challenge to ensure that the rights of crises-affected people are met by 2019.

To achieve this, we will continue to improve our own ability to respond to disasters, and work closely with local communities so they become stronger and respond to the shock of an emergency themselves. We will also work with national governments to enhance their ability to respond to disasters, and maintain pressure on policy makers and governments to put things in place to enable people to make lasting changes to their lives. Central to all of these areas are actions and programs that further the rights of women.

We have already made substantial progress on these objectives this year:

**SYRIA CRISIS**

Syria faces the largest refugee crisis in over two decades. Entering a fourth year of conflict, over 100,000 people have been killed and more than 9 million people forced to leave their homes – nearly half of the country’s population. Many left with nothing but the clothes they wore and are now displaced across Syria and in neighbouring countries, living in temporary shelters, camps and rented accommodation. Many families cannot send their children to school, are in debt, and have poor access to regular health care. Host communities and governments are also struggling to manage the influx of so many people, which puts a massive strain on their own services, utilities, housing and schools.

**DELIVERING LIFE-SAVING ASSISTANCE**

Oxfam has provided clean drinking water, money for food, hygiene essentials and shelter to help refugees in Jordan and Lebanon since 2012. We are supporting refugee families and host communities in camps, informal settlements and rented accommodation in these countries. In 2013, we started work in Syria itself, to repair damage and provide new water sources, including boreholes, giving 930,000 people access to clean water in both government and opposition-held areas.

Overall, Oxfam has reached nearly one million people in Syria, Jordan and Lebanon. Working in Syria remains challenging and volatile, making it difficult to respond and monitor the impact of programs as quickly as we would like. Multiple levels of clearance are required for entry visas and permission to move supplies within the country.

Oxfam, together with our humanitarian partners, is pushing for full implementation of Security Council resolutions to secure humanitarian access.
FROM RELIEF TO RECOVERY, PHILIPPINES

On 8 November 2013, Typhoon Haiyan (or Yolanda as it’s known locally) wreaked havoc across much of the central Philippines. More than 8,000 people died, four million were forced from their homes, and 14 million people needed lifesaving assistance. Beyond the immediate devastation, millions more poor people were pushed into further poverty and debt because rice crops, coconut trees and fishing boats were destroyed.

Our teams faced huge logistical challenges - roads were blocked, airports closed, and electricity supplies cut off. But by the end of the first week, we were reaching vulnerable people with emergency supplies of water, food and shelter. In March, four months on, about 650,000 people had been targeted with lifesaving aid.

Our focus then turned to helping families make a living so they could rebuild their shattered lives. We were particularly concerned for the poorest people who were the hardest hit and...
had little or no resources to recover. In all of our efforts, we did our best to understand the impact that the typhoon had on the livelihoods of both women and men, ensuring that their differing needs were met.

**LIFESAVING WATER, SANITATION AND HYGIENE**
In the immediate aftermath of the disaster, our priority was to prevent the spread of disease. We provided clean water, toilets and hygiene essentials. We distributed buckets, soap and clean underwear, as well as mosquito nets and sleeping mats to 62,500 families, so they could stay free of disease. 27,300 water kits, containing a jerry can, bucket and water treatment materials, were also distributed so people could drink clean, safe water. We also built and repaired 3,300 community toilets, so that people could keep healthy and clean.

Working with the local government of Tacloban we repaired broken pipes, which allowed more than 200,000 of the worst affected people to get clean water within days of the typhoon hitting. We also helped government agencies to improve rubbish collections and drained the standing water where mosquitoes breed, to reduce the risk of diseases.

**HELPING PEOPLE GET FOOD AND EARN A LIVING**
After the disaster hit, families were desperate for food. We provided cash grants or cash in return for work (such as clearing debris) so that people could buy what they needed in local markets. Cash gives people choice and control over their lives, and keeps the local economy going. But it can only be a temporary measure and if communities are to come back stronger, people need to start earning a living again so they can support and feed their families.

We provided rice seed to over 6,000 farmers in Leyte, so they were able to replace crops destroyed by the typhoon and plant in time for the coming harvest. We’ve also provided chainsaws and other equipment for farmers to clear fields of fallen coconut trees and earn an income from selling the wood. Fishing communities are also being given support to rebuild boats and repair nets, so they can start fishing again.

We will continue to help families as they start to recover their means of earning a living and we will continue to work with the Philippines government and the international community to make sure that recovery is focused on helping the poorest people out of poverty. Oxfam’s work has been well received. Bantayan, one of the most seriously affected Islands, established a small ‘shrine’ to thank Oxfam for helping to bring employment and some financial security.

**CAMPAIGNING FOR THE POOREST PEOPLE**
Typhoon Haiyan hit the agriculture and fishing industries very hard, destroying more than 33 million coconut trees and about 30,000 boats, and forcing farmers and fisher people to depend on aid and food distribution. Emergency relief in the first months allowed them to survive, but four months on their efforts to rebuild their livelihoods were left out of recovery efforts. Farmers
urgently needed to clear the land of fallen trees before they rotted but to do this they needed permission from landowners. Fishing communities were also concerned about having to relocate because of a law banning the building of homes within 40 metres of the coast. Oxfam has successfully supported both groups, persuading the government to change its approach to resettling fishing communities and securing income for poor coconut tenant farmers.

**REDUCING THE IMPACT OF CLIMATE CHANGE**

“Typhoon Haiyan is the shape of things to come,” says Justin Morgan, Oxfam’s Country Director in the Philippines. “Climate change is likely to increase the severity of typhoons in our region. We will need sustained support and programs to prepare for more storms like this.”

Oxfam works at all levels to reduce vulnerability for the poorest people to the impact of extreme weather, and to help communities to become more resilient. In May 2013, Oxfam launched ‘No Accident: Resilience and the Inequality of Risk’, a report that called on governments and aid agencies to take concrete steps to tackle the increasing effects of climate change, such as rising inequality and people’s vulnerability to disasters. The report was well received by the humanitarian community, ECHO, OCHA and other Humanitarian and Development agencies. Oxfam is also working to build an international policy environment that puts more of an emphasis on helping communities to become more resilient to extreme weather patterns. Disaster risk reduction (DRR), in which people put things in place to minimize the impact of severe typhoons or flooding, is proven to work but is not yet regarded as mainstream by national governments and the international community.

Oxfam is working to ensure that DRR is an essential element of international policy making from 2015 (after the Millennium Development Goals finish). This includes providing input to a renegotiation of the Hyogo Framework for Action and ensuring that resilience building achieves high priority at the World Humanitarian Summit (in 2016).

**SOUTH SUDAN CRISIS**

Oxfam has worked in Southern Sudan (now South Sudan) since 1983, providing humanitarian aid to victims of conflict, drought and floods, as well as long-term development assistance to some of the most vulnerable communities. In December 2013, conflict broke out between political groups, killing thousands of people and forcing nearly one million to flee their homes. To escape the violence, they found safety in refugee camps within South Sudan and across the borders, mainly into Ethiopia and Uganda.

Oxfam was well prepared to respond to the needs of conflict-affected communities and just three months after the start of fighting, 120,000 people in South Sudan and Uganda had received lifesaving assistance, including access to clean drinking
water, sanitation and hygiene assistance. And because people could no longer grow crops, we also provided emergency food supplies and basic household goods.

When people arrive at refugee camps, they are often traumatised and confused. It is essential to talk to residents, particularly women and children – listening to their concerns and responding with initiatives that make life just a little bit better. In South Sudan, we installed solar lighting near latrines so that people felt safer at night and were less exposed to risks of physical and sexual violence. We also distributed vouchers that could be exchanged for food and charcoal at local markets.

In Uganda, over 32,000 refugees from South Sudan received clean drinking water, sanitation facilities and advice on safe and healthy hygiene practices to prevent outbreaks of disease. Here too it has been essential to work with host communities and Oxfam, together with our partners, employed almost 3,000 people in schemes to improve roads and dig waste disposal sites. This provided a useful and long-term service to the community as well as an income for the refugees, so they were able to support their families.

**PROTECTING CIVILIANS AGAINST VIOLENCE**

In total Oxfam has helped over 120,000 people since the start of the crisis in South Sudan and Uganda, but the situation is worsening and more efforts are needed to assist and protect affected people. Nearly 5 million people need humanitarian assistance, including 200,000 children suffering severe acute malnutrition. The onset of the rainy season significantly increased the threat of disease, and also poses massive logistical difficulties for humanitarian agencies to deliver aid.

Since the start of the conflict Oxfam has called for better assistance and improved protection for civilians. We are working with other NGOs and aid agencies to influence a political solution to the crisis and promote unity and reconciliation.

**CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC**

In December 2012, a violent conflict between armed groups broke out in the Central African Republic and led to one of the worst humanitarian crisis of the year. Hundreds of thousands of people were forced to flee for their lives, seeking refuge in safer villages and camps inside the country and across the borders. Two and a half million people - more than half the country’s population, urgently needed assistance, with many families eating only one meal a day.

As the situation deteriorated, food became really scarce because farmers could not tend their fields and most traders had fled the country. Displaced people seeking refuge in camps were in desperate need of clean water and sanitation. Despite not having worked in the Central African Republic before, this was a serious situation that Oxfam could not ignore. We established an office in the conflict-ridden capital Bangui and in this challenging context, in just a few weeks, our team delivered lifesaving water to 20,000 people.

