



2014 Annual Report



Our purpose is to express God’s love and bring hope by serving the peoples of Afghanistan, especially the needy and marginalised, addressing personal, social, and environmental needs.

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Board of Trustees

Raymond Cooper, Board Chair
Steve Aisthorpe
Stephen Brown
Karen Coats
Andrew Dipper
Grace How



Executive Director's Message

It is a privilege once again to write the editorial for Serve's annual report. I joined Serve in 2014 and became Executive Director mid year. It was a difficult year to say the least. The security situation deteriorated from January and many expatriate staff and their families left Afghanistan. Our Afghan colleagues too have lived through many changes and have persevered when times were difficult. Each era brings its own challenges and hope can fluctuate, resilience can wane.

We were encouraged, however, on the first day of some training we had recently with our managers. We had to plot Serve's river (or journey) through the years. We did so in words and pictures, and then we stood back and looked at it. We realised that there had been many ups and downs, even times when Serve was closed down or when it looked like it wasn't viable through lack of personnel or resources. Despite this, Serve staff, expats and Afghans, persevered together and right now (even though there are still many challenges) we feel the river is widening again. It has narrowed at times, but now we can see more hope and opportunity. There is always hope and opportunity of course, but sometimes we lose sight of it.

So in many ways, 2014 was a year with more challenge than hope, but it is in the challenges that we as individuals and as an organisation are shaped, and it is how we learn to work and live together successfully. In it all, God has been faithful. Writing now, from the perspective of 2015, we can see that in 2014 Serve's work never stopped and all Serve staff worked tirelessly for the good of the Afghan people. We will continue to do so.

I hope you will enjoy reading about our projects, reading the stories, and seeing the pictures. They represent a lot of hard work and dedication. We particularly focus on the disabled, and on minority languages (currently Pashai and Afghan Sign Language). We seek to see inclusive communities developed. This means that every individual is accepted and included in their community group; the poor, the marginalised, the rejected, the disabled, women.

Thank you for your support. Do contact us if you need more information or would consider joining us. We value your involvement.

Every blessing,

Mandy Gillen
Serve Executive Director

Our Work



Since our founding in 1972, Serve Afghanistan's journey mirrored the country's changing needs, starting as a relief organisation as a reponse to famine and evolving into a development organisation. Despite our organisation's changes, we have never lost sight of our purpose to express God's love and to bring hope by serving the peoples of Afghanistan, especially the needy and marginalised, addressing personal, social, and environmental needs.

Today, we work in community development and empower people with disabilities by emphasizing inclusion, capacity building, advocacy, and sustainability in the Central, Eastern, and Southern regions of Afghanistan.





Our Values

We practice integrity.

- We practice honesty and transparency in financial matters.
- We strive to be a reliable partner to individuals, organisations, and communities, keeping our word and fulfilling our commitments.
- We do not pay bribes to distort justice or “bend” the law.
- We commit to clear, open, and honest communications.
- We commit to working efficiently, making the best use of our time, money, and personnel in order to achieve the highest standards in the quality and quantity of our work.
- We strive to be constantly learning and improving as an organisation.
- We live with high moral values as reflected in our behaviour.

We value people.

- We treat all people with respect and dignity in communication, participation, and actions, regardless of ethnic background, religion, gender, and social standing.
- We are impartial, valuing qualifications and performance instead of practicing favouritism and partiality.
- We encourage women to participate and lead.
- We work to provide staff care by creating an open and fair organisational culture that will honour and invest in our staff as we collaborate in our commitment to serve others.
- We believe in forgiveness, reconciliation, and humility.
- We seek to model servant leadership as we serve others, sharing our strengths, and supporting others’ weaknesses.





Inclusive Communities

We believe that inclusive communities are the foundation to community development and empowerment. By bringing together people of different backgrounds, genders, and socioeconomic status and by developing with them the tools to advocate for themselves and to invest in their own community, inclusive communities can work together to direct the changes they want to see.

It took 7 long years of advocating, training, and encouraging, but these 3 women are the first in their rural community to participate in a traditionally all-male shura, or council. The women are chosen from their local self-help groups, started by Serve, and are sent as representatives to discuss the issues pertaining to the community.

