

One World Together Annual Report 2023-2024



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Letter from our Co-Founders

Dear Friends and Global Citizens,

A pinch ourselves moment. To think that just one year ago One World Together was just an idea, a vision...a dream.

We opened our launch event in June 2023 with the following statement:

They say an idea can change the world.

But we say it's more than an idea. It's the people that come together to back it. The ones that hope for a better future and want to play a part in that.

That's all of us here today.

And that couldn't have been truer. We would not be where we are today without our committed Global Citizens from around the world, who together currently contribute more than £360.00 (and growing) a month in flexible funding to our four partners.

Without our generous funders we would not have enjoyed our momentous Community-Building Summit in Nairobi and would not yet be able to maintain our operational costs through the Global Citizen membership-based model that we have designed to achieve financial sustainability in the future.

Without our institutional partnerships we would not yet be reaching the audience that we are with our message and vision for the future: a funding system that works *for* and *with* communities. That centres them and their autonomy in driving their own future.

And without our partners we wouldn't be able to showcase the *power* of the long-term, predictable and unrestricted funding that your generous donations to our Solidarity Fund enables.

Despite times being tough – between them our four partners have battled and are battling droughts, floods, evictions, and public health crises – this is not just about their ability to respond to and cope in crisis.

It is also about giving the power of hope, the ability to pursue their vision of development processes that matter to them. The power to dream together about the future that awaits us as we grow and the ability to learn from one another about how to build together towards this future.

This has been an important year. It has been one of building and embedding our community. Coming together, building the community spirit and infrastructure that will make One World Together thrive. We are incredibly proud of these successes and of each and every Global Citizen and supporter who has made them possible.

One thing we are clear about at this milestone is that this is a long game. It takes time, it takes resources and it takes commitment to grow a movement for change. The last we have in spades, the other two are more tricky.

But our commitment continues to drive us.

Our Global Citizens continue to drive us.

Our partners inspire and drive us.

Let us leave you with Margaret Mead’s inspiring words.

Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed it’s the only thing that ever has.

As we write, we are 130 Global Citizens and growing. We know that we can achieve this. Together.

Kindest regards,

Nicola Banks
United Kingdom



Chibwe Henry
Zambia



OUR YOUTH BOARD



OUR 2023-2024 YOUTH BOARD

Ann Valerie Balmir
Haiti



Amire Hassana Mohammed
Nigeria



Asma Ahmed Bham
Pakistan



Tarini Mohil
Singapore



Skyler Colarusso
United States



Selim Iyidri
Turkey



Sara Khaliq
United Kingdom



Nele Engbrecht
Germany



Letter from the Youth Board

Dear Friends and Global Citizens,

As members of the Youth Board of One World Together, we are honoured to share with you the remarkable achievements and heartfelt stories from this past year. Our mission to provide a platform for Global Citizens to amplify engagement and build strong community organisations through long-term and unrestricted funding has been met with unwavering support and incredible dedication from our community, and we are excited to reflect on the progress we've made together.

This year has been nothing short of inspiring! Through various programs and initiatives, we have seen firsthand the impact of our collective efforts. At One World Together, our Global Citizens Membership reached 130 incredible people, connecting them on our virtual Community Space! As for our Solidarity Fund, we nearly doubled our payment to our community partners, from our first instalment of £160 to each partner in November 2023 to £344.50 to each partner for our third instalment in May 2024.

We also hosted a number of brilliant events, bringing together our Global Citizens, Community Partners, Student Union Society members, and volunteers to foster knowledge sharing and collaboration. Excitingly, collaborations with our Community Partners, Movement's Trust, and the University of Manchester have expanded our reach and enhanced our impact, enabling us to grow our movement and support for our partners.

We will continue to build on our successes, expand our movement, and deepen our impact. Together, we can transform the nature of support for global development, shifting money and power directly to communities and the organisations working closely with them.

In closing, we invite you to join us in celebrating this year's accomplishments and to continue supporting our journey forward. Together, we can create a powerful Wave of Change!

With gratitude and hope,

The Youth Board
One World Together

INTRODUCTION



ONE WORLD TOGETHER

One year on, we have come such a long way towards our vision of a community-centred future. Since this is our first report, we'd like to take a bit of time to take a step back, familiarise you with our journey, and why we have chosen the difficult, yet vital, task of building a new funding system that delivers better support to communities in the UK and globally.

We emerged from three decades of research at the University of Manchester as an explicitly radical offering that recognises the need for an alternative to the heavily professionalised (and expensive) intermediary organisations that dominate the UK's charity sector. Time and time again our Chief Stewards, through their research and experience working in the sector, saw the difficulties and costs that existing funding systems place on the organisations closest to communities. These are the ones working hard to meet community needs and priorities, but who face incredible difficulties meeting these in a system that funds short-term projects tied to donor interests and underfunds the operational overhead costs that support build strong and sustainable organisations.

Given these challenges we designed our entire model in the opposite direction, seeking to radically increase the volume of long-term and flexible funding reaching brilliant community organisations around

the world. This is what drives us and has shaped our vision and values, how we operate, and the support we give our partners.

This required innovation in our operational model. A 'traditional' model would lead us to the same problems facing even the best-intentioned international development charity when it comes to shifting power. We shifted focus away from donors (and costly fund-raising models) towards recognising the power of *us*.