*Above Right: In December 2012, a violent conflict between armed groups broke out in the Central African Republic and led to one of the worst humanitarian crisis of the year. Two and a half million people urgently needed assistance, with many families eating only one meal a day. Oxfam set up emergency sites to provide shelter for 40,000 people, including these children gathered round a well. PHOTO © Vincent Tremeau | OXFAM*
Oxfam has worked in established refugee camps in neighbouring Chad for many years. Up to 80,000 Central Africans have now joined other refugees and our teams are ensuring they have access to clean water and improving their food situation.

As with other such emergencies, it is essential to ensure that the international community joins forces to assist and protect civilians, and help to bring peace in the country. Oxfam is working with other aid groups to put pressure on the international community to provide the funds to ensure that the basic needs of the people are met, and to address the urgent security needs of women and girls.

AFGHANISTAN

Oxfam has worked alongside our partners to support projects in Afghanistan for decades, making a substantial difference to the lives of Afghan communities. Our approach is a mix of emergency response, development and advocacy work, and includes helping women to gain more independence. Oxfam also works with other NGOs and civil society groups to campaign for change in Afghanistan, whether providing greater protection for citizens or helping to create more stability.

In 2013, working alongside the Research Institute of Women Peace and Security, Oxfam launched a public campaign to improve opportunities for women in the Afghan police force. The BBC’s Afghan Educational Program broadcast a series on the work of women officers in 20 Afghan provinces, an important way to change perceptions and draw attention to the valuable work already being achieved. Since the start of the campaign, more Afghan women have joined the police, which now accounts for 1,700 women officers. In 2014, the first woman District Police Chief was appointed in Kabul, and the Afghan government have pledged to train another 10,000 women in the years to come. (Read our report on Women and the Afghan police.)

As a result of this campaign, the Afghan Ministry of Interior cited Oxfam as a key driver of national decision-making and policy change in respect of women’s rights. A good news story of a rise in 28 per cent of women reporting cases of abuse was tempered by the fact that just two per cent of these cases ever reached court. Oxfam shared this research with the UN, influencing the output of the report of the UN Assistance Mission in Afghanistan.

EXTENDING OUR REACH AND RAPID RESPONSE

As the impact of climate change increases, there will be more extreme weather events. Some of damage will be mitigated by disaster risk reduction (DRR) programs, in which communities prepare and become more resilient. However, as incidences caused by severe weather increase, more people’s lives will be devastated. This means...
more pressure on Oxfam, and our partners, to find sustainable and cost-effective ways to save lives and help people to rebuild.

We believe that humanitarian assistance should be delivered and managed as close as possible to the origin of a disaster. This means ensuring that Oxfam’s country teams in vulnerable locations have the equipment and skills in place to respond quickly when needed. This is often in situations that do not make the headlines. As well as building our own capacity to respond to emergencies, we are also working closely with local partners to share approaches and resources, and ensure that citizens are better prepared.

FAST AND EFFICIENT RESPONSE IN INDIA

Communal and ethnic clashes in Assam, floods in Uttarakhand, and cyclone Phailin devastated the lives of millions of people in India in 2013. The damage wreaked by Phailin alone affected the lives of 8 million people in the eastern state of Odisha. Oxfam responded quickly in the aftermath of the cyclone, providing over 110,000 people with clean drinking water, food and shelter, as well as small cash payments for people to meet their immediate needs.

In the first few weeks, trucks were used to deliver vital drinking water to villagers. We also repaired and improved sanitation facilities and made sure that communities were using safe hygiene practices in order to reduce the risk of disease. Building materials were also distributed for people to construct temporary shelters before they could start to rebuild their homes.

We then started work with local communities to help them rebuild. We repaired and improved wells and boreholes to reinstall water supplies for home use and growing crops. It was also important to provide training for communities so that they could maintain their new water systems themselves.

Before the cyclone, villagers worked as farmers and fished for a living and it was important to help people to re-start their small businesses so that they could rebuild their livelihoods. We set up cash-for-work programs, paying people by the day to clear farmland, restore water points, and repair roads and damaged fishponds. These small injections of cash helped people to return to a normal life, benefitting families, and entire communities.

Oxfam provided emergency food rations immediately after the disaster and followed this with a seed distribution program so that families could start planting crops and plan ahead for the next harvest. We also specifically targeted women’s associations, providing seeds, tools and training for members to set up vegetable gardens. In Puri and Ganjam, areas where fishponds provided a livelihood for many communities, small grants helped women to re-start the process of drying fish for sale at local markets.

RUNJANI’S STORY

“It was around 9am in morning when the wind started blowing fast. It suddenly became cold. Wind and rain seemed to come from all directions,” Ranjani recalls. She and her family moved to a nearby school where 400 people sheltered, the water level rising to knee-level. It wasn’t until around
4am next morning that the wind started
to die down and the floodwaters began
to recede.

Ranjani and her family stayed in the
confined conditions of the school for
four days. On returning home, they
faced a scene of devastation; collapsed
houses inundated by silt, water
and debris. "We were mentally and
physically exhausted with shock; as a
result many of us fell sick with fever”.

The government provided some
immediate food relief, and Oxfam
and its local partner supplied food,
tarpaulins, groundsheets, blankets,
soap, buckets and tablets to purify
water. It then rained hard again,
causing further flooding and misery for
those who had lost so much already.

Ranjani is working on an Oxfam
cash-for-work scheme to improve
irrigation systems in her village. "We
are digging a channel that will be used
for irrigation and to feed the cattle,
but most importantly, if we experience
flooding like this again, the channel
will take the water away from the
village and our homes.” The money
Ranjani makes not only keeps her
household running but is also being
used to pay her children’s school fees.
“Yes, we lost our house but at least we
are alive, safe and well. And Oxfam’s
has helped us to rebuild our lives.”

RESPONSE AND PREPARING FOR
FUTURE EVENTS IN CHINA

On 20 April 2013, an earthquake
measuring 7.0 on the Richter scale
jolted Sichuan province in China,
killing almost 200 people and forcing
700,000 to leave their homes. More
than 200,000 houses were destroyed.
Oxfam’s Sichuan team was quickly
able to get to the affected area
to distribute emergency relief to
affected communities. We provided
basic necessities, such as cooking
kits, mosquito nets, tarpaulins and
sleeping mats for people who had lost
their houses. We also repaired water
supply systems and built durable
latrines and bathing cubicles with
personal hygiene kits so as to reduce
the threat of disease.

Once immediate needs were met,
Oxfam started work with poor
communities in remote areas to help
them be more prepared for the impact
of earthquake events. We delivered a
variety of community-based activities,
mapping places where future damage
could be caused, setting evacuation
plans and providing advice on the
building of emergency shelters. As part
of this program, we also rebuilt roads
that were destroyed by the earthquake
so that people could reach nearby
towns, earn an income, and rebuild
their lives faster.

It is essential that local organisations
– The Community Volunteer Association
of Beichuan, Qiang Ethnic Minority
Autonomous County, and Chengdu Charity Organization Service Park – have the skills and training to help communities be better prepared for emergencies in high risk areas. Oxfam has taken care to involve these organisations in our response programs so they can continue working with these communities.

**MEXICO’S DOUBLE DISASTER**

In September 2013, two tropical storms – Manuel and Ingrid – simultaneously hit Mexico’s west and east coasts. This double disaster affected 22 of the 32 Mexican States, caused 157 deaths and forced thousands of people to leave their homes. Roads, bridges and houses were destroyed, and thousands of hectares of crops.

Oxfam’s response focussed on the state of Guerrero, on the Pacific coast, an area not reached by government aid or the work of other relief organizations. Together with partners, over a three-month period, we helped 5,500 people from 25 communities who were already suffering from widespread violence and endemic poverty.

This region of Mexico faces many challenges and is likely to face more severe weather events in the future, caused by climate change. We will continue to make sure the most vulnerable people receive the support they are entitled to, and that they become stronger and more able to face challenges.

**“OVER A THREE-MONTH PERIOD, WE HELPED 5,500 PEOPLE FROM 25 COMMUNITIES”**

We repaired water systems to restore drinking water supplies, distributed tools for cleaning up debris, and ran hygiene promotion workshops to raise awareness of the risk of disease. We also provided cattle feed and ensured that cows were vaccinated. We made sure that communities understood their rights of access to emergency government assistance, and urged the local and state governments to be more prepared should a similar disaster occur again.

**CONFLICT LEADS TO CRISIS IN MALI**

Mali, and neighbouring countries in Africa’s arid Sahel region, were not only dealing with the impact of a massive food crisis that affected the lives of 18.7 million people, but also the humanitarian impact of conflict in northern Mali. In early 2013, fighting between insurgent groups and subsequent military intervention led to the displacement of over 350,000 people inside Mali and forced 175,000 others to seek safety in neighbouring countries.

Oxfam responded with a humanitarian program that met the essential needs of internally displaced people in Mali, and the influx of refugees in Mauritania, Burkina Faso and Niger. Together with local partners, Oxfam provided urgently needed drinking water, food supplies and emergency sanitation and hygiene facilities for 240,000 people. We also worked with people in the camps to find ways to make them feel less vulnerable, so that they would be able to withstand difficult situations in the future.

Money and seed saving schemes can strengthen the ability to cope in tough times, making life as a pastoralist or farmer more sustainable and durable.

We ensured that people could access safe drinking water in all seasons, and that the equipment and services provided were easy to maintain. In all these activities, we considered
the specific needs of women, men and children, and tried to ensure the protection of those facing the greatest risk of human rights violations and sexual violence.

