



Member's Newsletter

December 2023



A WORD OF THANKS

Every retrospective look at the past year of Electricaid must start with an expression of sincere and heartfelt thanks. We thank you our local members and supporters, who have stood with us, and more importantly, stood with the thousands of people all over the world who are in extreme need. Without you, your generosity and solidarity Electricaid cannot operate and continue its quest to help those who are marginalised and less fortunate.

We also wish to thank our corporate sponsors, EirGrid and ESB for their continued and enduring support and for their additional and remarkable generosity towards our appeals.

ELECTRICAID – IT'S OURS.

ElectricAid is an independent charity, registered with Revenue and with the Charities Regulatory Authority. It is independent of and separate from both ESB and EirGrid, notwithstanding their generous and sustained support. Electricaid is owned by you its members and managed by an Executive Committee, elected each year at our AGM. ESB provides administrative support through the CSR office and is the biggest and most successful occupationally based charity in Ireland.

OUR BIG CLAIM AND OUR BIG NEED

ElectricAid makes a big claim – that it is the most financially effective and efficient way for you to reach out to help fight poverty, injustice, ignorance, and ill-health, in Ireland and all over this unfair world. And we fulfil this claim.

Unfortunately a typical NGO will have circa a 11%-12% overhead rate with the proportion of income spent on its own costs. ElectricAid's overheads are less than 0.4% . This means that 99.6% of the income is spent directly on programmes and projects. As well as having no overheads ourselves, we do not fund the overhead costs of partner organisations. Every penny gets to where it needs go, and every penny goes to the direct costs of projects.

Furthermore, your donations are added to an ESB and EirGrid 2:3 basis match-fund. This means that your donations via Revenue will refund 46% more if you contribute €5 per week, or €250 per annum. Your “fiver a week” rolls up to €11 per week with 99.6% going to those who need it most. No wonder we make that Big Claim. ElectricAid is turbo-charged giving which maximises your generosity.

GRASS-ROOTS DEVELOPMENT

*As ever, while we always have and always will respond to disaster and humanitarian need and the development of people and communities is our main aim and primary focus. We help people and empower communities to help themselves, lifting them out of poverty, ill-health, and injustice. This year, we funded **86 separate development** projects with close to one million euro, impacting the lives of tens of thousands of the world's most vulnerable people.*

We target to contributing towards delivering basic infrastructure, food security, healthcare, and education – all examined through the lens of sustainability. Our funding always contributes to one or more of the UN's Sustainable Development Goals – humanity's roadmap to a better, fairer, and more sustainable future.

In 2023, we supported 23 educational projects, not including our Strategic Partnership in Cambodia. Education is the key driver of development. Many of our projects concentrated on educational access for girls, children with disabilities, and the poorest of the poor.

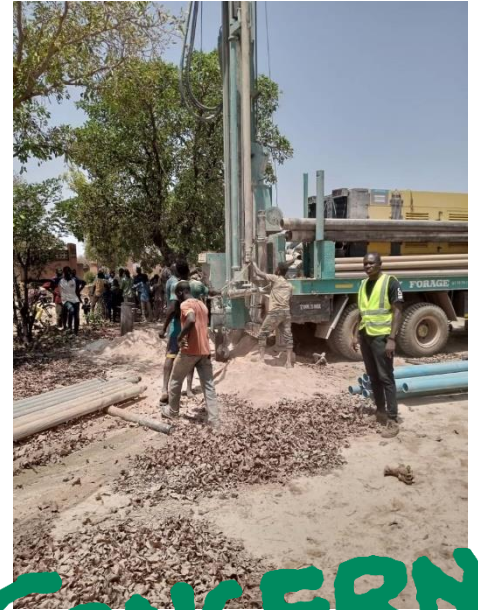
We funded 20 projects under the Basic Infrastructure heading. These are mostly water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) projects, with some lighting and power initiatives. These fundings transform lives – in health, education, and economy.

We also funded 17 diverse healthcare projects. These ranged from power supply to a neo-natal unit in Togo, to communication aids for verbally impaired palliative care patients in Ireland, to a school-based eye health project (preventing unnecessary childhood blindness) in Nepal.

A growing feature of our work in recent years has been a focus on disabilities, including access to education for children with disabilities. We funded 8 wonderful projects in this space in in 2023. We continued our fruitful relationship with MADIPA in Uganda, funding income-generating activities helping people with disabilities become economically self-sustaining.

In the Agriculture & Food Security space, we made 7 fundings – for projects such as sustainable community poultry farms in Guatemala, and the introduction of drought tolerant crops for smallholders in Kenya. All these projects will benefit generations of people.

The rest (11 projects) of our 2023 funding were in areas such as small-scale emergency relief, finance and enterprise, human rights, and climate resilience. Truly, we can say that this million Euro is the best million we ever spent!



CONCERN
worldwide



APPEALS & EMERGENCIES

Following on from 2022, when our special donations (mostly for Ukraine) reached €190,000, 2023 again was marked by Emergencies & Appeals. This year was, and continues to be a brutal one for the most vulnerable. This year we were able to contribute €174,000 towards emergency relief following the earthquake in Turkey and Syria, €50,000 as a response to the devastation in Libya and Morocco, and (so far) €106,500 towards the ongoing humanitarian disaster in Gaza. These actions have saved and rebuilt lives and were only possible through your generosity and staff initiatives such as the ESB Athletic Club directing the proceeds from their 5k charity run fundraiser to the Morocco and Libya humanitarian appeal. ESB were also remarkably generous in its support for these three crises – we thank them again.

We thank you all and remind you that the devastation in Gaza is ongoing and steadily worsening. So much more needs to be done. Our online donation facility [HERE](#) remains open. Please, if you can at all, support our efforts to help the humanitarian response.



 **Crois Dhearg** na hÉireann
Irish Red Cross


unicef

STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP – “SEE BEYOND BORDERS”

This relationship is our first multi-year strategic partnership. Its is allowing us help a programme on an greater scale and in a sustained and strategic basis.

SeeBeyondBorders (SBB) is a small Irish NGO, focused on improving education in Cambodia, through teacher upskilling and the deployment of modern educational technology. Cambodian education which was destroyed by the Khmer Rouge continues to embark on a long recovery.

Our partnership has already transformed primary education in 11 schools in Cambodia, reaching 1,750 pupils, 52 teachers and 24 mentors. Our goal is that this highly successful programme can be replicated and become a national demonstration model across Cambodia.

Our experience with SBB and the strategic partnership model has been extremely positive. We plan to announce a second Strategic Partnership focused on healthcare in Africa in early 2024.



SOME BASIC ELECTRICAID NUMBERS

Total Income 2023: €1.27 million

Spending 2023:

Project Funding (86 projects) €980,000

Strategic pilot funding €33,000

Turkey/Syria response €174,000

Libya/Morocco response €€50,000

Gaza response €100,000 (TO DATE)

Totals since Foundation:

Project Funding: €28 million

Projects: 2,956

Appeal Funding: €3.6 million