2,925 Direct Beneficiaries

24,008 Indirect Beneficiaries



Central Region Community Development Project (CRCDP)

Empowering vulnerable communities in Afghanistan's Central Region to break the multidimensional poverty cycle through inclusive and holistic development

CRCDP aims to help Afghan communities build up strong social structures to address local problems by developing and mobilising local capacities. It seeks to alter counter-productive attitudes and behaviour that inhibit development, and to empower persons, families and communities to change their lives in a sustainable way. Participatory learning tools help community groups identify problems, priorities and resources and then develop their own local solutions.

This year, 45 Self Help Groups (SHGs) combined to form cluster associations to strengthen their impact in addressing larger, overarching community issues. Through a fixed, one-year curriculum, the groups develop a more integrated understanding of community's well-being and begin to address a broader range of issues. CRCDP helps facilitate capacity building based on the community groups' perceived problems, savings and loan programmes, literacy, leadership, advocacy, gender equality, disaster mitigation, general and maternal and child health, Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH), animal husbandry, business

management, tree nurseries and vegetable gardens, and other alternative livelihood development.

2014 Achievements

We worked with 45 SHGs in 2014. 30 of these groups graduated from the programme and continue to participate in their group to discuss economic and disaster mitigation issues.

We began sending women to participate in the traditionally all-male *shuras*, community councils. We are working to send more women representatives in the near future.

The local government and leaders of the communities were invited to monitor and evaluate our work throughout the year. They were pleased and commended CRCDP's activities and work.



440 Direct Beneficiaries
3,080 Indirect Beneficiaries



Kandahar Community Development Project (KCDP)

Strengthening communities' abilities to identify and address basic and felt needs by mobilising and expanding participation and building capacity in Kandahar

KCDP contributes to empowering, inclusive communities among vulnerable people who engage in holistic development to break the poverty cycle in Southern Afghanistan. We strengthen inclusive community development efforts and reinforce structures with the community so that resources can be used to solve common problems and benefit the most marginalised. We also equip communities to identify, advocate, and facilitate educational opportunities for community members with disabilities.

This year, KCDP focused on fortifying the quality of our community groups. Groups and group leaders participated in training, set criteria, tracked their developments, and monitored and assessed achievements, strengths, and sustainability. KCDP paired this form of participatory self-assessment with leadership training for community leaders to strengthen decision-making processes and relationships, share information, and developing action plans. These activities and trainings were key in the community groups' successful projects that addressed their felt needs, such as a drainage project to increase community

sanitation while mitigating flooding and water-borne diseases.

To create an inclusive community through inclusive education, KCDP partnered and advocated with children with disabilities, their families, educators, and community leaders, notably through parents' groups, a platform which allows parents and educators to discuss issues and take advocative action.

2014 Achievements

84 women and 89 men participated in our KCDP community groups.

267 children with disabilities and their families participated in our disability portion of the project. Education on all fronts was supported by KCDP for children with disabilities, their families, and educators.

Women's community groups focused on increasing economic development. They trained themselves in noodle-making, beading, and tailoring, and they have been successfully generating income.

14,810 Direct Beneficiaries

14,280 Indirect Beneficiaries



Eastern Region Community Development Project (ERCDP)

Partnering with local communities to develop multidimensional solutions to breaking the poverty cycle through income generation, language development, and education

Designed in partnership with local communities, ERCDP is a multi-pronged approach consisting of the following components: Development of a sustainable animal husbandry system by providing 1.5 year-old heifers and 1 year-old goats to poor and vulnerable families as a means of income generation, improvement of dairy farming, and broader development; the establishment of literacy courses for adults in Pashto, one of the two official languages in the country, and in Pashai, the mother tongue of the Pashai people; the development of the Pashai language through Pashai primer classes, a pilot Multilingual Education (MLE) programme for Pashai children, and the publishing of Pashai books and reading materials; and, the establishment of Self Help Groups (SHGs) with a group savings and loan system for small businesses. All of these components help families break the poverty cycle.

In order to create a sustainable animal husbandry system, community members were encouraged to use profits made with extra milk not consumed by their families towards a cost recovery system. Although the

concept of the cost recovery system was met with hesitation at first, the project beneficiaries proudly participated in the programme and took pride in their ownership of the project.

Our work in the development of the minority language of Pashai is also helping encourage pride and ownership of the language with members of the Pashai group.

2014 Achievements

This year, we had 840 people participating in SHGs.

ERCDP has transferred the entire ownership of 1,625 cows, 1,259 goats and 29 breeding bull stations to the different communities in the three target areas, who successfully continue to run the animal husbandry programme without outside support.

