



Annual Report 2014 - 2015

Dhaka Ahsania Mission UK

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Contents

Page No.

About Dhaka Ahsania Mission	3
Chairman's Report	4
General Secretary's Report	5
Message from the President of DAM Bangladesh	6
Message from the Executive Director of DAM Bangladesh	7
Message of appreciation for Abdul Hye, Deputy Director and Head of Resource Mobilisation Unit	7
Sponsored events	8
Cementing our joint working, Monica Fletcher, OBE, CEO, Education for Health	9
Short Film	9
Projects supported by DAM UK in 2014—2015	10—15
<i>Comic Relief funded Drop-In Centres for Street and Working Children</i>	10—11
<i>Community Managed Water and Sanitation</i>	12
<i>Saline and Arsenic Removal Plants</i>	13
<i>UCLC/EAST</i>	13—14
<i>EAST</i>	14—15
A Sprat to Catch a Mackerel, Dave Sternberg	15
Statement of financial activities for year ended 31 December 2014	16
Acknowledgements	17
DAM UK's Income and Expenditure	18
Expenditure per sector	19
Are you an individual or business? Please get involved!	19

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 Kazi Rafiqul Alam, President of DAM Bangladesh
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About Dhaka Ahsania Mission

Dhaka Ahsania Mission (DAM) is a Bangladeshi-founded and run non-governmental organisation which was established in 1958. Its vision is of a society free from poverty, in which everyone achieves fulfilment of their basic rights and improved social, economic and spiritual living conditions, irrespective of religion, political allegiance or ethnic identity.

Its award-winning work with some of Bangladesh's most vulnerable urban and rural communities is focused on non-formal education, livelihood development, health, human rights and social justice.

DAM UK was set up in 1995 with the aim of working in partnership with DAM Bangladesh. Although we do raise funds to support DAM's work, DAM UK is not just a donor agency; we move beyond this to collaborate on monitoring, evaluation and learning, share expertise and information, provide links into networks and work together to ensure the sustainability and impact of the projects we support. Our work is focused on education, skills training, water and sanitation and trafficking prevention.

Thanks to the support of numerous trusts, foundations and individual donors, we have provided support to:

Ganokendra (peoples' centres) and Community Resource Centres, a network of village development and resource centres that empower rural communities

Urban Community Learning Centres for working children and their families in slum districts of Dhaka City

Two Drop-In Centres in Dhaka for street children

A Vocational Training Centre for older working children

The Ahsania Mission-Syed Ali Memorial Education and Vocational Skills Training Centre at Shyamoli, Dhaka

An organic vegetable garden at the Shelter Home at Jessore

Vocational Training Centre at DAM's Drug Rehabilitation Centre at Gazipur

Arsenic-free safe drinking water in Jessore, Satkhira and Narshingdi Districts

Community managed safe water and sanitation project in Kaliganj

Flood relief and rehabilitation

A Drug Rehabilitation and Training Centre at Jessore

A Shelter Home and Vocational Training Centre at Jessore for women and children who have been rescued from trafficking



Children from the Drop-In Centre Project

Chairman's Report

Martin Shirley

Dhaka Ahsania Mission UK is a fairly small organisation, compared to many development charities in the UK, and to DAM Bangladesh itself, but we have now kept going for all of 20 years. Our Memorandum and Articles of Association, as adopted in 1995, include in their definition of our charitable objects, "to relieve poverty, distress and suffering...giving preference to Bangladesh" and specify that the objects are to be achieved, "in so far as possible...through supporting the programmes and projects of Dhaka Ahsania Mission of Bangladesh."

We strive to support as much as we can of the activities of DAM Bangladesh, and our efforts to do this are most capably led by our Programme and Funding Manager, Emma Crump. Her main responsibilities include developing our capacity to raise funding and support for agreed projects, and liaising on progress with donor organisations. All this presents us with the challenge of finding the means to cover our core costs, as mostly incurred in the UK to keep the work going from our (Emma's) office in Warwick.

Emma does her job with immense skill, energy and commitment, and keeps up excellent working relations with our colleagues in Dhaka, as enhanced by her visits to Bangladesh, which enable her to report on projects with first-hand knowledge. We also still have the benefit of the devoted endeavours of our Fund-raising Coordinator, Zina Fear, who specialises in securing funds from a remarkable range of trusts and foundations.

However, the climate for fund-raising in the UK continues to be challenging. An example of this was an application recently submitted by Emma to the Commonwealth Foundation, which received 897 bids and funded just 10 of them...

Our Council of Management continues to have three formal meetings per year in London, and the members give all kinds of support in between meetings. Not least, Yasmin Khan, Sally Morgan and Zina and David Fear all undertook the sponsored walk organised by the Consortium for Street Children in Windsor, with friends, and Emma completed the Two Castles Run from Warwick to Kenilworth; many thanks to them all for literally putting their best feet forward and raising some really valuable funds.

