

invision

WINTER 2025

**WASH 3
UGANDA**

**THE VOICE
OF WOMEN**

WELCOMING
AMY CONROY



International Needs
Empowering families

invision

Winter 2025

Helping families flourish with
the gift of clean water

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Needs UK** on Facebook

EDITOR'S NOTE

The International Needs Network believes that lasting change happens when people work together as equals. Decisions are made collaboratively and **led locally**, empowering and preserving the expertise, culture and skills of our partners.

This approach has created something beautiful: a global family where everyone has a voice!

Across our network, **women are leading** with courage, wisdom and grace, shaping their communities from within. They are teachers, counsellors and directors; and they remind us that leadership rooted in love can restore what division has broken.

In this winter edition of Invision, we celebrate the empowerment of women. On pages 4–5, *The Voice of Women* weaves together stories of female leaders living out their faith and driving change across our network. Rev Dr Hannah Steele reminds us (p.6–7) that mission is about being a blessing and restoring the world to the harmony God intended. From Women of War in Ukraine (p.8–10) to mothers thriving in Burkina Faso (p.11), we see glimpses of restoration taking root.

We've been meeting up with Paralympian Amy Conroy, our newest ambassador, to film some surprise content for the Disability Inclusion Project. And through our **Clean Water Appeal (p.14–15)**, we're invited to help families flourish with the simple gift of safe water.

Clean water should not be political or partisan; **it is life itself**. Families cannot flourish without it. To bring safe water to a village is to restore health, dignity and hope. As the IN UK community, let's come together to help others have what we can take for granted!



EDITOR AND DESIGN
Zoë Atherton, Communications Officer, International Needs UK

THE VOICE OF WOMEN

As we pulled together the stories from our partners for this edition of *Invision*, they created a beautiful and powerful tapestry of some of the women in mission across our global network. We have phenomenal women such as Jocelyn Muraya (IN Kenya Executive Director), Tabita Koné (IN Burkina Faso Executive Director) and Hana Nedvedicka (IN Czech Republic Executive Director) who are leading change within their communities by responding to the greatest needs and sharing the love of Jesus Christ.

We also have phenomenal women across the projects we run, such as the many elderly women in rural Uganda who have taken responsibility for raising their grandchildren despite their own mobility and health issues - just like Namakolo Margaret and her grandson on the cover of this magazine. There are women in Ukraine who have stepped into a range of roles to keep their cities and communities operating in the absence of the men fighting the war. Some of these women have become chaplains and tell stories of pastoring families through devastating loss and of leading hundreds of funeral services.

We work with women in rural Nepal who are often responsible for both the care work of their family and homestead, and for earning an income to support their families.

They take on construction and farming labour as many men have travelled overseas in the hope of finding better work.

Many women around the world face common challenges due to unequal power relations between men and women, poorer access to paid work and education, inadequate access to healthcare, and violence against women.

Around the world

About **260,000 women** died during and following pregnancy and childbirth in 2023 (92% were in low and lower-middle income economies).

At least **500 million women** and girls globally lack access to the facilities they need to manage their periods.

60% of chronically hungry people are **women and girls**.

Women make up **more than two-thirds** of the world's 796 million illiterate people.

Tabita Koné



Jocelyn Muraya (IN Kenya)
and Grace King of IN UK

Yet women in different contexts face different sociocultural pressures that change the shape of their challenges and how our partners need to respond to support them. In Nepal, for example, where there is a strong caste system, the experiences and opportunities for women are greatly shaped by the caste they are born into. Dalit women, the lowest caste, face heightened discrimination and barriers to basic resources due to their caste and gender (a double burden).

In Uganda we hear stories about how disabled women and girls face increased discrimination, abuse and neglect. In Ukraine we are seeing how the responsibilities of women have been changing in conflict as they take on roles that men had been carrying out before they left for war. It is therefore critical for



Paula Boruga, The Joy Centre Manager,
with a Ukrainian refugee child

our ministries that the voices of the women in the communities where we work are central to the ways we support them. The interrelationship of gender and other types of discrimination and circumstance must be considered together to provide the best responses.

Some of the ways we are ensuring the voices of women are central to our programmes are through the leadership of women, community consultations that ensure female voices are heard, gender considerations included in all programme planning and seeking out the voices of women where they appear absent.

