

# CHANGING LIVES IN THE DEVELOPING WORLD



## ANNUAL REPORT 2015

*Fabrice Ndayayisenga aged 6 , Rwanda*



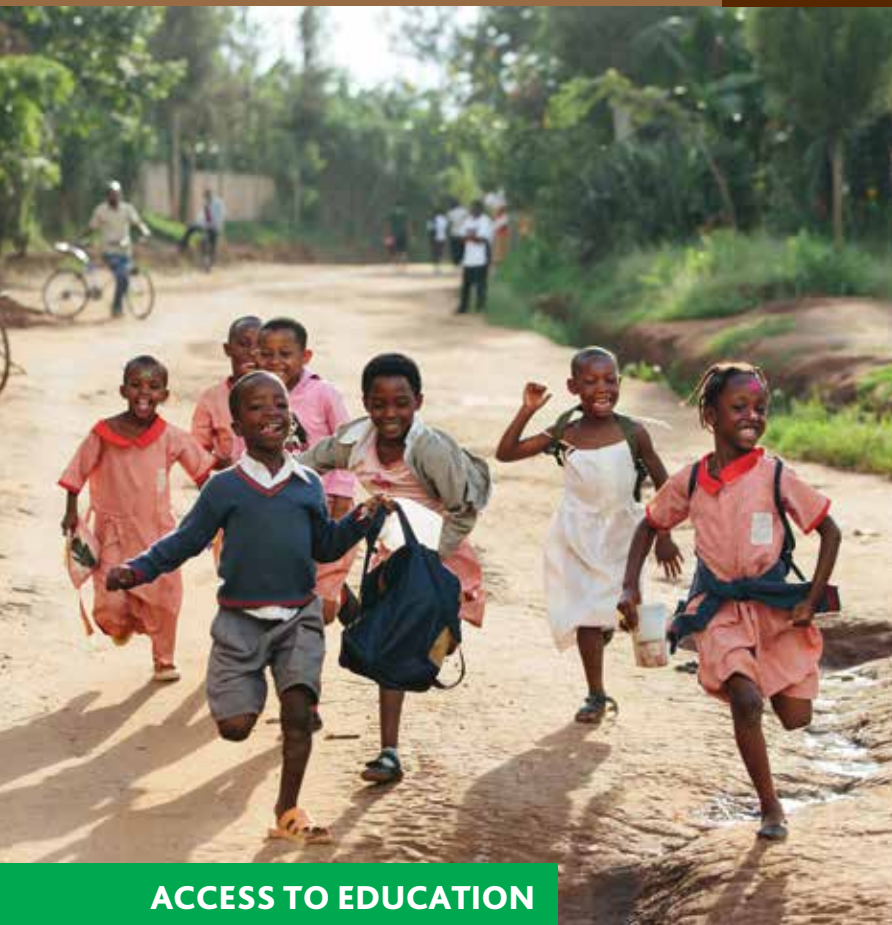
**Bothar**  
HELPING PEOPLE TO  
HELP THEMSELVES



**By sending life-saving, food-and-income producing animals to struggling families in the Developing World, Bóthar is helping to provide an income to that poor farming family, is providing increased nutrition, providing access to education and is empowering women. Bóthar is building communities.**