After learning about revolving funds for savings and loans, 80% of the funds from SHGs was used towards small business loans. Although there was an initial wariness, women are now confidently taking out loans.



“It has made a huge difference to me”

Mohammad’s Road to Sustainability

Mohammad, a participant of ERCDP, from Katal Village in Laghman shares his story.

I have a very large family, and in the past, none of us had jobs. There was also no one in our village who could help us financially. Then our village shura members introduced me to the Serve ERCDP heifer programme, and I was able to receive a heifer. The heifer was pregnant and produced enough milk for my family to have a daily supply. We processed and made cheese and yoghurt, which we sold in the local bazaar. We are able to meet our financial needs through this income.

My cow had a calf, and after one and a half years, I returned the calf to the project. The next year my cow had a calf again—a bull this time. When that bull grew up, I used it to plough and cultivate land in our village and earned extra income this way.

It has made a huge difference to me that I have a cow and a calf with enough milk to be a good resource of food and additional income.



107,164 Direct Beneficiaries

500,000 Indirect Beneficiaries



Prevention of Blindness Programme (PBL)

Providing preventative eye health care services, education, trainings, advocacy, and partnerships with local and national health organisations.

PBL provides comprehensive eye care services and primary eye care trainings to community, medical and auxiliary staff, and school teachers, while advocating for stronger local and national eye health care and coordinating eye care issues, efforts, and strategy with partners. PBL focuses on the rural under-served population in target areas with an emphasis on people with preventable eye problems and communities at risk for higher incidences of eye diseases. PBL mobile screening teams travel to different districts and regions to conduct village and school screenings, primary eye training and education.

Although PBL's work provides access to eye care in the Central Region of Afghanistan, some have come from as far away as Jalalabad to receive care. The lower cost of care assists the impoverished and marginalised patients; those who cannot afford care are requested to pay what they can in the cost recovery programme.

PBL also works with the community in schools, by performing screenings of

students as well as training teachers to screen for potential eye issues, while teaching students the importance of preventative eye care and health.

2014 Achievements

Approximately 15,671 people were screened for eye problems in 2014.

Our staff performed 686 cataract surgeries to 322 women and 364 men. 331 other surgeries were performed.

PBL provided 3,449 reading glasses and 1,235 prescription glasses to people with eye sight problems.

PBL shared eye health care information and education to 57,405 people, including children in schools, patients and their families, and the community.

Indirect eye health care information was shared to the general public through posters, leaflets, and other media.



Hanifa's Vision Restored

Our Prevention of Blindness Programme (PBL) performs a simple and fast cataract surgery that restores vision back to those who have lost vision, some for many years. Hanifa is one patient who shares her story.

I was the only woman taking care of everything at my home: the cooking, cleaning, childcare, and everything. I had poor vision, and it became a problem for my family as my impaired sight impaired me from caring for them. For seven years, my eyesight worsened, and finally I became blind. No one was able to help my eyes, and I thought my vision was lost forever.

Last week, my son took me to the eye clinic, where the doctor told me that they could operate on my eye. At first, my son did not want me to do the operation, because he thought it was hopeless. I persuaded my son to let me have the operation, and I hoped my eyes would recover.

Now, one week after my surgery, I can see you and all the others in this room. I can see again.



25,398 Direct Beneficiaries

3,199 Indirect Beneficiaries



Enabling and Mobilising Afghan Disabled (EMAD)

Empowering people with disabilities towards a life of full participation in every aspect

The Enabling and Mobilising Afghan Disabled (EMAD) project works to empower people with disabilities (PwD) to a life of full participation in every aspect by utilising rehabilitation, awareness, advocacy, education, as well as social support. The main activities of the project are community-based rehabilitation (CBR), advocacy, inclusive and integrated education, mental health, Braille materials production and Afghan Sign Language (AFSL) dictionary development, teaching Braille and AFSL to educators, teacher training, interpreting AFSL for deaf students in special education faculty, support of hearing- and visually-impaired students in higher education, the empowerment of teachers of PwD from pre-schools to the university levels. EMAD not only works with people with disabilities and their families, but also with the community, community leaders, teachers, school administrators, government officials, NGOs and disabled people's organisations in Kabul and Parwan provinces.

Because of EMAD's full dedication to education of people with disabilities, EMAD

is involved in every aspect of education, from creating the materials and gathering supplies to training Braille and AFSL teachers and advocating with government officials to promote inclusive education. Children and students with disabilities are wholly supported every step of the way, with accelerated pre-school education programmes, home-based training, parents' groups, and much more.