We want to do so much to see women across our projects to flourish and **live life in all its fullness**. We invite you to join us in: listening, praying and donating to see change.



By Ali Mbugua
Head of Programmes
and Fundraising

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- 1 World Health Organization (2025) *Maternal Mortality Factsheet*
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- 4 United Nations (2010) *The World's Women 2010: Trends and Statistics*

BEING A BLESSING



I wonder what thoughts come to mind when you think of the word “**mission**”? For many of us, it is instantly associated with activity and doing things. Our default position may be that of a problem fixer: we know the world’s a mess and we want to make a difference.

Perhaps we even articulate this as wanting to ‘save’ people. Of course, the notion of salvation lies at the heart of Scripture and at the centre of the gospel message we seek to share. As Peter announced to the crowd gathered at Pentecost, ‘Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved’ (Acts 2:21). But what does it mean to be ‘saved’? Some of us might have grown up thinking this was about praying the sinner’s prayer or attending church.

God’s call to Abraham in Genesis gives us a more expansive picture of what salvation is about. God calls Abraham to be the founder of a new nation, but he expresses the goal in broad and global terms. This is not just about personal piety or recruitment but being a blessing to the whole world. As God says to Abraham, “All peoples on earth will be blessed through you” (Gen. 12:3).

God’s goal for human life is for it to flourish and be blessed. One of the TV programmes that has steadily risen in the UK ratings in recent years is the BBC’s *Repair Shop*, which is able to stir strong emotions even in the hardest of hearts. *The Repair Shop* focuses on individuals who have a family heirloom, which is either broken or in a state of disrepair.

Through the meticulous work of skilled professionals, objects that were damaged, or simply lying around gathering dust, are tenderly restored to their former glory (indeed, some end up looking even more beautiful than they did originally). Once brought back to life, they are used for a new purpose.

The image of restoration is a helpful one to have in mind as we think about salvation in mission. Through Abraham, God begins his reset programme, made possible through Jesus’ death and resurrection. The creation that was meant to be in harmony with God and with itself is in a state of discord. However, God will not leave things as they are, and through Abraham he begins the process of restoring the world to its original purpose.

In this scheme, mission isn’t just about saving people; it isn’t just about recruitment or problem fixing. It’s ultimately about the flourishing of the world – God’s creation – and those who live in it being restored to their intended purpose. When



we imagine mission in terms of flourishing and blessing, it means that everything we do can, in some way, be part of God’s mission. We are part of God’s reset when we share our faith with someone, financially support a project, sponsor a child, or simply care for a friend in need. We can be part of the blessing God is bringing to the whole world. What a privilege!

By Hannah Steele

Rev Dr Hannah Steele is the Director of St Mellitus College, London, where she also lectures in Missiology. Hannah and her family spent some time in Mukono, Uganda, and they are supporters of IN’s Starfish project there.



Hannah is also the author of several books, her most recent being “**Living His Story Together: Becoming a Community of Missionary Disciples**”, which can be purchased from SPCK Publishing and other online retailers.

(Left) Ukrainian refugees **being a blessing** for one another

God, we really need you.



WOMEN OF WAR

Women in Ukraine are carrying their communities. As many men have moved away with the war effort, the women who remain behind are stepping into new roles to keep their communities and cities operational. Many are exhausted, burnt out and traumatised. They have shouldered their own pain and loss, whilst caring for their children, parents and the community. All with the constant fear of attack and further loss.

We continue to support Ukrainian families at the Joy Centre in Romania; but now we want to see how best we can support women in Ukraine too. With so much loss, trauma and grief, many women have stepped into pastoral chaplaincy roles supporting families and taking funerals. We have a new programme to support women who have lost children in conflict, and those who are pastoring communities through grief.

IN Romania are piloting a respite programme for women from Ukraine to leave the conflict and have a two-week retreat. The retreat includes a range of creative therapies, counselling and Christian fellowship. It is a chance for these women to offload and process their trauma, to

start to heal, to be looked after, to rest and to return stronger.

We are piloting this with 20 women. There are hundreds more we want to support but need the funding to do so. As you read the stories of the women taking part below, we urge you to consider how you can help us raise these funds.