**WORSENING FOOD SITUATION**

Today, people who had fled across the borders to Mauritania, Burkina Faso and Niger have started to return to Mali. Oxfam is gradually phasing out its support and handing over remaining activities to partners in those countries. The humanitarian situation in Mali has not yet stabilized and food security, particularly in the unstable north, is worryingly poor. In March 2014, more than 1.5 million people still needed support to cover their daily food needs. Oxfam is now concentrating its efforts in northern Mali, and plans to deliver emergency assistance to 200,000 people over the coming year, while helping people to improve their livelihoods and resources for the future. We will be working very closely with vulnerable women to build their strength and income earning potential. A group of 200 women who are victims of violence have joined a scheme that will enable them to earn a living.

**PEACE, RECONCILIATION AND PROTECTION OF CIVILIANS**

Since the start of the conflict in 2012, Oxfam has consistently campaigned for the protection of civilians. This has involved lobbying governments and international institutions, urging them to meet the needs of those who are caught up in the violence. Oxfam believes that a sustainable solution to the conflict in Mali will only be found if the root causes of the insurrection are understood. In June 2013, we interviewed people involved in the conflict and found that most were ready for dialogue and reconciliation. In providing the means for people to raise their voices, Oxfam promoted an environment in which representatives of national and international institutions could consider different perspectives and ways to achieve
lasting peace. This tone was evident at a high-level donor conference for Development in Mali in May 2013.

Oxfam also participated an international campaign to raise awareness of violence against women. We posted pictures of women and men who had suffered gender-based and sexual violence in the cities of Gao, Tombouctou, Bamako and others, in a national campaign of over 16 Days of Activism Against Gender Violence. This approach helped break the silence around these crimes and ensure their effects on Mali’s social fabric do not go unnoticed.

SOMALIA

HEADING SOMALIS INSIDE
THE COUNTRY AND ABROAD

Two decades of fighting and instability in Somalia has severely affected the infrastructure and prosperity of the country, making it difficult for people to cope, especially during periods of drought or flooding. While living conditions have improved compared to previous years, more than 3 million people still need humanitarian assistance, 1.1 million people remain displaced, and 1 million live as refugees in other countries. Women face the second highest maternal mortality rates in the world and babies, the highest mortality rates at birth.

HUMANITARIAN

Seventy per cent of the population has no access to clean drinking water, and fewer than one in four people have adequate sanitation facilities and basic health services. Oxfam’s approach has been to target those most at risk – particularly malnourished children and pregnant mothers – with these basic necessities. We also set up nutrition programs and provided cash vouchers so that people could buy produce from local markets (rather than depend on food aid).

Between January and March 2014, over 360,000 people benefitted from Oxfam’s humanitarian assistance - making a total of over one million people reached since January 2013. Local partners have been critical to our success, providing access to, and understanding of, how best to respond to the needs of a wide range of communities. We have also made good use of digital technology to target people affectively, for example use of mobile phones to transfer money securely to those most in need.

BEING MORE RESILIENT TO DROUGHT

Somalia is an arid country, and while rural farmers are skilled in getting the best out of their land, those who are still displaced or just returning to their villages require additional support to get going again. This year’s harvest was below average, which meant that food supplies were unlikely to last and there would be insufficient seeds available for planting.

Together with partners, Oxfam has helped these farmers to re-invest in their land and build some security to see them through times of austerity and conflict. Tree planting programs are improving the fertility of the soil; water supplies have been repaired to irrigate land; seeds and tools are being used to replant crops and fodder for livestock; and vaccination programs are protecting them from disease. Oxfam has also provided training and funds for vulnerable communities to set up small businesses.

STAND WITH WOMEN

Oxfam has worked with partner organisations in Somalia to enable women, and men, to have a stronger voice in influencing decisions that affect them. This involves working with groups and local organisations so that they have a better understanding of their basic rights, and finding ways to ensure that they raise their concerns with government authorities and through national, and international media. We provided training for local spokespeople and activists so that they were better prepared to lobby for the women’s quota in the Somaliland parliament. Radio programs debated the civil and political rights of women, reaching an audience of over 10,000 people. The situation in Somalia remains challenging for women, but things are changing.
SOMALIA CURRENTLY HAS NO FORMAL BANKING SECTOR AND MORE THAN 40 PER CENT OF FAMILIES RELY ON REMITTANCES THAT ARE SENT FROM MIGRANT WORKERS LIVING OUTSIDE THE COUNTRY. THESE MONEY TRANSFERS MAKE UP OVER A THIRD OF SOMALIA’S ECONOMY AND ARE RELIED ON BY MANY PEOPLE TO MEET THEIR BASIC NEEDS.

Banks and financial regulators were in danger of inadvertently undermining this lifeline and driving it underground as part of their efforts to counter terrorism and money laundering. Working closely with partners, Oxfam endeavoured to persuade the UK and US governments, banks, and Somali money transfer operators (MTOs) to work together to find a solution to this issue.

Oxfam gathered feedback from Somalis in Somalia on the potential impact of the closure of money transfers and produced a joint briefing paper (signed by 13 other agencies) on the extent to which remittances from the UK were essential for meeting people’s basic needs. We held round-table meetings with key government departments in the UK and USA; briefed politicians in advance of a debate in the UK Parliament; organized an event with the Rift Valley Institute attended by over 300 people in Nairobi; met with banks and the Somali companies involved; held a panel event in London on the issue for Somali Week festival; and supported an excellent UK Somali-led campaign which achieved 100,000 signatures to a petition within a week.

Our intensive work, and the campaigning efforts of others, generated a large amount of media coverage and helped to highlight the importance of the remittance issue for Somalis. The UK Government set up a task force to address the problem and the campaign also led in part to Barclays bank delaying the planned closures of the accounts.

PARTNERSHIP APPROACH, SUDAN

Renewed violence in Darfur in 2013 and early 2014 resulted in hundreds of thousands of people fleeing for their lives. More than 200,000 people left their homes in search of shelter and security, arriving in camps and safer villages with little more than the clothes on their backs. Oxfam was already working with partners in the region, and initiated new programs to respond to the worsening situation. In multiple locations across Darfur, we delivered clean water; sanitation facilities, hygiene supplies and other essential aid to 90,000 newly displaced people. Part of this also involved providing them with up-to-date information about the security situation in Darfur.

At the heart of Oxfam’s work in Sudan is the ambition to deliver high-quality emergency assistance, and to strengthen the capacity of local partners to do so too. This becomes our immediate priority any time...
violence flares. We are working closely with a local organization, Kebkabiya Smallholders Charitable Society (KSCS), who “has access to every village in the area and can reach everyone, mobilize everyone – even during a conflict”, says Mohammed Abdel Rahaman working for KSCS.

In March 2014, fierce fighting broke out in a large town in North Darfur; and despite security challenges, KSCS was quickly able to provide clean water to tens of thousands of people displaced by the violence. When residents returned to what was left of their homes, KSCS rehabilitated water sources throughout the town and also laid the groundwork for sustainable improvements to water quality and public health. The key challenge for Oxfam and its partners in Sudan is to help vulnerable communities not only recover from life threatening crisis and violence, but become stronger and more resilient, and to pave the way for future development.

INVolVIING SUDANESE VOICES IN THE PEACE PROCESS

Over the past year, Oxfam ensured that the voices and concerns of Sudanese partners were heard in wider discussions about achieving peace in countries affected by conflict in the region – Sudan, South Sudan, Democratic Republic of Congo, Somalia and Mali. In April 2013, together with other agencies, we gathered testimony from people in these countries to understand their hopes and aspirations for peace as the African Union celebrated its 50th anniversary.

SPECIFIC NEEDS OF WOMEN IN YEMEN

Yemen is the poorest country in the Arab region and one of the places where people are the most exposed to food scarcity in the world. The inability of the government to end violence, and control high food and fuel prices exacerbated an already dire humanitarian situation. In 2014 an estimated 14.7 million Yemenis, more than half of the country’s population, suffered from lack of water, food and other basic needs.

Oxfam has worked in Yemen for 29 years. This year we responded to the essential needs of more than half a million people. We gave small cash grants to households so that they could meet their basic needs and invest in activities to enable them to earn a sustainable income. We also continued our successful program with the government water authorities and communities to improve clean water supplies throughout Yemen.
Our program in Yemen was enhanced by a study to increase our understanding of the specific roles of women and men in Yemeni society. This increased our understanding of the dynamics in communities and enabled us to hone our program in more subtle ways so as to better address some of the issues that vulnerable people face.

Oxfam believes women can play a greater role in helping to stabilize and promote development in Yemen, and have started work with partners, such as the Friends of Yemen group, to explore ways to open up opportunities for women. By understanding how women are involved in local market economies, such as the garment trade, we are also gaining more insight into how best to engage and support women in programs to achieve a long-term sustainable future for Yemen.

**ARMS TRADE TREATY**

“The arms trade is out of control. It is a global problem with horrific local consequences – and it is poor people who suffer the most. An Arms Trade Treaty is desperately needed, to stop the flow of arms to abusers and to help make our societies safer,” said Barbara Stocking, former Director of Oxfam GB. With these words, Oxfam helped launch the Control Arms campaign, alongside the International Action Network on Small Arms (IANSA) and Amnesty International on October 9, 2003. This was the beginning of ten years of campaigning and advocacy work to bring about the Arms Trade Treaty (ATT).

At this point, Oxfam had already been involved in developing ideas for the ATT for 6 years as one of a group of NGOs and Nobel Peace Laureates, which promoted the idea of an international code of conduct for arms transfers starting in 1997.

At its launch in October 2003, the Control Arms Campaign was active in 50 countries. Between 2003 and 2006, the draft ATT was circulated to government and discussed with their experts, slowly building support for the idea that this project was feasible.