2014 Achievements

In September 2014, the Ministry of Education (MoE) approved and began the implementation of the Inclusive and Child Friendly Education policy, due to Serve's advocacy efforts.

EMAD worked with 85 students with visual and hearing impairments to prepare them for school.

In 2014, we had 263 students with disabilities (98 girls and 165 boys) attend public schools.

141 teachers and school administrators received inclusive education training.



Sadness to Gladness for Safar

Sixteen years ago, Safar was born to a poor family in Dasht-e Barchi. Initially, his family did not realize he was blind, but after a few months, they discovered that he could not see at all. His parents were filled with sadness as they had never thought that their son would have a disability. They took their son to many hospitals, but they soon discovered that his blindness was untreatable. Despite this, his parents decided that they would raise Safar the same way as their other children.

However, as a 5 years old, Safar did not want to play with other children. He just wanted to be at home in a corner. Despite his parents' encouragement to play and walk, he remained terrified that he would fall down.

One day when Serve was surveying Dasht-e Barchi, the resource teachers found Safar at home, lonely and sad. The Serve staff recommended to Safar's parents that he should participate in the Braille education programme for children with visual impairments. They were excited and agreed to enrol their son into the Serve education programme. Safar started at the beginning, with basic lessons in Levels 1, 2 and 3, and then enrolled in one of the government schools in Dasht-e Barchi.

Today, Safar is studying in the 9th grade and earning high scores, passing his exams with flying colors. He also enjoys playing outside with his friends. Safar and his family are overjoyed at the progress and positive changes they see in his life.



15,333 Direct Beneficiaries
107,303 Indirect Beneficiaries



Serve's Hearing Impaired Project (SHIP)

Spurring full participation and integration of people with disabilities in their communities and beyond

SHIP works to improve the quality of life for persons with disabilities by promoting rehabilitation, equal opportunities, integration and protection of the rights of persons with disability, leading to their full participation in educational, economic, social, political and cultural activities in their communities. SHIP's main activities are: a school for the deaf and special education for special needs children; a training center for special education, community-based rehabilitation and Afghan Sign Language development; support of classes for deaf children in government schools; advocacy networking for integration of people with disability in society; and, a community-based rehabilitation program composed of a home-based rehabilitation and vocational training, including loan programme; blind pre-school, including Braille, mobility training, and inclusive education for blind children; and, community development committees, family groups, and parents' committees.

After years of advocacy, the Ministry of Education (MOE) agreed to the SHIP school

handover to the Ministry, which would allow the government to take responsibility and to integrate inclusive education into public schools. SHIP worked with the MOE in preparing for this handover by training teachers and interpreters, sharing school and student statistics, and much more. While the handover brings many changes to the SHIP programme, it is a crucial step in creating inclusive education and inclusive communities.

2014 Achievements

The Ministry of Education agreed to a handover of the SHIP school. The handover is scheduled to take place in 2015.

282 students with disabilities (80 girls and 202 boys) attended the SHIP school this year.

A further 298 students with disabilities (81 girls and 217 boys) attended public schools.

SHIP assisted 197 adults and children with physical impairments in our home-based training programme.



Mehad Attends School

Mehad comes from a family of six brothers and two sisters. He has autism, and one of his brothers is deaf. Mehad's mother was nervous about allowing both of them to attend the SHIP school. His mother, like many in Afghan society, believed that there would be no improvement because of their disabilities. Mehad faced difficulties doing daily activities such as eating, putting on clothes, and interacting with other children. Instead, he would hide in dark places, grind his teeth, and twist his body in many ways. Mehad would also continuously cry and laugh for no reason.

A special education teacher began working with Mehad. As time progressed, Mehad improved. Now, Mehad is able to do many things on his own. He still has learning challenges, but he is able to dress himself, keep himself clean, and pray. When he hears music, he openly shows his emotions. He is also interacting positively with other children.

Mehad's family is very happy with the progress he is making and deeply appreciates the work of SHIP Special School.