Meet the Chaplains

Marina is a mother of six children. She recently buried her husband, who was a church pastor. For 2.5 years, she has been conducting funerals for fallen soldiers, visiting soldiers on the front lines, and supporting the families of active and deceased soldiers.

(Below and above) Marina pictured alongside friends.



She is going on the retreat because she is exhausted from personal loss and from supporting so many people in grief. She is going on the retreat with her 16-year-old son.

Olena has been regularly serving military personnel in hospitals for the past 1.5 years. She lives in a city that has faced attacks by suicide bombers almost every night for a year. That is why she is going on a retreat to receive ministry and restoration.

Svitlana, a hospital chaplain for the past 1.5 years, has been serving military personnel in hospitals twice a week, providing spiritual and material support. She needs to recharge her strength and receive spiritual help at a retreat.

Olga has been volunteering on the front lines for 2.5 years, bringing food, clothing, and medicine to soldiers. Living in a city that is constantly under fire, as well as experiencing it on the front lines, she needs rest, peaceful sleep, and recovery.

Anastasia is the youngest chaplain and mother among the retreat participants, and wife of a disabled veteran. After waiting for her husband to return from the front and going through all stages of his treatment with him, she began her chaplaincy a year ago. She mainly serves women (wives, widows, and mothers of fallen soldiers, families of missing persons and prisoners of war), and also provides personal counselling (to teenagers, young people, and children). She leads online prayer broadcasts for soldiers and their families through the chaplaincy service. Together with her husband, she travels and holds meetings with military families.

She is going on a retreat to receive treatment for secondary trauma and is in a state of severe physical, emotional, and moral exhaustion. She is taking her six-year-old son with her.

Svitlana (pictured in the centre)



(Above, right and below) Olga





Email from *Paula Boruga*

"Dear friends,
In the deep hours of night, at midnight, after almost 48 hours on the road, the chaplain ladies arrived at the camp, hungry and tired..."

They had never left Ukraine before. When they left Kyiv, bombs were falling endlessly around them.

The chaplain ladies carried with them what war had taught them to hold close — vests, medicines, small survival kits. Yet they did not know what awaited them: a place of rest, a place of silence, a place where peace dwells.

Among them was a woman chaplain who, day after day, had buried soldiers. With her own hands she laid sons, husbands and brothers into the earth, praying over their families even when words felt too heavy. For her, rest was unimaginable. She could not understand at first that she had come to a place where no one expected her to dig graves, where she did not need to carry the mark of death; she was coming to where she was simply invited to breathe, to be, to heal.

With them came children, little ones who had lived almost a year in underground shelters, where the voice, the sound of war never ceased. Now, for the first time in so long, they stepped into stillness. Into air that carried no echoes of fear.

While travelling through the deep silence of the Carpathian Mountains in Romania, suddenly motorcycles raced past, and the women and children were terrified. They thought that they were hearing the noise of Shahed bombs and were frightened. Finally, they understood what was going on.

Here, they are reminded: they are not alone. Even in war, the Lord provides companions, hands to carry burdens, hearts to share the weight. What was once only noise and darkness is met now with care and light.

God's mercy travels farther than borders, his peace deeper than fear. And in this new land, far from home yet close to His heart, they discover again that He makes a way in the wilderness, and He prepares a table in the presence of sorrow.

Please pray over these two weeks for the chaplain ladies and their children to be truly blessed! Thank you for your help and support!"

Paula Boruga,
*Manager at The Joy
Centre in Romania*



IMPACT ON HEALTH EIGHT YEARS ON

In 2017, IN UK helped to fundraise and complete a maternity unit in Burkina Faso with our partner IN Burkina Faso. Pastor Jean's vision was to share the Gospel and help his community thrive. At the time, healthcare provision in Bobo Dioulasso was almost non-existent, and the team struggled to sustain running a small medical centre without a secure funding stream.

When I first met the team in 2015, we explored how to make the centre sustainable and identified that the greatest need was maternal health. That year, Burkina Faso had one of the world's highest maternal mortality rates. Poor maternal care left women facing lifelong health challenges, so we committed to building a maternity unit.

In February 2017, the unit opened its doors. Eight years later, the results are remarkable. The centre occasionally needs support to replace equipment or respond to emergencies, but through appropriate charging and the sale of pharmaceuticals, the centre now covers all salaries and running costs, achieving full sustainability. Additionally, the same staff have remained, whilst the turnover of patients has quadrupled.
Praise God.