Oxfam and its partners in Control Arms launched the Million Faces Petition where people showed support for an ATT by contributing a personal photo. More than one million ‘faces’ were collected – at a time when smartphones and the ‘selfie’ did not exist and social media were much less developed (Facebook didn’t open for general members until September 2006).

In October 2013, UN Secretary General Kofi Annan met with Julius Arile from Kenya, the ‘millionth face’ in the Control Arms petition. Julius was a former armed cattle raider who turned to campaigning against armed violence and for arms control when his best friend was killed. This event was part of a concerted campaign by Control Arms, now with members in over 100 countries, at the UN General Assembly that autumn. The campaign led to 153 countries voting to launch the official process that would lead to the adoption of the ATT by the UN General Assembly on April 2, 2013.
SUSTAINABLE FOOD AND ACCESS TO NATURAL RESOURCES

INTRODUCTION

In a world reeling from unpredictable weather patterns and huge increases in the price of staple goods, poor and marginalised people are acutely exposed and vulnerable. They face the critical challenges of being able to grow and buy enough food and gaining fair access to the land, water and energy resources they need for survival.

These two important goals have much in common. Many of our programs involve elements of both. We view them as separate strategic goals so as to provide a strong focus for each. In looking at food security as an issue, we are building the resilience of poor people so that they can sustain their own livelihoods in an increasingly volatile global context. Our local, national and international campaigns are giving a voice to these farmers, generating a groundswell of support, and enabling Oxfam and others to put pressure on governments and international institutions to recognise the contribution that smallholder farmers make to their economies and provide the support they need.

Our goal to help poor communities achieve a fair share of natural resources involves using our program experience, and that of our partners and allies, to enable people to understand their legal rights so that they can own and farm their own land. Poor people are in increasing competition with powerful interests for control of land, water and energy resources, and Oxfam gives a voice to these communities so that they are not bullied or intimidated. We fight for their rights, exposing cases of unfair land grabs or multinational companies exploiting natural resources at the expense of poor communities.
In a world where there is enough food to feed everyone on the planet, it is unacceptable that nearly 900 million people go hungry each year. Figures from the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the United Nations suggest that around one in eight people worldwide suffer from chronic hunger every day.

We know that small-scale farming offers exciting potential to both reduce poverty for two billion of the world’s poorest people, and meet the world’s growing food needs. Huge areas of productive land are cultivated in this way, often by women, providing 80 per cent of the food consumed by people in developing countries. We know that by increasing the power of small producers in markets, supporting the development of small-businesses and pressing food companies to behave responsibly will result in more equitable models of agricultural trade.

Food prices are going up. Food quality is going down. And nearly a billion of the world’s poorest people – people who did the least to cause climate change – are finding it even harder to feed their families. Soon, climate change will affect what all of us can eat. For poor countries, tackling climate change is focussed on survival and the right to develop; for rich countries the ambition is to change lifestyle and levels of consumption. This is profoundly unequal. There is a clear need to help countries adapt to climate change, and this starts with a focus on small-scale farming.

Working with partners and allies, governments and international institutions – and millions of people living in poverty around the world – we saw significant achievements in 2013.

GROW – OXFAM’S FOOD JUSTICE CAMPAIGN

Oxfam’s GROW campaign sets out to find practical solutions to the failings of the world’s complex global food system that leave so many in need and hungry. The campaign encompasses all elements of food justice, from illegal land grabs, to farming practices, volatile food prices, and the growing impact of climate change – and therefore features in both the food and natural resources sections in this report.

GROW is grounded in high quality development programs that directly benefit smallholder farmers – and in particular women. We are confident that we can achieve our ambition for many more small-scale farmers to grow sufficient food and adapt to the shocks and stresses of a changing climate. It is this combination of strong program work, and the relationship that we have with our partners and allies, that enabled Oxfam to achieve some considerable campaigning and advocacy successes at the international and local levels.

The campaign is active in more than 50 countries. Small-scale farmers, women’s groups and other local organisations are uniting behind the GROW cause, and in large numbers, are asserting their right to receive support and investment, as a sustainable solution to the world food crisis. Under the framework of GROW, these countries addressed issues that are most pressing in their own national context, from investment in agriculture, land rights, adapting to climate change, to women’s role in farming.

Ten years after the Maputo Summit (2003) where African Heads of State promised to allocate at least 10 per cent of their national budget to agriculture, only eight countries had
consistently met this target. The GROW campaign, together with One and other allies, launched a campaign across West Africa to raise awareness of the promise, and to demand significant investment in small-scale agriculture. Over two million people signed up to the celebrity-backed campaign, and the resulting petition was presented to African Ministers and Heads of State at the African Union (AU) summit in Malabo, July 2014. Designated as the ‘Year of Agriculture and Food Security’, the AU members re-affirmed their commitment to devote ten per cent of their budgets to agricultural development. They also agreed a number of other targets, including doubling agricultural productivity, and halving post-harvest loss.

National campaigns in Tanzania and Ghana [see stories below] also mobilised huge numbers of people – and their governments listened and took account of their views. In Tanzania, ‘Female Food Heroes’ partnered with a national television company to bring the lives, struggles and triumphs of women food producers to the attention of the public. And ‘Oil for Food’ in Ghana mobilised peasant farmers and resulted in the Ghanaian government substantially meeting demands for increased investment in small-scale agriculture.

Internationally, our campaigning has focussed on land rights and the critical role of the private sector. In 2013 we influenced the policies of the world’s biggest food companies, as well as the World Bank. In three years, ‘Behind the Brands’ has engaged hundreds of thousands of people in a drive to get food companies to do better. As more people support the campaign worldwide, an international movement is being built – one that cannot be ignored by governments, private sector and international institutions, with the power to influence change on a global scale.

ADAPTING TO A CHANGING CLIMATE IN UGANDA

Oxfam is working with millions of people around the world who are already taking positive steps to reduce the impact of variable weather patterns and a changing climate. This could be farmers in Thailand who are building irrigation canals for crops that can thrive in drought or rainy seasons; or farmers in Malawi who are rotating crops to follow different weather patterns; or farmers in Vietnam who are planting mangrove to protect their land from storms.

In Uganda, the Africa Climate Change Resilience Alliance (ACCRA), a coalition of four agencies and Oxfam persuaded the government to provide weather forecasts in local languages. The new weather forecasts were received

ABOVE RIGHT: In response to the clearance of more and more land by the plantations the community of the Caarapó Municipality in Brazil have put up a erected a ‘chiru’ (sacred sticks and crosses to protect the Guarani Kaiowá people and land). The structure is a physical last stand to send out a message that they will not allow any more native land to be cleared. PHOTO © Tatiana Cardeal | OXFAM
and understood, and approximately 200,000 small-scale farmers from Kitgum (one of Uganda’s poorest and most arid regions) now receive the information they need to make important farming decisions. Farmers can decide whether to switch to varieties of fast-maturing crops to take advantage of short periods of rainfall, and plant trees to provide shade and moisture should there be a long-term forecast of drought.

Most importantly, having access to weather forecasts empowers farmers and provides them with information to plan ahead and make good decisions. This subtle shift in the power of smallholders is huge for the farmers themselves – not just in making them feel less vulnerable, but because also because, often for the first time, they have options. “For the first time we have received the weather forecasts in the local language, which has not happened before. I do not know how to write so I instructed my son to write the important points. It has helped me to plan and so far the forecast has been accurate.” Akello Lucia, smallholder and farmer, Amida Sub-County, Kitgum District.

Significant national adaptation funding ($5.3 million) was given to ACCRA for a six-year program to research the extent to which a range of projects in Uganda, Mozambique and Ethiopia were helping farmers to adapt to changing weather patterns. Eleven projects were selected from these three countries for research, a critical outcome that involved local partners. ACCRA members also worked effectively with Government departments to share learning and scale up initiatives in a national context.

**MICRO-DAIRIES IN COLOMBIA**

Oxfam has helped millions of small-scale producers, most of whom are women, to achieve success. They tend to work from home, often with others in their community, to grow crops, raise livestock, and make products for sale in local markets. The income earned from these kinds of activities can put children through school, pay for healthcare, and other household goods to top up a family income.

A poor rural family in Colombia may own one or two cows that are usually used to provide milk and dairy products for the family. However, if milk supplies are pooled and can be collected efficiently, the product can become a potential source of income for families. This is when they turn into small-scale producers.

In Colombia, Oxfam is working with Alpina, a dairy processor that has set up micro-dairies as collection points for milk. After taking their milk to the dairy, small-producers get paid a fair price and receive training in veterinary care, finance or enhancing production. Milk production has moved from family consumption to the beginnings of a small business, and the results are promising. There has been an 87 per cent improvement in milk quality and 26 per cent increase in yield at the dairy. Small-scale producers are bringing in more, better quality milk and the price they are getting now is 15 per cent more than before.

In response to an important report by Alpina and Oxfam, the government has improved access to credit for small rural enterprises, and the micro-dairy model is supported by a public fund worth SUS15 million. As a result the micro-dairy model is now being replicated across 14 municipalities, benefitting a further 7,800 people.
OIL REVENUE FOR GHANA’S FARMERS

Small-scale farmers make up 60 per cent of Ghana’s population but they receive just an 8.5 per cent share of public spending. This campaign grew out of awareness that all too often the voice of farm workers was not heard at important decision-making levels. This is in a context of the incredible potential wealth of Ghanaian oil revenue and an expectation exports will generate an average of $1 billion annually for the next 20 years.

