

Because people  
give, others  
can live...



Annual Report **2022**





Empowering Women



Building Communities

## 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
- Value addition



Value Added



Farming Traditions




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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.***

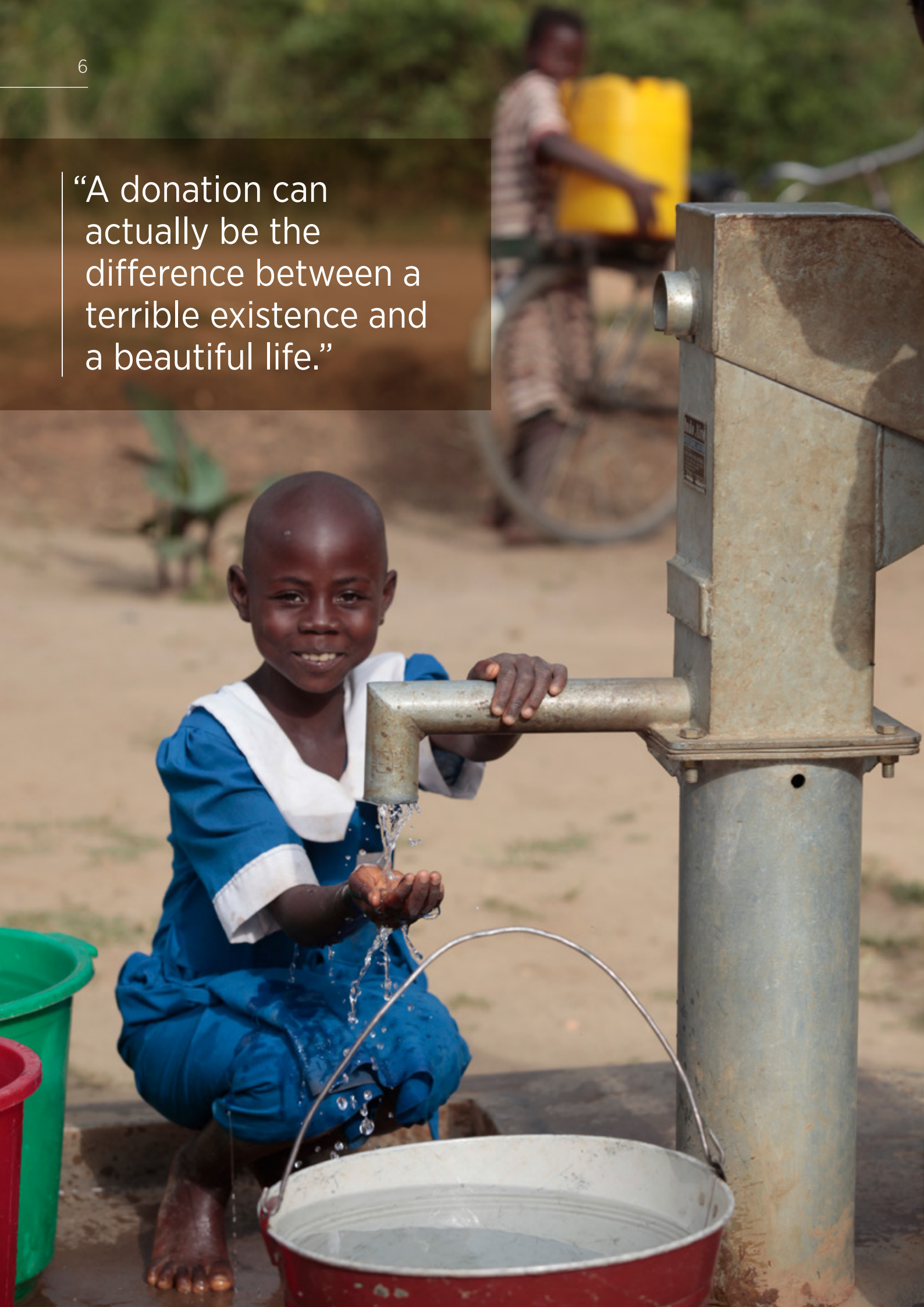
During the financial year 2022 we appointed a new Board of Directors and management team who are fully committed to ensuring that Bóthar continues its life-changing work. We embedded proper governance and financial controls across the organisation in compliance with the Charities Governance Code. The publishing of our set of clean, audited accounts 2022, underlines the changes that have taken place.