The collective might of a community of concerned Global Citizens united around their desire to getting their support directly to the community level where they can have the most impact. **This led us to design a model that is:**

i) Affordable

At OWT we recognise it is how we give, not how much we give that matters. That recognises the power of citizen philanthropy and removes financial barriers to supporting our movement for a more equitable future. That recognises even the smallest donation has great power when we come together at scale. With a tiered membership model that encourages Global Citizens to choose an affordable option and monthly Solidarity Fund payments starting from as little as £1.25/month we believe in the mighty-ness of micro-donations at scale.



ii) Financially-sustainable

Our goal is to become sustainable through our annual membership subscriptions. This will increase our long-term strength and viability. We keep our own operational costs to a minimum so that more funds can get to where they have the most impact: to our partners. We end our first year still some way from this end goal, which will require around 4,000-5,000 Global Citizens to join our movement (depending on the membership tier that is affordable to them). But we know that these future Global Citizens are out there waiting to discover us!

iii) Radically transparent

We recognise solidarity will be key to our long-term success and know that taking our Global Citizens on a learning journey with us will help to build that solidarity. We don't see the Global Citizen story as a transactional relationship, but as an engaged and informed partnership. This led us to separate the membership fee out from a monthly donation so that Global Citizens know exactly where their money goes. And it led to the online community space that is at the heart of our movement

Our **online community space** is a place where Global Citizens can connect with our partners, learn about what they're doing with their Solidarity funds, and see first-hand the power of this type of giving. And more than that, the community space is also where they can also learn about how what we do in our community is so drastically different to the broader, deeply problematic, global funding system.



WHERE DID WE START?

Concepts of 'localisation', 'locally-led development', 'decolonising aid' and #ShiftThePower are rising to the top of global policy agendas. While there are **important differences** across these, these terminologies all refer to a demand for or actions taken to shift power away from Northern development hegemonies in funding and knowledge and to bring power and resources to local organisations. The energy that is being dedicated to these issues and the plethora of individual and collective initiatives underway to address these challenges is unmistakable.

Our co-founders, Nicola Banks and Chibwe Henry, met in the [Reimagining the International NGO](#) (RINGO)'s Social



Lab, which brought diverse development stakeholders together to reimagine ‘the aid system’ and design prototypes that reduce inequalities between NGOs in the Global North and South. Niki and Chibwe attended RINGO with similar interests and a desire to transform inequalities between NGOs in the Global North and South, but with very different backgrounds and experience. As an academic at GDI who had been researching NGOs for a decade, Niki was keen to explore whether and how her position outside of the global NGO system and infrastructure could offer a unique vantage point in terms of solutions. Meanwhile, Chibwe’s extensive experience working for and building local, national and international charities and grant-makers highlighted to her the complexities of implementing a Shifting Power agenda within the industry’s current machinery and the limitations to current efforts underway across different geographies and organisational forms.

Although the #ShiftThePower movement emerged from a coalition of Southern NGOs led by the [Global Fund for Community Foundations](#) in 2016, Northern organisations have come to the forefront of these debates. We see an important contradiction

emerge. Despite their underpinning motivations to provide greater power and resources to Southern organisations, discussions of what to do and how to do this have become dominated by Northern NGOs.

If the best intentions of existing systems are too slow or are failing to facilitate a more equitable system that is fit for purpose in building thriving, agile and sustainable civil society organisations around the world, then what would a transformative systems innovation look like and where could it come from? In a recent [Forecasting report](#) by philanthropic network Ariadne, we were taken aback – though not terribly surprised – to see the following suggestion from a philanthropy consultant to resolve the sector’s ills:

“I wish that someone would do a [MacKenzie Scott](#) in the UK. I hope some maverick rich person will come along and give communities the ability to do what they see fit. Some incredible organisations would get tonnes of money and the freedom to build what they need to build”

While in complete agreement of the need for a system that gets funds on the best terms to the organisations closest to communities, are we really so ‘stuck’ that our only perceived solution is for a rich individual to come and ‘save the world, one community at a time?’. It appears so within the current status quo of the UK’s charitable and philanthropic sectors.

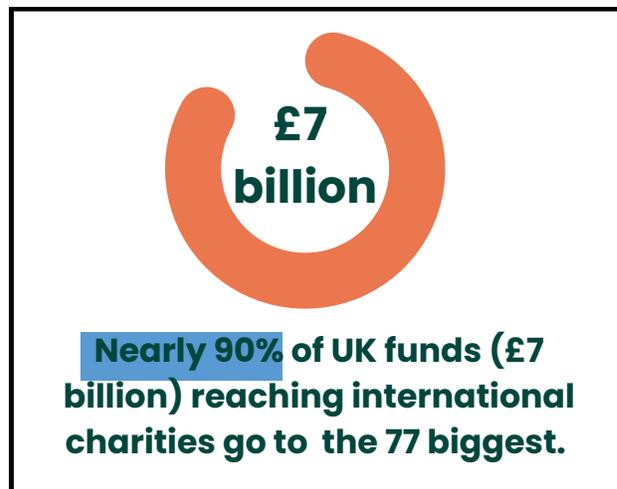
But we believe we can do better than that. Having been blown away by the UK public’s support for development NGOs in her work mapping the development NGO sector, Niki and Chibwe embarked upon a new challenge – designing an alternative system to provide an affordable, impactful and community-centred new home for this support. We’re delighted to introduce something much more radical and revolutionary at One World Together, in which **the power to transform these unequal, unjust and unfit for purpose systems is not in the hands of rich individuals but in us. Each and every one of us.**

At One World Together we believe that, collectively we have the power to sweep away the unequal, unjust and **colonial** systems and practices that underpin relationships between NGOs within the UK and across the Global North and South.

WHAT’S OUR SOLUTION?