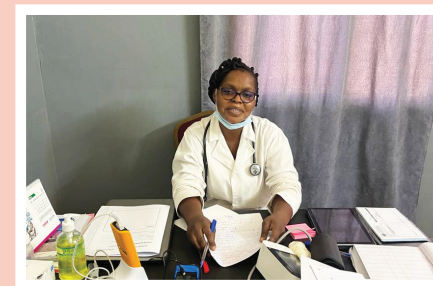
And what has that initial £95,207 investment in 2017 achieved?

Babies safely delivered:
7,634 (2017-2024)

Women receiving prenatal and postnatal care:
60,056 (2017-2024)



These figures depict lives changed — mothers safe, families thriving, and a community strengthened. To everyone who supported this vision, observe this impact: thank you, your generosity transformed healthcare into a reality for one of the world's poorest communities.



As we look ahead, we are seeking funding to further support women's health through cervical screening called "**Pink October**", because every woman deserves safe, dignified care.

By Danny Morris
Executive Director





WE STILL DON'T HAVE CLEAN WATER

By Ali Mbugua

The moment underground water is found is amazing. Having spent time in different villages in rural Uganda as a mighty drilling machine is used to dig down and down, this moment never ceases to be exciting. Water will suddenly spurt up from the drill and shower anyone standing too close. Being drenched by this water might be momentarily annoying, but the promise of what this water will bring is transformative.

We all know we need clean water. We use it for drinking, bathing, cleaning our homes, cooking, flushing toilets, watering gardens and much more. I think you become much more aware of your need for water when each journey to collect just 20 litres (enough for a quick shower) takes 30 minutes or more. I think you also become a lot more aware of the threat of dirty water when diarrhoeal diseases are common, infant mortality rates are higher, and dehydration affects all you do.

It is important for us to know that progress has been made. The challenges of global access to clean water and sanitation have been long known about, and organisations like ours continue to share with you how great the needs are. But we should also celebrate that progress has been made.

Globally, since 2000, 2.2 billion people have gained access to safely managed drinking water, and 2.8 billion more people have access to safely managed sanitation facilities. That is amazing! We need to rejoice and give thanks for all the communities, governments and charities who have worked hard to see this change.

In our own work, with our water project in Uganda, we have seen over 30,489 people gain access to clean water through the restoration of water sources, implementation of rainwater harvesting and drilling of new water sources. We have worked with communities to address the lack of toilet facilities and helped them build hundreds of household toilets. We have been there as grandchildren share with grandparents what they have learned from our partners about good hygiene practices. Let's celebrate this!



To everyone who has supported us on this journey of developing water projects in Uganda, Sri Lanka and beyond, thank you. Thank you for your amazing generosity, dedication and solidarity.

However, there is still much more work to be done. With a growing global population, the negative impacts of Covid-19, global conflicts, climate change, inflation and reduced global aid, progress towards global access to clean water has been stalled. Some 2.1 billion people are currently without access to clean water; 3.4 billion people lack access to safely managed sanitation; and 1.7 billion people lack access to basic hygiene services at home.

The responsibility of collecting water falls predominantly to women and girls around the world. Women spend hours each day collecting water, often on top of care work responsibilities, managing the household, farming work and paid work. Women also have greater need for clean water to safely manage their menstrual cycles. In areas of poverty, women are more likely to use reusable materials that

rely on thorough washing to maintain good hygiene. Without such water, these women are more likely to become sick and miss education and other opportunities.

Other groups that are being left behind are disabled people, people in areas of conflict, those in slum settlements and minority groups.

At International Needs, our partners are well embedded in their communities around the world. For as long as these communities are struggling to access clean water, sanitation and hygiene, we will journey with them to change this. So, we will not stop talking about water, and we hope that you will keep giving to our water and sanitation projects.

Ref. World Health Organization & United Nations Children's Fund (2025). *Progress on household drinking water, sanitation and hygiene 2000 2024: Special focus on inequalities*. Geneva: WHO / UNICEF

And why we
won't
stop talking
about it





APPEAL FOR CLEAN WATER

We have recently launched new water projects in **Sri Lanka** and **Uganda**, and we need your help to make them possible.



