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Many times in our lives, we are called upon to be courageous. I experienced this in my youth when I had to flee my country and start a new life as a refugee in the UK. These times call upon no less courage from all of us. The earth around us is overheating. Economic inequality is rapidly splitting the super-rich apart from the rest of us. Shocking numbers of people are being forced to flee from terrible human suffering, provoking a global migration crisis. The poor and marginalized are still always the first to be forgotten or persecuted, and often left to shoulder the burden of risk, exploitation and debt.

In the face of all of this, Oxfam is giving people hope and options to make a change. We are standing in solidarity with people to claim their rights and shape their futures around the world. The momentum behind our ambitious agenda is gathering pace. This was the year that outrage at economic inequality caught ablaze. Underpinned by robust evidence and credible economic voices, and before a global audience in Davos, Oxfam played its part.

Rising inequality is a false orthodoxy — represented best by the fact that only 62 people today own as much wealth as the poorest 3.5 billion people. It is a concrete barrier that blocks efforts to lift up the poor, and it also damages economic prosperity, undermines democracy and sparks social unrest. But that inequality is not inevitable. We know that reversing it involves us taking on powerful elites. As I write this, we are seeing some progress. We have pushed influential bodies including the World Bank and the IMF to tackle inequality themselves.

Oxfam’s work around the world gives us reason to be optimistic. As you will read in this report, the impact of our development and humanitarian programs, campaigns and local partnerships is proving that we can empower people against poverty – and win important battles. Often it is against all odds.

Our humanitarian work is strengthening, in a year that saw us respond to more than 50 conflicts and natural disasters. We faced up to unrelenting suffering in Syria, we served 43 per cent of people in Gaza amidst the 51-day conflict, and we responded to the complexities of the Ebola virus. Wherever possible, we address the causes behind these crises and the injustices that make people vulnerable to them in the first place. We work to bolster their resilience to disasters before they arrive.

Cutting to the core of our rights-based agenda, we helped strengthen civil society and women’s rights organizations around the world. And our fight for gender justice was embedded across Oxfam as we mobilized women and girls and helped them find the space to realise their leadership potential.

We confronted head-on the gross inequality and systemic failures in our global food system, which still leaves one in nine people hungry every night. We raised the voices of small-scale food producers who are among those least responsible for the crisis of climate change, yet worst affected by the droughts, floods and shifting
seasons that it exacerbates. We championed the land rights of communities in countries like Sri Lanka and Cambodia, exposing illegal land grabs and an investment trail that led us to the World Bank’s private sector lending arm, the IFC, pushing them to fundamentally change their lending practises. And we confronted head-on the most powerful corporate actors in the global food chain, ranking, praising and shaming the 10 largest food and beverage companies in the world through our Behind the Brands campaign – and critically changing their supply chain policies as a result.

Change at Oxfam doesn’t only happen on the outside. As the epicenters of power and poverty rapidly shift, Oxfam too is re-inventing itself to meet this changing world. We aim to be an international organization in equilibrium – with leadership in the South as well as the North – rooted and acting within global social justice movements to influence decision-makers and enabling people to claim their rights. Our work and shape is changing; our mission endures.

I feel honoured to be a part of Oxfam – a community of 10,000 passionate staff, more than 3,500 partners, 50,000 volunteers, many donors, campaigners, allies and other supporters. We are grateful to all of you for your contribution to the struggle against poverty and injustice – thank you. Together in 2014/15 we reached over 25 million people in 94 countries.

As we tackle injustice, disrupt power structures and increasingly operate within spaces that would rather deny citizens their voice – I know that we need to be political, and our journey will not be easy. But we have momentum, we have more allies from unexpected places, and we have more people powerfully exercising their rights.

Join us.

WINNIE BYANYIMA
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OXFAM INTERNATIONAL
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.
OXFAM STRATEGIC PLAN

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, MONITORING, EVALUATION 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.

NOTES TO MAP ON FOLLOWING PAGE
1. Numbers are rounded. 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 (2014/15), 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), 3) 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. 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 2014/15 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.
This year is the second year that we are using a joint approach to how we count beneficiaries and partners. It is not always possible to actually count each and every project participant. So, we often work with estimates. In Burundi and Chad it was not possible to provide any data on direct benefits and partners this year. Our data for Yemen is, due to the very difficult situation in the country, only provisional. Through clear guidelines and thorough quality checks we try to ensure that the data we publish is reasonable. As partnerships we have included both relationships that involve funding from Oxfam as well as relationships that do not involve any funding but that are driven by shared objectives. Oxfam works in many different ways with civil society, academia as well as local and national government authorities, among others, to end poverty. Especially when we work to achieve more fundamental changes such as changes in policies or attitudes, the benefits to communities are often not immediately felt but may take years to materialize. In fact, a lot of our programs focus more and more on those fundamental changes.

Footnotes 1 and 2 on previous page
### Number of Direct Beneficiaries by Main External Change Goal

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Goal</th>
<th>Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Right to Be Heard</td>
<td>2,400,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gender Justice</td>
<td>2,900,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saving Lives</td>
<td>12,900,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sustainable Food &amp; Natural Resources</td>
<td>5,200,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Financing for Development</td>
<td>1,600,000</td>
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</table>
NUMBER OF ACTIVE PROJECTS BY MAIN EXTERNAL CHANGE GOAL

RIGHT TO BE HEARD
505

GENDER JUSTICE
323

SAVING LIVES
564

SUSTAINABLE FOOD & NATURAL RESOURCES
806

FINANCING FOR DEVELOPMENT
238
NUMBER OF PARTNERS BY MAIN EXTERNAL CHANGE GOAL

RIGHT TO BE HEARD  
868

GENDER JUSTICE  
490

SAVING LIVES  
576

SUSTAINABLE FOOD & NATURAL RESOURCES  
1,134

FINANCING FOR DEVELOPMENT  
357
SECTION 3

THE RIGHT TO BE HEARD
TOGETHER WITH MORE THAN 850 PARTNER ORGANIZATIONS WE REACHED 2,400,000 BENEFICIARIES IN MORE THAN 500 PROJECTS
SECTION 3

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Oxfam ensures that the voices of citizens are heard and responded to by policy makers and those in power. It creates the spaces in which dialogue can take place, transforming interactions and contributing to important changes in government policy that have potential to reduce inequality and achieve a substantial impact on poverty reduction.

Oxfam enables civil society organizations to foster and amplify the voices and concerns of millions of people around the world and in doing so makes sure that their concerns and rights are harder to ignore. It also works with government and international institutions to help them to become more inclusive, responsive, transparent, and accountable in their decision-making.

This section includes a snapshot of inspiring stories that show how Oxfam and its partners are working with citizens to protect and strengthen their civil and political rights. Despite challenging circumstances, they are making their voices heard by those in power and achieving real changes in their lives.

Creating sustainable change is a complex and long-term journey. Oxfam celebrates the courage and resourcefulness of its partners and allies and the communities with whom it works, who often in the face of great adversity, continue to fight so that citizens the world over can have a greater say in decision-making.

Without civil and political rights, including the space to assemble, organize, and collectively push for the resources and opportunities that people need to survive and thrive, it will never be possible to achieve the sustainable change that Oxfam wants to see in the world.
The G20 grouping exerts substantial influence on world economics and politics. Within the G20, countries with rapidly emerging economies such as the BRICS (Brazil, Russia, India, China, South Africa), Mexico and Indonesia play an increasingly pivotal role in global-level negotiations on issues such as poverty, inequality and climate change.

Oxfam is therefore working hard to create spaces for civil society organizations (CSOs) from each of these seven countries to take a leadership role in defining and representing the views and needs of marginalized sections of their populations.

The Empowering Civil Society Networks program strengthens the capacity of CSOs to collectively engage in global policy making arenas such as the G20, BRICS and the UN. It is at these critical policy-making arenas that global rules concerning trade, tax, economic growth, climate change, and development are set, and at which the issues and concerns of poor people must be heard, if the benefits of development are to be realized for everyone.

The New Development Bank, spearheaded by the BRICS will provide an alternative source of funding to the American and European-dominated World Bank and International Monetary Fund. A high-level meeting of BRICS leaders in Fortaleza, Brazil (July 2014) provided an excellent opportunity for the Brazilian Network (REBRIP) to organize a parallel meeting to ensure that messages about sustainable and equitable development were heard. Government officials attended the meeting to engage in dialogue with an audience of over 500 people, setting a precedent for collaboration to help shape the Bank’s future investments in Brazil.

The tactics used in Brazil also impacted on work in other countries. In South Africa, the Economic Justice Network (EJN) mobilized public concern about inequality in society and South Africa’s role in global development, resulting in an invitation to regular meetings with the Department of International Relations and Co-operation (DIRCO), chaired by the BRICS Sherpa, Anil Sooklal.

In India, Wada Na Todo Abhiyan (WNTA) is using well-researched data to influence government policy on religious, gender, ethnic and caste-based inequality and social exclusion.
In Indonesia, the International NGO Forum on Indonesian Development (INFiD) has special consultative status with the UN Economic and Social Council and is now recognized by the Indonesian government as a key stakeholder in its national development planning.

The governments of these seven influential countries have the power to change the lives of many millions of people living in poverty within and beyond their own borders. In strengthening civil society in these countries, Oxfam is helping to build strong coalitions and social movements that can work effectively with government institutions. Future success will depend on the extent to which citizen’s voices continue to count in global spaces, and ultimately, in the decisions that each of these governments make to share wealth more equitably, so that millions of people can benefit from economic growth, not just a few.

“THE EMPOWERING CIVIL SOCIETY NETWORKS PROGRAM STRENGTHENS THE CAPACITY OF CSOs TO COLLECTIVELY ENGAGE IN GLOBAL POLICY MAKING ARENAS SUCH AS THE G20, BRICS AND THE UN”
Before the crisis, Oxfam’s priority in Lebanon was to always root development activities within communities by fostering dialogue between citizens and local authorities to enhance local socio-economic development. It used its influence to create a space for dialogue between different parties, and through this increased respect for the needs of local people.

This approach has enabled Oxfam to strengthen its position as a technical lead and delivery partner, and to enhance relationships with government departments. These are the means by which humanitarian aid and sustainable poverty reduction can be achieved in the future.

Since the Syrian crisis, Oxfam has applied the same insight and approach to ensure that humanitarian initiatives benefit both refugees and their host communities. In 2014–15 local authorities in Bcharre, Zgharta and Ghazzeh as Oxfam’s partners assisted more than 18,000 Syrian refugees (50 per cent of whom were women), fostering the resilience of the entire community. In southern suburbs of Beirut, local authorities ensured a non-discriminatory access to quality primary healthcare for 15,000 vulnerable Lebanese and Syrians at a minimum fee of USD 5.

In March 2015, this experience having been deemed ‘best practice’ by four government
BARSA
NORTH LEBANON

Children wash their hands using soap and water supplied by Oxfam and partner agency JAK in an informal refugee settlement in Barsa. Oxfam has provided latrines, showers and sanitation equipment for the families in the settlement.

PHOTO © Sam Tarling/Oxfam

ministries a decision was made to extend this model to another six regions of the country in 2015-16.

There are no signs that Syrian crisis will be over soon. Humanitarian agencies that bypass local authorities undermine the legitimacy of local groups and individuals who are critical for successful humanitarian responses and resilience to future shocks. Working in partnership with local authorities is not easy - processes can be highly bureaucratic and sometimes human resources to implement decisions are insufficient - but it is the best and only way to reduce potential for conflict and achieve sustainable solutions in Lebanon.
In just one year, the establishment of two countrywide networks focusing on youth leadership and disability has resulted in the voices of people from these disadvantaged groups gaining significant traction in 2014-15.

Civil society organizations participating in these networks have grown in strength and government institutions are now taking their perspectives into account.

Oxfam’s support and strength lay in reaching out to partners with disability and youth livelihoods expertise, and finding ways to enhance their capacity to grow as national networks. By acting as a convener, or broker, and maintaining a low profile, Oxfam provided the means by which organizations could get together, make decisions and take action to make change happen. “We don’t step into the limelight, it is not our role,” says Oxfam’s Program Manager for Governance, Leadership and Accountability.

The measurement of success lies in the extent to which the voices of these vulnerable groups have started to be heard by decision makers. In April 2014, the demands of organizations in the disability and youth livelihoods networks were included in the review and development of the Government’s national development plan. In September, the Ministry of Education consulted with network members on new national...
standards for classroom construction that will ensure access for children with disability so that they can realize their rights to education. In March 2015, after Cyclone Pam, members of the networks engaged in important national meetings to raise the voice of young people and people with a disability which resulted in the rights and needs of the most vulnerable people being taken into account in government disaster management strategies.

It takes time to get people together to achieve common purpose but the results are worth it. As an international NGO, Oxfam walks a fine line between being an insider and outsider – working at multiple levels to harness the skills and experience of local organizations, while also ensuring that its profile doesn’t exceed that of Vanuatu’s civil society presence.

“Civil Society Organizations participating in these networks have grown in strength and government institutions are now taking their perspectives into account”
Crimson Tula (Banks Islands), Arthur (Port Vila) and Jimmy Violet (Tanna Island) talk with Nelly Caleb between Disability Network meetings in Port Vila. Nelly is the head of the Disability Promotion and Advocacy Association (DPA) and is the leading activist for women with disabilities in Vanuatu.

PHOTO © Arlene Bax/OxfamAUS
In October 2014, the big highlight of the Bolivian elections was not the victory and re-election of Evo Morales, but the triumph of ‘parity is now’ (the “50 and 50” campaign) that put women into 49 per cent of seats in the Legislative Assembly. Oxfam funded critical research for the campaign and provided support for a coalition of more than 300 local organizations to influence from a legitimate and informed position.

Prior to the election, women comprised just 29 per cent of Bolivia’s Assembly. The opportunity to change this dynamic came because of a Government initiative to ensure that 50 per cent of candidates on electoral lists must be women. This was an opportunity not to be missed and the ‘parity is now’ coalition launched a public awareness campaign as all parties defined their candidate lists, drawing on the experience of PR companies to generate a groundswell of support.

As the list of candidate’s was built, Oxfam provided guidance for women from all four political parties to strengthen their election campaigns. And then, when people started to vote, it worked with campaign partners to set up monitoring systems to ensure that the parity law was applied.

Oxfam’s campaigning and advocacy work with ‘parity is now’ has helped to change the political landscape in Bolivia. The President of the Chamber of Deputies is now a woman and 81 women MPs now have the political influence push for women’s rights. “More women in the Assembly does not guarantee a more progressive agenda,” says Lourdes Montero Oxfam’s Program Coordinator. “However, women have formed a critical mass and are sufficiently committed to proposals that would benefit all Bolivian women.”

Now Oxfam’s work and that of its partners and two national networks (Coordinadora de la Mujer and Red de Mujeres Transformando la Economia) will focus on ensuring that women in the Assembly, Senate and local governing bodies have the support that they need to achieve change. It will conduct further evidence-based research and build the capacity and skills of organizations and individuals that are brokering debate and dialogue about women’s rights.
In the summer of 2014, Ghana had reached a state of fiscal crisis - a point at which the government could not continue to meet the country’s national debt and sustain social services. The government’s only option was to ask the IMF (International Monetary Fund) for financial support, and with this a program of economic restructure to service debt payments.