**EMPOWERING WOMEN**



**ACCESS TO EDUCATION**



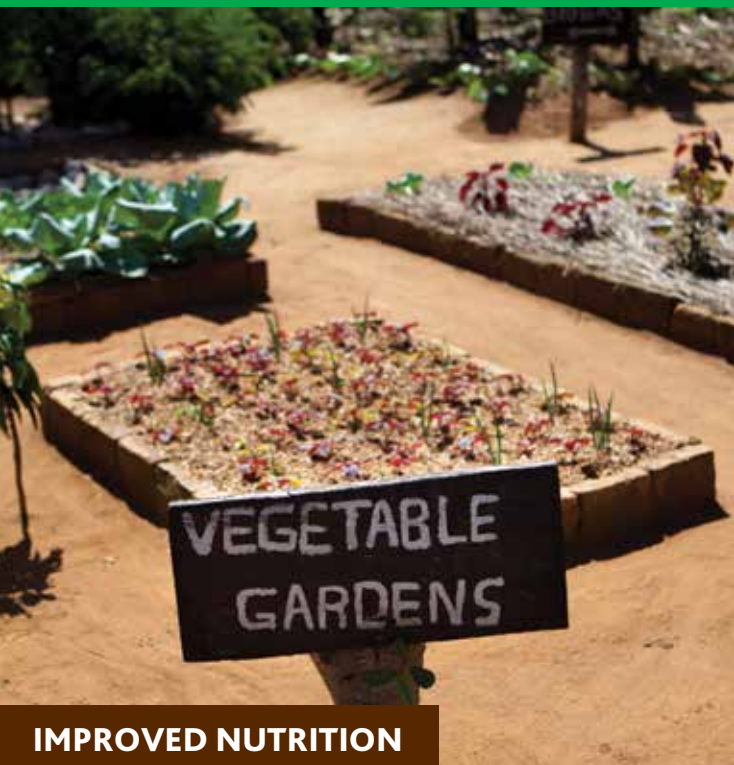
**INCOME AND ASSETS**





**BUILDING COMMUNITIES**

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# MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN, HARRY LAWLOR

I look back on 2015 with great pride in the work Bóthar has achieved.

**The green shoots of hope have always been evident by the sheer support we received from our donors, but it was very apparent last year. Everyone I met wanted to help in some way - anyway at all.**

We kept our promise and continued to support the poorest farming families in the developing world. Today we are working in 19 countries worldwide. I've seen first-hand the work being done and for a simple idea, it's really making a difference. It's changing lives. It's saving lives.

In the communities we serve, ending hunger and poverty is achievable and together we have the power to achieve it. The training, education and animals that we give our families is not for the short term, it is for life. Every single thing that is invested into our recipient families sows the seeds for a new life of happiness, hope and security. What better gift is there to give?

As we focus on celebrating our 25th anniversary, we know we have a proven programme. As experts in livestock in development aid, we are helping people to use their own skills and entrepreneurship to move from poverty to prosperity. It is an amazing thing to witness the transformation that one animal can bring.

I hope that you can see the great levels of progress that are being made.

Your continued support is invaluable. I never cease to be humbled by it.

Yours sincerely,



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Harry Lawlor'.

**Harry Lawlor,**  
Chairman of Bóthar





**"Receiving the gift of an Irish dairy cow or goat will be the first time that many of the families Bóthar works with will earn an income and this gift of a food-and-income-producing animal is like receiving the keys to a successful business."**

**- David Moloney, Bóthar CEO**



# This annual report captures our progress and successes for the financial year 2015. I would like to provide you with a glimpse of what is ahead for Bóthar.

What started as a project to airlift 20 Irish in-calf dairy heifers to an impoverished Ugandan community, has grown to an international organisation that annually helps lift over 10,000 families across the developing world out of destitution with livestock donations.

That is who we are.  
That is what we do.

We help people who are struggling by providing them with training, a life-saving, food-and-income producing animal and veterinary support.

It's a simple idea and it works.

For example, receiving the gift of an Irish dairy cow or goat will be the first time that many of the families Bóthar works with will have an opportunity to earn an income. The gift of a food-and-income-producing animal is like receiving the keys to a successful business. After a lot of local training and preparation, our recipient families will receive their Bóthar gift, one that can continue to give for many years.

Every family that receives an Irish dairy heifer notices an immediate difference in their

lives when she calves and starts to produce milk. Irish dairy cows do very well in the Developing World, often giving upwards of 16-20 litres of milk per day, whereas for example in Rwanda, the local, indigenous cow produces just 1-4 litres per day. Bóthar families now have a sustainable food source - a dairy cow means survival. The great thing, is that Bóthar has continued doing this thousands of times over. However, we are always looking for new ideas on how we can improve.

I am fortunate enough to spend some time in our project countries, meeting our project partners and our recipient farmers, helping to ensure our programmes are working for the animal and for the recipient farmer.

I continue to be amazed and humbled at how grateful each and every recipient farmer is when I meet them.

All they keep saying is "Thank you". Because of the donations we receive, we can change their lives. The transformation is apparent and wonderful. Please read a sample of our programme work from Africa,

Asia and Eastern Europe at the back of this report.