Oxfam’s Oil4Food campaign mobilised Ghana’s farmers to persuade the government to ensure a fairer distribution of oil revenue in the national budget. In November 2013, the Peasant Farmers Association of Ghana (PFAG), Africa Centre for Energy Policy (ACEP), and other Grow Campaign allies lobbied parliament to prioritise support for smallholder farming. Over 20,000 peasant farmers had already signed a petition demanding increased investment in agriculture as part of the campaign. Oil4Food also targeted urban youth in Ghana via Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram and text messages as a means to lobby the government to use oil money to feed Ghana’s people.

In November 2013, the government of Ghana announced that it would substantially meet these demands. A new figure of 15 per cent ($62 million) of oil revenue would now be allocated to modernizing agriculture, with emphasis on fisheries and food. And 94.5 per cent of these funds will be spent on efforts to alleviate the poverty of small-scale farmers.

EUROPE, BIOFUels AND INFLATED FOOD PRICES

In Europe, policies that promote the use of biofuels have been praised for providing alternative forms of energy, reducing reliance on oil and the burning of fossil fuels. This approach, however, has proven an expensive and wholly ineffective approach, with some biofuels releasing more greenhouse gases into the atmosphere than fossil fuels. By 2020, European union (Eu) biofuel mandates alone could increase the price of some basic food commodities by as much as 36 per cent.

Throughout 2013, Oxfam’s advocacy team continued to lobby against biofuel policies that were introduced by the EU to achieve 10 per cent of renewable energy in transport by 2020. We have seen the consequences of land grabs and evictions to make way for biofuel crops. And we know that this reduces food production and pushes up global food prices, resulting in deeper hunger and malnutrition in poor countries. By lobbying both national governments and the European Institutions, we have worked alongside others to change existing legislation and shape future EU biofuels policy.

We have been partially successful. The European Parliament has voted in favour of reforming current EU law to limit the use of food for fuel and to take into account the true carbon footprint of biofuels. The European Commission has proposed to end support for food-based biofuels after 2020, removing transport targets from its 2030 renewable energy policy blueprint. The key to reform however lies with European governments that continue to block reform and advocate for a continuation of the current flawed policy after 2020. Oxfam will continue to work with like-minded partners to
Oxfam and its allies have also put pressure on the EU to introduce meaningful regulation to limit the extent to which banks and other financial actors are able to gamble on food prices. Speculative commodity funds artificially inflate the price of food commodities, making them unaffordable for millions of people.

After European banks scrapped funds that speculate on the price of food commodities in 2012–13, there were further positive moves with the reform of legislation regulating European financial markets and the Markets in Financial Instruments Directive (MiFID).

In spite of stark opposition from the financial sector and other powerful lobbies, this new legislation gives regulators the authority to set hard limits on the amount of bets financial players can place on the future prices of commodities such as wheat or maize. With many of the world’s poorest spending up to 80 per cent of their income on food, the new measures should reduce volatility of commodity prices and increase food security for those in the developing world. Oxfam will continue to put pressure on the EU to ensure that the MiFID Directive is implemented effectively.

FAIR SHARE OF NATURAL RESOURCES

Oxfam works to ensure protection for vulnerable communities who are at risk of losing their land, water and energy resources because bigger, more powerful interests want to put the land to other uses. Women and girls – as over half of the world’s farmers and food producers – are often disproportionately affected, with many forced from their homes and farms, often violently, being dispossessed of their livelihoods and cast into destitution.

The global rush for land is being driven by many factors – among them rocketing demand for food, fuel, feed and fibre. As the global consumption of resources continues to outstrip demand, cases of community evictions are growing. Land has become a hot commodity, pitting corporate interests against ordinary people, and rich countries against poor.

In September 2011 Oxfam released the report ‘Land and Power: The growing scandal surrounding the new wave of investments in land’. This demonstrated that the food price crisis of 2008 had accelerated the rate of land acquisition by foreign investors in developing countries. Up to two thirds of large-scale land acquisitions have occurred in Africa with the majority of investors planning to export everything grown on that land. This is happening in a context where over 90 per cent of land in Sub-Saharan Africa is unregistered, according to the World Bank, leaving communities with customary or communal tenure rights vulnerable to dispossession.
In the face of this challenge, the GROW campaign has focussed both on empowering affected communities and tackling the ‘rules of the game’ that govern access to land. Oxfam has helped organise ‘land hearings’ in Africa and Asia, bringing communities who have suffered land grabs together to share their stories and their search for justice. At the same time Oxfam campaigns to ensure that stronger global rules not only protect communities from land grabs but also strengthen their rights to the land and resources they depend on for their food security.

Working with partners and allies, Oxfam has targeted companies, governments, investors and donors, working from the grassroots level with affected communities across the world right up to the global level – at institutions like the World Bank, the UN’s World Committee on Food Security and the G8. At the national level we’ve been working in strong alliances with partners and communities and have urged justice for affected communities from Guatemala to Uganda, Darfur to Honduras.

And it’s working. Top quality research, media hits, supporter mobilisation, publications, lobby, and working in strong alliances with partners and communities have all contributed to our work becoming truly global. Coke’s commitment to zero tolerance for land grabs (see the Behind the Brands story) is just one in a series of successes. Oxfam is now a well-respected but radical voice arguing compellingly for the rights of poor and vulnerable communities to the land and resources they depend on for their livelihoods.

**BEHIND THE BRANDS**

In February 2013, the GROW campaign launched its Behind the Brands initiative to tackle and improve the private sector’s role in the food system. We focused on the ten largest food and beverage companies in the world – Nestlé, PepsiCo, Unilever, Mondelēz, Coca-Cola, Mars, Danone, Associated British Foods (ABF), General Mills, and Kellogg’s – who between them have a revenue of US $418 billion (2010 figures), and huge global influence over their vast supply chains.

We used robust research to assess the policies and attitudes of each company, to assess their performance in the following areas: land, women, farmers, workers, climate, transparency and water. Using a ‘company scorecard’, we then objectively ranked each company against each issue. All ten companies
fell short of the standards we expect, with the highest ranked company scoring only 38/70.

We first took on the issue of land, targeting Coca-Cola, PepsiCo and Associated British Foods (ABF) for their involvement in the clearance of farmer’s land for sugar production. In November 2013, after 225,000 had signed an online petition, Coca-Cola committed itself to a policy of ‘zero tolerance of land grabs’ and committed its bottlers and franchisers to do the same. Coca-Cola also committed to sweeping social and environmental assessments across its supply chains in Colombia, Guatemala, Brazil, India, South Africa and other countries. In addition, the company also agreed to reveal its biggest sugarcane suppliers.

In March 2014, PepsiCo followed suit, with similar commitments. These are unprecedented and historic engagements, and major wins for Oxfam – no other companies have agreed to such wide-ranging commitments to examine and monitor their supply chains before. This success in influencing these major companies has been applauded by USAID, FAO, and the World Bank. It has created an entirely new space for civil society and private sector dialogue. It has also committed Coca-Cola and PepsiCo to wide ranging scrutiny of their practices in the long term, and Oxfam will be there every step of the way to engage with them and monitor their progress.

Now, nine of the ten BTB companies have improved their policies on land, with eight adopting critically important policies that give communities the right to decide whether a development goes ahead on their land. Hundreds of thousands of customers also responded to an action urging the parent companies of brands such as Twinings Tea, Frosties, Haagen Daaz, Pringles and Coca-Cola to improve a range of their policies, generating a ‘race to the top’ in the industry. Nestlé, Mars and Mondelēz also committed to improving working conditions for women in the cocoa supply chain. All three companies signed up to the UN Women’s Empowerment Principles (WEP) that set out best practice for women in the workplace.

The Behind the Brands Scorecard has been updated three times since the launch and we will continue to reflect changes in the companies’ policies. Our next action will focus on greenhouse gas emissions in the companies’ supply chains. The food system is responsible for a quarter of all global emissions – with these 10 food and beverage companies generating more emissions than Finland, Sweden, Denmark and Norway combined.

WORLD BANK AND LAND

In 2013, Oxfam targeted the World Bank as both a global standard-setter and investor in land, asking it to clean up its own act. Our research showed that 60 per cent of complaints brought by communities against the Bank involved land conflicts, and that the Bank’s current safeguards were insufficient to protect communities’ rights.

Our public campaign culminated in April 2013 at the World Bank Spring Meetings in Washington DC. An Oxfam truck drove around the World Bank building for two days proclaiming ‘Stand and Deliver’ and 50,000 signatures were handed over from supporters expressing their concerns. ‘In My Place’, a pioneering video project with the band Coldplay was released at the same time. Oxfam supporters from 55 countries submitted nearly 7,000 photos and videos of themselves, their friends and their possessions in ‘unfamiliar surroundings’ to illustrate land grabbing. An edited film was then released with a special acoustic version of the song for sharing on social media.

Our campaign achieved some notable victories, including a statement from the head of the Bank, Dr. Jim Yong Kim that “efforts must be made to build capacity and safeguards related to land rights”. The World Bank committed to ensuring that its own activities are governed by Voluntary Guidelines on Land Tenure, the only global standards on land tenure and rights, and agreed that land issues should be addressed in a review of its safeguards. The first draft of these new safeguard policies, presented in April 2014, includes protections for communities from land acquisitions – a result of successful lobbying by Oxfam.
LAND TITLES FOR EVICTED FAMILIES

In developing countries, as many as 227 million hectares of land – an area the size of Western Europe – has been sold or leased since 2001. The bulk of these land acquisitions has taken place over the past two years. Local residents regularly lose out to local elites and domestic or foreign investors because they lack the power to claim their rights effectively.