Dave Sternberg and Liz Shepherd, with Emma, have been working hard at developing our DAM UK Strategy document for 2015-2020, which should serve most usefully to guide our work in the next few years.

It says, "Our vision is of a Bangladesh that is an inclusive and sustainable society where women, men and children alike of all backgrounds are able to thrive and live their lives with dignity and respect."



EAST Project, Barguna

We have noted that Bangladesh has recently been reclassified by the World Bank as a lower-middle income country, and we remain greatly concerned to support the work of DAM Bangladesh for and with people at the lower end of the scale, who are still far from earning anything like a middle income. We are most grateful for all the help towards this end that we receive from a substantial number of individuals and organisations, whether their help is mental, physical and/or financial. We also very much value the active working links that we are able to maintain with our colleagues at DAM Bangladesh.

To conclude with another quotation from our Strategy document, setting out the purpose of DAM UK in these terms: "We give disadvantaged children and vulnerable adults across Bangladesh the chance of a better life. We directly fund community led projects that provide clean water and sanitation, that educate people about their rights and that provide education and vocational training. We constantly seek to learn and improve in everything we do."

Martin Shirley

General Secretary's Report

Neaz Ahmed

The year 2014-15 was an up and coming time for DAM UK with 13 members of its Council of Management, 1 consultant and 1 volunteer adviser, capacity building endeavours, enthusiastic University volunteers and a hard working employee Emma Crump who is now well established in the Education for Health offices in Warwick.

As General Secretary my duties include completing the Annual Return for the Charity Commission by October 2015 and Companies House Annual Return online by February 2016 with £14 charges. I have attended all the CoM meetings, writing and disseminating minutes and agendas to all of the Committee Members three times a year and any other administrative duties that may come up. I also made a private visit to Bangladesh early this year in January 2015 and was taken on a visit to the Drop-In Centre in Mirpur. I found the staff members were doing amazing and highly supportable work with street children.

As well as the tireless work of the Council of Management, and the efforts of the highly creditable Consultant and the Adviser the other admirable who needs to be mentioned here is Mr Abdul Hye at DAM Bangladesh who is a lifeline for DAM UK members and we all appreciate him greatly.

I completed the DAM UK Governance Guidance in December 2014 and Mr Hye was commissioned to print 50-100 A5 size copies with a cover in lemon. The guidance was brought back by Emma and presented at the meeting in July to the CoM members.



Rickshaw, Dhaka



Courtyard meeting, Barguna



Courtyard meeting, Dhaka

Message from the President of Dhaka Ahsania Mission, Bangladesh

Kazi Rafiqul Alam

We are highly pleased to see that Dhaka Ahsania Mission is bringing out its Annual Report for 2014-15, with an overview of its activities carried out so successfully during the past year. We take this opportunity to express our heart-felt thanks and gratitude to the Chairman, Secretary, Members of the Council, Fund Raising Coordinator and all others involved in the activities of the charity for their voluntary efforts in running it so smoothly.

DAM Bangladesh has been working over a period of almost six decades and has made significant contributions in many of the development sectors mainly focused in removing poverty and illiteracy by following a multi-dimensional approach. DAM has continued to implement programmes in education, skills development, health, safe water supply, sanitation, human rights, climate change, disaster management and many other areas through field interventions covering over 150 sub-district of 50 districts in Bangladesh with support from the government and donor agencies. Most of DAM's programmes were aimed at supporting the Government in achieving the Millennium Development Goals. DAM has also been taking special interest for the destitute children living both in urban slums and in rural areas by way of providing centre-based education and technical training to open future employment opportunities for them.

DAM is also on its way to completing a specialized 500 bed Cancer and General Hospital, the first phase of which has been completed and started functioning from April 2014.

It is very heartening to mention here that DAM UK has always extended its all out support to almost all the programmes of DAM through mobilising necessary funds towards smooth implementation of those programmes.

Finally, we are fully confident that DAM UK will continue its support to DAM Bangladesh to work for the development of the hardcore poor and needy people in Bangladeshi society.



Satkhira, Southern Bangladesh



Vocational Training Centre, Dhaka



Courtyard meeting, Barisal

Message from the Executive Director, Dhaka Ahsania Mission, Bangladesh

Ehsanur Rahman



Dr. M. Ehsanur Rahman

In the rapidly changing world, the complexities of life are increasing; the development dynamics are taking new shapes. The development practitioners, educationists, social entrepreneurs and philanthropists are under the strain of changing the business mould and getting adequately prepared for the future world. In that context, the transition from Millennium Development Goals to the Sustainable Development Goals can be branded as the most significant event in the 2015 development planning and strategic thinking.