There is one voice and actor that is almost entirely excluded from current discussions of how we can build towards a more equitable global future. And that’s us, the giving public. Here in the UK, for example, these conversations overlook the fact that it is the British public who are

by far the biggest supporters of development NGOs, contributing an [average of £2 billion a year to development NGOs.](#)



These funds are largely the best *form* of finance, often free of the restrictions that ascribe tight conditionalities on how that money can be spent. It is difficult to assess how much of these funds are passed on from Northern NGOs to their counterparts around the world on an unrestricted basis. But these organisations are central actors in this deeply unequal system, used to certain ways of working. Their finances tend to be a melting pot of restricted and unrestricted income that can make this difficult, and they experience many internal and external influences that restrict even the best intentions for change. Perhaps the fact that [nearly all of these funds reach the largest charities](#) exacerbates these challenges.

One of these projects was Niki’s work with Dan Brockington that ‘mapped’ the UK’s development NGO sector. It was a massive project, first building a list of UK

charities that could constitute 'development' NGOs into a database and then inputting their annual incomes, expenditures and sources of income across a five-year period. There are so many fascinating insights here, including the size and continued growth of the sector and its massive unevenness – nearly 90% of the sector's entire income of £7 billion in 2015 went to the largest charities.

This work was really influential to Niki – not only in working towards finding an alternative to these very unequal and expensive sectoral mechanics when it comes to resource allocation in the sector. Perhaps even more so was their findings about the scale of the British public's generosity when it comes to supporting global development. They donated an average of £2 billion a year to the sector across the five years of study; they were the biggest sole provider of finances to development NGOs and donated more than the next two biggest contributors combined (the UK government and funding from other charity intermediaries).

But we don't believe that this is good enough. There is no reason why the giving public around the world cannot provide the driving force to catalyse real change for funding grassroots organisations and action. This is the idea from which One World Together was born!

One World Together is born out of a recognition that the future is in our hands.

With existing systems unwilling or unable

to dismantle the industrial complex that they have become a part of, we start again afresh. First in the UK, where both of our co-founders are based, but with the intention of extending internationally around the world into a truly global movement and family.

The philosophy of One World Together is simple – that by providing long-term, predictable and unrestricted funding (the 'holy grail' of funding) to organisations working closely with the communities that they serve or represent, we can support more just and transformative global development outcomes.

By focusing on strengthening organisations rather than delivering services, we put an end to the starvation cycle that has undermined global civil society for so many decades. Such finance enables organisations to be strategic and political, to be responsive to crises, to invest in their people and communities – and ultimately, to be in control of their own futures.

We have designed a new and financially sustainable [model](#) for One World Together. For too long, 'charity' has represented a transactional form of giving that favours the wealthy and the largest donations. One World Together represents the opposite – it prioritises solidarity to the broader cause of social justice as the 'glue' that holds us together.

Our strength is not underpinned by high donations but rooted in a broad-base of supporters that stick with us for the long-term. Our supporters – our



'Global Citizens' – are invited to support our Solidarity Fund with monthly donations from as little as £1.25 a month. We pool these donations and channel them, in their entirety, to our four amazing partners. As we grow, we can scale up our support to our partners and then build outwards to new ones.

We support the costs of One World Together's movement through a small annual membership fee starting from £5/year. Through this we aspire to becoming financially sustainable and free from the contradictions of ongoing fundraising that risks pulling us away from our core focus and philosophy. We believe in keeping operational costs lean while investing fairly in staff. This year our staffing comprises only one part-time Operations Manager (Skyler Colarusso). As we grow we recognise the importance of more specialist roles (e.g. communications) that our current income cannot support.

We believe that the power to change things is in all our hands. We just haven't had the vehicle through which we can reach more just, transformative change yet. One World Together is here to bring that change.

And a final, but very important, note. This introduction has been about One World Together, where it comes from, and what it represents. But at the centre of One World Together is our **four brilliant founding partners**. They are the heroes in the One World Together family and you can learn more about them in the next section.

OUR VISION

At One World Together, our vision is a future where Global Citizens, communities and civil society can thrive, fostering engagement, knowledge-sharing and solidarity.

OUR MISSION

Our mission is to provide a platform for Global Citizens to amplify engagement and build strong community organisations through long-term and unrestricted funding.

We believe that if we come together, we, ourselves, offer the greatest power for doing things differently.

It is no longer enough to demand change or to wait for the organisations and systems that thrive through inequality to change.

But we can play our part in building new systems based on the right principles, like One World Together.

THANK YOU

We wouldn't be here without the generous support of two key partners, **The University of Manchester** and the **Aspect Research Commercialisation (ARC) Accelerator Programme**. We thank them both for their incredible contributions to One World Together – and for all of the other initiatives for social impact that they support.



The University of Manchester



OUR PARTNERS

Supporting brilliant organisations rooted in their communities is what we're all about, and wow, we are so proud of our four incredible partners.

We pool the Solidarity Funds that our Global Citizens donate and give these directly to our partners on a quarterly basis, with no conditions attached. This means that they can spend the money exactly as they like – this might be to plan and invest strategically or to respond to difficult circumstances as they emerge in their local areas.

Sounds obvious, right? But it's so far removed from what the existing funding system offers. It's important to emphasise this, because it's our greatest power and what makes us so distinctly unique. **We fund organisations, not projects, because we trust that our partners are best placed to identify solutions to the challenges they face.** We see our role as supporting them by providing finance to help them do this, that builds their organisational strength and resilience, and brings their work to a new audience to spotlight the brilliant work that they do.

Hopefully this background about our journey to launch has whetted your appetite to hear more about what we've achieved in our first year as we built our foundations and embedded our fledgling movement.



