

Because people
give, others
can live...



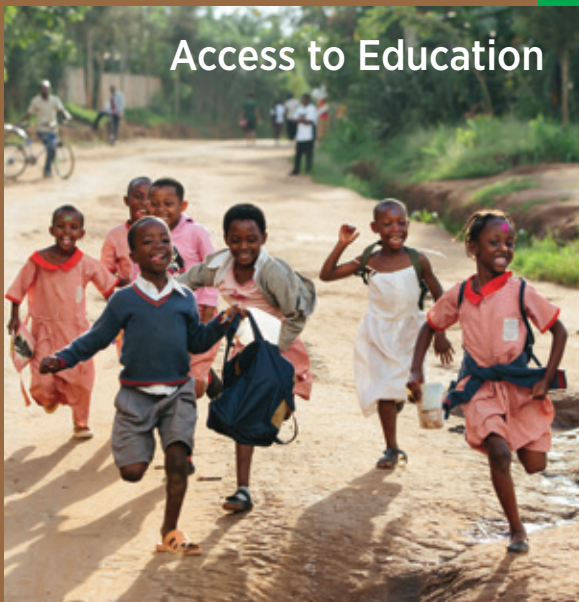
Annual Report 2021



Empowering Women



Building Communities



Access to Education

The strategic priorities which guide Bóthar's work are:

- Sustainable development: Striving for highly efficient agriculture in communities in the developing world;
- Women's empowerment towards gender equality;
- Climate change and environmental degradation; and
- Value addition.



Income and Assets



Providing Nutrition

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“The gift is not just
monetary. It is dignity.
It is hope. It is love.
It is a life-line.”

Message from the Board of Trustees

Working to empower communities in the developing world is still the most important aspect of our work and our mission, despite difficulties faced.

During the financial year ended 30th June 2021 the Charities Regulator announced the appointment of inspectors to carry out a statutory investigation into the organisation. The board appointed an interim CEO and continued their internal review of the financial affairs and procedures of the organisation. This ultimately resulted in civil and criminal proceedings and a decision by the board to cease active fundraising. We commit to transparency and will keep our stakeholders informed of key developments as and when we can. At the same time the COVID-19 pandemic continued to put pressure on our operations but we adapted and managed to keep the focus on the 30 plus year mission of the organisation.

Significant changes have taken place in the organisation since then. All financial controls were examined and overhauled, in line with the Charities Governance Code.

A new board has since been recruited and appointed, using the transparent services of Boardmatch. Today we are embracing the new organisation with full governance and financial controls. We are confident that there will not be a repeat of the past. We are committed to making the best use of our donors' funds which are entrusted to us. We strive to assist as many families as possible in the developing world.

We are forever grateful to our loyal donors, and appreciate all of the work, dedication, time and effort that has been given to our organisation by you over the years. We welcome your feedback at any point and hope that you will continue to work together with us in the future.

Board of Bóthar.

“A donation can actually be the difference between a terrible existence and a beautiful life.



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'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

The farming families of this project will receive 100 goats per year over three years. Included in this plan is that trained farming neighbours will also benefit from pass ons. In year one, 100 goats will be distributed. In year two, another 100 goats will be distributed plus it is expected that there will be 35 female kid goats passed on to neighbouring farmers. In year three, a further 100 goats will be distributed plus other 65 female kid goat pass on's are planned. This makes a total of 400 farmers receiving 400 goats over the duration of this project. Sustainability and expansion is key and this project will be an excellent example of this.

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.

A woman wearing a light-colored bucket hat and a dark t-shirt is smiling as she feeds a black cow with green grass. The cow is positioned on the left side of the frame, and the woman is on the right. They are inside a rustic structure made of wooden poles and corrugated metal sheets. The background shows green foliage and a bright sky. The text is overlaid on the bottom left of the image.

“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”

Bóthar Working in Africa



Improving poor farmers' livelihoods and enhancing capacities through projects in Malawi and Tanzania.

Malawi: COVID-19 Emergency Response Appeal Project for SSLLP (Small Scale Livestock and Livelihoods Program)

Amid a worldwide pandemic, this extremely important project is aimed at addressing the COVID-19 emergency crisis by supporting the prevention of primary and secondary transmission of the COVID-19 viral disease. This project is specifically aimed at providing critical information and to clarify misinformation on COVID-19. A total of 524 households are included in this project and the aim is to make sure 100% of the targeted households have increased knowledge on necessary behavior change, sanitation and hygiene as a COVID control mechanism through trainings, awareness campaigns and distribution of IEC materials. Included in this emergency response appeal there is the aim to train volunteers to conduct door to door campaigns on COVID -19 to ensure that all farmers under the SSLLP organization were well informed about the COVID-19 key messages.

Tanzania: Dairy Goat Project for poor farmers in Southeast Tanzania

This is a three year project, 2020 - 2023, which is part funded by Bank Of Ireland World Staff Fund and will see Bóthar provide 100 goats, an in kind donation from Irish farmers, for three consecutive years including transport costs from Ireland to Tanzania.

To prepare for these life changing gifts our project partners ECHO will oversee that all beneficiaries will receive training in livestock husbandry, integrated agriculture, cooperative development, environmental conservation and gender equality. Before getting an animal, the beneficiaries are obliged to plant about 250 meters of contour grasses and fodder trees. If the beneficiary is a married couple, then both have to sign a contract to ensure ownership of the animal or any resource is for both and favors joint decision making. Gradually, this will plant a seed of a sense of gender equity on a number of issues which is a very important message especially in this area.

Bóthar Working in Asia



Nepal: COVID-19 Response: Helping Communities Rebuild Livelihoods. Dhading District

Together with our project partners Heifer Nepal, this project will support 125 affected farming families by COVID 19, addressing urgent livelihood needs through a community managed revolving fund for revival of economic activity and Improving WASH facilities, practices, and behaviour among project families.