To contribute to the global development initiatives, Dhaka Ahsania Mission (DAM) in Bangladesh and in the UK made specific efforts through preparing their respective strategy plans for the coming decade. In the DAM canvas these are definitely a milestone. A series of collective consultation and feedback at different stages of the year enriched our strategic thoughts and directions. We hope these documents would be mutually beneficial for all of us in the coming days.

From Bangladesh, we are thankful to our friends and well-wishers in the UK for the support they have been extending to DAM in rendering service to the suffering humanity. The leadership, commitment and collective efforts in the DAM UK team could create an example for many other philanthropists and social entrepreneurs in the development globe. A big Salute!

Message of appreciation for Abdul Hye, Deputy Director and Head of Resource Mobilisation Unit, DAM Bangladesh

We are delighted to confirm that Hye has accepted our invitation to him to become an Honorary Member of DAM UK. The words that come to mind when writing a tribute to Abdul Hye, or just Hye to all those who have had the pleasure of working and socialising with him, would be honesty, reliability, hard-working, generous, friendliness, a great sense of humour, a fine host and a lover of cricket. In old fashioned terms, a gentleman and family man.

He first came to our attention in 1996 when he was working with Raymond Kennedy, the founder of DAM UK. Since that time he has become our anchor, enabling the communication between the two organisations, which have been difficult at times, to function successfully. His other great quality is organisation, which has been clearly displayed and recognised by all of us who have visited Dhaka to catch up on the programmes both in Dhaka and rural areas. He leaves no stone unturned to ensure all is organised to the smallest detail and he does not have much sleep until we leave Bangladesh. Thank you Hye for all your hard work on our behalf and for your friendship to us all at DAM UK. We would also wish to thank Kazi Rafiqul Alam and Ehsanur Rahman for their unending support for the work of DAM UK and who will endorse our highlighting the work of one of their most trusted and respected staff members, Hye.



Hye

Sponsored events

This year DAM UK embarked upon two sponsored events with the help of various staff, trustees and friends. We are delighted that together we raised over £2,800.

On Sunday 14th June, Monica Fletcher, Chief Executive of the Education for Health Group and Emma Crump, our Programme and Funding Manager limbered up and ran the Two Castle 10km run between Warwick and Kenilworth Castles. They decided to put a fun spin on the day and dress in Bangladeshi saris - it definitely brought an additional challenge but they finished in the respectable time of 1 hour 20 minutes - and didn't come last!

Just one week later, 11 participants took part in the Consortium for Street Children's first Marathon Walk, walking distances of 10—which later actually turned out to be 16, and 21km along the Thames Valley.

David Fear, one of the walkers and a DAM UK trustee gives an account of the event below.

“On a beautiful sunny day with the most picturesque backdrop of Windsor Castle and the winding river Thames, we set out with our friends on the alleged 10K stroll. The going was ideal, flat and following along the towpath with the river as a backdrop.

The instructions were very clear, that we should carry along the river until we reached the first bridge, which we were to cross and a sumptuous lunch would be waiting at the Marina Club on the far bank. Some way in, we were getting hungry and happy to see the first bridge for a break and some refreshments. We were uplifted, thinking incorrectly that first base was about to be achieved. Wrong! After crossing the bridge another 3K had to be undertaken. However our goal was achieved and as promised the lunch was superb and the staff quite wonderful (sadly no oxygen bottles or masseurs were to hand, which were our greatest need on arrival).

The shock came when we were informed that we had to walk all the way back from whence we came and no amount of bribery seemed to work!

However the British spirit was revived with the food and a swift beer and we set about the, what we now know was the other half of the revised distance of 8K, making the walk 16K in total! On our return we were greeted with great acclaim and awarded a gold medal for courage and bravery together with more food and soft drinks. Seriously it was a great day out and we met with some smashing people along the way” - David Fear

All participants had a great time and we hope to repeat the walk as an annual event. Planning for this will start later in 2015—please get in touch if you would like to be part of our team. We are aiming for at least 20 people!



Cementing our joint working: Education for Health and DAM UK

When The Board of Trustees of Education for Health made the decision to provide a 'home' to DAM UK back in 2013, we had an aspiration to develop a longer term partnership. As a charity sharing a common goal to improve the health and wellbeing of the people of Bangladesh we were delighted to have the opportunity to maximise the impact of our activity through joint working.

In April 2015 a small team of Education for Health trainers had the opportunity to visit Dhaka Ahsania Mission central headquarters and spent some time talking to the children and staff at one of the street children projects, funded via the UK charity by Comic Relief. They were overwhelmed by the brilliant work and achievements of the staff at the Centre and inspired by the children they met.

We intend to further explore how we may integrate the activities of our two charities to maximise our collective impact and a strategic planning day is scheduled this October. Emma and I are both hugely committed to our charities and the people of Bangladesh and with that in mind we agreed to enter a local 10km run together to highlight the work of the charities and to raise money. Am not sure whose crazy idea it was to run in saris! We attracted a lot of attention but as a result it slowed us down. We raised over £1,000 for our efforts, and are very grateful to everyone who sponsored us. We also got extensive local publicity.