Guatemala has been discovered internationally as a suitable area for biofuels production, both for ethanol (sugar cane) and biodiesel (palm oil). This has given rise to a new wave of land dispossession, targeting the few remaining indigenous and peasant lands. The area planted with sugar cane in Guatemala increased from 3.4 per cent of the total agricultural area in 1980 to 14 per cent in 2008.

The Polochic valley region in the north west of the country is one of the areas targeted for increased sugar cane cultivation. In 2005, the Widmann family moved their sugar cane refinery from the south coast to the Polochic Valley, renaming it Chawil Utz’aj (‘Good Cane’ in the local Q’eqchi language), using a loan of US$26 million from the Central American Bank for Economic Integration (CABEI). By 2008, Chawil Utz’aj had planted 5,000 hectares of sugar cane.

Private security units responded by forcibly evicted 769 families from 14 communities in the Valley. Three people died in the ensuring violence.

Oxfam joined forces with the affected families, Guatemalan farmer’s movements, NGOs, and Oxfam supporters, to bringing world attention to the forced displacement of these families from 14 communities in the Valley. Three people died in the ensuring violence.

“In indigenous communities celebrated as president otto perez molina of guatemala handed over new land titles”

The smallholders who farmed the land had no option but to seek refuge in the steep and infertile lands of the Sierra de las Minas.

According to media articles, by 2010 Chawil Utz’aj was struggling to repay the loan, and their land was put up for public auction. The farmers who left the valley a few years earlier, then decided to return to occupy the land for food production. In March 2011, private security units responded by forcibly evicted 769 families from 14 communities in the Valley. Three people died in the ensuring violence.

Oxfam joined forces with the affected families, Guatemalan farmer’s movements, NGOs, and Oxfam supporters, to bringing world attention to the forced displacement of these families from 14 communities in the Valley. Three people died in the ensuring violence.

In October 2013, indigenous communities celebrated as President Otto Perez Molina of Guatemala handed over new land titles to the first 140 families of the 769. Molina’s statement was emphatic, “I will not rest until all the families receive land and a roof over their heads. We will continue in the struggle. These are not promises but a commitment towards the 769 families of the Polochic Valley”. Progress since has been slow but there are grounds for optimism that all the families will eventually have a solution. We will continue to monitor the situation and hold the government to their promise.

FARMERS STAND UP TO MULTINATIONAL, DINANT

In January 2014, following a damning audit of the World Bank’s US$30 million investment in Dinant – a palm oil company taking over vast tracts of land in Honduras – Oxfam, together with 70 global NGOs and local allies, called on the Bank to withhold further financing to Dinant and ensure that such cases don’t happen again.

The expansion of palm oil plantations in the Aguán Valley has been associated with extensive abuses, including the killing, kidnapping and
forced eviction of farmers. The lawyer for the communities was assassinated, after winning a court case to return land to people displaced by Dinant’s plantation. Oxfam helped ensure that the role of the International Finance Corporation, part of the World Bank, was scrutinised in stories in the New York Times, Washington Post and Financial Times. While the IFC at first ignored the findings of its own accountability mechanisms, pressure from civil society, media and the Board forced it to revise its position with new concrete solutions. In April 2014, the IFC issued an extraordinary mea culpa and a promise to learn lessons from its mistakes, not only in the Dinant case but also in other cases of land conflicts. It also released an Action Plan to help remedy the impact of Dinant’s operations in the Aguán Valley.

OUR VOICES WERE HEARD

In September 2011, Oxfam profiled two land deals in Uganda in which communities were evicted to make way for timber plantations. In 2013, the Mubende community signed a Final Agreement with the New Forests Company (NFC), concluding nearly 15 months of negotiations that were facilitated by IFC’s Office of Compliance Advisor/Ombudsman (CAO). The CAO handles complaints from communities affected by investments made by the IFC.

Oxfam supported the communities throughout the process, providing legal advice and capacity-building support. In December 2013, the Mubende community was able to buy 500 acres of land to build homes and grow crops. A community member told the CAO “These days we dream – we dream of having a future, we dream of a new beginning on our land. I am very happy;” another said, “Even if you are small, vulnerable – our voices were heard and they were listened to.” Since then, the second affected community in neighbouring Kiboga district has also signed a Final Agreement with NFC and is in the process of purchasing land.

THE FUTURE

We know that it is possible to secure enough food for everyone, everywhere. Oxfam will continue to work with the millions of people around the world who are strengthening their ability to grow food in an increasingly volatile global context. Through our GROW campaigns, we will also continue to maintain pressure on governments, the private sector and international institutions to ensure that policies are fair and reflect the needs of small-scale farmers and producers.

In 2014–15 the focus of GROW will be on the impacts of climate change on food production. Wild weather and unpredictable seasons are already changing what farmers can grow. As temperatures rise, extreme weather events are becoming more frequent and more severe. We will continue to demand action from governments and big businesses to cut emissions, to help farmers deal with changing weather and make sure there’s enough good food for us all. This means working closely with our allies, including progressive governments, to influence the UN climate change negotiation process.
No one should have to think twice before visiting a doctor. Yet every second, three people have to make this difficult decision. For many people this means having to make an agonising choice – to treat one family member over another, or to not buy food or pay for school fees. This is the stark reality of poverty. Free access to good quality public health services, and education, would transform the lives of millions of people.

All too often the basic rights of fair access to health and education are ignored and seen by governments as a luxury that they cannot afford. Barriers to state provision are created because of cost, and also because of the perceived challenges of committing to delivering good standards of health care and education for all. There is a widening gap between rich and poor in countries around the world, and political systems are increasingly slanted towards serving the more prosperous, resulting in divided societies.

But it does not have to be this way. The growing gap between the richest and the rest can be reversed, creating a more equal and productive world. Good quality, free, public health and education are strong weapons in the fight against inequality and can be achieved on a global scale if governments introduced fairer, progressive taxation systems. Any fair taxation system would need to be transparent and involve people holding their governments and other bodies to account for the spending on health and education services.

Global tax practices can also harm the poorest countries. Governments need to work together to ensure that multinational companies pay their fair share. Aid can be an important part of this process in helping developing countries to improve tax collection systems and strengthening the infrastructure and systems needed to deliver high quality public services. Austerity measures are continuing to affect the size of aid budgets but some governments, including the UK with a renewed commitment to reach 0.7 per cent by 2015, are working to protect these funds. This needs to be the norm not the exception.

We work alongside people who are speaking out – they are asking for tax justice and demanding their rights to health care and education. By working together, with communities, local groups, civil society and donors, we can ensure governments have the money they need to deliver health and education to everyone.
SPEAKING OUT ON INEQUALITY

WORKING FOR THE FEW

The gap between the rich and poor is growing in countries around the world. Many leading organisations view this increasing economic inequality as a major risk to human development so that we can all lead secure and happier lives. The World Economic Forum said that this growing inequality has the potential to unbalance social stability and threaten global security.

Oxfam’s research, in the report ‘Working for the Few’, found that the 85 richest people in the world own as much as half of the world’s population. This massive concentration of economic resources in the hands of a small number of people endangers inclusive political systems. It helps the richest to undermine democratic processes and drive policies, such as tax secrecy and havens, which promote their interests at the expense of everyone else. In six countries (Brazil, India, South Africa, Spain, the UK and US) opinion polls show that most people believe that laws are skewed in favour of the rich.

Oxfam was an authoritative media and social media presence at the World Economic Forum in Davos (January 2014) and the 85 statistic continues to be quoted around the world and we continue to speak out this growing extreme inequality.

WORKING FOR THE MANY

‘Working for the Few’ highlighted how growing inequality can skew political systems in the favour of the richest but the report also looked at why inequality is not inevitable and can be fought with policies that benefit everyone. Oxfam’s counterpart report ‘Working for the Many’ then explored how free public services, such as health and education, are some of the strongest weapons in this fight. They benefit everyone but they can help the poorest people most of all.

CAUTIONARY TALE

With austerity measures becoming the norm across Europe, Oxfam also explored the impact of poverty and inequality in this region. Our report, ‘A Cautionary Tale’, presented a damning outlook on Europe’s future, predicting that up to 25 million more Europeans could be pushed into poverty by 2025 if austerity measures continued to be implemented, taking the total to over a quarter of the population.

By making comparisons with policies imposed on Latin America, South-East Asia and sub-Saharan Africa in the 1980s and 1990s, Oxfam used our experience of working in these regions to warn European leaders that the path of strict austerity would have far-reaching effects. Rather than being the only option for European governments, Oxfam called for a move towards more inclusive growth that would deliver better outcomes for Europeans and the environment.

One solution available to policy-makers is to introduce fairer tax systems that ensure the wealthiest pay their fair share while cracking down on multinationals and individuals who continue to dodge taxes. This approach would help to raise more money for basic services, including health and education, which are increasingly being denied to Europe’s most vulnerable citizens.
Lesotho is a small landlocked country within southern Africa. It is one of the poorest and most economically divided countries in the world with many health care challenges including the world’s third highest burden of HIV and AIDS. The new Queen Mamohato Memorial Hospital in Lesotho’s capital Maseru was built to replace Lesotho’s old main public hospital, the Queen Elizabeth II Hospital. It is the first project of its kind in Africa – and in any low-income country – because all the facilities have been designed, built, financed, and operated under a public–private partnership (PPP) that includes delivery of all clinical services. The partnership solution was developed with advice from the International Finance Corporation (IFC), the private sector investment arm of the World Bank Group. The promise was that the PPP would provide vastly improved, high-quality healthcare services for the same annual cost as the old public hospital.