Situated in Manchester and the North-West of England, [Community Savers](#) is a **women's-led network of community associations and neighbourhood networks organising for greater social justice in their local areas.** It is inspired by Shack/Slum Dwellers International, one of the biggest grassroots movements in the world, operating across 32 countries.

“ We're proud to be a founding partner of the One World Together movement. As an organisation focused on social justice, unrestricted funding is critical to us to ensure we can adapt quickly to our communities' needs. We sometimes have to organise quickly or on issues which are not priorities for funders, such as spatial planning or fighting against urban developments that run counter to our communities' interests. We also have to respond to rapidly changing contexts, as we have seen during the cost of living crisis. One World Together donations have already let us set up crisis grants for vulnerable families who are struggling to make ends meet” ”

 **Nairobi, Kenya**



Muongano Youth Federation brings together over 12,000 enthusiastic young people from informal settlements across Kenya’s cities. We have nearly **600 organised groups bringing together young people in the community who are deeply passionate about advocacy around various issues**, including better access to basic services, proper housing, livelihoods and land tenure. We work as a Federation to design and implement diverse youth programmes that help to meet these needs.

Muongano youth have also established a vibrant online platform known as Know Your City TV (KYCTv), showcasing locally-led advocacy initiatives, sharing youth stories and amplifying their voices through a variety of media. KYCTv engages with a broad audience, raising awareness about the issues faced by young people.

 **Lusaka, Zambia**



Play It Forward is all about **using the magic of sport (specifically football, or soccer, if you prefer) to make a positive**

impact on the lives of disadvantaged youth.

“ We kicked off (pun absolutely intended) in 2009, with a vision of leveraging young people’s love for football to build opportunities and help individuals take control of their lives. We empower young Zambians, helping them develop sustainable livelihoods through top-notch education and health activities. We want every young Zambian to reach their full potential and thrive. So far, we’ve reached out to thousands of children through education, health education, HIV testing, and by improving community school infrastructure. ”

 **Nairobi, Kenya**



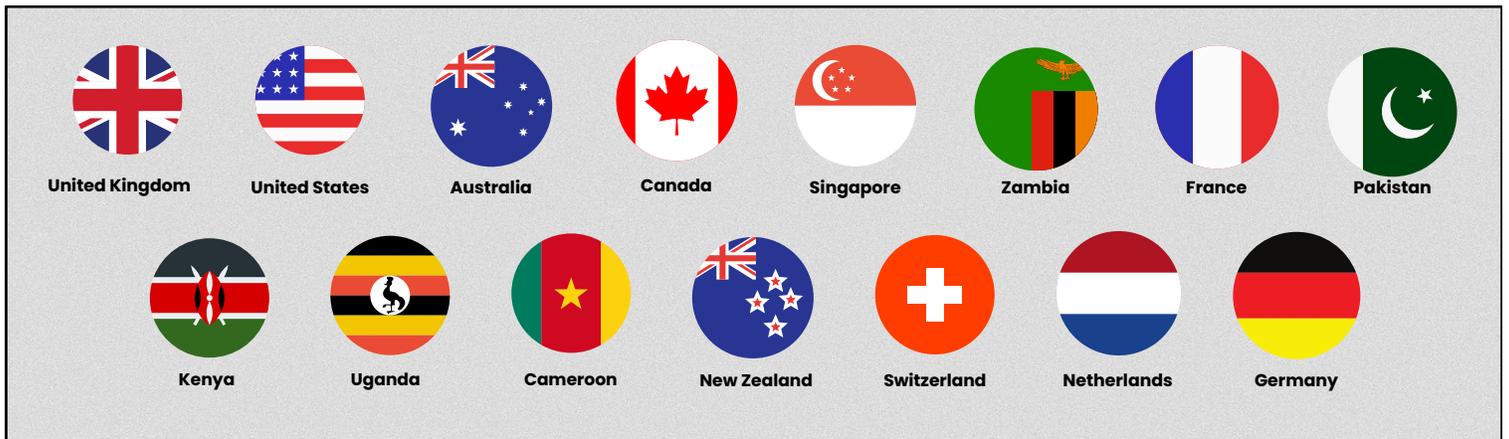
Raising Futures Kenya has over 20 years of experience of **working with vulnerable young people in Kenya and have provided accredited vocational and business skills training to over 2,500 young people**, most of whom are girls, young women and young mothers. We want nothing to stand in the way of our students’ learning. We build our students’ self-confidence and resilience as well as developing their skills and provide them with counselling, life skills classes, mentoring, and practical support such as lunches, childcare vouchers and period pads.

OUR COMMUNITY



OUR GLOBAL CITIZENS

One World Together has gained **130 Global Citizens** in our first year! Our Global Citizens stretch across **5 continents** and reside in **15 countries** around the world.



SOLIDARITY FUND

INTRODUCTION

With a public so committed to global development causes, we felt confident that they would get behind a radical new system for supporting global development. One World Together was born to do exactly this – redirect the generosity of the British public directly to local and community-based organisations who may be best-placed to identify and solve their own challenges, but who in reality receive a fraction of their much-needed resources (and when they do, it usually comes with heavy restrictions on how it is spent). This isn't just the right thing to do in terms of strengthening local actors and building awareness and trust in this critical alternative. It is also much more cost-effective given the massive fundraising and administration costs associated with the largest NGOs.

