

Transforming Lives
through Agriculture
& Education



Annual Report 2025

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Message from the Board of Trustees

Dear Stakeholders,

The year from 1 July 2024 to 30 June 2025 was marked by continued financial oversight and a strategic reorganisation of costs, resulting in a meaningful reduction in overheads. In 2025, shifts in international development aid funding presented significant challenges across the sector. These right-sizing efforts ensure that Bóthar remains well-positioned for today's operating environment while fully meeting the obligations of our charitable mission.

The Board of Trustees acknowledges, with deep appreciation, the steadfast commitment of our partners, volunteers, and donors. Your support has enabled us to continue delivering measurable economic benefits to families and communities overseas.

Throughout the year, Bóthar remained focused on its core purpose: providing grant funding, training in sustainable agricultural practices, and livestock to empower families on their journey toward self-sufficiency.

Our work included livestock shipments to Kosovo—among them a commemorative consignment from Enniscorthy honouring the legacy of Fr. Felix Byrne. We continued our support of DMI Global Mission in Tanzania and re-engaged with partners in Malawi.

Bóthar continues to value its key partnerships and aspires to contribute to meaningful, lasting change wherever possible. The resilience and determination of the communities we serve are a constant source of inspiration. With the ongoing generosity of our donors, we strive to support sustainable, life-changing solutions where they are needed most.

The Board of Bothar



“Together, we can cultivate change”

Our Mission



Why we do what we do

Bóthar provides an effective, transparent, and straightforward method of supporting widespread sustainable agriculture, economic and social development on a family and community level at home and overseas.

Our Vision

Bóthar envisages a world of equality for farmers (male and female), living fulfilled lives of dignity and respect as a vital component of sustainable communities and the environment in which they live.

Our Work

Bóthar is deeply rooted in strong relationships with farmers, schools, and communities across rural and urban Ireland, working to alleviate extreme poverty through sustainable agriculture. In alignment with Ireland's international development policy, Bóthar prioritises those most vulnerable due to gender, ethnicity, disability, or geographic disadvantage.

Through a unique and highly effective approach, Bóthar has facilitated – where appropriate – the direct transfer of Irish livestock to communities in Africa and Eastern Europe. Our beneficiaries now own some of the most productive dairy animals in Malawi, Uganda, and Rwanda. By fostering self-sufficiency, we support communities in transitioning to independent, sustainable farming practices.

Animal welfare is at the heart of our programmes. Recipient families undergo training before receiving their animals. Continuous veterinary support is provided for three years to ensure their well-being and productivity. After year one of the cycle, donating Irish farmers will receive updates on the animals they have donated.

A key aspect of Bóthar's model is the “pass-on” principle—each family donates their first female offspring to another household, expanding the impact of the original gift. This ripple effect strengthens entire communities, increasing incomes, improves food security, and passes sustainable farming skills from one generation to the next.

Through this approach, thousands of families have been empowered, by breaking the cycle of poverty and building brighter futures.

Our Values





“the rays of hope in future; that growing goats would help her better by bringing income”



Bóthar Working in Malawi

Malawi: Karonga Integrated Community Livelihood Project, Northern Malawi

In April 2025, Bóthar signed a new project partnership with the Small Scale Livestock and Livelihoods Program (SSLLP), as part of the provision of clean water to 100 farm families in Malawi. In total 800 families in the area are to benefit from the provision of water in their community. Women and girls spend excessive time fetching water due to limited access to safe drinking water. Households rely on unsafe water sources, leading to high cases of waterborne diseases. Insufficient water availability affects irrigation, reducing food security and household income.

SSLLP has a strong presence in the Karonga District of Northern Malawi and has successfully implemented 10 livestock, disaster relief and sustainable livelihood projects in partnership with the same community. SSLLP has built trust and collaboration with local leaders, district council offices, community-based organizations, and households.

With 4,800 approx. people to benefit from a supply of clean water this project will deliver socio-economic and health benefits for families. It will empower women and girls to have more time available for economic and educational activities





Bóthar in Tanzania

Over a six-month period, Bóthar supported a targeted livelihood and empowerment programme delivered by DMI Global Mission Tanzania. As part of this initiative, DMI conducted community focus groups to identify female heads of household who would benefit most from structured support. Selected participants completed comprehensive training in livestock management and small-business development. Upon successful completion, each woman received a pair of goats (one male and one female) to help establish a viable and sustainable income stream. Training and mentoring continued throughout the six-month period to reinforce skills and ensure lasting impact.

This model was designed to improve the financial stability of participating women and, critically, to reduce the economic pressures that often force children out of school. As household incomes strengthen, families are better positioned to keep their children in education, contributing to lower dropout rates and breaking cycles of poverty.