Monica Fletcher, Chief Executive, Education for Health Group



Viv Marsh, EfH Clinical Lead, Drop-In Centre project, Dhaka



Steve Holmes, EfH Trustee, Drop-In Centre project, Dhaka

Short film, 'An introduction to Dhaka Ahsania Mission UK'

In order to introduce our work to various different audiences and as a simple way to illustrate our work, we have created a short, subtitled film this year with still and video footage of our projects in Bangladesh. The film, 'An introduction to Dhaka Ahsania Mission UK' can be found through our website (www.damuk.org) and is available on YouTube.

The link to the film is: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UMx5PFw-ISO>

Projects supported by DAM UK in 2014—2015

With the generous support of numerous trusts, foundations, Comic Relief and personal donors

Comic Relief supported Drop-In Centres for Street and Working Children – Mohammadpur and Jatrabari, Dhaka (DICs)

In 2013 Comic Relief provided DAM UK with a grant of £550,000 over five years. We are now into our third year of this grant which is supporting two Drop-In Centres (DICs) for street and working children in Dhaka. The project continues to be a great success.

Building on the achievements of last year, the project is progressing well, exceeding most of its targets. We are two fifths into the programme and already over half of our target number of children have enrolled at the centres. The need for the centres has become increasingly apparent given the sheer numbers of street and working children in Dhaka. Approximately 80-100 children attend the centres daily which are always a hive of activity and significant progress is being made with children moving onto vocational training or mainstream schooling.

Huge achievements have been made with the numbers of employers, parents and guardians the centres have worked with this year, as has the number of young women that are being retained within the programme. A factor in this includes the 'pull' of opportunities related to vocational training and the testimonies of older girls who have had successful experiences at the centres including young women coming back to the centres and setting a positive 'example'.

Some of the difficulties this year have included the specific challenges faced by the centre staff when working with particularly disengaged adolescent girls who are involved in sex work. Staff continue to work extremely hard but the girls often find the lure of substantial income from sex work attractive. However, there is only a small percentage of girls in this category and in the majority of cases they are relieved to move away from sex work, but on some occasions, in particular where family members are unresponsive, this work is very challenging. The centres have started working with family members more regularly to tackle this.

Other challenges include that some employers remain very difficult to work with and will make endless promises to the children they employ and the DIC staff about improving working conditions and encouraging the children to go to the DIC. However the reality can often be very different. DIC staff continue to seek for new ways to engage these employers. We hope to address this by introducing a 'charter' for employers to sign up to in the near future.



Drop-In Centre project, Dhaka



Children from the Drop-In Centre project, Dhaka



Children's artwork, Drop-In Centre project, Dhaka

Achievements to date

75 children moving onto formal schooling

208 families using the conflict resolution service

352 children in improved accommodation

610 boys and girls enrolled

10,800 parents/guardians involved



In July 2015 we were delighted to welcome the Comic Relief filming team to our centres. They created two films to be shown in schools across the UK.



“I felt very proud as a Comic Relief staff member that we are supporting your Drop-In Centres. I got to see first-hand the comfort that these safe places can provide to vulnerable children living difficult lives. Thanks to all the staff for all your hard work” - Emily Archer, Assistant Producer, Comic Relief

Regina's Story

Regina is 16. She lives with her parents on the floodplains in Dhaka in a slum. Between the ages of 9-14 she worked breaking bricks for the construction industry with her mother and when aged 14-15 as a domestic worker.

Both are common jobs for children in Bangladesh and both present unique risks and dangers. One day, Regina's community had a visit from a Social Worker at the local Drop-In Centre (DIC). Regina was intrigued and decided to go along to one of the sessions. She has now attended the DIC for the past year which has helped Regina to enrol on a tailoring course at Shyamoli Vocational Training Centre and re-start at a government school. She now attends grade four. Regina is delighted to have restarted her education and feels positive about her future. In addition to helping Regina gain access to education and training, the DIC has recently helped Regina to negotiate with her parents on cancelling an arranged early marriage.

Regina informed the DIC of her predicament and with the help of the Social Worker persuaded her parents and the wider community to cancel the marriage and instead invest in Regina's future.