Oxfam’s starting point for a national campaign with civil society organizations was that ordinary citizens – those with the least resources – should not shoulder the burden of Ghana’s structural and economic reforms. In struggling to find cash to pay creditors, spending on health and education for vulnerable communities, and especially women and children, had already been cut and vulnerable people were paying the price for the mismanagement of government funds and corruption.

Oxfam worked with the Africa Centre for Energy Policy (ACEP) to analyze how revenue from Ghana’s main export - petroleum – could have been better used to divert some of the income into health, education, and agricultural projects. Online blogging and social media campaigns helped to generate public awareness and achieve a growing consensus that a proportion of the country’s national budget should be used to raise living standards for all of Ghana’s population.

“AS DIRECT RESULT OF OXFAM’S LOBBYING, AN EXTRA $US 200 MILLION (30 PER CENT MORE THAN BEFORE) WAS FOUND TO SUPPORT THE MOST MARGINALIZED PEOPLE IN GHANA”

Oxfam helped partners to establish a Platform for Fiscal Responsibility through which the priorities of citizens could be heard. The views of 120 civil society organizations were collated at a national forum in November 2014, and shared with Ghana’s President and leaders of the negotiating teams from Ghana and the IMF. It will continue to push for the transparent auditing of mineral revenue for laws to guide an equitable use of income generated by the mining sector. Ghana’s Minister of Natural Resources recently endorsed this approach...
ACCRA
GHANA

Having never learned to read, or been to school, Selina Fletcher learned through word of mouth that maternal health care in Ghana is free. A 30 year old mother of 3, Selina makes a living from selling fruit at the local market.

PHOTO © Abbie Trayler-Smith/Oxfam

at a Chatham House conference on extractive industries in London (March 2015).

It is this coordination, from local to global, and between citizens, their government and the IMF, that makes Oxfam’s work unique. Its capacity to influence on a world stage achieved significant modifications to the bailout agreement and as direct result of Oxfam’s lobbying, an extra USD 200 million (30 per cent more than before) was found to support the most marginalized people in Ghana. The next challenge will be to ensure that this money reaches those who need it most. Civil society networks have already started to track money flows from central government to specific projects in their communities. And with continued support from Oxfam, citizens will continue to exercise greater influence about how resources can best be used to fund job creation, essential services, and ending the injustice of poverty.
In Tajikistan’s southern province of Khatlon there are no shortage of painful stories about the lack of clean and accessible drinking water. Oxfam’s innovative four-year program in this district is helping to change things for the better, and influencing the shape of service provision across the country.

In 2010, the Government of Tajikistan passed a law enshrining access to drinking water for all, a powerful means by which Tajik citizens could hold government and service providers to account. In a country where 40 per cent of the population still has no access to clean water and many are reliant on intermitted water deliveries, the day-to-day reality for communities falls woefully below this ambition. “I am a pensioner living on 244 Somoni (USD 38) a month,” says Nigorbi Abdulloeva. “I can’t pay 140 Somoni (USD 22.00) a month for water to be delivered.”

The Tajikistan Water Supply and Sanitation Project (TWISA) pilot projects in five districts (Kulyab, Fakhor, Muminebad, Vose and Rudaki) provides the means by which communities can have a say in where and how services will be provided in the future. The first important step was to create the space for constructive dialogue between citizens, service-providers, and public officials and now groups meet each month to develop ideas and build these into water provision plans.

All stakeholders have since agreed about the necessity to monitor activities and service providers. At present mechanisms are being developed for involving consumers in examining the quality of existing water and sanitation provision against different performance indicators (quality, access, availability, reliability and affordability). The outputs of these district-level projects are also being used to map and guide thinking across the country – with a National Network of similar programs and the influential Consumer’s Union urging the Government...
to involve citizens – and especially women – in the design of water programs. By 2017, Oxfam expects 85,300 more people to have access to a better quality of life, thanks to this approach.

Oxfam and the Union were also invited to feed into Tajikistan’s National Development Dialogue with bilateral and multilateral donors – an endorsement of the influencing work already achieved, and further opportunity for Oxfam to ensure that the views of ordinary citizens were taken into account. The success of the Tajikistan program has also not gone unnoticed by the World Bank, which is in the process of shaping a Social Accountability Fund intended to enhance the involvement of citizens in the design of development programs. The Bank’s loans to governments for infrastructure projects rose to USD 24 billion in 2014/15, and this excellent example has contributed to providing evidence of a model that works.

“BY 2017, OXFAM EXPECTS 85,300 MORE PEOPLE TO HAVE ACCESS TO A BETTER QUALITY OF LIFE, THANKS TO THIS APPROACH”
Children make the round trip on their donkeys to fetch water for their families, often missing out on school. Access to safe water is a widespread problem in the country, where there are insufficient amounts of access points for drawing water from.

PHOTO © Andy Hall/Oxfam
Senegal is a country rich in mineral resources but poor in terms of the amount of mining revenue that is used for the benefit of society. Loss of land, loss of jobs, pollution and despair have characterised life for small-scale farmers who have been ejected from their land with inadequate compensation. But things are changing for the better.

If Oxfam could get MPs to understand the issues, they would have the power and influence to negotiate directly with the ministry responsible for the mining sector. In 2013, working with 12 partner organisations, Oxfam engaged 54 MPs who set up a network to build interest in mining issues. That network of MPs reached out to another 150 MPs to lobby for more inclusive mining processes in advance of the draft Mining Code being put before Senegal’s National Assembly. In March 2015, 24 MPs joined religious leaders in visits to mining districts to talk to communities about the impact of mining on their lives. These visits achieved media coverage and generated public debate about the need for transparency, inclusive policy, sustainable development, and environmental protection in mining areas. President Macky Sall added his voice, saying, “It’s not normal or good that only 3% of mining revenue goes to the National revenue authority”.

The Ministry of Mines had no option but to respond to these concerns and Oxfam is optimistic that a new Mining Code will fix the sum that companies must contribute to national development and cover community and environmental protection issues. A third and last visit to mining communities in September 2015 will be important to sustain public interest at a critical time when MPs vote on the detail of the new Mining Code.
“We are a new voice in the public debate,” said Oxfam’s Program Coordinator. “We are creating multi-stakeholder spaces that allow different actors to speak out and to hold their government to account. This is very important for democracy.” Oxfam will continue to help build the capacity of civil society organisations and provide the means by which citizens gain a stronger voice in developing public policy. It will also extend the networking model as best practice in other countries, and at a regional level so as to influence a legal framework for mining across West Africa.

“WE ARE CREATING MULTI-STAKEHOLDER SPACES THAT ALLOW DIFFERENT ACTORS TO SPEAK OUT AND TO HOLD THEIR GOVERNMENT TO ACCOUNT”
SECTION 4

GENDER JUSTICE
WORKING WITH

490 PARTNERS WE REACHED

2,900,000 BENEFICIARIES IN MORE THAN

320 PROJECTS
SECTION 4

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4.5 Transforming leadership for women’s rights 41
Oxfam strives to eliminate the systematic discrimination that women and girls face around the world. It is only when their rights are respected and they can make their own choices; and when institutions respect their needs and interests, that poverty will be overcome. This is gender justice.

Discrimination against women and girls is both a cause and a consequence of poverty. Without collective action and broader social movements that endeavor to achieve equal rights, development and humanitarian goals will be unachievable.

For Oxfam, this means ensuring that gender justice objectives are included in each of its strategic ‘Change Goals’, and its staff, partners and allies have the skills and knowledge to put the rights of women and girls at the heart of all of its work.

Oxfam builds the capacity of civil society organizations to achieve the change that they want to see in the world. This could be by strengthening the ability of a women’s rights group to achieve dialogue with institutions responsible for advocacy or law reform, or investing in initiatives to enable women to become economically empowered. It involves challenging attitudes and beliefs at many different levels, and especially in areas such as ending violence against women and girls.

Oxfam knows that gender justice is possible and its goal is to achieve sustained and widespread changes and a future in which women’s rights are fully respected and fulfilled. Significant achievements have been made in recent years and an important part of its work is to build on success stories; to continue to push for legislation and policy change; and to research, share and replicate initiatives that put gender justice at the heart of development and civil society.

“SIGNIFICANT ACHIEVEMENTS HAVE BEEN MADE IN RECENT YEARS AND AN IMPORTANT PART OF ITS WORK IS TO BUILD ON SUCCESS STORIES”
The moral challenge of the 21st century is the full emancipation of women. But while women and girls bear heavy and unequal responsibility for housework and family care, achieving a world in which women and men participate equally in economic, political and social activities can feel like an uphill struggle.

Women spend up to two thirds of their working week on unpaid care (Budlender, 2008). Oxfam knows that where governments, employers and other institutions invest in care services and infrastructure, this has a long-term, positive impact on women’s lives, improving family wellbeing. Women can start to look outwards. The potential for women’s leadership increases. Women and girls have more time for education, more mobility for better jobs, get involved in communal activities, and through this, they start to realize their rights.

For Oxfam this means improved development interventions. We see more women in positions of influence in their communities and organizations; more women exercising ownership and control over productive resources; and more women benefitting from a shift in attitudes in society. If development practitioners better understand and address patterns of unequal care provision, huge societal changes could be achieved.

Launched in September 2014, WE-care (Women’s Economic Empowerment and Care) is a global program of research, communications and advocacy. It provides concrete evidence of women’s excessive and unequal responsibility for care, and experiences of positive change, to raise awareness and motivate development actors to address care. Working with partners in ten countries, Oxfam is piloting practical, local methodologies on unpaid care, a rarely researched topic apart from national time-use surveys.

With the four ‘R’s approach (Elson, Diane 2008) - recognizing the care work, reducing and redistributing care, and representing carers in decision making spaces – the WE-care program has already achieved meaningful results, also the basis of future endeavors in other countries.
"WE SEE MORE WOMEN IN POSITIONS OF INFLUENCE IN THEIR COMMUNITIES"
Women rely on their land to grow and harvest enough food to feed their families. If they are in the way of an open pit mine, their lives can be changed beyond recognition. Oxfam ensures that communities, and especially women, understand their rights and entitlement to legal redress.

Joanna Manu lives near an active gold mine in Dumasi, one of Ghana’s major mining centers. Back in 2007 security police from the Golden Star Resources mining company arrested her for trespass. When appearing before a judge for sentence, she knew how to defend herself thanks to the Wassa Association of Communities Affected by Mining (WACAM). She walked free and is still farming her land today. Manu’s activism grew after gaining an understanding of her rights. “When you get knowledge, you become empowered, and when you become empowered, you stand up and fight for your rights,” she says.

Women from mining areas are at greater risk of health problems and are especially vulnerable to chemicals that are used to extract gold ore. These seep into water sources and the air, resulting in illnesses, including silicosis, tuberculosis, diarrhea, skin diseases, and malaria (from stagnant water). Incidents of sexually transmitted disease are also on the increase because of the interaction between women with no meaningful source of income and migrant male workers.

If and when mining companies compensate communities, it is customary for men to receive this on behalf of their family, despite women having ownerships of land, as is the custom in Ghana. This denies women fair access to financial resources, or control over them. Both of these factors perpetuate economic dependence on men, disempowering women and exacerbating other gender entrenched inequalities in society.

It is critical that all injustices with mining operations are dealt with, and for women, this means ensuring that they have equal access
After taking several Wacam workshops, Joanna Manu and other activists were able to identify two cyanide spills in 2004 and 2006. After struggling in court for over one year they were able to negotiate settlements with Goldenstar Resources and were eventually able to close down the mine.

Oxfam’s work with WACAM and the Centre for Public Interest Law (CEPIL) has proved successful in constraining the power of the mining multinationals, with many now respecting the rights of communities to Free Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC) and also including consultation with women as prerequisite for all their actions.

In gaining fair and equal compensation for loss of land and livelihood, one of the most significant changes in the regions of Dumasi and Teberebe has been an increase in household income. Awareness is spreading and women’s groups attached to WACAM are organizing in other mining areas such as the Teberebe Goldfields and Nkronza. Women and youth groups have also been formed in Nkwaateng and Donkro Nkwanta to increase participation in local decision making processes.
Farida Begum and Milon Rani Sikhder are two powerful women. Both have benefitted from Oxfam’s Let her Decide and Participate program (LHDP) that creates a space for women to gain confidence and the skills needed to challenge injustice and inequality. They each share similar experiences of courage in adversity and the will and determination to achieve significant change in their communities.

Farida lives in a small village close to the river Tista in Nilphamari District. Villagers protect their homes from monsoon rains with earth embankments but when these fail, fast-flowing water inundates the land. After significant floods in 2012, Oxfam’s partner Pollisree developed a program with women to enable them to grow as leaders in their communities, and become more aware of their right to government services and protection at times of flooding.

Late at night in August 2014, as food waters rose to dangerous levels, Farida knew that it was time for action. She went to mosque, woke up the Imam, urging him to broadcast flood warning messages on system usually used for prayers. Villagers rallied to strengthen the embankment that could have broken at any time. The livelihoods of 200 men, women and children were saved, and Farida received special thanks. “We used not to take action and suffered as a result,” she says. “This time we acted and it’s great that we saved our village.”

Milon was married at 13 to a man from a nearby village. She failed to get pregnant and suffered six years of abuse from her husband and in-laws. He decided to marry again, and Milon, now nearly six months pregnant, escaped to her father’s home where she gave birth to a son. Her father was unable to look after them so she was forced to return to her husband, where violence increased. Living alone with her son

“LIFE WAS TOUGH BUT MILON WAS TENACIOUS. SHE JOINED A WOMEN’S GROUP, AND AS A RESULT ATTENDED SEVERAL TRAINING COURSES FROM A LOCAL NGO, AND PARTNER OF OXFAM”
Like Farida Begum and Milon Rani, Mosammad Bilkis benefited from the Let Her Decide and Participate (LHDP) project. The LHDP project aims to empower women, to participate in decisions about their own lives and become role models for others, works to create a supportive environment for women and girls in both their own household and within the community.

Life was tough but Milon was tenacious. She joined a women’s group and as a result attended several training courses from a local NGO, and partner of Oxfam. She sought advice on developing a business plan to expand her chai stall into a small restaurant. Her income started to increase, and her son went to school. She now has BDT 150,000 (USD 150) in a bank and is respected by her community for fighting injustice, and persuading others to prevent early marriage.

LHDP encourages women to form small, informal ‘Adda’ (chit-chat) groups that are already common practice in Bangladesh, practiced mainly by men. In doing so, they meet regularly to share experiences, become inspired, and grow in confidence – and step-by-step, assert their rights and change their society by example.
Gender equality is a fundamental human right that is agreed in regional and international treaties, conventions and legislation. Yet the exclusion of women from decision-making processes persists and, despite gaining leadership positions, they remain disadvantaged in promoting the kind of change that is needed to realize inclusive and accountable policies.