Looking back on 2015, I can confidently say that we provided help where it was needed most.

We made a difference.

But, wherever we are providing support, there are hundreds of families waiting for their turn. I'm confident that we will be able to achieve our goals in the year ahead. We can only do it with the help of our donors. They make it happen.

We are very thankful for the support we receive from the Irish government, Irish Aid, a partnership that enables Bóthar families and communities in Africa to overcome hunger and poverty and restore the environment in a sustainable way.

Here's to making a difference next year.

Thank you..



David Moloney, CEO



# OUR MISSION

## WHY WE DO WHAT WE DO

Bóthar is proud to be the Irish charity that specializes in livestock in development aid. Bóthar works with families and communities worldwide to overcome hunger and poverty. Bóthar specialises in improved livestock production and support-related training and community development.

By sending Irish dairy cows, Irish dairy goats, Irish chickens, Irish pigs, Irish AI straws, we know that we are working with a quality animal that will yield more than any local animal. Greater yields and a superior output (milk, eggs) results in larger incomes in a quicker period of time. This means that families can turn their lives around much quicker than if they were to rely on local breeds.

**An Irish Dairy Cow can produce an average of 20 litres of nutritious milk per day in**

**our project countries. A local African cow produces just 1-4 litres of milk a day.**

Each family trains extensively prior to receiving their animal. They have the expert knowledge and they use it. For up to three years after they receive their animal, they will have access to veterinary services so that their animal receives the very best care. Our animals usually live far longer in our programmes overseas than they do here in Ireland because of the individual attention they receive.

It's a simple idea and it works. And we are going to keep it simple.

Short-term solutions do not build communities. It's long term. It's sustainable. And it's working because of support from the Irish public and the Irish government.



# OUR APPROACH

Bóthar uses cornerstones to evaluate the impact of the work being done in the field. Bóthar's approach is different to other NGO's operating in the field. The beauty of Bóthar is that it provides very practical assistance to destitute families. Through a gift of a food-and-income producing animal we are equipping them with the tools to change their circumstances themselves. After a family receives the gift of livestock, enormous changes in health and nutrition are evident straight away. But the most dramatic improvement is in the recipients sense of self-worth. Each participant gains knowledge and understanding that they carry with them for the rest of their lives and impart to others in their network. It is the gift that keeps on giving.



## PASSING ON THE GIFT

Beneficiaries become Donors as each family that takes part in Bóthar projects must formally agree to pass-on to another selected family the first female offspring born to their animal. (In the case of the bee, rabbit and chicken projects the recipient family must save money earned from the sale of produce and offspring and with this must purchase breeding rabbits, flocks of chicks or hives to pass on to other families that have been trained to receive them). In this way the gift is multiplied and over time many families and even whole communities benefit.

## ACCOUNTABILITY

Before a farmer ever receives an animal, they must train and prepare to receive their animal, so that they can maximise the gifts their animal can give. Each farming family will report to the Bóthar team at regular intervals throughout the year. If an animal is not yielding as it should, steps can be taken to ensure that productivity increases. Bóthar is now supplying all donor farmers with Heifer Progress Reports which highlight how their gift has impacted on the recipient family.



## SUSTAINABILITY

Bóthar encourages and facilitates sustainable development in all the projects we support in a number of ways. The codependent ecology of plants and animals is evident in all of our projects, where plants and tree plots are established alongside our livestock, thus maximizing the gains of both. In the case of our heifer projects, manure is used as a natural fertilizer while animal urine is used as an insecticide which in turn leads to the improved production of the plants and fodder which returns again to the cycle to feed the animals. In this way both the stock of the beneficiary and the surrounding plant life mutually prosper.



## IMPROVED ANIMAL MANAGEMENT

As Bóthar project recipients know, it is in the farmer's best interest to provide the best possible care for his or her livestock. The knowledge that improved care leads to improved productivity compels the beneficiaries to take great care of their animals for the simple reason that the health and well-being of the animal is directly linked to the owner's own prosperity. Seeing as the animals are the primary source of income for project families and the fact that the farming is done on an easily manageable scale means that in many cases the animal lives for several years longer than they would in large scale farming enterprises. To many families, the animal's importance is such that it is treated very much so as part of the family.