Regina

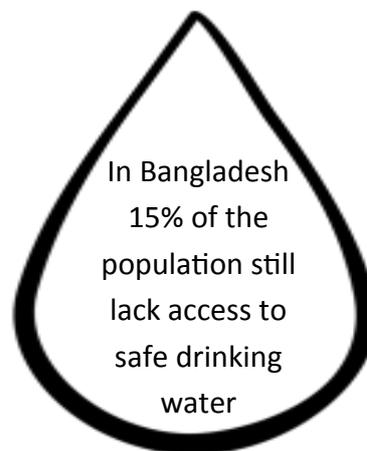
“The DIC gives me access to basic facilities – a toilet, shower, education and food that I cannot get at home. I feel good, and very happy now due to my training. If I didn't attend the DIC I would be without the knowledge of so many things and have less hope and happiness” - Regina

Community Managed Water and Sanitation (WaSH)

In the summer of 2015 we started our new three year Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) project in Satkhira District, South West Bangladesh. The project aims to improve the health and dignity of 22,000 people in Kaliganj and Shyamnagar Upazilas through the provision of sanitation and hygiene promotion services and context specific water supplies with support from local government and other stakeholders.

This year the project has achieved...

The installation of **2** saline, iron and arsenic removal plants, an increase of **15%** in girls' attendance at the schools the project works with and the formation of **300** community action groups.



Removal plant, Satkhira

The first year of the project has gone successfully and it is progressing well. Notably, two saline, arsenic and iron removal plants have been installed as planned and are fully operational. Although 32 schools were targeted to be surveyed as possible schools to work with, 50 were in fact surveyed as the team felt it was a fairer indication of those with the most need and most suitable for the WASH project. We have had incredibly high numbers of engagement with beneficiaries observing national and international days, exceeding the target by 745%. This is primarily down to DAM's reach and recognition within Satkhira District. The target for the number of Community Based Organisations (CBOs) or community groups and their related community action plans (CAP) has been reached. The team has worked extremely hard to ensure the target was reached as it is key for the rest of the project, hygiene promotion and awareness and long term behavioural change.

However, challenges remain, particularly as the project beneficiaries are mostly poor and illiterate and so motivation has been doubly challenging as beneficiaries live hand to mouth, each day can feel like a crisis. Leaving the home early in the morning they only come back late in the evening when they have made enough money to provide essential items. Gathering beneficiaries for a meeting can be difficult when time is so vital to them and they are physically tired and consistently worried, meaning that attendance at meetings can be thin.



Removal plant, Satkhira

"It is not in our thought that one day we will get water close to our door. It is really a dream to me to get such safe water so close to my home. We are safe from diseases now" - Shirina

Saline and Arsenic Removal Plants

We have been supporting DAM Bangladesh in their work to improve the water supply and sanitation condition in rural Bangladesh for several years. Developing low-cost and user-friendly ways of treating saline and arsenic contaminated water, which naturally occurs in Bangladesh, for safe use by rural poor is a key part of this work.

Satkhira is one of the most saline affected areas of the country. Due to shrimp culture, climate change, cyclones and sea level rising, saline water intrusion is the cause for fresh water scarcity in this area. Water drawn from hand pumps contains saline and arsenic higher than the recommended limit. There are few purification treatment facilities available in the rural areas and people are forced to use either contaminated tube well water or polluted surface water from ponds, canals and rivers.

This year, two plants were successfully installed with a further two planned for next year.

"I used to fetch water from a pond near my house. The water was saline and made us sick but we were used to it as there was no alternative. Now I can get water at my door-step. I would like to thank you for setting up this wonderful machine. All of my family members are happy and my husband says it is like bottled water that you can buy from the shop! My children will no longer suffer from diseases from dirty water" - Taslima, resident at North Kadomtola village

Empowering Adolescents for Social Transformation through Urban Community Learning Centres (UCLCs/EAST)

Urban Community Learning Centres (UCLCs) are a community managed institution outside the formal education system set up and managed by the community to provide educational and learning opportunities for marginalized children who would otherwise struggle to access secondary education. The UCLCs provide adolescents with non-formal Junior Secondary Education (JSE), signposting onto vocational training or further education and empowerment through links to youth networks, forums and life skills.

After the previous success of two UCLCs being taken over by ALOCON, a local trust, DAM in Bangladesh have had a recent triumph in securing funding for a further two UCLCs from HSBC in Dhaka. This year one UCLC has merged with another, leaving DAM UK with four centres to support. The partnership with the EU funded UNIQUE project continues. This year the pass rate for the JSE examinations dropped when previously the centres had been achieving near 100%. Staff at the centres believe that political turmoil and last minute major changes to the curriculum and type of exam questions, particularly in mathematics, has led to the lower pass rate. The centres have responded by providing additional training for teachers on the changes. Overall this has been another very good year for the centres and we are delighted that they continue on their journey towards sustainability.