The last few years have been very tough on the charity sector as a whole. The pandemic and subsequent cost-of-living crisis has meant funding in the sector has decreased substantially. Our funding model was designed around affordability even before these crises. We centred ourselves around movement principles that prioritise a broad-base of support above the highest value donations. We are stronger together, and in a model prioritising understanding and engagement alongside donations, we see affordability as the key to our inclusivity and to building as big a narrative and impact around doing things differently

that may lead to wider change in the sector. Multiple crises are exacerbating pressures on low-income communities and the needs and vulnerability of their community members are increasing. Yet funding is harder to get than ever, making it even more imperative for every penny to get where it counts. As many of us know from our own experience, having a flexible income flow is critical when it comes to responding to changing or unexpected circumstances and to crises; as these pass, it can then be invested back into long-term goals and strategies. Supporting these processes is exactly what we want to do at One World Together.

Our model is designed around movement principles, recognising that a large number of committed supporters is more powerful than a few small donors. Even a small, but long-term, monthly donation of **£1.25** can be pooled into large volumes of money that we can channel to our brilliant [partners!](#)

Our [Solidarity Fund](#) was born with the promise that every penny, minus the transaction fee, will go directly to our partners on a long-term and unrestricted basis.

THE IMPACT OF OUR SOLIDARITY FUND

Long-term and unrestricted funding is in our DNA and the power and potential of this was illustrated by the first unrestricted grant that we gave to our partners.

If you don't think £1 can be powerful, then our partner Lwanga Bwalya from Play it Forward Zambia said it best at our launch:

“What does a pound mean to you? I can tell you what it means to me. £1 can give a young person meals for a week... But what you are actually giving them is time. Because for some children their dream is just not to go to bed hungry. And it means if you can feed them for a week they can look up, have time to play, time to actually think through their future... Time is hope, and if you give that enough to a community they themselves can then step up and surprise us with their success.”

Our first Solidarity Fund payments of £160.00 to each of our four partners – Muungano wa Wanavijiji, Community Savers, Raising Futures Kenya and Play it Forward Zambia. **That’s £160.00 of unrestricted funds.** Our Solidarity Fund is also growing with our membership, **with a monthly income of £270** (and rising!) from our generous Global Citizens.

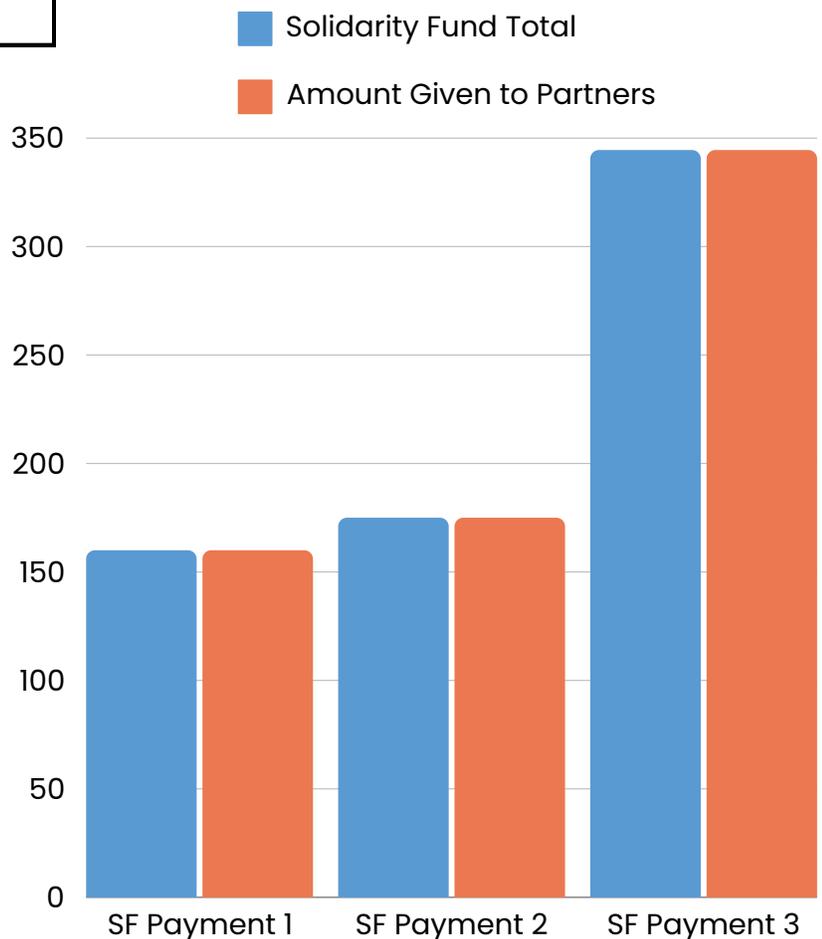
Our second Solidarity Fund payments of £175.00 to each of our four partners at the end of February 2024. At the time of our second payment, our Solidarity Fund **monthly income was £289!**

Our third Solidarity Fund payments of £344.50 to each of our four partners at the end of our first year in May 2024! At this time, our Solidarity Fund **monthly income was £358!**

What an amazing feeling to see the nearly doubled growth of our Solidarity Fund payment this last instalment.

In our first year of operations, our partners have received **£693.50** in Solidarity Fund payments, giving them the flexibility to spend and invest it however is most impactful for them. This is on top of an initial **£1,500 grant** that we gave to each partner.

Following the amazing stories of the impact of the first and second Solidarity Fund payments, we're incredibly excited to hear about the brilliant projects and initiatives our partner chose to use these funds for!



UNDERSTANDING THE POWER OF OUR SOLIDARITY FUND

The power of our Solidarity Fund is strikingly clear, even at the end of what is only our first year of operations. It is enabling all four of our partners to do amazing things. These include **deepening their impact**, **responding to crisis**, and **investing in new community priorities**.