Advancing gender justice is the process by which Oxfam, in all of its development and humanitarian programs, endeavors to ensure women can equally and effectively influence the decisions that affect their everyday lives. If women are to achieve their full rights as equal partners in decision-making and public spaces, deep-rooted and lasting change is needed at all levels.

Oxfam’s vision is to achieve the development of skillful, non-oppressive, inclusive, and participative leaders – men and women – who can mobilize others around a shared agenda of social, cultural, economic, and political transformation, and the promotion of women’s rights. Its experience and that of its partners shows that working as transformative leaders increases the impact of activism and leadership through better understanding of where power lies, and how to influence it. Ultimately, this will significantly advance gender equality and women’s rights.

A new guide - Transformative Leadership for Women’s Rights (May 2014) - explores the extent to which adopting a transformative change approach has potential to enable women and men to challenge structural inequalities and to fully realize their rights. It requires a fundamental shift in power relationships – between those with control over resources and decision-making and others who seek to develop relationships with power-holders to achieve positive change. The approach is not uniquely Oxfam’s, but builds on and is a synthesis of, the experiences of multiple feminist organizations.
Oxfam has established a working group to embed the concept of the guide throughout the organization. Colleagues in India have established a training of trainers program to popularize this approach with staff and partners, including workshops to integrate this approach within the Eliminating Violence Against Women (EVAW) program. The Guide is also being used as a basis for discussion with peers and partners, and to strengthen civil society organizations, feminist and women’s rights groups in the Middle East, Latin America, West Africa and Asia and Pacific countries.

“OXFAM ENDEAVORS TO ENSURE WOMEN CAN EQUALLY AND EFFECTIVELY INFLUENCE THE DECISIONS THAT AFFECT THEIR EVERYDAY LIVES”
WE REACHED

12,900,000

BENEFICIARIES ACROSS MORE THAN

560

PROJECTS WORKING WITH OVER

570

PARTNERS
SECTION 5

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In 2014-2015, Oxfam responded to over 50 humanitarian emergencies, stretching its capacity on all fronts. The on-going conflict in Syria and neighboring countries; the displacement of eight million people in need of urgent assistance in Iraq; and another conflict-related emergency in the Central African Republic (CAR) where tens of thousands of people fled within and outside the country, necessitated a complex range of interventions benefitting displaced people and residents of host countries.

Relentless and pointless destruction in South Sudan threatened famine, and conflict in Sudan continued to kill untold numbers of people and cause massive displacement. The 50-day war in Gaza damaged infrastructure and left 2,200 dead, and the unique challenge of the Ebola virus in West Africa resulted in a huge scale-up of activities and need to adapt to new challenges. This year also saw multiple extreme weather events including flooding in India and the Balkans where heavy rains caused extensive damage to homes and livelihoods. In remote and inaccessible Vanuatu, Cyclone Pam damaged more than 13,000 homes and affected 180,000 people.

In 2014-2015, Oxfam provided life-saving assistance - clean drinking water, money for food, hygiene essentials and shelter – to meet the basic needs of over around 10.2 million people in crisis. It also campaigned for the rights of those affected to be respected and for the root causes of their vulnerability to be addressed in the long term. This means tackling the inequalities that make people susceptible to disasters and conflict and making sure that their perspectives are taken into account to mitigate future catastrophes. Oxfam also urged the international community to protect civilians from violence when fleeing conflict in their own countries and across borders.

A common feature of all of these crises is that the poorest people are always hardest hit. Women are particularly vulnerable, with fewer resources to face and recover from emergencies. The promotion of gender equality and women’s rights is central to Oxfam’s humanitarian work, and the reason why humanitarian programs always include an analysis to ensure that interventions – such as latrines or tap stands - are safe and accessible for use by women and girls.
International humanitarian assistance rose for a second year running to a record USD 24.5 billion in 2014. All of 2013’s largest donors gave more in 2014, and many gave their largest amounts. Despite this rise, funding still fell woefully short. In response to the scale of need in 2014, UN-coordinated humanitarian appeals requested the highest amount of funding to date – a total of USD 19.5 billion – yet a record USD 7.5 billion of requirements went unmet.

In the lead up to the World Humanitarian Summit (2016), Oxfam will maintain pressure on international donors and governments to be accountable for their international obligations on assistance and protection. Oxfam would like to see bold proposals to address the crisis in humanitarian assistance, with national governments leading the way with funding to help countries build their resilience to future disasters.

“THE NUMBER OF PEOPLE AFFECTED BY HUMANITARIAN CRISIS HAS ALMOST DOUBLED OVER THE PAST DECADE AND IS EXPECTED TO KEEP RISING”
More than 1.5 billion people live in countries that are blighted by violence and conflict (World Bank), and by the end of 2013, 51 million people in the world were forcibly displaced as a result of persecution, conflict, violence, or human rights violations. This is the highest number since the Second World War (UNHCR).

In 2014-15, ongoing conflicts in Syria, Ukraine, and South Sudan all contributed to this continuing trend. As the war in Syria entered a fifth year in 2015, at least 7.6 million Syrians were estimated to be displaced within their own country, and one in five displaced people in the world was Syrian. Conflict also destroyed the lives, homes, land and jobs of millions of other people in the Middle East and North Africa where sectarian strife, civil conflicts, and actions by extremist groups trapped women, men and children in a vicious cycle of violence, poverty and inequality.

Oxfam provides life-saving essentials in the immediate aftermath of a crisis, supporting people to access water, sanitation and shelter in a safe haven. It also seeks to tackle the injustices that exist around conflict and to urge those with influence to push for a peace that includes those communities affected by the conflict.

Currently the world’s less developed countries and regions host 86 per cent of the world’s refugees and so throughout 2014-15 Oxfam has called on rich countries to take their fair share by providing resettlement space to 5 per cent of Syrian refugees.
The level of humanitarian suffering in Syria is overwhelming. More than 200,000 have been killed and over four million people have fled to neighboring countries since the conflict started in 2011. The UN estimates that at least 12.2 million people inside Syria are in need of assistance; meanwhile, the sheer number of displaced families in Jordan and Lebanon is putting extreme pressure on local infrastructure and economies.

**PROVIDING LIFE-SAVING SUPPORT**

Oxfam established itself as a lead humanitarian organization in Syria. Since March 2014, its team in Damascus has supplied clean water supply to more than an estimated 720,000 people through water trucking, rehabilitation of infrastructure and repairing of wells; Oxfam also helped to restore the capacity of local government and service providers to meet basic WASH needs and carried out its first health-promotion activities inside Syria.

In Jordan and Lebanon, Oxfam reached 186,000 refugees and vulnerable members of host communities with integrated programs in water and sanitation, food security, and livelihoods. It provided clean drinking water and items such as blankets and stoves, and cash or vouchers to pay for other essentials. In Zaatari camp in Jordan, Oxfam is leading the delivery of a new sustainable water network as the camp transitions to a more permanent settlement.

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1 Beneficiary numbers as reported by the Ministry of Water Resources and Water establishments in the target areas. They are estimates of the population in catchment areas of Oxfam-supported projects. Where possible, data is compared with other sources of information (e.g., information received from Oxfam contracted site engineers, focal points from the local community contracted by Oxfam, information collected during Oxfam staff field visits, data from other agencies).
ADVOCATING FOR SOLUTIONS

Oxfam also campaigned for an end to widespread human rights violations; an immediate halt to the transfer of arms and ammunition to affected countries; and the provision of humanitarian assistance at an appropriate level to meet the scale of need. It also called on the international community to achieve a sustainable political solution to end the Syria crisis.

The release of Oxfam’s report <i>A Fairer Deal for Syrians</i> in September 2014 urged the international community to share more of the burden created by the crisis and resulted in an increase in pledges to resettle Syrian refugees.

As the conflict entered its fifth year, Oxfam, and 21 INGOs and Syrian civil society organizations issued <i>Failing Syria</i>, a report condemning the international community for its lack of action.

Backed by high-level events in New York, Geneva and other capitals and a global public campaign through the #WithSyria coalition, the <i>Failing Syria</i> message received widespread, global media coverage and social media interest, and was echoed by Ban Ki-moon, Secretary General of the UN at a Security Council meeting on the day of the launch. Ahead of the Kuwait donor conference in March 2015, Oxfam increased pressure on donors to fund the Syria appeals through lobbying and media work in Jordan and Lebanon to illustrate the human cost of funding cuts.

LONG-TERM RESPONSE

Even if the conflict within Syria ended immediately, the level of physical, social and economic damage is such that it will take many years to rebuild the country. It is, therefore, important for Oxfam to invest time in building the resilience of people while they are displaced so that they can take a lead in reconstruction when it is safe to return home. This approach is evident in refugees taking ownership of water and sanitation interventions in camps, and in the self-help committees that are formed by refugees for protection and peer-to-peer support.

It is essential that Syrian refugees are able to retain their dignity and self-respect as they live through challenging times. And as women, men and children emerge through this crisis, Oxfam will work with civil society organizations to help them rebuild their lives and to play a full part in shaping a better and safer future. It will maintain humanitarian capacity in the region to respond to volatile situations as they arise and also continue to push the international community to take responsibility for resettling refugees and providing assistance to the millions of people affected by the conflict.
An Oxfam staff teaches Syrian children how to wash their hands at one of the organisation’s water, sanitation and hygiene centers in Zaatari.

PHOTO © Khalid Said/Oxfam
South Sudan gained independence in July 2011, but high expectations for economic growth and peace were dashed when conflict erupted in December 2013. Political and ethnic crisis displaced more than 1.5 million people and over 500,000 fled to neighboring countries. 3.8 million people were acutely short of food and Oxfam’s focus was on meeting their immediate humanitarian needs.

Oxfam also worked with partners to build peace, good governance and contribute to long-term positive change. One group, the Guardians of South Sudan are keeping hopes of a peaceful South Sudan free from poverty and injustice, alive.

**SAVING LIVES**

During emergencies, food and shelter, safe water and sanitation are the highest priorities when responding to people affected by conflict. In 2013-14, Oxfam supported 690,000 people in South Sudan - providing clean water by drilling boreholes and setting up water supply systems, distributing food, improving sanitation through latrine building, waste disposal, and hygiene training. This includes support to 23,000 people in Juba to prevent the spread of cholera. Alongside technical and practical provision, it has also been essential to develop approaches that are sensitive to working in a conflict situation, and take full account of the needs of women and other vulnerable groups, alongside men.

In Ethiopia, Oxfam worked in Kule and Tierkidi camps to improve water and sanitation facilities for 98,000 people. In Uganda, Oxfam reached another 145,000 people, working with host communities to mitigate the impact of the refugee influx by distributing energy-saving stoves and organizing environment awareness. Seeds and tools enabled vulnerable families to plant kitchen gardens; short-term employment maintained and improved site locations. Working together with refugee and host communities ensured that tensions did not lead to conflict; peace committees planned activities to enable people, especially women, to feel safe and protected.
CALLING FOR A SOLUTION

The voices of those affected by the conflict must be heard on the international stage, lest we forget the human impact of the crisis. In the words of Angelina, a single mother of five, living in Melut: “I live each day trying to honor the hours in it. There is no need to advertise sadness, or to wear your sorrow like a mask. It does not add anything because you already know how you feel. It is not what is seen externally that matters, as it all passes. It’s the strength inside that counts.”

In May 2014, Oxfam called for a massive surge to fill a USD 700 million shortfall in promised aid for South Sudan. Oxfam also lobbied local and international institutions to prioritize civilian protection, gender justice, and food security.

LONG-TERM FUTURE

Oxfam programs unify humanitarian response with the longer-term sustainable needs of beneficiaries, harnessing the skills and experience of partners to strengthen the capacity of people to withstand future shocks. Women and men learn their rights, and through this, grow more resilient, especially after suffering the trauma of war and food insecurity for so many years. Oxfam promotes women’s participation in decision-making processes, encouraging more women to become leaders in their communities while support to ‘protection committees’ allows members to effectively manage issues that arise in communities.
A group of women collecting water from one of the 16 points of distribution of drinking water installed by Oxfam Intermon.

PHOTO © Pablo Tosco/Oxfam
Somalis are resilient and resourceful people but in 2014 severe drought pushed Somalia into the epicenter of an East African food crisis with 2.9 million people urgently needing assistance.

Providing Life-Saving Support

Working alongside its partner, Hijra, Oxfam constructed water tanks, sanitation facilities, and latrines, and delivered hygiene promotion activities, so that over 100,000 people in Afgoye and Mogadishu had access to safer conditions.

“Washing hands used to be a luxury,” says Rukio Yusufu, Kuan camp, Afgoye. “Now diarrhea outbreaks have almost disappeared. Our latrines are clean, there are no flies, and above all, it feels good.”

Oxfam also set up a program to provide beneficiaries with small amounts of cash so that they could make their own decisions about what food and necessities to buy. This reduced their sense of dependency by offering choice in uncertain times. In a context of difficult access to insecure areas, Oxfam developed innovative E-cash facilities, using mobile phones to reach people and alert them to payments. Women used these small cash grants to open small shops and tea stalls providing an extra source of income.
income to feed their families, while others were paid cash to make brooms and energy-saving stoves.

**CALLING FOR A SOLUTION**

Remittances from the Somali Diaspora, some 40 per cent of the country’s revenue (significantly more than humanitarian aid committed by the international community) were a lifeline. However, this facility to safely wire cash to relatives was curtailed by banks. In July 2014, Oxfam with 26 other NGOs launched “Risk of Relapse: Somalia crisis alert”. Strong advocacy using videos, blogs, social media and a second report, “Hanging by a thread: the ongoing threat to Somalia’s remittances” resulted by February 2015 in a doubling funds for humanitarian response in Somalia.

**IN THE LONG TERM**

Oxfam invests in people at community level to strengthen their resilience, ensuring that the most vulnerable have access to high quality, accountable services during humanitarian crises and are able to develop their capacity to recover and withstand future stresses. Oxfam reached 100,000 mobile phone users in a countrywide polio eradication campaign. Innovative technology is a vital contribution towards resilience.

In 2014, Somalia and El Salvador piloted Oxfam’s Strong Local Humanitarian Actors Program (SLHAP) as a practical way to stimulate civil society, government authorities, and the private sector to take a lead in humanitarian response. Building on a contextual analysis to identify obstacles to locally managed responses and through generating dialogue and sharing ideas, the program is building the capacity of local organizations and influencing government structures to create a stronger basis for future program development.
Throughout the year, Oxfam’s work in Gaza was dominated by its response to the massive destruction caused by the 51-day conflict in July and August 2014. This resulted in widespread destruction of homes, livelihoods and infrastructure, and the loss of Palestinian civilian lives, a third of them being children, 66 Israeli soldiers and 6 civilians which included one child. A year later, more than 100,000 people remained displaced, unable to return to their uninhabitable homes.

Gaza continues to suffer from the blockade imposed by Israel in 2007 that restricts movement of people and goods, including agricultural products and construction materials. By June 2015, only one per cent of the construction materials had been allowed into Gaza for the re-building of 12,600 totally destroyed homes, a tiny fraction of what is needed to rebuild ruined homes and infrastructure. As a result, people have increasingly been forced to depend on external assistance.