Cultural lesson, UCLC/EAST



458 students with a **98.5%** attendance rate

Pass rate of JSE exams **81%**

Birth registration of **408** students

Literacy activities for **259** mothers



Shamoli

“My daughter would like to become a Doctor. I didn't have an education and without education, life is hard. My daughter will have a better life than me”- Shamoli has a 13 year old daughter at the UCLC project

Alongside providing education, the centres are a vital source for adult education, able to signpost young people onto vocational training and are also a source of information and space to advocate on key issues including child rights, HIV & AIDS and early child marriage etc. The centres are also addressing the issue of birth registration which can cause endless problems in achieving education and qualifications, providing access to healthcare and immunisations, travel documents, voting and reduces the ability to counter child marriage amongst others.



Cultural show, UCLC/EAST



UCLC/EAST Project



Lesson time, UCLC/EAST Project

Empowering Adolescents through education and vocational skills training to become the Agents of Social Transformation (EAST)

Empowering Adolescents through education and vocational skills training to become the Agents of Social Transformation (EAST) Project is being implemented in Barguna District, Southern Bangladesh. The project aims to increase adolescents' education and awareness, enhance their capabilities and empower them through life skills education and livelihood training alongside signposting them into mainstream education and providing business assistance. The project also aims to work with the community to spread awareness about the important roles young people can play in the social, economic and cultural development of their village. It encourages people to speak up about key social issues including gender based violence and child marriage.

A new phase of this project started this year working with 60% girls and 40% boys. The project now provides vocational training in dressmaking and tailoring, mobile phone servicing and training in agriculture alongside a targeted youth leadership programme and support for young entrepreneurs. The project will end in Summer 2016.

Although good progress is being made, several challenges remain including adequate job placements for the trainees given the project's rural location—which is both a help and a hindrance. One way we are addressing this is to provide more training and linkages to means of self-employment through DAM's microfinance and linkages to other projects in the area.

In the first six months...



230 adolescents were trained in tailoring and dressmaking

30 adolescents were trained in mobile phone servicing

191 adolescents went into mainstream schooling

1335 beneficiaries took part in awareness campaigns about rights, child marriage and gender equality

A Sprat to Catch a Mackerel...or in Bangladeshi fishing parlance 'getting the net to catch a Hilsa fish'

Dave Sternberg

Thanks to the encouragement of Comic Relief DAM UK took the plunge (yes, another fishing metaphor) in 2013 to increase its UK capacity to fundraise and support projects and programmes in Bangladesh. It has been an exciting period which has seen us establish a national office in Warwick thanks to the kindness and business-like approach of a well-established charity there, Education for Health, and appoint Emma Crump as our first full time Programme and Funding manager. It has proved to be a brilliant appointment and has helped DAM UK to strengthen what was already a strong, committed and very capable team of trustees and supporters. Crucially, having Emma has enabled us to build new partnerships to strengthen our core capacity to raise funds for Bangladesh and to support and assist in managing key initiatives there.

"Capacity building" is a bit of a jargon phrase but if you think of it as a shorthand way of describing the work we sorely needed to be done to get us better known and understood by major UK funders and other charities doing similar work, then it fits the bill. Emma has been able to add to the capacity we have to manage much larger grants, such as the current £550,000 Comic Relief grant to fund a five year programme of work with street and working children in Dhaka. By doing this we show other funders what we can manage effectively and efficiently and we are open to new opportunities to make partnerships with other non-governmental organisations and charities and to work collaboratively on bigger programmes.

We now have a strong presence in Bond, the umbrella group in the UK for international development NGOs, and with the help of Neaz Ahmed we also have a very good relationship with the Consortium for Street Children. Ties with Concern Universal and the Waterloo Foundation have been built on and we have developed the potential for future joint work with a range of smaller NGOs in the Midlands and a group of organisations who also receive funding from Comic Relief. The support of our local MP, Chris White, has also been very useful in raising our profile and making connections.

A key challenge for us remains and this is to raise just enough money to keep this core UK operation going. Comic Relief cleverly helped our Council of Management to review the opportunity to build this extra capacity and then followed it up with a generous contribution to our DAM UK core costs. ***Could we successfully persuade others to contribute to these core costs which are mainly the salary of the key worker and the running of a very small office?***

We earn a bit of income by managing very efficiently various grants that donors want channelling to programmes in Bangladesh. But we also need some far-sighted donors whether they be trusts, government, companies or individuals, to join some of our existing donors in funding these vital core costs as well as giving money for the important delivery programmes in Bangladesh. It is a challenge! Of course people want to see their money going directly to the projects helping children and families in adversity in Bangladesh. But as the title of this piece suggests we still need the sprat to catch the mackerel...we need to sustain a small and very focused, well-organised UK office to do the fund-raising, programme management and partnership building that is essential to win the grants and donations vital to developing and sustaining the superb programmes DAM runs in Bangladesh.