Here are just some of the critical roles that our Solidarity Funds are playing across our partners. We're delighted to share some headline impact stories that exemplify these from each partner in the following pages. You can find more details on these in our blogs and down on our Community Space.

DEEPENING IMPACT

Our funds help to fill in gaps in project-based funding. They offer flexible and predictable funds that help them invest in strengthening and retaining staff. They also enable partners to invest in 'added extras' to planned projects which enhance long-term impacts.

RESPONDING TO CRISIS - QUICKLY

It's been a difficult year globally. Alongside the cost of living crisis which has hit all the communities our partners work with, our partners have grappled with supporting their communities through extended famines, devastating flooding and evictions, and chronic electricity crises. Project-based funding doesn't enable organisations to change priorities. There is no flexibility to support communities through crisis. Applying for new funds takes time. Our Solidarity Funds have been a lifeline for all four partners.

INVESTING IN NEW COMMUNITY PRIORITIES

How do you get new projects off the ground without time and resources to invest in working with communities to understand needs, priorities and contexts? Our Solidarity Funds have enabled our partners to be strategic - to work on new priorities and with new groups, to enter new collaborations, and to ensure thoughtful programme design that works for communities.



£1,500 STARTING GRANT

Chronic drought led to severe load-shedding given Livingstone's dependence on hydro-electric dams. Power outages of up to 12 hours a day severely limited staff's ability to do any office-based work such as project management and fundraising. Play it Forward invested around £1,000 in solar panels, batteries and an inverter so that operations can remain consistent.

Remaining funds are making their programmes inclusive. Play it Forward have brought 25 deaf children into their programmes and are developing inclusive training materials across their programmes.

SOLIDARITY FUND PAYMENTS 1-3

Play It Forward were losing their best coaches after a new law made all sports coaches in Zambia require safeguarding certificates. The predictability of our Solidarity Funds have enabled them to retain them by increasing staff salaries. This protects their investment, supports the well-being of their valued staff and benefits the young footballers who adore their coaches.





£1,500 STARTER GRANT

Chronic drought in two of their school areas devastated local agriculture and led to severe hunger and food insecurity. These funds contributed to emergency feeding programmes for their schools.

Funds also enabled them to provide formal certification of their vocational training with local authorities, thereby increasing the returns to their skills in the labour market.

SOLIDARITY FUND PAYMENTS 1-3

Raising Futures Kenya is using our Solidarity Funds to deepen the impact of their training. They are providing counselling and mental health support services to students. The young people they train have experienced significant hardships and vulnerabilities. Training alone is not enough to support lasting positive impact on their lives.

Our Solidarity Funds also provided emergency support to young people affected by Nairobi's devastating floods this year, for example clothing or short-term rent for students whose houses and belongings had been destroyed.





£1,500 STARTING GRANT

Amidst the cost of living crisis that hit families and communities hard, Community Savers allocated £500 to three savings group to provide emergency payments or in-kind support to families in crisis.

SOLIDARITY FUND PAYMENTS 1-3

Housing is one of the highest priorities across their savings groups. Community Savers combined their Solidarity Fund payments to launch the Manchester Social Housing Commission. This multi-actor consortium aims to accelerate progress on building social homes against a waiting list of 17,000 Manchester households for social housing.

Our unrestricted funding was invested in a 'state of play' report on Manchester's housing crisis to support the Commission's local and national policy proposals.





£1,500 STARTING GRANT

Muongano wa Wanavijiji's youth federation used the money to support peace brigades across Nairobi's informal settlements in the run up to last election, uniting young people against electoral violence and educating them around the importance of their vote.

SOLIDARITY FUNDS PAYMENTS 1-3

Climate change is a huge priority for Muongano youth. 2024's devastating floods in Nairobi highlighted the threats it poses.

Our Solidarity Funds enabled cross-community climate action youth groups to brainstorm together how they could raise awareness and promote community action and behaviour change. They created a huge and magnificent mural illustrating how the community could return their river to its natural and clean state.

Our funds have enabled their advocacy and production team, Know Your City TV, to invest in hard drives and lighting to increase the quality and longevity of their work. This plays a critical role in their advocacy strategy.



And while the finance is enabling our partners to do incredible things, there is something else very powerful about our Solidarity Fund. **The power of trust.**

IT'S NOT JUST ABOUT THE MONEY

Yes, we might want to measure the 'impact' of these incredible investments these funds support our partners to do – with flexibility and speed that they wouldn't have otherwise. But if you look at what it means to our partners, it's not just about that. Equally as powerful is our trust in local actors, their local ownership and their the ability to find local solutions that they place at the heart of our impact. We think this is priceless.



“The solidarity fund represents a belief and faith in local actors. The people in our communities are hurting. You're entrusting us as local actors and supporting our belief that things could be better for our communities. And you're supporting us with resources to come up with localised solutions”

Lwanga Bwalya, Play it Forward

“The Solidarity Fund represents a partnership rooted in trust and mutual respect. It empowers us to make decisions that directly benefit our community, reflecting a true understanding of our context and needs.”

Florence Olwenge, Raising Futures Kenya



OUR YEAR TOGETHER



Kicking Off the Year

JUNE 2023

THE LAUNCH OF ONE WORLD TOGETHER

ON 8 JUNE 2023 we were delighted to hold an intimate celebration **marking the start of One World Together**. We were joined by our magnificent Youth Board, our four inspiring partners and a fantastic and welcoming audience at the University of Manchester.

This was not only an opportunity to introduce a movement that has been in the making for more than two years. It was a chance to really showcase what we are seeking to do, with our partners highlighting what this new collaboration means to them and our Youth Board demonstrating the way we envision One World Together becoming an engaged and dynamic youth-powered movement for change.