In fact the opposite happened. The Lesotho Ministry of Health is now locked into an 18-year contract that already consumes more than half of its annual budget. Scarce public funds have also been diverted to the hospital from primary healthcare services in rural areas where the majority of the population live. Lesotho’s experience supports international evidence that this kind of health public–private partnership is high risk, costly and does not help achieve universal health coverage.

In the report ‘A Dangerous Diversion’, Oxfam and the Consumer Protection Association of Lesotho argue that the IFC must be held to account for its poor quality advice to the Government of Lesotho and for marketing this type of PPP as an international success, despite evidence of unsustainable costs. Oxfam also asked the IFC to review the project so that lessons can be learnt on the appropriateness of health PPP in low-income countries.

Above left: A Lesotho hospital which was built using public and private financing is criticised by Oxfam as it deprives poor, rural areas of funding. 51% of the African country’s health budget goes to the consortium running the Queen Mamohato memorial hospital, which was designed to improve healthcare standards. Other countries in Africa are being warned not to repeat Lesotho’s mistake. PHOTO © Sandhya Suri | OXFAM
The report was launched in April 2014 ahead of the World Bank and International Monetary Fund (IMF) Spring Meetings in Washington as part of ongoing engagement with such international financial institutions. When asked about the Lesotho PPP at a public event during the meetings, the President of the World Bank Group said he would examine the case “very carefully” to explore whether the Bank has the right balance between public and private health provision. The Lesotho Health Minister stated that her government had been ill advised and the South African Health Minister also said he had warned against this project.

After these strong first steps, Oxfam and the Consumer Protection Association of Lesotho are still waiting for a formal response to the report from the World Bank Group and are calling for the IFC for a clear plan of action to prevent situations like this happening again.

UNIVERSAL HEALTH COVERAGE

Everyone – rich or poor – should get the healthcare and medicines they need without risking financial hardship. Yet every second, three people are pushed into poverty because they have to find a way to pay for healthcare. Universal health coverage has the potential to transform the lives of millions of people by bringing lifesaving health care to those who need it most.

Unfortunately, in the name of universal health coverage, some donors and developing country governments are promoting health insurance schemes that can increase inequality by only including a small part of the population – those who are formally employed. The poorest and marginalized people, who cannot afford to pay insurance premiums, are too often excluded.

Oxfam’s report, ‘Universal Health Coverage: Why Health Insurance Schemes are Leaving the Poor Behind’, drew attention to this problem and illustrated positive examples of countries that are prioritising general government spending in order to successfully scale up health coverage. Estimates show that improving tax collection in 52 developing countries could raise an additional US$ 457 billion – enough to double health budgets in these countries.

The report was previewed at an event in Zambia in Southern Africa, which brought together representatives from the Ministry of Health, health economist experts from Ghana and Tanzania and Oxfam Zambia to discuss how to improve health coverage. At the time the Zambian government had been exploring social health insurance for formal sector employees as an option to increase funds for the health budget; however, since the event, the government has increased engagement with civil society organisations so as to produce a comprehensive health finance strategy aimed at meeting the needs of all Zambians.

ROBIN HOOD – FINANCING FOR DEVELOPMENT

Oxfam, and many other organisations, have been campaigning since 2010 for European governments to adopt a new Financial Transaction Tax (FTT). The Robin Hood Tax involves an additional ‘tiny’ tax on the banking industry that would raise billions of dollars to tackle poverty and climate change around the world.

With the landmark implementation of this new FTT system by 11 European governments closer than ever, Oxfam has continued to push for a portion of the revenue to be used in the interests of the people and the planet. There is mass public support for this cause. So far over 750,000 people have signed the “One million strong petition” to demonstrate the popularity of the ‘tiny’ tax to policymakers. Raising awareness of the Robin Hood Tax has been central to Oxfam’s strategy and this year actor Bill Nighy reprised his role as The
Banker in a new star-studded, short film “Future News”. Along with the Robin Hood Tax Coalition, numerous demonstrations were organised across Europe at pivotal times bringing the issue into the eyes of the media.

The proposed European FTT has been under constant pressure from financial lobbyists working hard to limit its scope; a challenge by the UK in the European Court of Justice was swiftly rejected in March 2014. While the initial tax proposal is a far-cry from the €37 billion in potential revenue, Oxfam will continue to support partners in ensuring that a significant sum of the money is raised and delivered for financing public services and climate projects in Europe and the developing world.

ARTISTS BECOME AID ADVOCATES

The current Spanish Government is pulling back from commitments to spend on aid and development work. As a result Oxfam developed an innovative strategy to inform and engage citizens in the fight for life-saving aid. This involved finding ways to engage with new audiences to make people aware of the impact of a reduction in Spain’s aid budget.

One project involved visits by 15 well-known Spanish artists to countries that were a focus of Spanish aid and development. When they got home, they used their art to express their new understanding and feelings about the value of aid. As a result, several comics (accessible from a comic App) and pieces of artwork were created and exhibited in Comic Cons and art fairs, reaching approximately 8,000 visitors.

Online, an innovative “e-action” session (#DaTactic) was launched in early April 2014 to engage new audiences and draw attention to the drastic aid cuts in Spain. Coinciding with the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD)’s official 2013 aid figures, this non-branded site brought together many NGOs, organisations and groups, as well as data journalists and social media ambassadors. #AidImporta

FISCAL JUSTICE AND EU TAX

With poor countries losing around €700 billion every year in illicit financial outflows, Oxfam has continued to press EU Institutions and governments on a number of tax issues. While there have been significant steps in the right direction, tax policies for multinationals across Europe are still far from being fair and transparent. With two-thirds of the SUS 18.5 trillion hidden by wealthy individuals in tax havens linked to European countries, it is clear that the EU has to be at the centre of this fight which is denying much needed money, as lost tax revenue, from the poorest in both Europe and the developing world.

In March 2014 after five years of obstruction by Luxembourg and Austria, the EU finally agreed to increase the amount of information that is shared automatically by national tax authorities. This new process will help to enable a greater understanding of what happens to the €850 billion lost in tax evasion each year in the EU. The EU will oblige European banks to publish
information about where they have subsidiaries, including tax havens, to see whether they pay their fair share of taxes. EU leaders also agreed to ensure that extractive industries declare the payments that they make within resource-rich countries. This is a critical step forward in the fight against corruption and tax dodging that will help ordinary people in the developing world to harness their countries’ natural resource wealth and lift themselves out of poverty.

Oxfam will continue campaigning to ensure that these reporting standards are also applied to other sectors such as construction or telecommunications. These legislative changes demonstrate a trend that the EU is aware of the crisis in our tax system. Oxfam must build on this momentum to fulfil our goal of a wholly transparent, accountable system that doesn’t discriminate against the poorest in Europe and the developing world.

PUBLISH WHAT YOU PAY

Niger is one of the poorest countries in Africa yet it provides the raw material to fuel one in three French light bulbs through the supply of uranium. Niger is a strategic supplier for AREVA, a French nuclear energy company. While AREVA’s subsidiary companies in the country enjoy huge tax benefits, Nigeriens are not fully benefitting and are denied vital funds that could be used to improve public services.

The contract between AREVA and the Niger government ended in December 2013. While negotiations were on going for the renewal of this contract, Oxfam partnered with the Nigerien organisation ROTAB, both members of the Publish What You Pay Coalition, to look thoroughly at the uranium mining contract with AREVA. Targeted media and online pressure made it an issue of public interest and questions were asked in many interviews including to

ABOVE RIGHT: Oxfam has successfully campaigned to ensure that the AREVA uranium mining company contributes more to the Nigerian economy through tax. This will provide income for much needed public services, on which pastoralists [seen her trading at a cattle market in Kundumawa] and other communities rely, particularly at times of severe food shortage. PHOTO © Aubrey Wade | OXFAM
the President of Niger during a visit to France. The voice from Nigeriens became impossible to ignore and negotiations that were previously under the radar moved into the spotlight of media scrutiny. This resulted in the French government having to take an official position of being supportive of Niger’s “legitimate” demands of AREVA.

Eventually, the government of Niger and AREVA reached an agreement and the company committed to respect the 2006 mining law of Niger. The royalties it pays on uranium will be raised gradually from 5.5% to 12% so that in effect the company will stop benefiting from tax privileges although the specific contracts of AREVA subsidiaries are not know yet. This result was achieved through work targeting governments and AREVA in both Niger and France and shows the power that working in partnership can bring to a campaign.

**ACCESS TO EDUCATION: MY RIGHTS, MY VOICE**

Young people have the power and energy to make change happen in their lives, and within their families, their communities and their countries. The My Rights, My Voice program aims to engage and work with young people to strengthen and support their claims for a right to health and education. Close to half the world’s population is under the age of 25 and 85 per cent of these young people are living in developing countries. Working in Afghanistan, Georgia, Mali, Nepal, Niger, Pakistan, Tanzania and Vietnam, we are developing programs that are adapted to the specific conditions and needs of young people in each of these contexts.

In Afghanistan, 180 Youth Councils have been established in different communities in order to create networks and empower young people to achieve some of the changes that they want to see in society. These Youth Councils consist of elected representatives, 88 of which are led by young women. A learning event was organised in Kabul to enable participants from all over Afghanistan to share ideas and build a common goal for the Councils. It also provided space for the young people to interact with government ministers, members of parliament, the UN and various other civil society organisations to voice their views.