**EMERGENCY RESPONSE**

Oxfam’s long-term presence in Gaza and relationships with local partners put it in a strong position to scale up its intervention in response to the crisis: during the year, it served more than 750,000 people, more than 40 per cent of the population. At the height of the crisis, Oxfam was providing safe water to more than 250,000 people in schools, communities and shelters – helping to prevent further suffering and death.

Crops, land, fishing boats and small businesses were destroyed in the conflict, leaving thousands of people without the means to grow or buy food and other essentials. Oxfam supported more than 50,000 families with vouchers, enabling them to buy food and other household goods. The vouchers were loaded onto debit cards that could be redeemed at more than 90 shops and markets across Gaza, enabling families to buy what they needed and helping to boost the local economy.
Oxfam also ran cash-for-work programs, providing a source of income in return for valuable rehabilitation work in the local community, such as clearing storm drains to protect against winter flooding. Ahmad Bihar, whose shop was destroyed in the bombing, says, “The Oxfam vouchers help us to buy essential food so that we can spend the little money we have on other expenses like clothes, cleaning products and transport for our children to get to school.”

WATER, LIVELIHOODS AND HEALTH

Throughout the year, Oxfam worked with partners to improve people’s living conditions in the face of major obstacles caused by the blockade. Oxfam gradually shifted its focus from water trucking to ensuring longer-term access to safe supplies. It provided water storage tanks to serve more than 2,000 vulnerable households and worked with community users to raise awareness.
of safe water handling and hygienic practices. It also helped households to repair water and sanitation facilities, and supplied 4,400 households with hygiene vouchers for women and girls.

Given the continuing, serious constraints on people’s ability to earn a living, Oxfam assisted over 10,000 households with food vouchers, and provided cash transfers to enable people to resume farming and livelihoods activities. It also supported a mobile health clinic, hospital and five health centers, with a particular focus on women’s needs. Last year, the mobile clinic alone reached over 98,000 people. Building community resilience is central to Oxfam’s work: to this end, partners trained 650 health volunteers and 140 community leaders in first aid and 12 medical staff in life-saving skills during emergencies.

**INFLUENCING AND ADVOCACY**

Oxfam continues to play a key leadership role in Gaza, working with various agencies and forums to coordinate the humanitarian response and campaign for the rights of Gaza’s citizens. It is also working with both Israeli and Palestinian actors to mobilize the power of people to fight poverty and injustice, and to call for an end to the blockade. Oxfam carried out lobbying in capitals around the world, produced three briefing papers and campaigned outside the UK Houses of Parliament to raise public awareness of the continuing suffering caused by the blockade. As well as achieving high-profile media coverage, Oxfam’s social media content on Gaza’s plight generated massive public interest and engagement.

Oxfam will continue to engage with both local and international actors and partners to fight poverty, unemployment, food security and lack of access to water and land.
Conflict between armed groups and government forces escalated in 2014, displacing 2.1 million people within Nigeria’s northeast states. The total number of people affected was more than double this figure (4.6 million), as host communities sheltering those in need were increasingly unable to cope.

Oxfam’s initial focus was in Adamawa State, the location of people displaced from the seriously affected state of Borno, where after April 2014, it reached over 92,000 people who had fled to temporary camps or the homes of friends or relatives. Later in the year, as Nigerian Armed Forces recaptured ground in Gombe and Borno, Oxfam scaled up its response in these states, reaching an additional 130,000 people with interventions to meet their basic needs.

Oxfam staff worked tirelessly to reduce the risk of outbreaks of diarrhea and cholera by providing water treatment tablets to households, repairing over 56 water sources to improve access to clean water, and distributing essential hygiene kits. It also built 139 public latrines to cater for growing numbers of people located in informal camps. Tackling extreme hunger in the region was the other important priority. Alongside the provision of food assistance, Oxfam worked with local partners to provide seeds and training for people to start to grow fruit and vegetables.

Oxfam is also building the capacity of local organizations to be more prepared for emergency response and has provided funding for humanitarian training for CSOs, FBOs, government, UN, and INGO staff. Those who have fled their homes are also often traumatized and confused, and it will be important to find ways to ensure that psychological needs of the displaced families are met.
Violence in the Central Africa Republic (CAR) broke out after a coup d’état in the capital, Bangui, December 2012. Continuing conflict between militias displaced 436,000 people within the country, and a further 462,000 across borders in neighboring states such as Chad (where 94,000 people have fled since late 2013).

In 2014-15, Oxfam reached a total of 180,039 beneficiaries in Bangui and Bria. In Bangui, interventions included trucking clean water to residents of 14 IDP sites and seven health centers and hospitals, and establishing water and sanitation programs (latrines, washrooms, and public health promotion) in two districts of the capital city. Cash vouchers and food were distributed in another six sites to the displaced population. Oxfam established water points and built latrines for 35,000 people in Bria. It also provided supplementary food for 1,800 households; seeds, tools and fertilizer for gardening groups; and livestock for 205 households.

Yango Rosine lives in a site on church grounds in Bangui “Before Oxfam, we had to buy drinking water from a communal water point. Sometimes the well owners refused us access,” she says. Rosine took part in hygiene promotion sessions in her camp. “I’ve learned a lot – hand washing at key times, food hygiene, how to keep water clean.”

Since starting activities in January 2014, Oxfam has developed strong water and sanitation, food, livelihoods and protection programs in these two main towns. Future plans include extending activities to Paoua in the North, and to other areas of humanitarian need, such as Batangafo, Alindao or Kaga-Bandoro. Oxfam’s neutrality and impartiality will continue to be a strong factor in deciding locations for response, alongside the need to build relationships with local partners to strengthen their humanitarian capacity.

“OXFAM (AND 40 OTHER NGOS) RE日后 ENGTH STRENGTH MENTs uGING THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY TO DO MORE TO PROTECT CIVILIANS AND INCREASE HUMANITARIAN AID”
In January and April 2014, Oxfam (and 40 other NGOs) released strong statements urging the international community to do more to protect civilians and increase humanitarian aid. It also continued lobbying for the involvement of UN peacekeepers and international support from the US, UK, European Union and African Union.

**BANGUI**

**CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC**

The Oxfam team is connecting pipes in order to fill the bladders with drinkable water. Oxfam is managing the water pumping station in order to provide water to several camps for internally displaced persons in Bangui.

PHOTO © Vincent Tremeau/Oxfam
In the last 20 years, disasters from natural hazards have killed 1.3 million people, affected 4.4 billion people, and caused almost USD 2 trillion in economic losses. Poor countries are far harder hit than richer ones, with 81 per cent of deaths from disasters occurring in low-income countries. Climate change is bringing more frequent and intense weather events, disproportionally affecting people in the world’s poorest countries.

Oxfam’s Disaster Risk Reduction programs build people’s resilience to future hazards, affording them more protection in the event of a disaster, and enabling them to recover more quickly from the impact of floods and cyclones. The frequency and increased severity of climate-related disasters, warrants a huge increase in investment to strengthen the coping capacity of people facing extreme situations. Oxfam is calling on international donors and governments to do more, and contribute at least USD 5 billion of total global aid to help countries strengthen coping mechanisms and adapt to changing weather patterns.

“TO THE MEN, WOMEN AND CHILDREN WHO HAVE JUST SURVIVED TYPHOON, FLOOD OR OTHER DISASTER, A FAILED WORLD IS ONE THAT ALLOWS CLIMATE CHANGE TO OVERWHELM THE WORLD’S MOST VULNERABLE PEOPLE”
On the 14 May 2014, heavy rains hit Bosnia-Herzegovina (BiH), Croatia and Serbia causing floods and landslides. More than 50 people lost their lives, and over 75,000 people were displaced from their homes and land. An estimated, 2.6 million people overall were affected by the floods with 90 per cent of people’s work and investments had been destroyed.

Oxfam focused on the most vulnerable people in BiH and Serbia and during the seven months of emergency response reached more than 42,000 people through water and sanitation (WaSH) and food security activities. It distributed more than 12,500 hygiene, disinfection, environmental and agricultural kits, delivered stoves, and public water systems and private wells (testing water and/or distributing filters to more than 500 vulnerable families).

Kata Knežević, an elderly lady from Domaljevac, used to collect fresh water from a well. After testing her water, Oxfam found that it was contaminated and provided her with a water filter. “I live on a very small widow’s pension and was having to buy water to drink, cook and have showers. Now, that I have the filter, I can save so much money. Thank you, this is the first help that I have received from anyone since the floods started!”

Oxfam’s prompt response was well regarded, thanks to a capacity to switch from primarily working in a development context, to an emergency.
SECTION 5.3.2

**CYCLONE PAM, VANUATU**

Severe tropical Cyclone Pam tore through Vanuatu on 13 March 2015, causing widespread destruction across its east and southeast islands. The eye of the Category Five cyclone passed close to Efate Island, the location of Vanuatu’s capital Port Vila, affecting 180,000 people across 22 islands. In total 15,000 homes were damaged or destroyed; up to 96 per cent of food stocks decimated and 110,000 people were in need of clean drinking water.

Oxfam responded to this disaster in two ways. It took up a role coordinating the Vanuatu Humanitarian Team comprised of NGO, Red Cross, and UN response teams, and directly implemented humanitarian activities to respond to the needs of the affected population.

A key challenge for all agencies in the response effort was accessing remote communities. Many islands in Vanuatu have no airstrips. Many docks were badly damaged or destroyed making it difficult for the government and humanitarian organizations to deliver goods by ship or aircraft to the worst affected islands. Delivering hygiene kits to Ambrym, one of the remote islands, took over 30 hours on a ferry, and emergency supplies were unloaded onto a barge, then fishing boats, and then carried up a cliff face to reach their final destination.

Despite the various challenges, Oxfam’s direct response began almost immediately after the storm left Vanuatu’s borders. Oxfam reached approximately 14 per cent of the affected population, with clean water, hygiene kits, vegetable seeds, gardening and building tools, vouchers and cash.

"DELIVERING HYGIENE KITS TO AMBRYM, ONE OF THE REMOTE ISLANDS, TOOK OVER 30 HOURS ON A FERRY, AND EMERGENCY SUPPLIES WERE UNLOADED ONTO A BARGE, THEN FISHING BOATS, AND THEN CARRIED UP A CLIFF FACE TO REACH THEIR FINAL DESTINATION"
Wilda Edward, 52, helps cleaning his neighbour’s house yard in Eton village, Efate Island, Vanuatu. Eton was hit by Cyclone Pam on March 13th. Six houses were completely destroyed and the others were badly damaged.

PHOTO © Vlad Sokhin/Proas/OxfamAUS
In September 2014, the worst floods in a century hit Jammu and Kashmir. Water levels in the Jhelum River were at an all time high. Around two million people were affected, 450 villages were completely submerged and more than 280 people died. Oxfam responded quickly, reaching 25,000 people with water and sanitation facilities and 74,322 people through hygiene promotion and the distribution of shelter and non-food items.

In Kashmir’s capital, Srinagar, major parts of the city were flooded. Oxfam hired earthmovers to clear debris making routes easier to access with emergency supplies. After the initial rescue efforts, its first priority was to restore water systems to hospitals. Lala Dew, the largest maternity hospital, was badly damaged and public health engineers restored water purifiers, replaced chlorine kits, disinfected water tanks and treatment plants, and tested water to ensure that it was safe.

Vulnerable families in Kashmir were given 5,000 emergency shelter kits containing corrugated iron sheets, wood, and tools to build basic shelter with support from volunteers. They also received winterization packages of all-weather tarpaulins, warm blankets, bedding, solar lamps, and traditional portable heaters so that they could shelter from cold weather.

Thousands of people moved into crowded temporary camps in both states. To prevent the spread of disease, Oxfam installed water tanks, filters, hand pumps, and temporary latrines, and provided health advice. It distributed 153,100 chlorine tablets and bleach, and hygiene kits for 5,725 families. As the weather grew colder, 5,500 families received wool and cotton to make warm clothes, and 2,500 of the most vulnerable households were given small amounts of cash to buy food and other necessities. 16,800 children and lactating mothers also received supplementary food.

“OXFAM ALSO URGED DISTRICT AND STATE GOVERNMENT TO LEAD AND PROMOTE DISASTER RISK REDUCTIONS SCHEMES WITH COMMUNITIES AND PRESSED FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF INDIA’S NATIONAL DISASTER MANAGEMENT ACT”
Dry food rations, bucket, mugs and chlorine are being distributed to a village in Akhnoor block of Jammu district.

Photo © Oxfam

The very basic disaster preparedness techniques in this region are insufficient to deal with the increasing severity of the annual floods. Future plans include working in partnership with local organizations to strengthen the capacity of communities to cope. This will involve working with 16 local partners to develop community action plans, building multi-purpose raised platforms for safety, and making sure that rescue boats are available for evacuations.

Oxfam also urged district and state government to lead and promote disaster risk reduction schemes with communities and pressed for the implementation of India’s National Disaster Management Act. Inter-agency Coordination groups, such as exist in Assam, Odisha, Bihar and Uttar Pradesh, also promote effective coordination between NGOs at times of emergency, and much can be learned from this and applied to work in Jammu and Kashmir.
Oxfam is widely known for its public health work in emergencies. The rapid supply of clean water to populations displaced from their own homes is vital, and Oxfam has particular expertise in this area. Alongside this, Oxfam also improves sanitation facilities, distributes items essential for health and hygiene, and ensures that public health promotion activities are carried out to create an environment in which public health risks are reduced and the safety and dignity of emergency-affected communities are enhanced.

March 2014 saw the start of the worst outbreak of Ebola since the disease was first discovered; it spread rapidly across the West Africa region, infecting over 27,000 people and claiming more than 11,000 lives. Oxfam’s response reached over 1.4 million people in Liberia, Sierra Leone, Mali, Senegal, Guinea Bissau, Gambia, and Nigeria. It played a critical role in prevention and mitigation of the disease through mobilizing communities to promote public health, delivering water and sanitation, and lobbying for greater international support.
COMMUNITY HEALTH PROMOTION

The size of the Ebola epidemic and its devastating impact on the affected countries – all of which have fragile and under-resourced healthcare systems and high levels of poverty – unfolded not as a medical emergency, but as a humanitarian crisis. Trained health volunteers were at the heart of Oxfam’s response and played a major role in preventing the spread of infection by going door-to-door to provide accurate information, promote good hygiene and safe burial practices, and identify and refer Ebola cases for treatment in health facilities.

In Sierra Leone, Bernadette Samura was one of the thousands of volunteers who helped to fight the fear and misinformation that initially fuelled the spread of the disease. She says: “I tell people about the risks of catching Ebola – don’t touch dead bodies, don’t visit the sick, avoid public gatherings. In the beginning there was denial, but as time goes on, because of deaths and sets of families being wiped out by Ebola, people are now accepting that Ebola is real.”