## NUTRITION & INCOME

Receiving the gift of an Irish dairy cow or goat will be the first time that many of the families Bóthar works with will earn an income and this gift of a food-and-income-producing animal is like winning the lotto. Once family takes what they need for themselves, they sell the surplus. This extra income allows them to buy other foods that are rich in nutrition and improves their overall diet and health. Additional income is also used to send their children to school.

## BUILDING COMMUNITIES

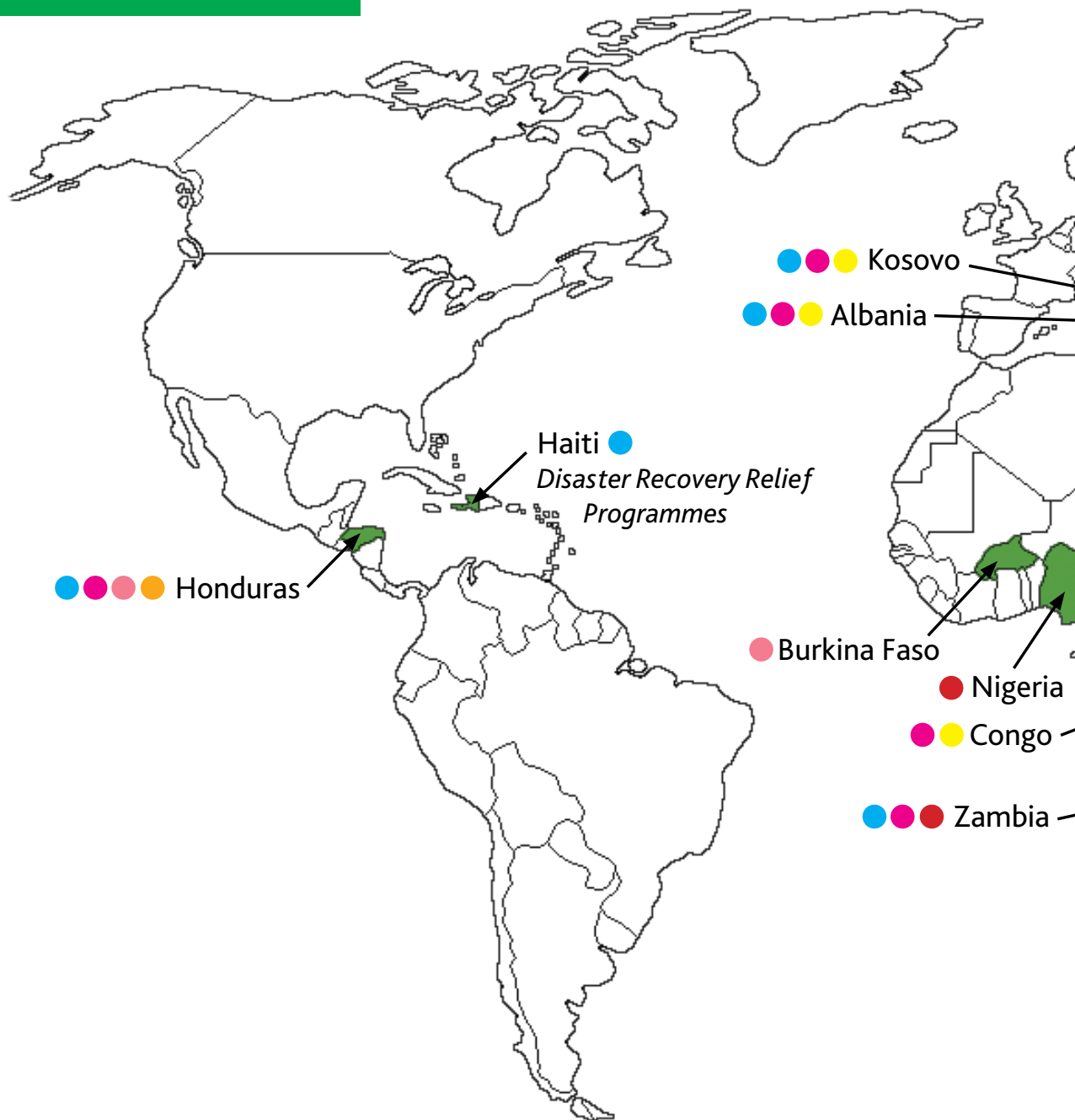
When there are many farmers in one local area and milk yields are high, the greater community benefits through the establishment of creameries. By supplying to the creamery, who in turn can sell the milk in bulk, higher prices can be commanded. This has a knock-on effect in the local community as people have a little extra money and can buy additional items at market and avail of more services. It's a win-win for everyone in the village.