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2014

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2014	Total Funds 2013
	£	£	£	£
Incoming Resources				
Voluntary income	34,628	156,564	191,192	169,384
Government grant	1,774	-	1,774	-
Investment Income	37	58	95	104
Total Incoming Resources available for Charitable Application	36,439	156,622	193,061	169,488
Resources Expended				
Costs of generating funds				
Fund raising	-	-	-	-
Costs deductible	-	-	-	-
Net Incoming Resources available for Charitable Application	36,439	156,622	193,061	169,488
Grants	-	(125,308)	(125,308)	(184,250)
Governance costs	(3,028)	(1,229)	(4,257)	(1,817)
Support costs	(37,111)	-	(37,111)	(12,728)
Total Resources Expended	(40,139)	(126,537)	(166,676)	(198,795)
Net Incoming / (Outgoing) Resources Transferred to Funds	(3,700)	30,085	26,385	(29,307)
Funds Brought Forward 1 January 2014	36,836	39,871	76,707	106,014
Funds Carried Forward 31 December 2014	33,136	69,956	103,092	76,707

All activities are continuing and the retained surplus for the year was the only recognised gain or loss in the year.

We are extremely grateful to the following donors for their support this year:

Regular Donors:

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Corporate Support:

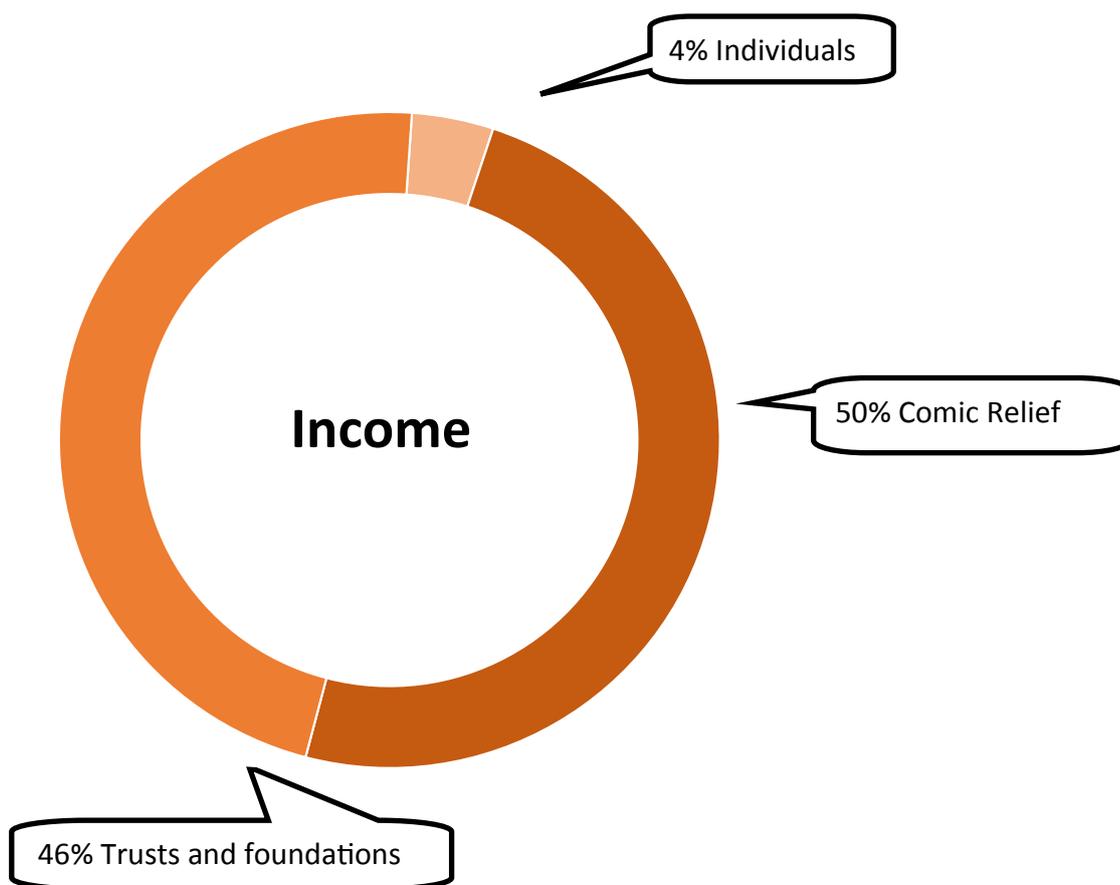
Clarke and Jay Surveyors

We would also like to say a huge thank you to all of the individuals who donated to our various sponsored events this year. Your support has been fantastic and we are so glad that you have chosen to be a part of our work.

Thank you!