This community-led, peer-to-peer approach proved highly effective; people approached by local volunteers were more likely to come forward for testing and early treatment, saving lives and preventing further infections. In Liberia, for example, initial findings indicate that survival rates of Ebola sufferers sought out by community volunteers were 19 per cent higher than among other referrals. Oxfam’s model is now being reviewed by the Center for Disease Control and others, to see how lessons can be learned and applied in future.

Oxfam also played a key role in delivering safe water and sanitation facilities in schools and affected communities. It worked in partnership with NGOs such as “Médecins Sans Frontières” to build treatment centers, install water and sanitation systems, and provides vital equipment including protective suits, boots, and gloves.

Oxfam also provided life-saving hygiene kits and hand washing stations for communities at the...
frontline of the crisis, and distributed ‘survivor kits’ including mattresses, blankets, mosquito nets, chlorine, soap, and buckets.

**CALLING FOR MORE SUPPORT**

Oxfam lobbied governments and international organizations to do more to assist countries affected by the outbreak and those at risk. Ahead of the G20 Summit in November 2014, it organized a series of advocacy and media activities calling on member states to increase the volume and speed of medical expertise, money, and other assistance. As a result, EU Heads of State nearly doubled their funding pledges for Ebola, and committed to increase the number of medical and support staff deployed to affected countries. In March 2015, Oxfam launched a paper, *Ebola is Still Here: Voices from Liberia and Sierra Leone on Response and Recovery* at the Ebola Conference in Brussels. This gave voice to the experiences of people most affected by the outbreak and called on donors, governments, and agencies to increase their engagement with communities in order to strengthen Ebola-prevention work, and to ensure full understanding of people’s needs in the recovery phase.

**NEXT STEPS**

The world was not prepared for this unprecedented outbreak. Despite the challenges and an initially slow response, Oxfam scaled up its response quickly and achieved a great deal. It is now putting considerable effort into learning the lessons from Ebola to prepare for future epidemics. It will continue working in at risk and affected areas to enable families to rebuild their livelihoods and strengthen their health services, supporting the governments to build more efficient public health systems. It is important that communities remain vigilant and are ready to cope with future outbreaks, with women’s rights groups being supported to play a key role in this. Oxfam will also continue to push for the massive and sustained global effort that is now required to help the affected countries recover.
CLARA TOWN
MONROVIA, LIBERIA

Hand-washing training in Clara Town, a township in the north of Monrovia. Oxfam has provided 8,000 family hygiene kits in the area.

PHOTO © Pablo Tosco/Oxfam
SUSTAINABLE FOOD AND NATURAL RESOURCES
TOGETHER WITH MORE THAN 1,100 PARTNER ORGANIZATIONS WE REACHED 5,200,000 BENEFICIARIES IN MORE THAN 800 PROJECTS.
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Hunger is not and need never be inevitable. Yet millions of people around the world still don’t have enough to eat. Extreme weather events and marginal shifts in temperatures and rainfall patterns are already having major impacts on the food system and people’s ability to provide food for their families.

For the millions on the frontline of the fight against hunger – many of them women whose livelihoods depend on small-scale farming – climate change, insecure tenure of land, and the lack of investment into small-scale agriculture are critical factors in preventing them from realizing the right to food.

Oxfam is helping to build the resilience of people living in poverty so that they can sustain their own livelihoods in an increasingly volatile global context. By seeking to make the food system fairer and more sustainable, Oxfam programs are enabling small-scale farmers to diversify their income and grow sufficient food to avoid hunger. And critically, Oxfam supports these farmers to raise their voices and put pressure on governments to achieve investment in rural development solutions that prioritize their needs.

The rights of women are particularly important to achieving a better future where everyone has enough to eat. They shoulder much of the responsibility for household food security but are often hampered by discriminatory policies, beliefs, and practices, frequently lacking proper recognition of their roles as farmers or food providers.

Urgent investment is needed in sustainable agriculture and rural development that puts both the needs of small scale producers and the management of natural resources (such as land and water) before the rich and powerful interests that threaten them. Women can be the driving force of sustainable agriculture but governments and society must invest in women to be productive and to challenge discriminatory policies as well as societal norms and practices that hold them back.

Oxfam’s other important and interconnected goal is to ensure that marginalized communities have fair and equal access to natural resources, such as land and water, on which their livelihoods depend. Drawing from program experience and that of its partners and allies, Oxfam helps women and communities to defend their land and achieve recognition of their legal rights.
Working alongside more than 850 partner organizations, Oxfam reached 3.9 million beneficiaries with sustainable food projects in 2014, of whom 55 per cent are women and girls. Nearly half of these projects (46 per cent) also built the capacity of communities to become more resilient, making them better able to adapt and respond to changing weather patterns.

Oxfam’s GROW campaign seeks to find practical solutions to the failings of the world’s food system that leaves so many people hungry. Grounded in high quality development programs that directly benefit smallholder farmers, this year’s focus was on climate change – the single biggest threat to the fight against hunger.

In 2014-15, rural communities had to contend with floods and drought, and saw their crops fail due to unseasonable rainfall or their land becoming prematurely parched. Being able to find ways to grow food in changing conditions is key, but small-scale farmers need investment in order to do so. Developing early warning systems for fishermen to anticipate and respond to the threat of typhoons; influencing national adaptation strategies; and establishing innovative insurance schemes to compensate farmers for damaged crops are all ways to adapt to climate change in an increasingly warming world.

Securing the funds to support these efforts is a priority for Oxfam’s global advocacy work, and Oxfam urged developed countries to fulfill their commitments and pay their fair share of climate finance. At the same time, Oxfam holds rich nations to account for their emissions, and calls on all governments to deliver a bold and fair global deal on climate change at this year’s UNFCCC climate talks in Paris.
On Sunday the 21st of September 2014, just days before world leaders gathered for a UN summit on climate change in New York, people around the world came together for the biggest ever mobilization for climate justice. The Ban Ki Moon Summit and associated People’s Climate March were key moments for Oxfam’s Food and Climate Justice campaign.

On 23 September 2014, the world’s heads of state and government were invited to New York City for a major climate summit hosted by the UN Secretary General Ban Ki Moon. This was the first time leaders had met to discuss climate change since the Copenhagen meeting in 2009, and the event was the last chance to inject political momentum for a new global climate deal in advance of the next Summit in Paris in 2015.

Oxfam’s message in the lead up to the summit was urgent and clear: Climate change is making people hungry and lack of action had cost the world almost half a trillion dollars in climate related disasters. Its media brief, “The Summit that Snoozed?” provided hard-hitting evidence of more than 650 million people having been affected over this time, urging that this be a wake up call for government leaders and businesses with the power to tackle climate change.
The People’s Climate March turned into a spectacular global event. In the biggest climate change march in history, over 400,000 people took to the streets of New York as world leaders had started to arrive. In all, more than 675,000 people at over 2800 events in 160 countries participated in this massive call for action on climate change. Oxfam led and took part in mobilizations in 13 countries (South Africa, New Zealand, China, Belgium, Australia, UK, Ireland, Tanzania, France, India, Germany, Italy and USA). President Barack Obama broke protocol by referencing the March in his speech at the summit: “The alarm bells keep ringing, our citizens keep marching. We can’t pretend we don’t hear them, we must answer their call.”

The final outcome of the Summit lacked vision and tangible commitment. France pledged USD 1 billion for the near empty Green Climate Fund (GCF), with just over USD 300m more committed from other countries including Denmark, Norway and Luxembourg, South Korea, and Mexico. China also restated its plan to cut carbon emissions by 40-45 per cent by 2021. “No government should leave New York thinking the job is done,” said Oxfam’s Tim Gore, Head of Climate Policy.

In December 2014, as world leaders met in Lima, Peru, for the 20th global climate change meeting (UNFCCC-COP 20), 15,000 people took to the streets demanding climate justice, a spirit that was reflected in other cities all over the world.

Oxfam worked closely with national organizations to help convene a broad-based coalition of civil society organizations with different agendas in which organized groups could discuss climate change together and push priorities in a national context.

Oxfam will continue to work in alliance with others to push for a detailed roadmap on how the promised USD 100 billion pledged to address climate change will be spent in poor nations.
CLIMATE MARCH IN LIMA, DECEMBER 2014.

PHOTO © OXFAM
Last year, half a million people were left homeless as a result of severe flooding in Bangladesh. Oxfam supported people in the usual ways, including providing food, shelter, and cash for people to meet their immediate needs. Uniquely, alongside emergency response, Oxfam also piloted a new and innovative community insurance program.

The pilot scheme was implemented in Sirajgani District, an area particularly prone to flooding. Oxfam was already working effectively with local organisation, Manab Mukti Sangstha (MMS) to develop flood-warning systems and raise the level of homesteads, and 708 families (3,268 individuals) became the first to receive US$ 35 (2,800 Bangladeshi taka) compensation for the loss of their crops and livelihoods.

Ranu Begum was one of those who received insurance payment: “We lost all our rice and vegetables”, she says. “The house was flooded for 11 days, and the yard for 18 days. We managed to keep the animals safe on higher ground. When the flood was over, we rebuilt our home with straw. We will start to plant crops again.” Ranu plans to spend her US$ 35 on buying lentil seeds and a goat.

The new insurance scheme is particularly effective for communities who are vulnerable to disaster. The product is available for organizations, rather than individuals, so that government, service providers, and community-based organisations can take out insurance for the people that they represent. The trigger for payments is based on flood hazard models (calculating water depth and the number of days that water remains high), rather than on evidence gathered from flood monitoring or calculating the losses of individual clients.

Approximately 1,700 households were covered against flood risk in 2013 and 2014, with heavy rains triggering payments to the 708 families. Ranu Begum’s payment meant that she could move forward after the disaster and not have to send her children out to work or sell her assets to keep afloat. Her life, despite the threat of future floods, has stabilised, and she can plan ahead and look to the future.
Climate change is expected to bring more frequent and intense storms, making low-lying countries like Bangladesh increasingly vulnerable. Over the next five years, Oxfam will seek to scale up this program to make it a viable model to cover the risk of over 250,000 people (50,000 households) in three districts (Sirajganj, Gaibandha, and Jamalpur). This will necessitate engaging intensively with potential policyholders, at community, local and national government levels to integrate insurance schemes into social protection and disaster management programs.

The aim here is to transfer the weight of risk from vulnerable people to international financial markets.

“SHE COULD MOVE FORWARD AFTER THE DISASTER AND NOT HAVE TO SEND HER CHILDREN OUT TO WORK OR SELL HER ASSETS TO KEEP AFLOAT”
Oxfam’s public-facing Behind the Brands campaign targets the private sector’s role in the food system. It focuses on the 10 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. It assessed each company’s policies on seven issues: land, women, farmers, workers, climate, transparency, and water and created a ‘company scorecard’ to rank the companies on these issues.

As it turned out, all 10 companies fell short of the standards, with the highest ranked scoring only 38/70 in the initial assessment. Since the start of the Campaign, more than 700,000 actions have been taken by the public to shape the performance of companies that make their well-known brands.

In the first year, working conditions for women in the cocoa industry were addressed, with Nestlé, Mars, and Mondelēz agreeing to sign up to UN Women’s Empowerment Principals due to consumer pressure. Later that year, the campaign addressed land grabs and clearances related to sugar production, with Coca-Cola and PepsiCo committing zero tolerance for land grabs. These were historic wins for Oxfam, creating an entirely new space for civil society and private sector dialogue.

In 2014-15, the focus moved to climate change. Using hard-hitting evidence from Indonesia and Liberia, more than 238,000 supporters signed up to “Fight Hunger and Help Stop Climate Change”. In just under three months, General Mills and Kellogg committed to cleaning up their act, and that of their supply chain, by measuring and disclosing greenhouse gas emissions and adopting zero tolerance policies on deforestation. Their commitment also adds momentum to Oxfam’s call for governments and the wider food and agriculture industry to recognize that climate change is happening and that something has to be done about it now.

Oxfam is now a leading global voice on corporate food system reform. Behind the Brands will continue to raise awareness and mobilize public concern for another year, before closing in early 2016 to make way for a focus on advocacy and implementation. All of the learning from the first three years, including a final year of scorecard analysis, will be assessed and a report published by April 2016.
“IN JUST UNDER THREE MONTHS, GENERAL MILLS AND KELLOGG COMMITTED TO CLEANING UP THEIR ACT”
BAHR EL GAZAL
CHAD

Tree stumps in a dry valley or ‘ouadi’ in Bahr el Gazal, Chad.

PHOTO © Eleanor Farmer/Oxfam
In Georgia, Armenia, and Azerbaijan, more than half of the income of poor households is spent on the purchase of food. An over-reliance on imports and lack of investment in the food and agriculture sector has meant that hunger and malnutrition is a reality for many thousands of people. A lack of information and research about the levels of food security in the Caucasus has, until now, made it difficult to present solid evidence to policy-makers and governments.

OXFAM’s four-year project - *Improving Regional Food Security through National Strategies and Small Holder Production* - funded by the European Union began in September 2013. Working through civil society organizations (CSOs), it aims to improve food security and nutrition in the Caucasus through the inclusion of farmers and citizens in policy development and governance processes.

The Georgian Alliance for Agriculture and Rural Development (GAARD) and the Agriculture Alliance (AA) in Armenia are networks with broad constituencies, capable of generating a huge swathe of public interest. As one member of GAARD put it: “Our previous experience in advocacy shows that you can be a very well known organization but if you are alone, it is difficult to deliver your messages. Partnership with others makes it much easier; there are more chances that you will be heard; the simple logic that jointly we are stronger.”

The key to successful advocacy starts with strong evidence-based research that serves as a basis for designing campaigns to influence policy-makers. In 2014, two research projects - *Food Security in the South Caucasus* and a *Diagnostic Review of State Policies* in Georgia – provided the credibility and leverage for GAARD and AA to talk to their members, donors, and Government representatives.

In 2014, the Ministry of Agriculture shared the draft Agricultural Development strategy of Georgia (2015-20) with Oxfam and GAARD for comment, with 58 per cent of their recommendations being taken into account. Similarly, Armenia’s Strategy for Sustainable Agriculture and Rural Development (2020-25) encompassed 89 per
cent of AA’s recommendations. Both countries understand the challenges of working on land that has low productivity or is fragmented into small plots, but they also see the potential to produce higher quality ecological products.

The challenge for next year is for civil society, farmers’ associations, and women’s groups to get involved in the development of the strategy’s action plan and budget allocation, and for the Government to monitor its implementation on improving agricultural production and food security in the South Caucasus countries.

“SUCCESSFUL ADVOCACY STARTS WITH STRONG EVIDENCE-BASED RESEARCH THAT SERVES AS A BASIS FOR DESIGNING CAMPAIGNS”
Bolivia has one of the lowest carbon emissions in the world and yet is considered among the top twenty countries most affected by climate change. Oxfam is working at multiple levels, in rural communities, with powerful activists like Carmen Vaca, and at national and global levels, to seek environmentally sustainable models for Bolivian farming. The growing impact of deforestation, agribusiness, and cattle ranching has critically affected the lives of indigenous farmers in Bolivia. The gap between rich and poor is widening and deepening levels of poverty and inequality. More than half of Bolivia’s 16,000 rural communities are vulnerable to food shortages, with women particularly hard hit, their living conditions being among the poorest in Latin America.