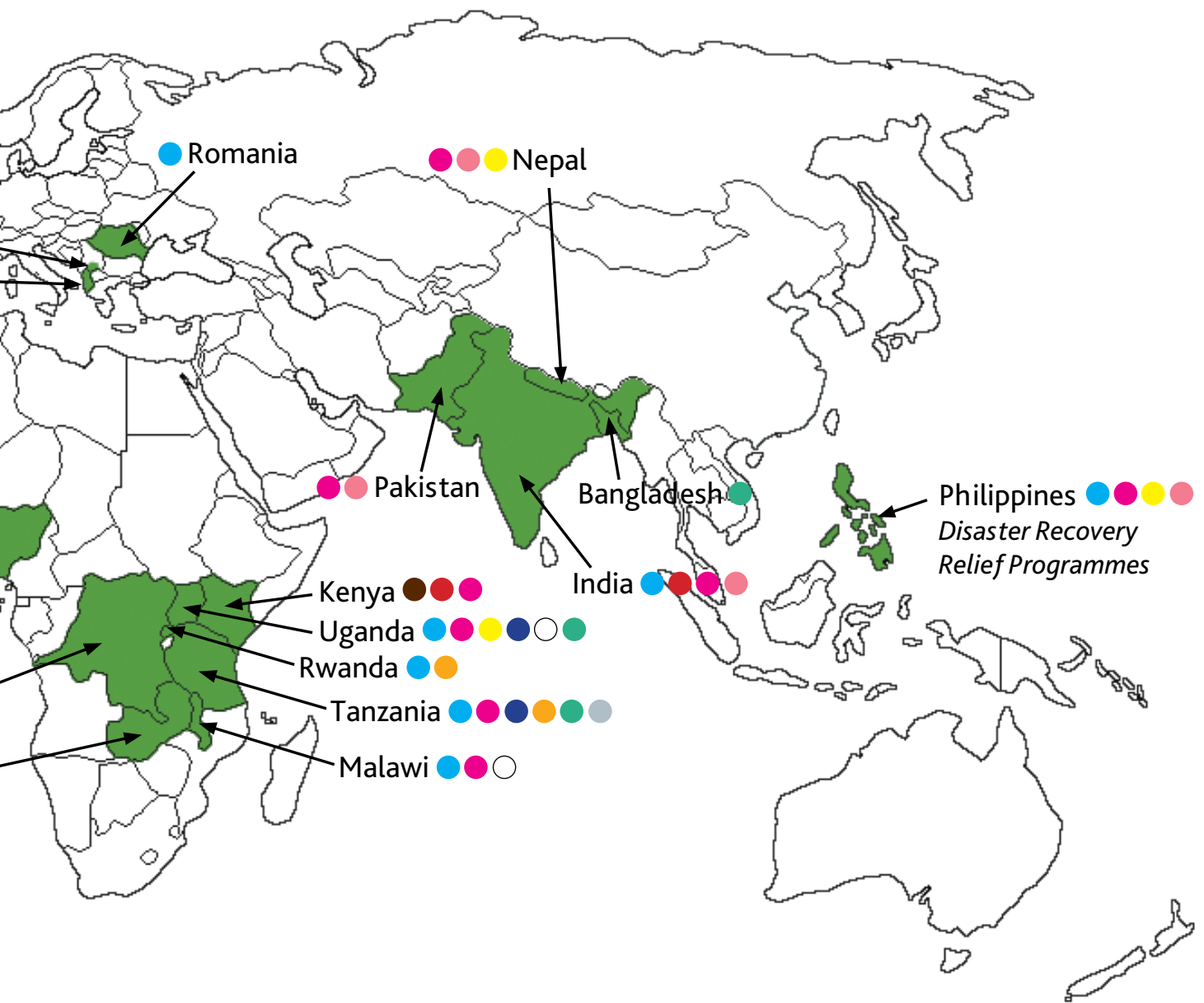


# OUR WORK



Bóthar is working in  
19 countries worldwide





- Cows
- Goats
- Pigs
- Trees
- Rabbits
- Bees
- Sheep
- Poultry
- Camels
- Ducks
- Dairy Processing