Finances

Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31 Dec 2014

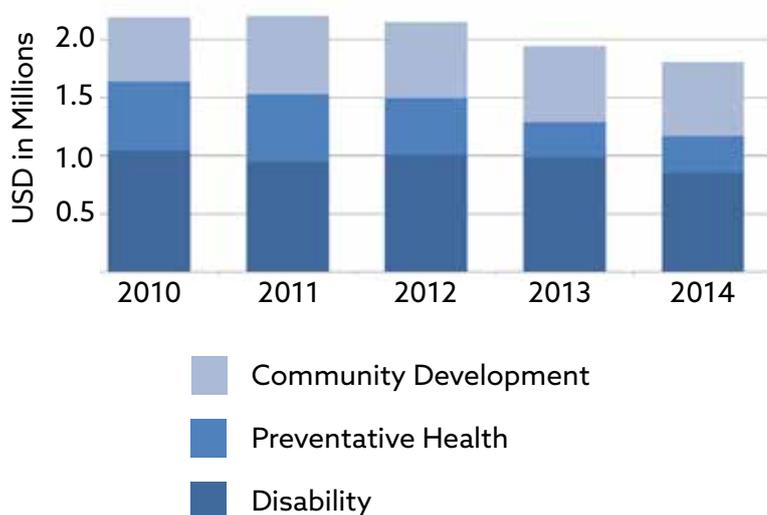
	2014	2013
	in USD	in USD
Incoming Resources		
<i>From Generated Funds:</i>		
Donations - Individuals	11,668	25,408
Bank interest	4,302	-
<i>From Charitable Activities:</i>		
Donations - Organisations	1,738,611	2,124,929
Donations in kind	-	-
Sales	14,879	26,935
<i>Other Incoming Resources:</i>		
Other income	37,653	35,323
Profit/(Loss) on sale of fixed assets	(835)	(3,519)
Currency gain/(Loss)	(44,760)	18,312
Total Incoming Resources	1,761,518	2,227,388
Resources Expended		
<i>Charitable Expenditure</i>		
<i>Charitable Activities:</i>		
Mainstreaming people with disabilities	843,730	971,189
Preventative health	308,853	293,985
Community development	625,504	647,330
Total charitable activities	1,778,087	1,912,504
<i>Governance Costs</i>	31,663	33,419
Total Resources Expended	1,809,750	1,945,923
Net Incoming/(Outgoing) Resources	(48,232)	281,465
Balances brought forward at 1 Jan 2014	1,264,278	982,813
Balances carried forward at 31 Dec 2014	1,216,046	1,264,278

Assets	2014 in USD	2013 in USD
Fixed Assets:		
Tangible Assets	48,505	43,824
Current Assets:		
Stock	9,360	3,497
Debtors	22,617	43,089
Cash at bank and in hand	1,737,783	1,803,419
	1,769,760	1,850,005
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	602,219	629,551
Net Current Assets	1,167,541	1,220,454
Net Assets	1,216,046	1,264,278

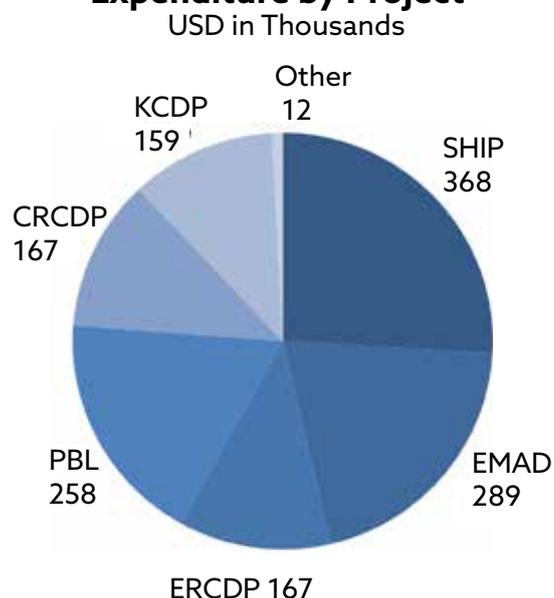
Represented by

General Fund	275,303	339,172
Designated Assets Fund	10,955	6,497
Other Designated Funds	315,280	267,880
Restricted Funds	576,958	613,402
Restricted Assets Fund	37,550	37,327
	1,216,046	1,264,278

Expenditure by Activity



Expenditure by Project



Auditor's Statement

SERVE Afghanistan

Independent Auditor's Statement to the Members of Serve Afghanistan for the year ended 31 December 2014

We have examined the summarised financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2014.

Respective responsibilities of the directors and the auditor

The directors are responsible for preparing the summarised financial statement in accordance with applicable United Kingdom law and the recommendations of the Charities SORP.

Our responsibility is to report to you our opinion on the consistency of the summarised financial statements with the full annual financial statements and the Directors' Report, and its compliance with the relevant requirements of section 427 of the Companies Act 2006 and the regulations made thereunder.