Market access – The project will provide support in the form of a transportation vehicle that will increase farmers access to market. The vehicle will be used for transporting agricultural products like goats, milk and vegetables from various collection points and safely delivered to Co-op's and markets. Currently, the farmers are carrying their agri-products themselves and walking a long distance to sell or paying high cost for transporting via vehicles. This activity will save their time, cost and labour as well as increase the farm profit.

WASH activities – Heifer Nepal will organize awareness campaign on WASH activities (including handwashing, COVID related safety measures, biosecurity, etc.) through broadcasting public service announcements on local radios stations.

This project will indeed help improve the difficult situation that these families are in currently due to Covid 19. The real possibility of being able to get their supplies to market will reduce the financial pressure they are under.



Bóthar Working in Eastern Europe



Contributing to the reduction of poverty in Kosovo, improving nutrition and increase income of families.

Kosovo: Livestock & Development Project in Llapi, Podujeva Municipality

Throughout this three year project Mesquerra, an NGO in Kosovo, has requested from Bóthar an in kind contribution of 45 Irish heifers. In year one, 45 Pregnant Holstein breed heifers donated by Bóthar will be distributed to 45 trained farming families. In year two, 23 families will receive heifers through the “Pass on the Gift” (POG) system. The POG system is where the first born female calf will be passed onto an neighboring farming family. In year three, another 22 families will receive heifers from the POG system. The three year project aims to improve economic and social conditions of 90 farming families in 15 villages . The support will contribute to the reduction of poverty in these areas, improving nutrition and increase income of the families. Farmers will have the opportunity to sell high quality milk at local markets, develop milk based produce such as cheese and butter as well as gaining knowledge and skills in food production and agricultural skills.



Bóthar Working in South America

Peru: Strengthening Communities During a Pandemic

The aim of this project is to prevent the spread of COVID19 in 580 families, in Loreto, Peru. The project will set up a COVID prevention virtual training programme where 30 community leaders, both men and women, will be trained as health promotors. A Radio campaign will take place on two local radios stations which is expected to help the community to be fully informed on measures to prevent COVID spreading among the indigenous population in this very remote part of the Peruvian rainforest.

Due to the difficulty in accessing this community, health services in this area are insufficient to say the least. There is no infrastructure nor specialised expertise to deal with the challenges the pandemic presents. Sewage systems are inexistent for 95% of the population. In this context of the pandemic, health promotors will play a significant role assisting communities which feel abandoned by the state.

The distribution of 32 Medical Kits, 600 hygiene kits and information with the community on health protocols will all be a vital step to curbing the rapid spread of this virus.



Our Board

The directors of Bóthar Company that served during the reporting period are detailed below.

Chairman: Mr. Harry Lawlor	- Foods Exporter, Co. Cork
Vice Chair: Ms. Sinead Baggott	- Solicitor, Co. Limerick
Secretary: Mr. David Moloney	- CEO, Bóthar
Archbishop Dermot Clifford	- Clergy, Co. Tipperary
Canon Tom Sherlock	- Clergy, Co. Kilkenny
Mr. Pat Lavin	- Accountant, Co. Limerick
Ms. Helga Morrow	- Office Manager, Co. Dublin
Mr. Thomas Blackburn	- Dairy Farmer, Effin, Co. Limerick
Mr. John Finucane (<i>deceased in office 24.01.2018</i>)	- Farmer, Co. Limerick

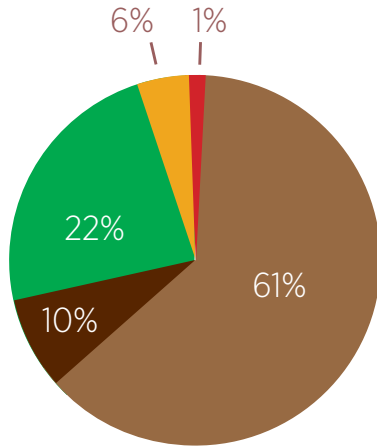
Financial Information

Statement of Financial Position	2021	2020
Fixed Assets		
Tangible Assets	484,238	1,016,820
Current Assets		
Debtors	237,720	228,194
Fixed Assets held for sale	628,295	0
Cash at bank and in hand	723,703	697,310
	1,589,718	925,504
Creditors: Amount falling due within one year	644,941	546,395
Total Assets less current liabilities	1,429,105	1,395,929
Creditors: Amounts falling due after more than one year	33,905	94,300
Provision for Liabilities	10,672	11,064
TOTAL NET ASSETS	1,384,438	1,290,565
Charitable Fund		
Unrestricted Funds	1,384,438	1,290,565
Total Funds	1,384,438	1,290,565

Statement of Financial Activities Incorporating Income & Expenditure Account

Income	2,177,777	3,446,174
Total Income	2,177,777	3,446,174
Expenditure on:		
Charitable Activities	1,523,317	2,754,867
Cost of Raising Funds	180,960	442,355
Exceptional Item	490,878	399,854
Total Expenditure	2,195,155	3,597,076
Operating Surplus / Deficit	17,378	150,902
Gains on Investment	5,640	1,874
Gains on revaluation of assets	116,891	0
Net movements in Funds	93,873	149,038
Surplus brought forward	1,290,565	1,439,593
Net movement in funds	93,873	149,028
Surplus carried forward	1,384,438	1,290,565

Distribution of Funds



Income 2021	€000	%
East Africa	931,270	61%
West Africa	143,073	10%
Asia	97,313	6%
Eastern Europe	337,512	22%
South America	14,149	1%
Total	1,523,317	100%

Total Programmatic Funds €1,523,317



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