# BÓTHAR WORKING IN AFRICA

**Improving poor farmers' livelihoods and enhancing capacities through Dairy Project in Rwanda, Tanzania and Zambia.**

## RWANDA

In the past year the Bóthar dairy project in Rwamagana, Eastern Province, Rwanda, involved sending 26 in-calf heifers from Ireland to beneficiaries in Rwamagana. The people who received the cows were mainly widows living in extreme poverty. The dairy cows enabled beneficiaries to earn their own living through the sale of surplus milk and extra crops grown as a result of using the cow's manure as a fertilizer. Irish dairy cows produce about 20 litres of milk per day, compared to 1 or 2 litres from a local cow or 6 to 8 litres for a cross-breed.

Irish cows thrive in Rwanda's climate. The family can sell the surplus milk for up to €3.80 per day and the increased crops from the manure can add an additional €1.20 to their income. This lifts the families well above the U.N. poverty line of about €1.10 (\$1.25) per day and enables them to cater for all of their family's basic needs, including school fees for their children.

The women are given a cow only after receiving extensive training in its care, including learning



how to grow and harvest the crops needed for feed. They also have to build a zero-graze unit for the cow using locally sourced materials with the help of other community members. The cows are presented on condition that the owners will donate the first female calf to the next family in the scheme. This pass-on process is continued repeatedly. In this way the initial investment in a single heifer can go on to aid many families.

During the year, there were also 7 cows passed on from the original Irish cows to neighbours in the Fumbwe Sector. There were also eight bull calves born to the cows, which will be raised for several months and then will be sold bringing much needed cash to the families. A bull calf can be sold for about €100 locally – a significant boost to the family's income and well-being. In many cases, the money from milk, crops and bull calves is the first time the family has ever had access to cash. Up to this, the families lived on what they could dig from their small plots of land.



## TANZANIA

Bóthar supported a dairy cow project in Vikunguni, a village which lies about 7 kilometers from Chakechake, Pemba, Tanzania. Heifer Project International (HPI) criteria were used to select a total of 46 beneficiaries who received 20 cows. Extensive training was conducted for those selected. The main activities carried out were the construction

of cowsheds and cultivation for pasture establishment. During the implementation of this project, participants finished the construction of a shed, purchased dairy heifers and distributed the animals to those qualified as beneficiaries of the project. Twenty pregnant dairy heifers were bought in Arusha. A female calf was born with a live weight of 25 kg and she is doing well. The Dam is producing 10 litres of milk per day.



**Construction of cow sheds and cultivation for pasture establishment in Tanzania.**

## ZAMBIA

In Zambia, Bóthar has been consistent in making positive contributions to ensure the project's growth and progress by providing dairy heifers, capacity building and financial support to Integrated Livelihoods and Agribusiness Support Project (ILASP) beneficiaries in central province of Zambia.

The central province of Zambia has always been an agricultural hub though zinc and lead mining activities were the main sources of income for most people. After the closure of mines, many people lost their jobs which resulted in most of them not being able to afford 3 meals per day.

Since 2013, Bóthar joint funding with Irish Aid has helped more than 1,948 farmers with dairy cattle and training in conservation farming, HIV&AIDS awareness, enterprise development, pastures and agro forestry.

Bóthar's support has greatly improved the livelihoods of farmers as the milk they sell to the local milk processor has enabled them improve their income and access to a better diet. Thanks to the support received by Irish Aid Bóthar was able to enhance and continue its support to poor farmers in this Southern African country.