We also read other information contained in the summarised annual report and consider the implications for our report if we become aware of any apparent misstatements or material inconsistencies with the summarised financial statements.

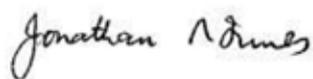
We conducted our work in accordance with Bulletin 2008/3 issued by the Auditing Practices Board.

Our report on the company's full annual financial statements describes the basis of our opinion on those financial statements and on the Directors' Report.

Opinion

In our opinion the summarised financial statements is consistent with the full annual financial statements and the Directors' Report of Serve Afghanistan for the year ended 31 December 2014 and complies with the applicable requirements of section 427 of the Companies Act 2006, and the regulations made thereunder.

We have not considered the effects of any events between the date on which we signed our report on the full annual financial statements (19 May 2015) and the date of this statement.



Jonathan Neil Innes FCCA
Director and Senior Statutory Auditor

Innes & Partners Limited
Chartered Certified Accountants and Statutory Auditors

Innes House
18 Shairps Business Park
Houstoun Road
Livingston
EH54 5FD

Date: 19 May 2015

Directors' Statement

The auditor has issued unqualified reports on the full financial statements and on the consistency of the directors' report with those financial statements. Their report on the full annual financial statements contained no statement under sections 498(2)(a), 498 (2)(b) or 498(3) of the Companies Act 2006.

Funding Partners

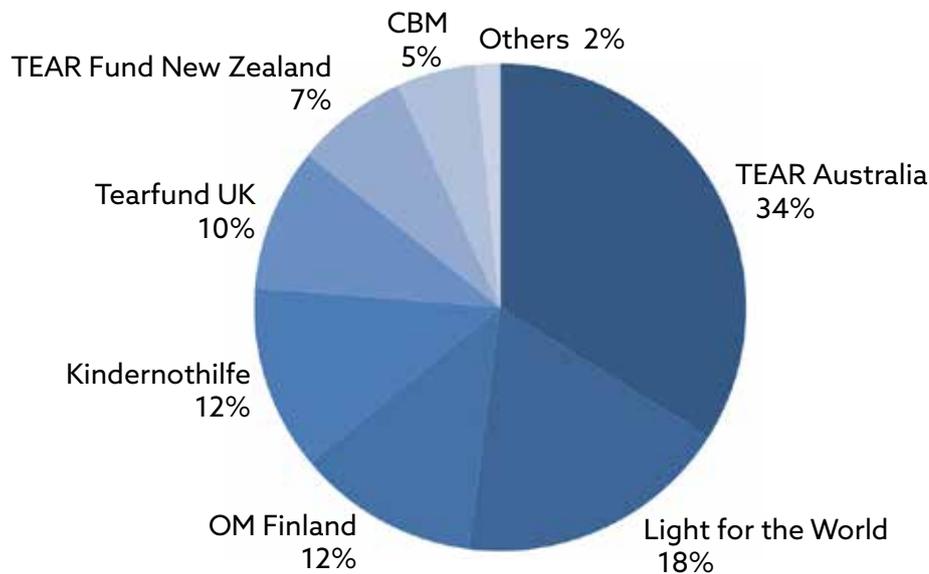
Our work is made possible with the generous help from our partners with private agency donors organisations, institutional government funders, trusts, foundations, charities, and individual donors.

Thank you to each of our partners for supporting our work in Afghanistan:

CBM
CEDAR Fund
Kindernothilfe
Light for the World
OM Finland/Finnish Government

TEAR Australia
TEAR Fund New Zealand
Tearfund UK
Other trusts and funds

2014 Donor Income



Donations

Donations may be forwarded to the following accounts:

Account Details

Account Name: Serve Afghanistan
Bank Name: HSBC Bank PLC
Address: 2 Queens Road,
Aberdeen, AB15 4ZT, UK

For US Dollars

Account Number: 39207152
IBAN: GB02MIDL40051539207152
SWIFT Code: MIDLGB22

For British Pound Sterling

Account Number: 71167359
UK Sort Code: 400125
SWIFT Code: MIDLGB22

For Euros

IBAN: GB95MIDL40051570894796
Account Number: 70894796
BIC Code: MIDLGB22

Connect with Us

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Registrations

Afghanistan Ministry of Economy NGO Number: 50
UK Charity Registration Number : 1105086
UK Company Registration Number: 4759091

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