DAM UK's Income and Expenditure

Where our money came from and where it was spent



We raise funds for projects in Bangladesh

89% goes directly to projects

11% to project costs in the UK



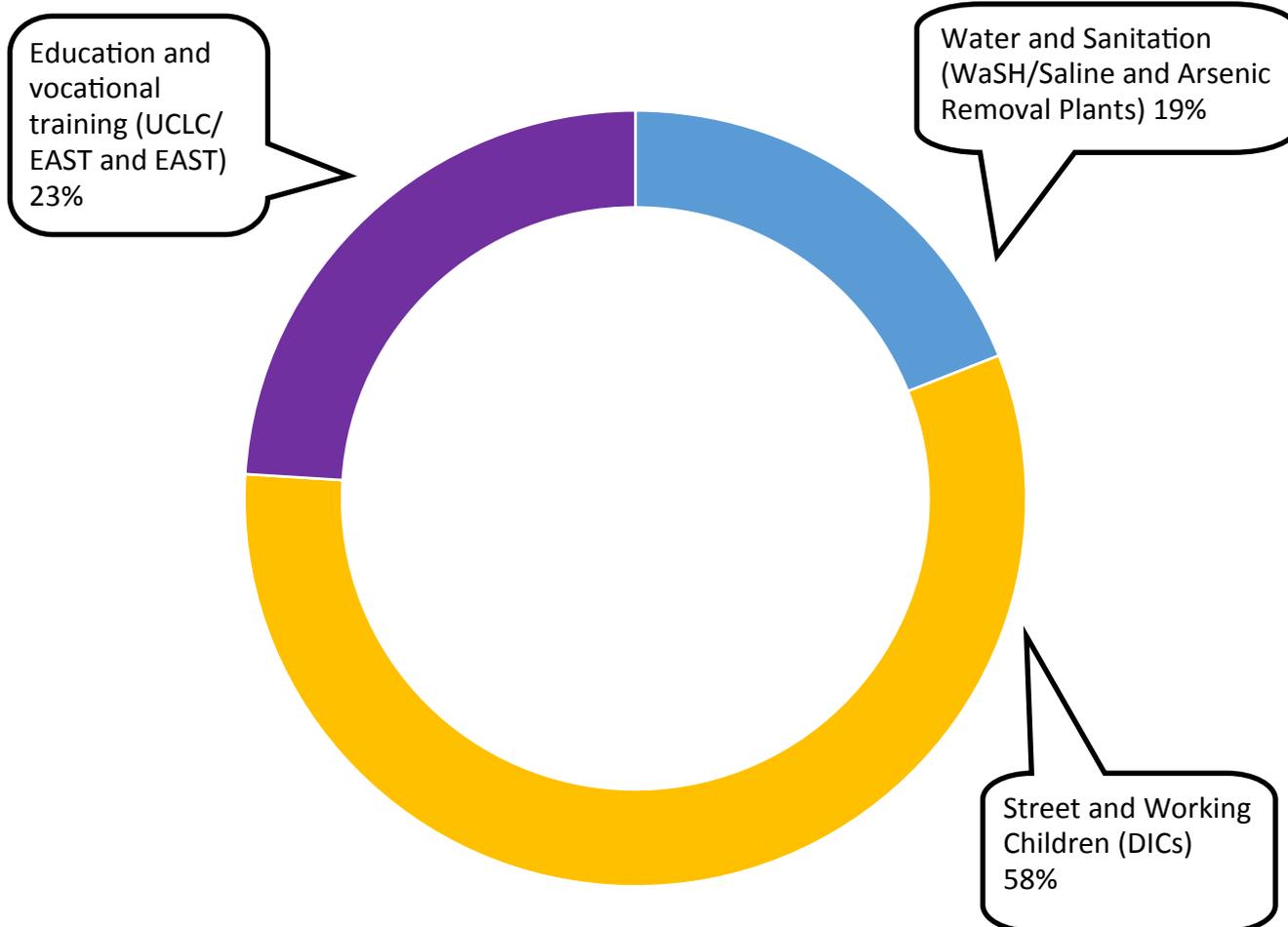
Separately we also raise funds to cover our core costs

Every £1 raised

Helps us generate £4 for projects in Bangladesh

In addition, we receive over 1,470 hours a year of donated time from experts, professionals and our Directors

Expenditure per sector



Are you an individual or business? Please get involved!

We'd love to hear from you.

We rely on the hard work and dedication of our trustees, volunteers and advisers to help drive the charity forward and support our Programme and Funding Manager. Our small size means we are extremely flexible and there are always lots of opportunities to get involved in our work one way or another. If you are looking for a rewarding internship in a dynamic and competitive sector or some volunteering to build new skills we would love to hear from you.

In addition, we are seeking partnerships with businesses. We are relatively new to corporate partnerships and so we are open to new ideas, keen to give new challenges a go, and look forward to building lasting and mutually beneficial relationships.

"We chose Dhaka Ahsania Mission UK as we wanted to help people who are less fortunate than ourselves and believe an education is the best opportunity to get out of poverty. We liked the fact that a large percentage of the donations go on the programmes in Bangladesh, where it is needed most" - Clarke & Jay Chartered Surveyors Ltd, Worcester



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