“We didn’t contribute to climate change but we are the ones suffering,” says Carmen, a farmer and community activist from Beni. “I speak as a farmer. We all need to get together to put pressure on the people in power. [We must] go to local government for a response, and then they should scale up their action and to the national government – that’s their job.”

Oxfam’s approach in Bolivia starts at a local level, working through partners such CIPCA [Centro de Investigación y Promoción del Campesinado] to help farmers develop sustainable models for farming and forest management that are viable alternatives to the more invasive agribusiness approaches.

For Carmen, and other fruit farmers from the 14 Septiembre Community in Beni, this has meant adopting new farming practices such as growing native Amazonian cacao alongside their usual fruit crops. Using an agro-forestry approach,
Rogelio Churqui Quispe (18) and Severino Cortez (40) from Khapi village, Bolivia. Behind, a view of the glacier mount Illimani which locals fear is melting so rapidly that in decades to come they will have no water for their farms.

PHOTO © Mark Chilvers/Oxfam

rather cutting back land in preparation for planting, they now grow on untended land to maximize productivity and reduce the need for watering. CIPCA then help the farmers to sell their cacao through a rural economic organization called APARAB (Association of Agroforestry Producers of the Amazon Region of Bolivia).

Working across the political, environmental, and social spectrum, Oxfam’s vision of development involves an integrated approach that is based on the sustainable management of natural resources, equitable land management, innovative programs that add value to processing, and building the capacity of farmer organizations to speak out and realize the change that they want to see. Carmen was one of five women farmers and climate change activists featured in a global video that was seen by thousands of people around the world, as part of its campaign to mobilize people to take action on climate change.
“Governments in Africa are turning to large-scale partnerships with donors and multinational companies to stimulate investment in agriculture.” This was the theme of Oxfam’s hard-hitting briefing paper about the rise of public-private partnerships in Africa, published in September 2014 to coincide with the African Green Revolution (AGRA) Forum in Addis Ababa.

After decades of underinvestment in agriculture, African governments are rightly looking at finding ways to mobilize funding for the sector, however, as “Moral Hazard” pointed out, mega public-private partnerships (PPPs) are “unproven and risky, and are likely to skew the benefits of investments towards the privileged and more powerful, while the risks fall on the most vulnerable.”

“Moral Hazard” was the first evidence-based step in a campaign to assess the effectiveness of the PPP approach as a vehicle for poverty eradication. Based on extensive research, interviews and case studies from Burkina Faso, Malawi, and Tanzania, Oxfam sought to answer three simple questions: Who are the primary beneficiaries? Who shoulders the burden of risk? And, who holds power in decision-making? The findings were stark: in all three areas, the priorities of small-scale producers, and particularly women, were least likely to be met.

Media coverage included several news items on BBC Afrique’s breakfast news, and features on Voice of America and CCTV Africa, and TFM [the primetime Senegalese chat show]. In the written press there was Africa wide coverage, with opinion editorials in influential publications such as Jeune Afrique. Journalists from the New York Times and Bloomberg interviewed the author of the report and BBC World Service investigated the story in its global ‘Business Daily’ Show.

The report provided a counterbalance to the large amount of ‘hype’ around large-scale private sector investment projects. By highlighting the potential risks of PPPs - threats to land rights, worsening inequality, and asymmetries of power – Oxfam challenged the narrative about such initiatives and has placed itself as a thought leader on this important global trend.
This campaign to influence the way that donor funds are spent in Africa will be a priority for Oxfam in future years. It will continue to lobby for solutions that attract investment to support domestic markets and challenge the private sector to develop inclusive business models. This includes also promoting agricultural systems that increase yield, resilience, and adaptation to climate change; and ensuring that communities, and women in particular, have the means to manage land and water resources in sustainable ways.

SECTION 6.3

GOAL 5 - ACCESS TO NATURAL RESOURCES

Working with more than 270 partners we reached 1.3 M beneficiaries in more than 130 projects. 62% of our beneficiaries are women and girls.

Increasing competition for access to and control over natural resources is putting pressure on the livelihoods of already vulnerable small-scale producers, agricultural laborers, indigenous people, and the urban poor. All too often the aggressive tactics of mining or logging companies result in human rights violations, and the corrupt tactics of local officials do nothing to protect or respect the views of local communities.

Oxfam works with partners and affected communities to strengthen their land rights and prevent land grabs. It influences global organizations such as the World Bank, the African Union, and some of the biggest food and beverage brands, by presenting strong evidence-based arguments in support of communities that are fighting to retain access to the natural resources on which they depend to survive. It also campaigns to ensure that communities receive a fair share of revenues generated from oil, gas, and mining projects.
SECTION 6.3.1

LAND GRABS IN CAMBODIA’S SUGAR INDUSTRY

Behind the Brands (BtB) is an initiative of the GROW campaign that engages the public to put pressure on the big ten food and beverage companies to improve their sourcing policies, and those of their suppliers. In Cambodia, the BtB campaign exposed land rights violations that were being committed by companies in Coca-Cola’s sugar supply chain.

Poor farmers in Sre Ambel had sought redress from the Koh Kong sugar company for nine years after being displaced from their land to make way for sugar plantations. Oxfam’s campaign supported 200 families who submitted petitions to national and international courts (also involving a UK court complaint against Tate & Lyle). They are now in a process of negotiating full recompense in cash and entitlement to land.

Koh Kong Sugar Industry/KSI/KSL, a joint venture of Thai company (Khon Kean Sugar Industry) and Taiwanese (Ve Wong Corporation), has improved its business practice and sought a solution with affected communities. In October 2014, it launched the first phase of compensation payments of USD 2,000 to 18 families but this falls short of their expectations. Other families are yet to receive an offer, and the process for further compensation has been put on hold by the government as they seek to address all sugar-related land grabs simultaneously. But it is a start – and an improvement in KSI’s previous behavior, which had been unresponsive to the plight of displaced farmers for so many years.

Another company, Mitr Phol from Thailand was also involved in a land dispute with farmers in Cambodia. It set up a meeting with community representatives and local NGOs to settle their claim but this was unsuccessful, and the affected community then submitted their case.

“OXFAM’S CAMPAIGN SUPPORTED 200 FAMILIES WHO SUBMITTED PETITIONS TO NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL COURTS”
CAMBODIA

Sopheap Meas, 43, is a farmer in Cambodia.

PHOTO © Simon Rawles/Oxfam

to the Thai National Human Right Commission. The company ultimately returned land to the government of Cambodia and withdrew their investment from the country. The land has not yet been given back to the people for farming as it under the control of Ministry of Agriculture Forestry and Fishery, despite requests from the community affected. Oxfam will continue to work through local NGOs to provide ongoing support to farmers in Sre Amble, Koh Kong province by engaging directly with KSL/ KSI in Cambodia. It will also work with other allies such as European Union and development partners at a national level to put pressure to the government to speed up decision-making processes. It is a challenging and time-consuming case as it involves a huge number of families over a long period of time.
SECTION 6.3.2

AUSTRALIA’S BIG FOUR BANKS

How does your bank use your money? Many of us simply do not know. In 2014 Australians were shocked to learn that their bank could be using their money to back companies connected to land grabs for agricultural and timber production. Changes to international agribusiness and finance markets have rapidly increased the financial sector’s involvement in agriculture and timber projects. Yet banks closely hide information about their investments – making it virtually impossible for communities to know who is profiting from activities on their land.

After 12 months of painstaking research, Oxfam uncovered links between Australia’s big four banks and companies facing allegations of land grabs. Its 2014 report – Banking on Shaky Ground – used evidence-based case studies to show that The Commonwealth Bank, ANZ, Westpac, and National Australia Bank (NAB) were backing companies connected to unethical logging and agriculture overseas. The voices of affected communities in Cambodia and Brazil can be heard in the 60 Minutes story “Dirty Business”.

Inspired by communities courageously defending their rights despite incredible hardship, Australian bank customers took action. They wrote 13,000 letters to the banks, spread the word through social media, signed Oxfam’s petition, and raised the issue at the banks’ annual general meetings.

In November 2014 NAB and Westpac both responded to public pressure with new lending policies that take a stronger stance on land rights.

“In November 2014 NAB and Westpac both responded to public pressure with new lending policies that take a stronger stance on land rights.”
Ms. No Phon (54) - wife of Mr. Vaen Mak - works in the family’s rice field. The family lost 3.5 hectares of land when Phnom Penh Sugar evicted them to build the plantation.

PHOTO © Thomas Cristofoletti/Ruom/OxfamAus

OXFAM ANNUAL REPORT 2014 - 2015

This was an important success for Oxfam in the fight to help vulnerable communities secure a fair share of natural resources. Oxfam will continue to work with the Australian public to press the banks to take a Zero Tolerance approach to land grabs, with increased transparency and meaningful redress for affected communities. Oxfam also works through local partners to support communities in their fight to regain land or achieve fair compensation.
In 2011, 350 farming families from Paanama were evicted by the military to make way for a tourist hotel. For over four years, they were denied access to their land, even to farm. In February 2015, the Sri Lankan government through a cabinet decision released most of their land, thanks to collective action by Oxfam and the People’s Alliance for Right to Land (PARL).

Oxfam’s partner, the Social Development Foundation (SDF) first raised concerns about the Paanama land grab in 2011, and this and other cases were logged and publicised in a national network - The Land Forum. Due to increasing number of violations in Paanama, Kalpitiya, Sampur, Jaffna, Mullikulam, and Colombo, the Forum transformed into a more dynamic and representative network - The People’s Alliance for Right to Land (PARL).

Oxfam’s facilitated the PARL network, bringing affected communities, legal service providers, research, advocacy, and campaigning organizations together to achieve impact through collective action on land rights. In Sri Lanka, this meant challenging the military and other powerful institutions and to achieve success, it was essential develop an articulate, well-integrated, and visible national campaign.

The Paanama community were helped to file court cases and PARL members also petitioned the National Human Rights Commission of Sri Lanka and the UN Human Rights Council on behalf of the community. Their case was also strengthened through publicity achieved through local, national and international media.

The villagers of Paanama are not back on their land yet and the fight to gain possession continues. But their struggle has given hope to other communities facing similar violations, and joining in collective action, they have helped to create stronger civil society activism on land rights in Sri Lanka. Oxfam has invested in an awareness programme in Eastern province so that communities can continue to document their cases and take remedial action through the PARL network.

More importantly, the collective action of Oxfam and the PARL network, with pressure from domestic courts and international bodies, has resulted in the Sri Lankan Government...
backtracking from its practice of seizing land using the military. In most places like Sampur, Jaffna, and Mullikulam, the Government has taken steps to release most of the land back and to offer alternative land to the people. Pressure created through national and international initiatives has pushed the Government to provide solutions for land issues, such as resolving land claims for conflict-affected people in the Northern and Eastern provinces.

Working on land rights is complex and for Oxfam this means being able to work at many different levels and being able to navigate visible and invisible power dynamics. It also involves stepping back from centre stage to focus on supporting and building the capacity of others. Future plans include launching a campaign to further joint ownership of land for women, establishing a database for all research reports and media products, and setting up a hotline in selected areas for immediate advice.

“PRESSURE CREATED THROUGH NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL INITIATIVES HAS PUSHED THE GOVERNMENT TO PROVIDE SOLUTIONS FOR LAND ISSUES”
Paanama villages stage a protest in Arugambay, a famous tourist destination close to their land.

PHOTO © Oxfam
At a global level, the World Bank spends USD 50 billion each year in developing countries and as such it is vital that its investments protect, or at least do no harm, to poor or vulnerable communities. The Bank is currently re-writing its ‘Safeguard’ policies and 2014-15 was the optimum year for Oxfam to help shape the vital ‘Phase 2” consultation process.

In October 2014, a Roundtable in Washington DC was organized by Oxfam (in alliance with the Forest People’s Programme, Heinrich Boell Foundation, and Inclusive Development International) to persuade the Bank to strengthen protection policies. The Roundtable brought decision-makers at the Bank together with policy experts and southern partners from Guatemala, Cambodia, Laos, and Kenya to discuss the extent to which the rights of vulnerable communities were being violated.

“THE ROUNDTABLE BROUGHT DECISION-MAKERS AT THE BANK TOGETHER WITH POLICY EXPERTS AND SOUTHERN PARTNERS FROM GUATEMALA, CAMBODIA, LAOS AND KENYA TO DISCUSS THE EXTENT TO WHICH THE RIGHTS OF VULNERABLE COMMUNITIES WERE BEING VIOLATED”

Speakers told of villagers being evicted to make way for dam construction, conservation projects, and rubber plantations. Another case from Guatemala illustrated how ‘land titling’ programs could lead to exclusion of the customary rights of indigenous people. Senior Bank staff later said that the event was one of the most influential inputs to its thinking on the new Safeguards. Oxfam then mobilized its worldwide network to attend public consultations with the Bank to press home demands – from Ethiopia to China, Paraguay to Tajikistan, Tanzania to Vietnam.
As well as financing development the world over, the World Bank Group is also a thought-leader and adviser to developing country governments and other donors like the new BRICS banks. As a key influencer in its own right, building a strong relationship with the Bank – whether as an ally or target for lobbying – is critical for achieving long-term and beneficial change. If the Bank establishes stronger safeguards for vulnerable communities, a ‘ripple-effect’ is likely, with other powerful institutions following suit.

In recent years significant momentum has been achieved at a global level to establish new standards on land, for example the Voluntary Guidelines on Land Tenure secured at the Committee on Food Security and the African Union’s Land Policy Initiative. Land rights also feature in the new Sustainable Development Goals and together these advances will create further opportunities for Oxfam to hold individuals, governments, and multilateral development banks (such as the New Development Bank or the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank) to account to the same, or higher standards.

Despite these stronger policies on land governance, there remains a huge ‘implementation gap’ and Oxfam’s work is increasingly about ensuring that fine words are backed up by action. This means both working to support communities directly harmed by Bank lending to seek justice and redress as well as continuing to press for the highest standards when the Bank’s Safeguards are finalized next year.

The issue of land is a powerful illustration of the level of inequality in the world – between the powerful and the vulnerable, men and women, rich and poor – intimately connecting Oxfam’s work to sustain food and natural resources, with another influential campaign – Even it up – which aims to secure sufficient development finance in the world for everyone to have access to essential services.
SECTION 7

FINANCING FOR DEVELOPMENT
JOINTLY WITH MORE THAN 350 PARTNERS WE REACHED 1,600,000 BENEFICIARIES IN MORE THAN 230 PROJECTS
SECTION 7

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SECTION 7.1

INTRODUCTION

The gap between rich and poor is spiraling out of control. Just 80 individuals have the same wealth as half the people on our planet. Such extreme economic inequality hurts everyone, damaging economic growth, fuelling crime, and standing in the way of ending global poverty.

Such stark inequality is not inevitable: it is the result of political and economic choices. The rules are rigged in favor of the rich at the expense of the many. While the wealth and power of the few grows, the poorest get left behind.