Since 2003, the Daughters of Mary Immaculate (DMI) Global Mission Tanzania have worked to empower vulnerable and marginalised groups—including women, children, victims of trafficking, HIV/AIDS patients, child labourers, farmers, and youth. In Dar es Salaam, the number of women-led households continues to rise due to widowhood, divorce, abandonment, migration, and gender-based violence. These households often face severe economic hardship, limited access to services, and social exclusion. Unemployment, financial insecurity, and unpaid caregiving responsibilities frequently result in children entering the labour force or dropping out of school.

Through Bóthar-supported programmes, women gain access not only to livestock and training, but to a supportive, structured environment that recognises the contribution of all family members—men and women, girls and boys—and encourages equitable participation in household development.

In 2025, DMI Global Mission Tanzania were the beneficiaries of the Bóthar Easter Campaign, marking a continuation of the strong partnership established in 2022. Through this collaboration, Bóthar has helped support farm development initiatives that provide food, training, and income-generating opportunities for survivors of trafficking. Together, Bóthar and DMI have cultivated acres of farmland, growing vegetables, staple crops, and fruit trees, alongside piloting small-scale livestock rearing.

Key achievements of the partnership include:

- Establishing a farm that supplies fresh food directly to survivors
- Drilling a borehole to provide reliable water for livestock and farm workers
- Constructing affordable on-site housing for farm workers
- Developing a greenhouse facility and an organic composting system

The partnership between Bóthar and DMI Global Mission Tanzania continues to transform lives through sustainable agriculture, skills training, and long-term economic empowerment—laying the foundation for stronger, more resilient communities.

Bóthar in Kosovo

In 2024, Bóthar undertook a shipment of 61 in-calf heifers to Kosovo. This project was delivered in two consignments, one of which held particular significance: a commemorative shipment in honour of the late Fr Felix Byrne of Wexford, a long-standing supporter of the organisation. Following his passing in September 2023, the Wexford Supporters' Group coordinated this memorial consignment as a tribute to his enduring commitment to Bóthar's mission.

The commemorative shipment of 31 heifers from Enniscorthy was complemented by a matching consignment of 30 heifers from Roscrea, Co. Tipperary, representing a substantial increase in Bóthar's support for Kosovar farming families in 2024. All animals underwent full veterinary and export inspections by the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine (DAFM), and were transported under strict animal-welfare protocols, including appropriate lairage arrangements.

Upon arrival in Kosovo, the heifers were distributed to carefully selected family farms in the Shtime Municipality of central Kosovo through Bóthar's local partner, Meshqerra. Recipient families received not only livestock, but also comprehensive training in animal husbandry, access to veterinary assistance, and ongoing developmental support. This approach ensures that each donation serves as a sustainable asset, enabling families to strengthen their agricultural productivity and household income.



A key component of the programme is the Pass-On Gift system, through which the first female calf born to each donated heifer is passed on to another family in the community. This model allows the benefits of each initial donation to multiply over time, fostering long-term community resilience and shared economic growth.

The Kosovo consignment provided life-changing support to families seeking sustainable livelihoods, while also serving as a meaningful tribute to Fr Felix Byrne's legacy and a reaffirmation of Bóthar's commitment to renewal, accountability, and impactful development work.

For participating families in Kosovo, the heifers represent improved nutrition, increased dairy production, and new income-generation opportunities. For Bóthar and its supporters, the project stands as a testament to the power of generosity, solidarity, and the enduring impact of community-driven development.



Our Board

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

Chairman: Shane McAuliffe - Agrifood production, Co. Kerry

Company Secretary: Bryony May - Senior Manager, Co. Fermanagh

Matt Hartnett - Financial Management, London

John Kelly - Marketing and Branding, Dublin

Patrick Manley - Solicitor, Co. Cork

Kenneth Arthur - Business Development, Co. Clare

Financial Information

Statement of Financial Position	2025	2024
Fixed Assets		
Tangible Assets	2,236	4,026
Current Assets		
Debtors	168,189	50,379
Cash at bank and in hand	764,536	465,232
Creditors: Amount falling due within one year	(283,648)	(230,188)
Total Assets less current liabilities	651,313	289,449
Creditors: Amounts falling due after more than one year	-	-
Provision for Liabilities	-	-
TOTAL NET ASSETS	651,313	289,449
Charitable Funds		
Unrestricted Funds	651,313	289,449
Total Funds	651,313	289,449
Statement of Financial Activities Incorporating Income & Expenditure Account		
Total Income	778,278	527,998
Expenditure on:		
Charitable Activities	416,414	628,852
Cost of Raising Funds	-	-
Net Gains(loss) on Investment	-	-
Exceptional Items	-	-
Net Income/(expenditure)	361,864	(100,854)
Net movements in Funds		
Surplus brought forward	289,449	390,303
Surplus carried forward	651,313	289,449



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