We continue to assist as many families as possible in the developing world. In the past year, working with our project partners, we supported farming families in Malawi, Rwanda, Tanzania, Albania and Kosovo. Bóthar encourages and facilitates sustainable development in all of the projects we support.

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 reiterate our commitment to making the best use of our donors' funds which are entrusted to us. 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 be 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

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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

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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

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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 full-page photograph of an elderly woman standing in a rural, tropical setting. She is wearing a vibrant, multi-colored patterned dress with a purple headwrap and a purple headband. She holds a long, thin wooden staff vertically in front of her. The background is filled with lush green foliage, including large banana leaves. To the left, there is a wooden structure made of rough-hewn poles. The ground is dry and dusty. The lighting is bright, suggesting a sunny day.

“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



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

## Tanzania: Farm Training to Support Trafficked Victims – Dar es Salaam, Tanzania

Since 2003, Daughter of Mary Immaculate (DMI) have been supporting vulnerable groups of trafficked women and children, through various development programs. DMI is working with these groups to help them understand trafficking issues, educate, rehabilitate and finally help reintegrate them with their families and communities. In addition to counselling and rehabilitation, DMI teach farming and agriculture skills and livestock management at their care centre, Spring of Hope. These skills give the women and children the tools to help them eventually be self sufficient.

Bóthar has funded a one year Project with DMI which will see 50 woman farmers and 45 trafficked girls directly helped.

The outcome of this one year funded project will see increased agriculture and livestock training for trafficked victim along with counselling, supports and education

## Malawi: Emergency relief

Following the tropical cyclone Ana, parts of Malawi were declared disaster zones. The cyclone led to widespread flooding across the country and Malawi appealed for support.

Nearly 50,000 households were made homeless with families being forced to seek refuge in churches, schools or with family relations in other communities.

The overall goal of this project was to enhance sustainable resilience and reduce vulnerability of the effects of climate change for 2000 households affected by Tropical Cyclone Ana. Specifically, the project aimed to provide support for emergency relief, including WASH (water, sanitation and hygiene) and food relief for these 2000 households, while also reviving crops and targeted support towards farming.





## Rwanda: Working with Genocide survivors

Bóthar is working with our partner, Ripple Effect, to improve food security, income and livelihoods for 2,155 people from 431 genocide widow families in Rwanda. The project's overall goal intends to support and empower along with and developing life long skills.

The project will train participants in livestock feeding, fodder conservation (Hay making) and disease control. These skills are very important for dairy cow farmers, in order to maintain milk production levels during the dry season. These families will also benefit by being trained in silage making, learning both theory and practical skills. This training will be the first of its kind in the community, as an alternative conservation method of fodder to address fodder availability during the dry season. Training in finance will also be a part of the project, this will give families the skills to learn how to work as a cooperative and pool resources in order to increase their incomes.





# Bóthar Working in Eastern Europe



## Kosovo: Improving the economic and social conditions of 90 farming families

Bóthar has been working in Kosovo for over 20 years, since shortly after the war ended. We work through our partners Meshqerra and a multitude of governmental partners. Through this three year project Bóthar will deliver an in kind contribution of 45 Irish heifers. In year one, the heifers will be distributed to 45 families who will have been trained and ready to receive them. In year two, 22 families will receive heifers from "Passing on the Gift" (POG) of the first female calf born and in year three, another 23 families will receive heifers from POG. The three year project aims to improve economic and social conditions of 90 farming families throughout several villages. Through this project the farming community will be able to produce more milk per farm, to improve quality of milk, processing practices and marketing of dairy products. As a result, farmers will be able to generate more income as well as improve skills and knowledge in agricultural production, through training sessions and technical assistance provided from livestock and veterinarian experts.