It doesn’t have to be like this. The rules can be changed, inequalities can be reversed – this is the essence of Oxfam’s Even It Up! campaign. The rules on tax can be changed to make sure that the rich pay their fair share. Increased spending on public health and education is possible to give poor people a fighting chance. We can demand fair wages for everyone. We can make sure the poorest are heard by those in power.

Over the next five years, Oxfam seeks to bring about positive competition between decision-makers on game-changing progressive policies that fight inequality, backed up by a solid new political and economic orthodoxy that extreme inequality is wrong and stands in the way of people claiming their rights.

History shows that the stranglehold of elites can be broken by the actions of ordinary people and the widespread demand for progressive policies. Reversing economic, political, and gender inequalities requires empowering citizens, and especially women, to hold governments, donors, and the private sector to account on how revenue is raised and spent. As more women, men, girls, and boys exercise their universal rights, they will demand changes to the systems that have led to today’s inequality explosion.
SECTIOn 7.2

shAPING THe DEBATE ON EXTREME INEQUALITY

This year saw an eruption in global discussion of inequality. In October 2014 a hard-hitting report (Even it Up: Time to End Extreme Inequality) launched Oxfam’s ambitious new campaign to achieve game-changing results over five years. Three months later, another briefing (Wealth: Having It All and Wanting More) provided more evidence of the problem of extreme inequality, helping Oxfam take the World Economic Forum in Davos by storm.

30 OCTOBER 2014 – EVEN IT UP!

The number of billionaires has doubled since the financial crisis as inequality spirals out of control. In the same period at least a million mothers have died in childbirth due to a lack of basic health services. From Ghana to Germany, South Africa to Spain, the gap between rich and poor is widening.

In 2013, seven out of 10 people lived in countries where economic inequality is worse than 30 years ago. In 2015, 80 people owned as much wealth as the poorest half of humanity – 3.5 billion people share between them the same amount of wealth as those 80 wealthiest people. Such extreme economic inequality stands in the way of ending global poverty, and widens other inequalities like the gap between women and men.

Oxfam’s new campaign – Even It Up! – is changing the current orthodoxy that inequality is acceptable and inevitable. It is strengthening citizen and civil society voice, and helping galvanize policy and practice changes that can reverse economic, gender, and social inequalities which include providing: free public health and education for everyone so the poor are not left behind; decent wages for all workers; progressive taxation so the rich pay their fair share, and political voice for all, including the poorest.

The report that launched the campaign (Even it Up: Time to End Extreme Inequality) presents new evidence that the gap between rich and poor is growing ever wider and is undermining poverty eradication. Drawing from case studies around the world, it clearly shows the causes
of today’s inequality crisis, and offers concrete solutions for overcoming them.

The impact of the report is reflected in the number of high-profile endorsements from influential figures, including Jeffrey Sachs, Director of the Earth Institute, who said: “Oxfam has done it again: a powerful call to action against the rising trend of inequality across the world.” Kofi Annan, former Secretary-General of the United Nations and Nobel Laureate wrote: “This valuable report by Oxfam is an exploration of the problems caused by extreme inequality and the policy options governments can take to build a fairer world, with equal opportunities for us all. This report is a call to action for a common good. We must answer that call.”

The campaign has had thousands of media hits in over 100 countries and been trending in social media from Colombia to South Africa. Other NGOs and civil society organizations are also taking up the cause, and making use of Oxfam’s research and statistics to call for change.

21 JANUARY 2015 – DAVOS

In the run up to the World Economic Forum in Davos, Oxfam launched Wealth: Having It All and Wanting More, a research paper showing that by 2016, the richest one per cent will have more wealth than the remaining 99 per cent of the world’s population – unless the current trend of rising inequality is checked. Members of this global elite had an average wealth of USD 2.7 million per adult in 2014.

Oxfam and others helped to shine a spotlight on the undue power of these elite: in advance of the Forum in Davos, with Action Aid, Greenpeace, Civics, Awd, and Oxfam reminding global decision-makers in a joint statement that “Building a just and sustainable world means challenging the power of the 1%.”

At the Forum, the world’s political and business elites meet thought-leaders from development, civil society and other sectors to generate breakthrough thinking and powerful global partnerships with potential to achieve substantial change in the world.

Winnie Byanyima, Oxfam’s Executive Director, was invited to co-chair the Davos Forum in January 2015 – a solid platform from which to denounce extreme inequality. In her opening speech, Winnie warned delegates that the explosion in inequality cripples the fight against global poverty, at a time when one in nine people do not have enough to eat and more than a billion people still live on less than USD 1.25 a day.

Coverage during the Forum was unprecedented, breaking all media records in Oxfam’s history. The ‘80 richest’ story achieved a record-breaking 4,291 media hits on 19 January 2015, when Oxfam’s second inequality research paper was
launched *(Wealth: Having it All)*. Winnie was the most influential WEF tweeter on 21 January, in the top five most influential women on Twitter globally.

Christine Lagarde (Head of the IMF) acknowledged that the terms of the debate on inequality had shifted, crediting Oxfam’s influence, and subsequently called for the creation of a new IMF team on inequality. Oxfam also had positive feedback from Jim Yong Kim of the World Bank and Sam Kutesa, President of the UN General Assembly. Dozens more high-level delegates publicly and privately supported Oxfam’s calls for reforming the global corporate tax system.

Inequality is not inevitable. Oxfam is using its influence and mobilizing people, urging leaders around the world to make sure everyone has a fair say, pays their fair share of tax, has equal access to good healthcare and education, and decent wages.
Section 7.3

‘I HAVE THE RIGHT’ TO EDUCATION

India’s Right to Education Act came into force in April 2010, and provides eight years of free and compulsory education to all children between the ages of six and 14 years. Thanks to the RTE Act, 199 million children are in school and studying.

However, 6 million children between 6 and 13 years are still not in school and the majority of these children belong to the three most marginalized groups in India today – Dalits (32.4%), Tribals (16.6%) and Muslims (25.7%). Oxfam is campaigning to hold the government to account for its lack of will and investment in education.

It took seven years for the government get to a point at which the RTE Act came into force (after constitutional amendment in 2002) – and Oxfam argues that the same length of time can’t elapse again before equal access to education is realized. The Indian Government set a final deadline of 31 March 2015 to fully comply with the Act but it fell woefully short of this, with just eight percent of all schools in all of India being compliant.

At the current rate of progress, it will take India another 63 years to achieve the standards that it has set for itself.

Education is one of the best equalizers - and of the best tools that governments have for creating a fairer society. It is criminal that the out of school children in India come from the poorest and most marginalized families. The journey that a child makes from receiving a basic education, to achieving a better job, to earning more money, to contributing more to society - is a clear and undisputable path to a better life. It’s a shame that the government of India can’t make the connection between education for all and the opportunity this brings for future prosperity.

The RTE Act captures a set of common standards – norms and processes – to which schools must comply in areas such infrastructure, teacher training, and evaluation. Those schools that do not meet these requirements are considered non-compliant. With a large number of schools being
non-compliant, the student retention rates are adversely affected. The low quality of education that children receive is one of the main reasons why two out of five children drop out before completing elementary education. Early drop out from school is a major contributor to insecure employment, poor working conditions and lower wages later in life (ILO 2006).

In 2014-15, Oxfam took to the streets and the Internet to rally citizens to demand better implementation of the act by the government. Over 434,000 people joined the call – Haq banta hai – ‘I have the right’. With Oxfam’s help, they demanded that the Education Minister immediately respond with a clear and accountable roadmap for achieving full implementation of the RTE Act within three years. Oxfam is building a momentum and the campaign will continue until all children in India realize their right to a basic education.
In the UK, public support for international aid has been declining in recent years, particularly since the financial crash of 2008. Sections of the media have been highly critical of aid, pushing hard for the UK Government to reduce the aid budget.

Despite this, senior figures in all major political parties continued to express support for international aid and in 2013, the UK government spent 0.7 per cent of GNI on aid for the first time, making them the first G7 country to meet a commitment originally made in 1970. This equated to an ODA budget of £11.4 billion in 2013-14.

In 2014, an opportunity arose to enshrine this commitment in law, via a Private Members Bill from Michael Moore MP. Oxfam’s objective was to demonstrate public support for international aid, and to inspire Members of Parliament and Peers to support the Bill. It couldn’t, of course, do this alone. A coalition effort – ‘Turn Up Save Lives’ - would be required to mobilise supporters of the UK’s leading international NGOs. Media coverage generated heated debate – and Oxfam and other NGOs used print and digital communications to continue to press home arguments in favor of aid.

Together with its allies, Oxfam undertook extensive direct advocacy, collaborated with sympathetic MPs, and mobilised supporters to urge MPs to turn up and vote at each stage of the Bill’s passage through parliament.

The campaign was successful, overcoming every hurdle opponents put in its way, and the Bill became law in March 2015. The passing of the Bill was a culmination of decades of campaigning to retain this level of spending on aid from one of the world’s richest nations.

It was also hugely symbolic, putting the UK in a strong position to lobby other rich countries to follow suit. This is not to say that Oxfam believes that aid is the solution to poverty alleviation, but rather than it plays an important role. A cut in aid would not just have been harmful in practical terms; it would have also risked sending a very negative message to the rest of the world about the UK’s priorities.
MY RIGHTS, MY VOICE

Children and young people have huge potential to transform their lives and communities. With the right skills, support and opportunities they can be a driving force to break the cycle of poverty so many are born into. To achieve their potential, their rights to health and education must be fulfilled.

My Rights, My Voice (MRMV) has achieved impressive results this year. Young people are becoming empowered, not just in their communities, but also as influencers of national policy. Oxfam saw significant progress in the willingness of duty-bearers to engage with young people and strong evidence of concrete action taken as a direct result of lobbying and advocacy in all countries (Afghanistan, Georgia, Mali, Nepal, Niger, Pakistan, Tanzania, and Vietnam).

In five MRMV countries, national-level policies were changed as a direct result of program inputs. This is the result of deliberate capacity-building with young people, empowering them to advocate for their own needs. In many countries, young people took over from Oxfam and partner organizations, designing and delivering activities to raise awareness of their health and education needs.

“In many countries, young people took over from Oxfam and partner organizations, designing and delivering activities to raise awareness of their health and education needs.”

In Georgia, the Ministry of Health adapted and improved medical prescription processes, incorporating views of MRMV partners and representatives. Georgi, 18, a member of the MRMV Youth Advisory Board, says, “I took part in a youth forum dedicated to International Children’s Day where I spoke about health rights for children. I hope that everyone in Georgia and all over the world is able to benefit from their right to health services.”
Afghanistan’s Ministry of Youth Affairs involved young people in drafting a new youth policy, ratified by the government in August 2014. Layla, a youth group member, says: “Before MRMV, I couldn’t imagine going into society, but now I have the right to participate in public life and to advocate for my rights.” The government of Vietnam also developed a national program to incentivize children based on MRMV approaches.

In Mali, many schools have used a MRMV e-learning platform to teach young people about sexual and reproductive health (SRH); a service which is likely to be integrated into the National Curriculum. In Pakistan, over 250,000 people (and counting) supported a SRH campaign via pledge cards, social media and texts. In Mali, Nepal, and Niger, young people decided to do more work on preventing child marriage and female genital mutilation. Young people in Nepal also lobbied MPs to address poor health provision for women, young people and children. The Deputy Prime Minister made a public commitment to improve services – an excellent example of advocacy leading to fairer public spending.

In Arusha, Tanzania, girls’ school enrolment increased 47 per cent as a direct result of MRMV’s work. Oxfam also saw clear evidence of changing attitudes to young women, as increasing numbers of girls won leadership positions in student elections.

The MRMV program has consistently pushed itself to learn from the extraordinary energy, openness, and creativity of young people, and this has required an open and flexible approach in which MRMV has shown a high level of trust and confidence in youth, and has stood back to give them the space to develop their own agendas and activities.

In 2014-15, the focus of MRMV was on young people taking ownership of the program and thousands of young people (in each of the focus countries) have shown that they are more than capable of designing and delivering their own activities, and representing themselves in local and national government spaces. “What I like about MRMV is that it gives young people the space to express their needs, connect with decision-makers and claim their rights to a better future,” says Aissa (21), Member of a Youth Advisory Board, Mali.

TANZANIA

In Tanzania, 66 schools in rural areas have been transformed through young people forming elected student councils (barazas). In the first year, Oxfam and its partners focused on engaging students and making them aware of their rights, and those of their teachers. They were given training in how to run leadership elections, organize meetings and liaise with school management committees, and girls were given additional mentoring to develop
their confidence and leadership skills. Parents and community members were also involved to strengthen the overall approach.

Students, through their elected councils, have held teachers to account for discharging their teaching duties effectively, promoting trust and cooperation, and enhancing school attainment as a result. They also successfully changed attitudes to corporal punishment by taking the issue to school leaders, and enlisting the support of district education officers, and local authorities. Heavy and illegal punishment has now been eliminated from all MRMV schools.

"Before MRMV, girls were afraid to lead in school. Now, I am proud that we currently have a girl as our Head Prefect. I benefitted a lot from the program and it has given me courage and confidence," says Elizabeth (18), MRMV student baraza leader, Tanzania.
SECTION 8

OUR SUPPORTERS
SECTION 8.1

INTRODUCTION

Oxfam is deeply grateful for the continued and generous support of all our friends. Your commitment and passion is an inspiration.

Emergency appeals, leaving a legacy, sponsored events, innovative partnerships with brilliant businesses – we do whatever it takes to help people run, bake, trek, knit, spend, give or even sky-dive their way to a world without poverty. By giving your support, you become part of a global movement to end poverty for everyone, for good.

“BY GIVING YOUR SUPPORT, YOU BECOME PART OF A GLOBAL MOVEMENT TO END POVERTY FOR EVERYONE, FOR GOOD”
Oxfam Trailwalker is one of the world’s largest hiking fundraising events. Since it began in Hong Kong in 1981, Oxfam Trailwalker in Hong Kong has seen more than 88,000 hikers raise over HK$470 millions to help Oxfam’s reduce poverty. The event has now extended from Hong Kong to 15 other cities in 10 countries.

At the 2015 event, more than 12,500 people - including walkers, volunteers, support team members, sponsors and other supporting organisations - demonstrated the ‘trailwalking spirit’: partnership. A total of 5,200 participants, in teams of four, took up the 100 km challenge by walking over 20 hills and mountains along the rugged MacLehose Trail and other trails within 48 hours.

Among the walkers last year was Chan Kwok Keung, a Trailwalker veteran who has participated in 30 different Oxfam Trailwalker events around the world over the last 20 years. With passion for the event and sharing Oxfam’s vision of ending poverty, Chan has helped the Oxfam Trailwalker flourish over the years. He established the ‘Trailwalker Teaching Room’ and volunteers his time to help pass on the trailwalking spirit and experience to the younger generation and other hikers. His students include young drug rehabilitants, autistic youths, monks and nuns, doctors, and housewives. He always encourages participants by saying, ‘We should strive to do our best to not only finish the trail, but also to raise as much money as possible to help reduce poverty around the world’. With the support of our ardent Trailwalkers like Chan and other partners, we are able to bring positive change to the lives of vulnerable people around the world.
Walkers gear up for Oxfam Trailwalker 2015.