(Above) IN Uganda WASH team testing the water

We want to help 12,266 people get better access to clean water and sanitation. Your donations can make this possible. Clean water saves lives. Clean water improves health. Clean water helps children go to school. Clean water helps families flourish and live life in all its fullness.

Justine, aged 65, is a resident of Mpogo village. Until recently, she had to fetch water from a spring well nearly two kilometres away from her home. Each day, she climbed a hill with a heavy jerrycan balanced on her head — an exhausting task at her age.

Now, her life has changed. Thanks to International Needs and its partners, a water tank has been installed at her home, providing clean water for her and her eight grandchildren.

Wouldn't it be great through this appeal in November that we could raise £37,122 to support one of these villages?



Real lives impacted



I used to walk **long distances** with my grandson to look for safe and **clean water**. He would carry a five-litre jerrycan while I struggled with a ten-litre one. It was exhausting, but **I had no choice**, ”

reflects Margaret, an 80-year-old resident of Busiri village in Uganda.



I am **so grateful** to **International Needs** for helping me have **access to water** right within my compound, ”

says Justine, smiling as she watches her grandchildren play nearby (Pictured left).

What your giving could provide:

£30

to support one person with improved access to clean water and sanitation in WASH 3

£127

to help a school set up a WASH Club, helping children champion their water, sanitation and hygiene needs

£1,288

would buy one rainwater harvesting water tank for a school

Donate using the enclosed form and freepost envelope, or scan this QR code to donate on our website: **ineeds.org.uk**

THE NEXT PHASE OF WASH IN BUIKWE, UGANDA

The monitoring of our projects is very important to us. It is never guaranteed that a certain project or intervention will make the change you expect it to. That is why regular monitoring and evaluation of our projects matters.

Since launching our WASH* projects in Buikwe District in 2017, we have been able to reach **30,489 people** across **27 villages** with clean water, and improved sanitation and hygiene. Over this time, we have been tweaking our model to ensure we have the best impact in these communities for the long term. We have incorporated new things, like establishing savings groups for communities to save the funds needed for the inevitable repairs of water sources, started providing local pump mechanics with tools for repair, and increased our work with schools to educate children about safe water collection, sanitation, and hygiene practices.



***WASH:**
Water, Sanitation and Hygiene

We have made sure that each community we support has sufficient access to water and sanitation, and the ability and means to maintain them. We have also made sure to work collaboratively with local government to align with their water plan and sustain the change.

Of the 27 villages we have supported since 2018, we have identified that nine of them need further support before we move on to new villages. These villages have all faced increased challenges in providing sufficient clean water coverage due to being large in size and population, and with tricky terrains such as rocky or hilly landscapes. We therefore want to ensure we have completed the job of bringing change to these villages.

Over the next three years, we will be helping **12,266 people** across the villages of Busiri, Wankwale, Mpogo, Kikwanya, Bukonero, Bufumbe, Kikoko, Kinoni, and Monde. We will build on the work we have already done in these villages and continue to work with the communities to ensure lasting change.



Key activities include:

- Regular **community meetings** to strategise together on how best to improve water and sanitation in these villages. This will also include **training** in good hygiene practices and water management.
- Repairing 18 more boreholes** and protecting **18 more natural springs**.
- Drilling nine new boreholes** across the villages in sites we previously didn't have the budget to drill due to tricky terrains and the depth needed.
- Providing **six more schools** with **rainwater tanks**.
- Constructing **nine blocks of community and church toilets** in new locations.
- Constructing **nine school blocks of toilets** at additional schools across these villages.
- Training 36 pump mechanics** to maintain the water sources.
- Training 120 girls** on menstrual health and how to make reusable sanitary pads.
- Training nine more savings groups** to regularly collect funds to maintain the water sources.
- Working with **local churches** and their leaders to promote good health and hygiene.

We can't do this without you! We have had key partners support the work in these villages so far, for which we are really grateful. Could you help us to finish this work? Could you see if your church, family, or company could partner with us to raise the funds needed?

We look forward to reporting to you on the real change this work will make to the daily lives of families in rural Uganda.





(Above) Trauma therapist, Tanya, with two Ukrainian refugee children at The Joy Centre in **Romania**, 2025. (Right) Tabita, Executive Director of IN **Burkina Faso** with some ladies attending the medical centre, 2024. (Below) Jocelyn, Executive Director of IN **Kenya** visits Ark Quest school, 2024.