*The Irish Ambassador to Zambia, His Excellency Finbar O'Brien, recently visited Bóthar's project in Kabwe that is being supported by Irish Aid.*







# BÓTHAR WORKING IN ASIA

**Supporting sustainable livelihoods of women in India and Pakistan.**



## INDIA

In India, one of the organisations supported by Bóthar is Annai Theresa Social Work Association – ATSWA which works with people with disabilities. The area of operation of ATSWA overlies southern Chittoor district of Andhra Pradesh and the northern part of Thiruvallur district of Tamilnadu state. This area has a majority population of Dalits, who are outside the four fold caste system and who are called untouchables also. They are the poorest of the poor. Among them there are lots of people with disabilities who are unable to come up in life due to poverty, unemployment, illiteracy and lack of accessibility.



With Bóthar's support, 30 disabled women received a milch animal each- either a cow or a buffalo according to their choice. All these women beneficiaries are also members of women community groups.

The gift of milch animals has brought great change in the community, as it has given these

women an income generating source, providing them of financial independence. Now, they are able to have fresh milk for themselves and their families, and also sell the surplus milk bringing regular income. Now the women participants are healthier, have reduced their debt burden, have become independent and are counted as someone of worth in a society that looked down on them as they had no money. Today they are able to smile because of Bóthar's support.

## PAKISTAN

In Pakistan, 120 rural marginalized women workers participated and benefited from the Income Generating Goats Rearing Scheme that received funds from Bóthar. During the past year, three teddy goats were provided to each beneficiary woman to help them improve their income. They also received two days training on livestock management and hygiene practices. Since the provision of the goats, each woman has an additional income of 10.50 Euro per month. As a result children have started going to school regularly, and women have more time to spend with their children. This project promotes the concept of saving sustainable development which has brought more social integration within communities and the capacity of these women has been enhanced. Women are more confident as they now contribute to the family income.

*The projects mentioned are representative examples of our work in Asia. In some cases there are many projects currently active in any one country. There are also Bóthar projects in other countries in the region from previous years.*

# BÓTHAR WORKING IN EASTERN EUROPE

## Heifers and Goats for poor families and Roma Women in Albania and Romania.



Family and heifer in Myzeqeja Region, Albania.

### ALBANIA

Through this initiative, 140 poor families (70 Original and 70 POG) farmers received heifers and goats, accompanied by the provision of knowledge and skills. Participating families received 46 high quality heifers and 132 dairy goats. They also received extensive training sessions, technical assistance and veterinary activity. The development of cattle and goats family farms contributed to the reduction of poverty in this region, improving family nutrition and income, supplying the local market with high quality milk products and pure breed heifers and goats. All cows and goats now are in production and families are getting 12-25 litres of milk/per day per family. They fulfill family need with milk and milk products and family selling in market 8-20 l of milk. This is equal to 70-150 euro/month/ family.

Participants said: "The cows received from Bóthar allowed us to collect 25 litres of milk per day. 7 litres were consumed by our families. I sold 18 litres of milk daily, getting a monthly income of €140."

"Thanks to this project we have extra income. My two young children are going to elementary school and I can pay the studies in university for my old daughter. I ask myself every day if I am caring for the cows as well as they did in Ireland. I get forage and care for the cows. My dream is in future to have three cows and to be self sustainable."

### ROMANIA

During 2014-2015, Bóthar through its partnership with Heifer in Romania, supported two projects for the empowerment of Roma women in counties of Bistrita and Mures in this Eastern European country.

This successful strategic and long-lasting partnership set an ambitious goal, to lift out of poverty as many families as possible. Families were happy to be part of an initiative which focused on generating better livelihoods for themselves and the entire community.





*Successful project to empower Roma Women in Romania.*

During the year, training sessions and monitoring visits have helped families in improving their animal management skills, and together with the good quality cows from Ireland, milk quantity increased and its quality improved resulting in more income for the

family budget. Roma children have restarted school and family livelihoods in general have improved. This project has proved to be effective, sustainable and with long lasting results.