PHOTO © Oxfam Hong Kong
October 2014 saw the launch of a new Face to Face fundraising campaign in the heart of Mexico City. Our new recruits took to the streets in order to invite members of the public to join the fight against poverty in Mexico and worldwide by becoming supporting members of Oxfam. Giving on a monthly basis is a relatively new concept in Mexico, and Oxfam is not a household name so teams knew they had a challenge on their hands! But their task is an important one; more than half of Mexico’s population lives in poverty. And while Mexico is the 14th world economy, the country shows a high level of extreme inequality.

Speaking to members of the team it seems that their passion to be part of the change in their country has been the key to their success. “I’ve never done anything like this before” says Daniela Guidarelli, who was named Global Face to Face Fundraiser of the Year 2014-2015. “However, I’m convinced of the urgent need to fix this country and that Oxfam can do a lot in this sense. I’m also convinced that we are a viable and tangible option to do our bit to help and to build a better world for everyone.” The teams have signed up over 4,000 new regular donors to date, and are looking to expand, launching teams in a second city in 2016.

“THEIR PASSION TO BE PART OF THE CHANGE IN THEIR COUNTRY HAS BEEN THE KEY TO THEIR SUCCESS”
8.3 Our Supporters in Mexico City

Face to Face Fundraising team in Mexico.

PHOTO © Oxfam Mexico
“I can’t remember why I first became involved with Oxfam, but I know why I’m still interested.

Because Oxfam covers the breadth of my interests, it appeals to me. I like the way they work in partnerships with local people to campaign for the environment, clean water, health or humanitarian issues — a bit of what they do, is a bit of what I’m passionate about! “And Oxfam aligns with my values — that’s important to me too.

Because of changing life circumstances, I’ve decided it’s time to update my Will and I plan to include a gift to Oxfam. I want to use my funds to practical ends, and I have confidence that Oxfam will be there to do that for me.”
SECTION 9

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE
## CONSOLIDATED MONETARY VALUE OF FUNDING RECEIVED BY SOURCE

Reporting period: 1st April 2014 – 31st March 2015. All figures in millions of Euros.

### Revenue by Source

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<tr>
<th>Revenue by Source</th>
<th>€ Million</th>
<th>%</th>
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<td>Institutional Fundraising</td>
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<td>UN and UN Institutions</td>
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<td>EU and EU Institutions</td>
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<td>Other Supranational Institutions</td>
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<td>Other Governments</td>
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<td>NGO &amp; Other</td>
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<td>Associated Organizations</td>
<td>€0.2</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Revenue by Source</th>
<th>€ Million</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Public Fundraising</td>
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<td>Fundraising Events</td>
<td>€20.0</td>
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<td>Humanitarian Appeals</td>
<td>€36.8</td>
<td>3.5%</td>
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<td>Regular Giving</td>
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<td>14.5%</td>
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<td>Single Gifts</td>
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<td>Bequests</td>
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<td>Lotteries</td>
<td>€15.1</td>
<td>1.4%</td>
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<td>Other Corporate, Trust &amp; Foundation Donations</td>
<td>€45.8</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other Public Fundraising</td>
<td>€18.0</td>
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<tr>
<td>Interest and Investment Revenue</td>
<td>€11.0</td>
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<tr>
<td>Trading Revenue*</td>
<td>€185.8</td>
<td>17.7%</td>
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<td>Other Income</td>
<td>€12.5</td>
<td>1.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Income</strong></td>
<td>€1,049.6</td>
<td>100.0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Trading Revenue figures are gross – no trading costs have been deducted.
**THE SIX LARGEST DONORS AND THE MONETARY VALUE OF THEIR CONTRIBUTION**

Reporting period: 1st April 2014 – 31st March 2015. All figures in millions of Euros.

| **Home Government Institutions** | €233.4 |
| **Trading Revenue** | €185.8 |
| **Regular Giving (Public Fundraising)** | €152.2 |
| **EU and EU Institutions (Institutional Fundraising)** | €82.8 |
| **Single Gifts (Public Fundraising)** | €61.2 |
| **UN and UN Institutions** | €62.0 |
| **Total 6 largest donors** | €777.4 |

**Income and Expenditure**

| **Total Income** | €1,050 |
| **Total Expenditure** | €1,015 |
| **Excess of Income over Expenditure** | €35 |

**Balance Sheet**

| **Total Assets** | €717 |
| **Total Liabilities** | €326 |
| **Net Assets** | €391 |
**SECTION 9.2**

**EXPENDITURE**

**OXFAM CONFEDERATION EXPENDITURE**

Reporting period: 1st April 2014 – 31st March 2015. 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>€706</td>
<td>70%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Program Implementation</td>
<td>€594</td>
<td>59%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Development &amp; Humanitarian</td>
<td>€535</td>
<td>53%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Influencing</td>
<td>€59</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Program Management</td>
<td>€112</td>
<td>11%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Non-program</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Management &amp; Administration</td>
<td>€63</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fundraising-Marketing</td>
<td>€88</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>€83</td>
<td>8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trading</td>
<td>€146</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Expenditure</strong></td>
<td>€1,003</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Expenditure figures do not include €11.6 million of losses.
PROGRAM EXPENDITURE

Reporting period: 1st April 2014 – 31st March 2015. 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>€137.6</td>
<td>19.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>East &amp; Central Africa</td>
<td>€54.3</td>
<td>7.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Horn of Africa</td>
<td>€63.5</td>
<td>9.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>West Africa</td>
<td>€93.8</td>
<td>13.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Southern Africa</td>
<td>€35.4</td>
<td>5.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maghreb &amp; Middle East</td>
<td>€83.8</td>
<td>11.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>East Asia</td>
<td>€79.8</td>
<td>11.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Asia</td>
<td>€58.4</td>
<td>8.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eastern Europe &amp; Former Soviet Union</td>
<td>€15.8</td>
<td>2.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Central America, Mexico &amp; the Caribbean</td>
<td>€37.3</td>
<td>5.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South America</td>
<td>€20.3</td>
<td>2.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pacific</td>
<td>€11.9</td>
<td>1.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other*</td>
<td>€14.2</td>
<td>2.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>€705.9</strong></td>
<td><strong>100%</strong></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.
PROGRAM EXPENDITURE

Reporting period: 1st April 2014 – 31st March 2015. All figures in millions of Euros.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Change Goals</th>
<th>€ Million</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Active Citizens</td>
<td>91.1</td>
<td>12.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gender Justice</td>
<td>76.6</td>
<td>10.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saving Lives</td>
<td>248.8</td>
<td>35.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sustainable Food</td>
<td>155.3</td>
<td>22.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Access to Natural Resources</td>
<td>58.6</td>
<td>8.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Essential Services</td>
<td>75.5</td>
<td>10.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>705.9</strong></td>
<td><strong>100%</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Spend by Change Goal

- 22.0% Sustainable Food
- 35.2% Saving Lives
- 10.9% Gender Justice
- 10.7% Essential Services
- 8.3% Access to Natural Resources
- 12.9% Active Citizens
PROGRAM EXPENDITURE FOR THE TOP 20 COUNTRIES REPRESENTS 262.2 MILLION EUROS OR 42% OF TOTAL PROGRAM EXPENDITURE

Reporting period: 1st April 2014 – 31st March 2015. All figures in millions of Euros.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Top 20 Countries</th>
<th>€ Million</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>South Sudan</td>
<td>€29.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Palestinian Territory, Occupied</td>
<td>€27.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Congo, The Democratic Republic of the</td>
<td>€24.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Philippines</td>
<td>€24.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pakistan</td>
<td>€18.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mali</td>
<td>€17.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ethiopia</td>
<td>€16.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yemen</td>
<td>€15.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Niger</td>
<td>€12.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>China</td>
<td>€11.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Myanmar</td>
<td>€10.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mozambique</td>
<td>€10.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bangladesh</td>
<td>€10.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chad</td>
<td>€10.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Haiti</td>
<td>€10.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Somalia</td>
<td>€10.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Afghanistan</td>
<td>€9.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kenya</td>
<td>€9.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lebanon</td>
<td>€8.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>India</td>
<td>€8.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total for top 20 Countries</strong></td>
<td><strong>€296.1</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Oxfam is a world-wide development organization that mobilizes the power of people against poverty. We are a confederation of 17 organizations working together in more than 90 countries.

The Oxfam International Secretariat provides coordination and support to the Confederation. For further information about this Report contact the Secretariat at information@oxfaminternational.org or visit www.oxfam.org. To find out more about our affiliates, please visit their websites listed, or contact them using the details shown.

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OXFAM AMERICA
Chair: Joe Loughrey
Director: Raymond Offenheimer
226 Causeway Street, 5th Floor
Boston, MA 02114-2206, USA
Tel: +1 617 482 1211
(Toll-free: 1 800 77 OXFAM)
Email: info@oxfamamerica.org
www.oxfamamerica.org

OXFAM AUSTRALIA
Chair: Dennis Goldner
Director: Helen Szoke
132 Leicester Street, Carlton,
Victoria, 3053, Australia
Tel: + 61 3 9039 9444
Email: enquire@oxfam.org.au
www.oxfam.org.au

OXFAM IN BELGIUM
Chair: Guido van Hecken
Director: Stefaan Declercq
Rue des Quatre Vents 69,
1080 Brussels, Belgium
Tel: + 32 2 501 6700
Email: oxfamso@oxfamso.be
www.oxfamso.be

OXFAM CANADA
Chair: Margaret Hancock
Director: Julie Delahanty
39 McArthur Avenue, Ottawa,
Ontario, K1L 8L7, Canada
Tel: + 1 613 237 5236
Email: info@oxfam.ca
www.oxfam.ca

OXFAM FRANCE
Chair: Lisa Dascosta
Director: Claire Fehrenbach
104 Rue Oberkampf, 75011
Paris, France
Tel: + 33 1 56 98 24 40
Email: info@oxfamfrance.org
www.oxfamfrance.org

OXFAM GERMANY
Chair: Matthias von Bismarck-Osten
Director: Marion Lieser
Greifswalder Str. 33a,
10405 Berlin, Germany
Tel: +49 30 428 4530 89-0
Email: info@oxfam.de
www.oxfam.de

OXFAM GB
Chair: Karen Brown
Director: Mark Goldening
Oxfam House, John Smith Drive,
Cowley, Oxford, OX4 2JY, UK
Tel: +44 1865 473727
Email: enquiries@oxfam.org.uk
www.oxfam.org.uk

OXFAM HONG KONG
Chair: Josephine Chesterton
Director: Trini Leung
17/F, China United Centre, 28 Marble
Road, North Point, Hong Kong
Tel: +852 2520 2525
Email: info@oxfam.org.hk
www.oxfam.org.hk

OXFAM INDIA
Chair: Kiran Karnik
Director: Nisha Agrawal
2nd Floor, 1 Community Centre,
New Friends Colony, New Delhi, 110 005
India
Tel: + 91 11 4 4653 8000
Email: delhi@oxfamindia.org
www.oxfamindia.org

OXFAM INTERMÓN (SPAIN)
Chair: Xavier Torra Balcels
Director: José Maria Vera Villacián
Roger de Llúria 15, 08010,
Barcelona, Spain
Tel: +34 902 330 331
Email: info@intermonoxfam.org
www.intermonoxfam.org

OXFAM IRELAND
Chair: Henrietta Campbell
Director: Jim Clarken
Dublin Office, 2nd Floor, Portview
House, 4 Thornton Street, Limerick,
Dublin 4
Tel: +353 1 672 7682
Belfast Office, 115 North Street,
Belfast BT1 1NO, UK
Tel: +44 28 9023 0220
Email: info@oxfamireland.org
www.oxfamireland.org

OXFAM JAPAN
Chair: Yoshiko Namise
Director: Hideaki Nakagawa
Maruko bldg 2F
1-20-20, Higashi-Ueno, Taito-ku
Tokyo 110-0015 Japan
Tel: +81 3 3834 1556
Email: oxfaminfo@oxfam.jp
www.oxfam.jp

OXFAM MEXICO
Chair: Jesús Cantu Escalante
Director: Ricardo Fuentes Nieves
Alabama 105 Col Nápoles,
Delegación Benito Juárez
C.P. 03810 Mexico
Tel: +52 55 5687 3002 / 3203
Email: contacto@oxfammexico.org
www.oxfammexico.org

OXFAM NEW ZEALAND
Chair: Joanna Callinge
Director: Rachael Le Mesurier
PO Box 88357 Level 1, 14 West Street
Newtown, AUK 1145 New Zealand
Tel: +64 9 355 8500
Email: oxfam@oxfam.org.nz
www.oxfam.org.nz

OXFAM NOVIB (NETHERLANDS)
Chair: Hans van Beusekom
Director: Farah Karimi
Mauritshkade 9, Postbus 30919, 2500 GX
The Hague, The Netherlands
Tel: +31 70 340 1621
Email: info@oxfamnovib.nl
www.oxfamnovib.nl

OXFAM QUEBEC
Chair: Donald Gaudette
Director: Denise Byrnes
3270 Rue Notre Dame Guert,
Bureau 200, Montreal, Quebec,
H3J 2Y2, Canada
Tel: +1 514 937 1614
Email: info@oxfamnovib.ca
www.oxfamqc.ca

OXFAM INTERNATIONAL SECRETARIAT
Oxfam House, John Smith Dr,
Oxford OX4 2JY, United Kingdom
Tel: +44 1865 780 100
Email: oxfam@oxfam.org

OXFAM Annual Report 2014 - 2015

Contact

Josephine Namise, President
Ricardo Fuentes Nieves, Executive Director
www.oxfaminternational.org

Chair: Juan Alberto Fuentes
Treasurer: Bob Humphreys
Winnie Byanyima: Oxfam
International Executive Director
Patrick de Rassenfosse: Oxfam
Chief Operating Officer
Rosa Sala: 2020 Project Change and
Coordination Unit Director
Theo Bouma: Director of
Confederation Development
Franc Cautrès: Director of Global
Programs
Barney Talack: Director of Strategy
Céline Charveriat: Director of
Advocacy and Campaigns
Irwin Fernandes: Associate Director of
Public Engagement
Rene Bujaid, Associate Global
Human Resources Director
Adire Panga: Associate Director of
Shared Services
Esha van der Hulst: Chief Financial Officer

OXFAM INTERNATIONAL
ADVOCACY OFFICES
Email: advocacy@oxfaminternational.org

OXFAM INTERNATIONAL CONFERATION
Chief Financial Officer
Patrick Canagasingham
Winnie Byanyima: Oxfam
International Executive Director
Barney Talack: Director of Strategy
Céline Charveriat: Director of
Advocacy and Campaigns
Irwin Fernandes: Associate Director of
Public Engagement
Rene Bujaid, Associate Global
Human Resources Director
Adire Panga: Associate Director of
Shared Services
Esha van der Hulst: Chief Financial Officer
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