Samera, aged 18, is a Youth Group representative and says that being part of a group has helped us “raise our voice and see action towards our demands”. Samera’s group has already had some success including solving a problem of book shortages in local schools. She believes that young people “could bring about positive change in politics and play a role in the stabilisation of our country.”
FUNDRAISING AND INCOME

INTRODUCTION

Oxfam’s life-changing work is only possible because of the millions of supporters that are part of our global movement. Their financial assistance comes in many forms: regular monthly donations; responding to emergency appeals; organizing and taking part in events including Oxfam Trailwalker; choosing Oxfam Unwrapped gifts; buying from the 1,200 Oxfam shops around the world; and leaving us a gift in their will.

Oxfam’s partnerships with institutional donors are another significant part of our fundraising work. We try to ensure that these partnerships are more strategic and longer-term where there is the opportunity, and are continuing to increase our experience of large global bids for our development, campaigns and humanitarian work.

OXFAM ACTIONS - HELLO KITTY OXFAM ITALY

In September 2013, Hello Kitty championed the cause of poverty and injustice with the launch of a limited edition t-shirt inspired by model, photographer and Oxfam ambassador; Helena Christensen. In partnership with Sanrio (owner of Hello Kitty), T-shirt producer Fashion Lab and Italian retailer Coin, a limited edition run of 1,600 T-shirts were produced and distributed to 50 Coin stores across Italy with proceeds donated to Oxfam.

Swarovski Elements also joined the team and added an additional element of exclusivity donating the stones, which adorned the t-shirts.

Held in Coin’s flagship store in Milan, the press conference marked the grand unveiling with a talk from Helena Christensen about her first trip with Oxfam to Peru - her mother’s native country. Helena described climbing 15,000 feet into the Andes to see the Ausangate glacier, which is melting at an alarming rate. For thousands of years, the glacier has helped sustain the livelihoods of those living at the foot of the mountain. She saw rivers...
that are drying up and talked to local farmers about the lack of rainfall.

Due to the overwhelming amount of media coverage and exposure generated from the Hello Kitty T-shirts, the initiative provided a significant contribution to building Oxfam’s brand awareness in Italy. It also raised over €15,000 (US$20,100) through the sale of the T-shirts.

EMERGENCIES FUNDRAISING

Over the last year Oxfam has responded to almost 50 emergencies worldwide, including 12 major crises, but it’s thanks to our remarkable supporters that we were able to deliver crucial, life-saving assistance to vulnerable people. Around the world supporters reacted generously and creatively to raise money for appeals, such as the Philippines Typhoon and the Syria Crisis. Communities came together to organise fundraising events such as bucket collections, sponsored walks and auctions. Individuals have pushed themselves to new limits to raise money for Oxfam including climbing mountains. This spirit and generosity has helped enable Oxfam to reach more than 730,000 people with life-saving support in the Philippines, and nearly one million people in Syria, Jordan and Lebanon.

Seven year old Mungo Sweeney from Melbourne, Australia is one of Oxfam’s youngest supporters. After he saw the devastation of Typhoon Haiyan he urgently wanted to do something for the people of the Philippines. His father Dave Sweeney told the Herald Sun ‘We were discussing the horrific news over tea and what it would be like if he lost all of his toys. He felt that sense that everyone can do their bit.’ Mungo busked outside his house on his ukulele and has raised more the US$1,200.

Ben Ansell from Great Britain set up a pop-up coffee shop where friends could buy a cup of coffee for £2.50. Ben states on his crowd funding page ‘All coffee purchased is organic fair trade and 100 per cent completely virtual. One hundred per cent of the money you pay will be spent by Oxfam delivering life-saving water and sanitation facilities to people affected by Typhoon Haiyan.’ Ben’s coffee shop has raised over £630.
ABOVE LEFT: Helena Christensen has collaborated on a new Hello Kitty T-shirt for Oxfam. In partnership with Sanrio (owner of Hello Kitty), T-shirt producer Fashion Lab and Italian retailer Coin, a limited edition run of 1,600 T-shirts were produced and distributed to 50 Coin stores across Italy with proceeds donated to Oxfam. PHOTO © OXFAM

OXFAM CONFEDERATION INCOME

Reporting period: 1st April 2013 – 31st March 2014

All figures are in millions of Euros.

Figures represent consolidated income across the Confederation (15* affiliates plus the Oxfam International Secretariat). Inter-affiliate transfers have been eliminated. This information is indicative and does not show the actual performance of any single affiliate. Affiliates should be consulted directly for specific information.

Oxfam’s Financial Standards provide minimum standards that affiliates must apply to areas such as internal control. Compliance with minimum standards is monitored through a system of peer reviews, the next round of which is planned to take place in 2015. However, each affiliate is responsible for establishing and maintaining their own resource allocation systems and deciding how funds are spent.

*Oxfam Japan and Oxfam Mexico not included
CONSOLIDATED MONETARY VALUE OF FUNDING RECEIVED BY SOURCE


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<tr>
<th>Revenue by Source</th>
<th>€ Million</th>
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<tr>
<td>Institutional Fundraising</td>
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<td>UN and UN Institutions</td>
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<td>Trading Revenue*</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other Income</td>
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<td><strong>100%</strong></td>
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* Trading Revenue figures are gross – no trading costs have been deducted.

THE SIX LARGEST DONORS AND THE MONETARY VALUE OF THEIR CONTRIBUTION


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<td>UN and UN Institutions (Institutional Fundraising)</td>
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Total 6 largest donors €708.6

NET Trading Revenue:

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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trading Costs</td>
<td>€143.7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

NET Trading Revenue €37.7

Income and Expenditure

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>€ Million</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Income</td>
<td>€947</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Expenditure</td>
<td>€922</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Excess of income over expenditure €25

Balance Sheet

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>€ Million</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Assets</td>
<td>€616</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Liabilities</td>
<td>€296</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Net Assets €320
## EXPENDITURE

### OXFAM CONFEDERATION EXPENDITURE*

This information is indicative and does not show the actual performance of any single Affiliate. Affiliates should be consulted directly for specific information.

Reporting period: 1st April 2013-31st March 2014. All figures in millions of Euros.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>€ Million</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Program</td>
<td>€631</td>
<td>69%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Program Implementation</td>
<td>€529</td>
<td>58%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Development &amp; Humanitarian</td>
<td>€473</td>
<td>52%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Influencing</td>
<td>€56</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Program Management</td>
<td>€102</td>
<td>11%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-program</td>
<td>€284</td>
<td>31%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Management &amp; Administration</td>
<td>€60</td>
<td>7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fundraising-Marketing</td>
<td>€80</td>
<td>9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Institutional Fundraising</td>
<td>€5</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public Fundraising &amp; Marketing</td>
<td>€75</td>
<td>8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trading</td>
<td>€144</td>
<td>16%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Expenditure</strong></td>
<td><strong>€915</strong></td>
<td><strong>100%</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Expenditure figures do not include €7 million of losses.
# Oxfam Confederation Expenditure

## Program Expenditure

Reporting period: 1st April 2013-31st March 2014. All figures in millions of Euros.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Oxfam Regions</th>
<th>€ Million</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Global Level Allocation</td>
<td>€116.8</td>
<td>18.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>East &amp; Central Africa</td>
<td>€57.7</td>
<td>9.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Horn of Africa</td>
<td>€53.6</td>
<td>8.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>West Africa</td>
<td>€79.3</td>
<td>12.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Southern Africa</td>
<td>€36.5</td>
<td>5.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maghreb &amp; Middle East</td>
<td>€68.3</td>
<td>10.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>East Asia</td>
<td>€74.5</td>
<td>11.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Asia</td>
<td>€47.3</td>
<td>7.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eastern Europe &amp; Former Soviet Union</td>
<td>€12.8</td>
<td>2.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Central America, Mexico &amp; the Caribbean</td>
<td>€35.4</td>
<td>5.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South America</td>
<td>€20.8</td>
<td>3.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pacific</td>
<td>€10.4</td>
<td>1.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other*</td>
<td>€17.9</td>
<td>2.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>€631.3</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Aims</th>
<th>€ Million</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Livelihoods</td>
<td>€192.7</td>
<td>30.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Basic social services</td>
<td>€68.2</td>
<td>10.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Life and security</td>
<td>€199.1</td>
<td>31.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Right to be heard</td>
<td>€90.4</td>
<td>14.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Identity</td>
<td>€80.9</td>
<td>12.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>€631.3</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*The category “Other” includes Regional Level Allocations for: Africa; Horn, East & Central Africa; Latin America & the Caribbean; as well as program spend in Western Europe and North America.*
OXFAM CONFEDERATION EXPENDITURE

PROGRAM EXPENDITURE FOR THE TOP 20 COUNTRIES REPRESENTS 262.2 MILLION EUROS OR 42% OF TOTAL PROGRAM EXPENDITURE

Reporting period: 1st April 2013 - 31st March 2014. All figures are in millions of Euros.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Top 20 Countries</th>
<th>€ Million</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Congo, The Democratic Republic of The</td>
<td>€23.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Philippines</td>
<td>€20.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Sudan</td>
<td>€19.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Palestinian Territory, Occupied</td>
<td>€19.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Niger</td>
<td>€16.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ethiopia</td>
<td>€15.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yemen</td>
<td>€15.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mali</td>
<td>€13.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pakistan</td>
<td>€13.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Somalia</td>
<td>€11.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mozambique</td>
<td>€10.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>China</td>
<td>€10.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Haiti</td>
<td>€10.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kenya</td>
<td>€10.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Afghanistan</td>
<td>€9.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Myanmar</td>
<td>€9.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chad</td>
<td>€9.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Uganda</td>
<td>€8.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lebanon</td>
<td>€8.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bangladesh</td>
<td>€7.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total for top 20 Countries</strong></td>
<td><strong>€262.2</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
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