(Top Right) Kalpana, seamstress student from the Women's Empowerment Programme in **Nepal**, trains a local lady to sew, 2025. (Below) Sakunthala is a key member of the Water Committee in Nochikulam, **Sri Lanka**, and ensures the maintenance of quality water for her local community.



HALFWAY HOUSE

In 2013, we launched a halfway house for street youth in Nairobi. This was to serve as a stepping stone for them to escape life on the streets and to learn to care for themselves again. The three-month programme they sign up for includes daily sessions with our team, offering counselling, mentoring, business training, rehabilitation meetings, sport, and more. This holistic programme offers a new life for these young men.

And in 2024, the programme was improved even further. We realise that when we say “halfway house”, you may picture a brick and mortar home with separate rooms such as bedrooms, bathrooms, and a kitchen. Our first halfway house was, in fact, a simple tin-sheet structure measuring 9ft by 6ft. But let that not discourage you from what it meant for these young men. I remember being given a tour by a couple of boys in the programme. They proudly pointed to the corners of their room where they neatly kept their things: “This is our kitchen; that is where we sleep; that is where we store clothes; and that is where we eat.” A home is a home, and this was the first sheltered home these men had known in a long time.

Then, in August 2024, we were able to begin renting a flat in an apartment block, where four young men could stay at a time. This offered better facilities, including improved security and sanitary conditions, and presented the challenge of young men learning to live and socialise well together. This has proven a great step

for the programme, and the young men are responding well to living amongst others in the apartment block. We look forward to the day we can invite these youths to stay at our purpose-built Leadership and Talent Centre and expand this rehabilitation programme to support up to 20 youths at a time.

Impact this year (2025):

92 street youths have been provided with pastoral support, regular meals, basic healthcare, and mentoring by Pastor Joshua.

12 youths have undergone rehabilitation at the halfway house. Ten of these completed the programme and are now living independently, whilst two unfortunately relapsed; we continue to work with them.

3 street youths were granted government identity cards.



(Above) Pastor Joshua speaks to several young men from the streets.



Asmau Durnin
Programme and Partnerships Manager



LEADERSHIP AND TALENT CENTRE

BUILDING A LEGACY

Since 1996, Pastor Joshua has been faithfully serving young men living on the streets of Nairobi, a ministry that began through his partnership with Amanda Lunn. Together, they ministered to boys and young men who had been abandoned, rejected through abuse, or drawn into the grip of addiction.

From the beginning, Pastor Joshua has carried a deep and unwavering vision: to create a safe, restorative space where these young men could escape the dangers and temptations of street life and begin the journey of healing, transformation and purpose. This vision has grown into what is now becoming a reality: the Leadership and Talent Centre (LTC).

The LTC will be more than just a shelter; it will be a place of renewal. It will offer these young men an opportunity to reflect, to rebuild and to rise. The Leadership and Talent Centre will focus on the leadership qualities it takes to leave behind a life they know and start again, and harness the God-given talent within each of these young men.

Now, as the Leadership and Talent Centre begins to take shape, we are witnessing the genesis of a ministry that we believe will continue for decades to come. Just as we've seen with other longstanding ministries

(Pictured) Pastor Joshua of Grace Empowerment



among our partners, the construction of this centre is more than a practical development; it is a spiritual milestone. It marks the laying of a foundation stone upon which countless lives will be rebuilt in Jesus' name. Through discipleship, mentorship and practical support, the LTC will be a beacon of hope and a testimony to God's redemptive power at work in the lives of Nairobi's street youth.

As Peter Bailey, a supporter and former chartered surveyor, shared:

“As we walked the site, we were inspired by Pastor Joshua's passion and his vision for the new Leadership and Talent Centre. Back in the UK, I've been helping IN Kenya with the preparation of tender documentation and the procurement of design professionals to move the project forward. It's a privilege to work with the team, and I hope to return one day and see the completed centre.”



We are in the early stages, but the future is exciting.