## Albania: Supporting poor family farms in Albania

This Project, together with assistance from our partners Livestock and Rural Development Centre (LRD) Albania, aims to improve the lives and income of 60 poor families through developing small scale family goat farms. The project will begin by supporting 30 poor families with 140 good quality Irish dairy goats, each family receiving approximately 3-6 goats. The following year a further 30 farming families will benefit from POG (Passing on the gift). Participants will improve skills and knowledge on dairy goat production through training and technical assistance provided from LRD Centre.

Trainings session will focus on goats breeding and management, feeding and reproduction, disease prevention, milk quality and home processing of milk to make cheese and curds. This goat project is ideal for the smaller farmer, who may not have a lot of land. It is also helping to contribute to keeping young farmers from emigrating as it is opening opportunities to them that had not been there before.



# Our Board

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

<b>Chairman:</b> Pat Lavin	- Accountant, Co. Limerick
<b>Vice Chair:</b> Ms. Sinead Baggott	- Solicitor, Co. Limerick
Ms. Helga Morrow	- Company Secretary, Co. Dublin
Harry Lawlor	- Food Exporter, Co. Cork
Archbishop Dermot Clifford	- Clergy, Co. Tipperary
Canon Tom Sherlock	- Clergy, Co. Kilkenny
Mr. Thomas Blackburn	- Dairy Farmer, Effin, Co. Limerick

## New Board Incoming 2022

<b>Chairman:</b> Kenneth Arthur <i>Appointed February 2022</i>
<b>Company Secretary:</b> Patrick Manley <i>Appointed February 2022</i>
Matt Hartnett <i>Appointed February 2022</i>
John Kelly <i>Appointed February 2022</i>
Shane McAuliffe <i>Appointed February 2022</i>



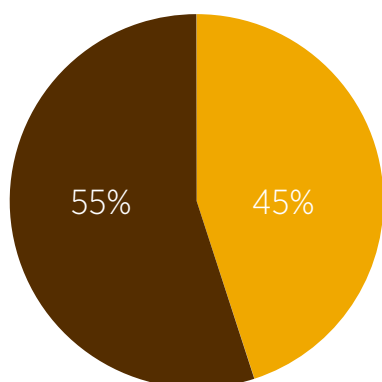
# Financial Information

Statement of Financial Position	2022	2021
<b>Fixed Assets</b>		
Tangible Assets	436,528	484,238
<b>Current Assets</b>		
Debtors	211,490	866,015
Cash at bank and in hand	639,056	723,702
	850,546	1,589,717
<b>Creditors:</b> Amount falling due within one year	608,779	644,940
<b>Total Assets less current liabilities</b>	678,295	1,429,015
<b>Creditors:</b> Amounts falling due after more than one year	-	33,905
Provision for Liabilities	5,168	10,672
<b>TOTAL NET ASSETS</b>	673,127	1,384,438
<b>Charitable Fund</b>		
Unrestricted Funds	673,127	1,384,438
Total Funds	673,127	1,384,438

Statement of Financial Activities Incorporating Income & Expenditure Account		
Total Income	478,056	2,177,777
<b>Expenditure on:</b>		
Charitable Activities	1,103,036	1,523,317
Cost of Raising Funds	-	180,960
Net Gains(loss) on Investment	17,084	111,251
Exceptional Items	103,415	490,878
<b>Net Income/(expenditure)</b>	<b>711,311</b>	<b>93,873</b>
<b>Net movements in Funds</b>	<b>711,311</b>	<b>93,873</b>
Surplus brought forward	1,384,438	1,290,565
Surplus carried forward	673,127	1,384,438



## Distribution of Funds



Income 2022	€000	%
East Africa	601,607	55%
Eastern Europe	501,429	45%
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,103,036</b>	<b>100%</b>

Total Programmatic Funds €1,523,317





Old Clare Street, Limerick,  
V94 X4X9, Ireland.

*Tel:* +353 61 414142  
*Email:* [info@bothar.ie](mailto:info@bothar.ie)  
*Web:* [www.bothar.ie](http://www.bothar.ie)