Our partners gave us some insight into the ways in which our flexible funding has already helped them. For [Community Savers](#) in North-West England, our initial payment enabled three community groups to give emergency grants to families struggling with the cost of living crisis. [Raising Futures Kenya](#) was able to provide school lunches in three of its training centres suffering from a long-term drought and [Muungano wa Wanavijiji's](#) youth federation funded a movement for peace in the run-up to national elections. These are all activities that traditional calls and timelines for funding rarely support.

Our launch in Manchester was a huge milestone for us to celebrate! The warm and enthusiastic feedback we received from attendees meant the world. But we also recognised that this was just the start of One World Together's long-term journey.



YOUTH BOARD WORKING GROUPS

IN JULY AND AUGUST 2023 members from our Youth Board collaborated together to create the structure of our first Student Union Society at the University of Manchester and to test various virtual platforms for the foundation of our online Community Space.

Student Union Society Working Group

At One World Together we aspired to put young people in the driving seat to create an equitable and impactful alternative system of funding for global development. From this idea, our brilliant Youth Board spent the summer establishing the foundation of our first Student Union Society at the University of Manchester!

We hosted several in-person and virtual discussions between our Youth Board and co-founders to create and assign Committee Member roles to students; to create the SU Society timetable for the first semester; and to brainstorm prospective events and activities to be hosted in their first year.



We envision that the SU Society will disseminate One World Together values to the larger student population within the University of Manchester and the Greater Manchester community. It is the hope that the UoM SU Society will lay the groundwork for similar societies to form across other universities in the UK (and hopefully beyond!).

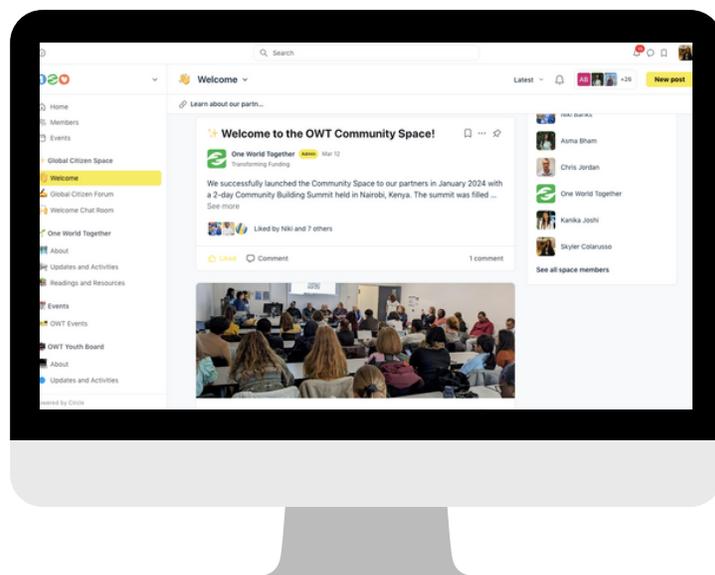
Community Space Working Group

Our core principle lies in empowering local expertise and allowing them to do what they do best! We want resources to be channelled directly to organisations who hold deep connections to the communities they serve, without adding an extensive and tedious reporting process to their workload.

This vision has driven us to create an online community, called the **One World Together Community Space**, that brings together our core team, partner organisations and Global Citizens. We envision that the Community Space will provide our partner organisations with a unique platform to showcase the work that they do and demonstrate the positive impact made possible by One World Together's unique approach to support.

The Community Space links Global Citizens with the impact of their donation to our Solidarity Fund by connecting them directly with our partners. We hope that our Community Space will empower each Global Citizen to find creative ways to share their stories with the One World Together network and our partners.

But our partners and staff also have incredible tales to share! We'll use the power of narrative to connect our Global Citizens with the genuine impact their donation has on our partners. Our Community Space gives our supporters an opportunity to connect with like-minded individuals dedicated to improving the development world. On the space, OWT supporters are encouraged to share their thoughts, experiences, and the amazing satisfaction of helping others.



BUILDING MOMENTUM

SEPTEMBER 2023

UNIVERSITY OF MANCHESTER STUDENT UNION SOCIETY

IN SEPTEMBER 2023 we were absolutely delighted to launch our first **Student's Union** society at the University of Manchester. We will be delighted to support students at other universities to do similar. Through the society members can learn about problems in the broader sector, build relationships with brilliant local organisations, and do local fundraising and advocacy work that catalyses the One World Together movement.

Across their first year they have hosted weekly meetings building an awareness of what we do, they've held quizzes and interactive activities, developed campaigns, raised £170.00 for our partners in a bake sale and volunteered for our Manchester-based partners, amongst others. They literally haven't stopped!

We are excited for a future where there is a network of brilliant Societies like this across the country, building awareness of why funding must reach communities on better terms, finding brilliant community-based organisations in their cities and geographies to support, get to know and volunteer for, and to reach out to local schools with our messages.



We are serious in our goal to nurture a new generation of supporters of global development not just fighting for, *but also building*, a fairer and more impactful funding system for communities. We have some exciting plans in store for this in the year ahead!

OCTOBER 2023

ENGAGING WITH PARTNERS

IN OCTOBER 2023 we welcomed our partners Muungano wa Wanavijiji and Community Savers at an event in Manchester. They talked about the catastrophic funding landscape for community organisations in the UK and Kenya and about how

they see the potential of One World Together in moving from fire-fighting to social justice.