# OUR TEAM

David Moloney - **Chief Executive**

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Niamh Mulqueen - **Corporate Relations Director**

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Maureen Purcell - **Director of Donor Care**

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Maria McCormack - **Airlift Co-ordinator**

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Elaine Moynihan - **Head of Accounts Department**

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Pat Mullins - **Programmes & Fundraising Officer**

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Aisling Matthews - **Database Manager**

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Kate Finucane - **Marketing & Communications**

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# BOARD MEMBERS

<b>Chairman:</b> Mr. Harry Lawlor	- Foods exporter, Cork
<b>Treasurer:</b> Mr. Jim Quigley	- Chartered Accountant, Limerick
Mr. Billy Kelly	- Journalist and author, UK
Ms. Sinead Baggott	- Solicitor, Limerick
Archbishop Dermot Clifford	- Clergy, Tipperary
Canon. Tom Sherlock	- Clergy, Kilkenny
Ms. Mary Culhane	- Farmer, Limerick
Ms. Helga Morrow	- Office Manager, Dublin
Mr. John Finucane	- Farmer, Limerick
Mr. Thomas Blackburn	- Farmer, Limerick



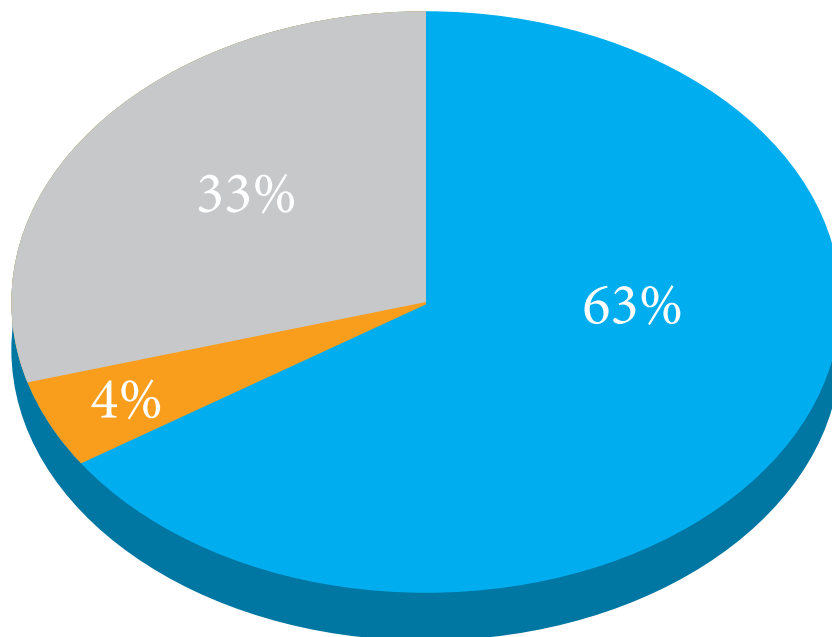
# FINANCIAL REPORT

<b>STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION</b>	<b>2015</b>	<b>2014</b>
<b>FIXED ASSETS</b>		
Tangible Assets	787810	797400
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>		
Debtors	107362	44831
Cash at bank and in hand	<u>593338</u>	<u>263478</u>
	700700	308309
<b>CREDITORS: Amounts falling due</b>		
Within one year	<u>(307208)</u>	<u>(110679)</u>
<b>NET CURRENT ASSETS</b>	<u>393492</u>	<u>197630</u>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>	1181302	995030
<b>CREDITORS: Amounts falling due</b>		
after more than one year	<u>(564912)</u>	<u>(662280)</u>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>	<u>616390</u>	<u>332750</u>
<b>SHARE CAPITAL</b>		
Reserves	<u>616390</u>	<u>332750</u>
	<u>616390</u>	<u>332750</u>
 <b>STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME</b>		
Income	5324011	5315794
Irish Aid Grant	<u>200000</u>	<u>200000</u>
Total Income	5524011	5515794
Livestock Provision and Support	(4468347)	(4502108)
Other Expenses	<u>(755582)</u>	<u>(1082329)</u>
<b>OPERATING SURPLUS/DEFICIT</b>	300082	(68643)
Interest Payable and similar charges	<u>(16442)</u>	<u>(17082)</u>
 <b>SURPLUS/DEFICIT ON ORDINARY ACTIVITIES</b>		
<b>BEFORE TAXATION</b>	283640	(85725)
Surplus brought forward	<u>332750</u>	<u>418475</u>
Surplus carried forward	<u>616390</u>	<u>332750</u>



# DISTRIBUTION OF FUNDS

Distribution of funds per region %



 Africa  Asia  Eastern Europe



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