By Grace King
Partnerships Manager

A LEGACY THAT LIVES FOR CHRIST

For nearly fifty years, International Needs UK has been rooted in the truth of the Gospel that when we follow Christ's example, lives are changed and communities are transformed. Since our founding in 1976, God has used your generosity to lift families out of poverty, bring relief in times of crisis, and share the hope of Jesus with communities around the world. Every well drilled, farmer resourced, child educated, and every empowered family begins with hearts willing to give in obedience to Him.



(Pictured) Where it all began: the first work of International Needs was with children in Savar, Bangladesh.

As we approach IN UK's 50th anniversary in 2026, we pause to celebrate all that God has done and look ahead to what He will do next. One way you can help that story continue is by leaving a gift in your will. A legacy gift is more than a donation; it's a declaration of faith. It says that even after you've gone home to be with Jesus, your love

for others and your commitment to God's work will go on, changing lives for generations to come.

Including a charitable gift in your will is simple, but its impact is eternal. Your legacy can feed the hungry, empower communities, and share the Gospel long into the future.

I have had the privilege of leading IN UK for the last 11 years, and I want to see it continue with leaders, trustees and committed supporters so that, as we play our part in God's promise to Abraham, *'all families on the earth will be blessed'* (Gen 12:3). As we thank God for fifty years of His faithfulness, we invite you to consider prayerfully how your life and your legacy can continue to shine His light in a world that still longs for hope.

If you would like to leave a gift for IN, please get in touch with our office on 01883 331332 or email me at danny@ineeds.org.uk. Together, we can ensure that Christ's love endures, transforming lives today, tomorrow and into the future.

By Danny Morris
Executive Director

THE NEXT GENERATION

Kids bible clubs Kenya

In 2025, something wonderful is happening in the heart of Korogocho, one of Nairobi's most challenging neighbourhoods. International Needs Kenya is excited to be launching a Bible Club right in the middle of this bustling slum. IN Kenya's mission has always been to change lives through the Gospel, and this new step is all about helping children grow spiritually, emotionally, and socially, in a place where they need it most.

Every day, children in Korogocho face tough realities like poverty, insecurity, and the struggle to find positive guidance. Many don't have a safe space to learn about faith, build strong values, or simply feel encouraged. That's exactly why IN Kenya felt called to do something. And together, we want these children to experience love, belonging, and hope – things that every child deserves.

Before they began, IN Kenya turned to the backbone of the community: the parents and guardians. They held a special meeting with them to introduce the Bible Clubs, explain their vision, and share how the weekly Saturday sessions would work. The response was incredible: parents eagerly signed their children up and gave written consent, showing just how much they want their kids to be raised with good values and strong morals.



Of course, none of this would work without passionate leaders. So, on the third Saturday of August, IN Kenya brought together a group of volunteers for special training. They were equipped with everything they needed to guide the Bible Clubs: knowledge, skills, and (most importantly!) the heart to make a difference. But these Bible Clubs are more than just meetings. They're safe havens where children can ask questions about faith, learn wisdom, and build character. By investing in both the children and the volunteer teachers, IN Kenya is sparking a ripple effect that will touch families and the entire community.

This new beginning is sustained by faith, prayer, and the unwavering support of our partners, local volunteers, and parents. While Korogocho is our starting point, we know there are many more neighbourhoods across Kenya where children need this kind of hope. That's why we're inviting churches and partners to join us in spreading Bible Clubs even further, because every child should have a place to belong, to grow, and to be transformed. As Jocelyn Muraya, Executive Director of IN Kenya, put it: **"Together, we are sowing seeds of hope in Korogocho – seeds that will one day grow into leaders, change-makers, and ambassadors of the Gospel."**



BACK TO SCHOOL



Kim (far right) on her last visit to Uganda

Each September, many of us become busy preparing our children, grandchildren, or the children of friends and neighbours for the start of a new school year. New uniforms are bought, shoes are polished, bags are packed, and timetables are set. For many families in the UK, this season comes with both excitement and nerves, but school itself is something we can usually take for granted.

For children supported through our International Needs programmes around the world, however, **going back to school is not guaranteed**. Many families simply do not have the resources to cover the cost of school fees, uniforms, or basic supplies. Without this support, children risk missing out on an education that could transform their lives and open doors to a brighter future.

On my recent trip to Uganda, I was really excited to meet many of your sponsored children. Their joy and anticipation about going to school was infectious. One young man I met has especially stayed with me. He lost his hearing through illness when he was just five years old, yet his determination has never faded. He

is hoping to be sponsored so he can return to school to learn again and holds tight to his dream of becoming a musician, using his gifts to worship God and bless his family and friends with the love of God. **Meeting him reminded me so powerfully of the hope and courage that education can spark**, even in the most difficult circumstances.

Much like here in the UK, many of our partner schools overseas also provide far more than just lessons. Children in our programmes often receive a daily meal, basic healthcare, and emotional support through their school. This holistic care strengthens not only the child but their family and wider community, breaking cycles of poverty and giving hope for the future.

Since the start of this year, we've been so encouraged to see sponsors step forward to support the education of **78 more children**. To all of you who already sponsor, **thank you**. Your generosity is changing lives every single day.

By Kim Wright
Donor Care Manager



Our New Ambassador:

AMY CONROY



We are delighted to welcome Paralympian **Amy Conroy as the newest ambassador for our Disability Inclusion Project (DIP)**! A four-time Paralympian and Team GB wheelchair basketball player, Amy knows firsthand how sport can change lives. After losing her leg to childhood cancer, she found confidence, purpose, and belonging through sport and her Christian faith. She is now sharing that same passion to support disabled children in Uganda.

"Sport gave me back my independence, and I believe God can use it to open doors for children everywhere," Amy says.



Photo credit: AXA GYM Paralympics GB

"I'm proud to stand with IN UK to raise funds so children with disabilities in Uganda have the opportunity to play, belong, and dream."

In Uganda, disability is often misunderstood. Many children are hidden away without access to school, medical care or mobility aids. DIP, led by International Needs Uganda, is transforming this through inclusive sports festivals, teacher training, parent support groups, and improved accessibility in schools and communities. Over the next three years, the project will reach more than 3,000 disabled children across Kayunga, Mukono, Jinja and Buikwe districts.

Together with Amy, we're dreaming up creative ways to fundraise, from this December's Big Give Challenge to a Guinness World Record attempt in early 2026. Our goal is to raise £330,000 to help children with disabilities live life to the full. With Amy and supporters like you, we can help more children access the opportunities they deserve.

EVENTS

Christmas Concert

– 6-9:30pm, **6 December**, South Norwood Baptist Church

Bring your best Christmas jumper and join us for an evening of festive and **gospel music** to kick off the season in style! **Tickets available now** via our website...



TCS London Marathon 2026

Sign up to run the TCS London Marathon on **26 April 2026** for International Needs and make every mile matter!



The Big Give

– 2 to 9 December

This is your annual opportunity to double your giving; we have some very exciting things planned to raise lots of money. Keep it in your diary and look out for special content from IN Uganda and Amy Conroy on our social media channels:

YouTube, TikTok, and Instagram: **@ineedsuk** Facebook: **International Needs UK**



Surfstage

We were the official charity partner for Surfstage Festival once again in July! We feel truly honoured to be part of an event so full of music and good fun. Throughout the weekend, children and young people wrote letters to students at Makonge Primary School in Uganda and took part in a challenge walking 'the story' of building new classrooms for them.

We had a lot of meaningful conversations, and it was wonderful to celebrate how far the classrooms have come with those who've supported us along the way. Together, we raised an amazing **£5,313.80** towards the furniture for the new classrooms — **thank you so much!**



IMPACT 2024

International Needs UK reached and **positively impacted over 51,500 individuals**

The International Needs Network touched the lives of **over 1 million people** in 32 countries worldwide.

Of those lives touched, for example, **1,213 babies were safely delivered** in St Ophel Medical Centre in Burkina Faso.

The impact achieved in 2024 is a testament to the power of partnership, prayer, and unwavering compassion.

MEET THE REST OF THE **IN UK** TEAM...

We also have a new joiner: **Ellie McDowell** has joined us as our new Finance Manager!



Kirsty Currie
Office Manager



For over 30 years, **Makonge Primary School** has been transforming the lives of children in Kiyindi through learning, care, and opportunity. With your support, a new seven-classroom block now stands — thank you for making it possible.



(Front cover) Once, Namakolo Margaret walked for miles each day to find water. Now, a rainwater tank at her home means **clean water, health and hope** are within reach.



International Needs
Empowering families

Registered Charity Number 1175526