We heard their experiences of working tirelessly with and for their communities and the frustrations, inefficiencies and injustices of the existing funding landscape when it comes to supporting community-led development. We discussed how One World Together has the potential to transform this and provide a much-needed lifeline to social movements like them.

We know that times are tough globally; countries and citizens around the world are facing multiple crises that show no signs of abating. But these fights are exacerbated by an increasingly difficult funding landscape. Both Muungano wa Wanavijiji and Community Savers have experienced a reduced flow of funding in recent years.

Muongano and Community Savers both highlighted the dangers of “fitting into the boxes” and constantly “showcasing” the depths of poverty and deprivation required by funders in applications. This has taken a significant personal toll on Community Savers members.

“What kind of impact do you think that has on us”, they ask, “to have to say how bad things are in the community all the time? You have to say, ‘my community is depressed, my community is this’...It is so draining. The reality is that we are oppressed, not depressed”.

It was clear to the packed room how hard Muungano and Community Savers’ expert organisers are working to fight for more equitable and sustainable processes of urban development. But existing funding systems don’t recognise that. And they definitely don’t support it financially.

We trust that communities like Community Savers and Muungano *have* the right solutions to existing problems, and simply lack the right terms or volumes of funding to implement them. As such, the provision of unrestricted and long-term funding from our Solidarity Fund can provide our partners with the financial flexibility they need to create equitable and transformative solutions in their communities.



NOVEMBER 2023

BUILDING CONNECTIONS

ON 14 NOVEMBER 2023 we hosted **Jon Alexander**, author of *Citizens: How the Key to Fixing Everything is All of Us*. We **talked** about the power we can all have if we step into our citizen story coming together to create, collaborate and celebrate new systems in the way that we are doing at One World Together.

While he was in town, Jon sat down with our Chief Stewards and Selim Iyirdli, Treasurer, of the OWT Students' Union society to chat about all things global citizens in this **brilliant podcast**.



We love Jon's central belief, that by stepping into our power and potential as citizens we can collaborate in creative ways to do better, to be a force for good and to push systems and organisations into being more socially-responsible actors. This is exactly what **inspired us** to launch One World Together, in our belief that together we could build a new system of funding for global development that centres communities.

One World Together and One World Together Student's Union Society co-hosted this event as The School of Environment, Education and Development's inaugural Social Responsibility lecture, funded by the University of Manchester.

KNOWLEDGE SHARING

DECEMBER 2023

SHIFT THE POWER IN BOGOTA, COLUMBIA

IN DECEMBER 2023 funded by the University of Manchester, our One World Together co-founders – Niki and Chibwe – were proud to join 700 community organisers and activists from over 70 countries at the Shift the Power Global Summit in Bogota, Colombia. With all participants calling for more equitable and impactful funding that gets funds to the community-level, our co-founders were in great company.

The summit was also overwhelmingly characterised by love, care and community – this isn't something you often find at big conferences, but that's what we're all about at One World Together and we loved it! The Summit was so aligned with our hopes and dreams for One World Together and what it might offer the world. Something that so quickly jumped out to us from the conference was just how different the world could be if we had a system that built in principles of solidarity, love, self-care and community-care. At the moment, these things are rarely even recognised, let alone respected, in a system that is built around projects and the management of these.



Because of these gigantic differences between the 'system we have' and the 'system we want', many of the sessions were dominated by experiences of both trauma and hope. Hope in spades at the opportunity and promise of coming together, the growing momentum of shift the power, and a recognition of the role we can play together in making sure

that this momentum stays rooted in the genuine philosophy of a Southern centred vision for what our global civil society can look like.

This trip was funded by our Chief Steward Nicola Banks's personal research support funds at the University of Manchester.

January 2024

COMMUNITY BUILDING SUMMIT IN NAIROBI, KENYA

IN JANUARY 2023 we were able to bring our community partners together, face-to-face, for the first time to collaborate on how do we get more power and resources to the local communities in which our community partners work?

SDI Kenya hosted ourselves and our four community partners – **Muongano wa wanavijiji, Community Savers, Raising Futures Kenya, Play It Forward** – at their headquarters in Nairobi, Kenya. The One World Together Community Building Summit **invited 17 representatives from our community partners** to participate in the two day event. We're excited to share with you a recap of the event as well as an introduction to our wonderful partners!



Our partners were able to share their amazing stories and successes, sharing knowledge between one another to bring power and transformation to their local communities. The most amazing part of the day was the collaboration that began to occur amongst our community partners.

Muongano was inspired by the measurable impact of Raising Futures Kenya, and began the conversation on expanding the Raising Futures model further into the informal settlements within Nairobi!



We were able to see this impact first hand during our afternoon visit to Muungano's [Foundation of Hope](#) in Kibera. The showcase of artistic and performance talent of the youths in the informal settlement were a highlight of the trip for us all!

To kick start **day two**, we were hosted by Raising Futures Kenya at their new [Seed of Hope](#) vocational centre! It was an inspiration to see the vibrant school created for the youths and hearing from current students on the opportunities provided to them within the programme.

In the afternoon, we took part in a collaborative discussion on the use and standards of our shared online [Community Space](#)! During our workshop, Muungano shared their expertise on storytelling through visual media and the importance of focusing on positive and impact-driven stories. The Youth Federation cleverly uses [Muungano Know Your City TV \(KYC.TV\)](#) to provide a platform for different informal settlements across Kenya. The use of this platform **"gives the youth the power and voice to tell their own stories"** (Kamila, Youth Federation Leader) while, simultaneously, showcasing their talent and skills. **"We tell the story of how community people are doing amazing jobs"** (Kamila, Youth Federation Leader).





This Summit was generously funded by the University of Manchester's International Science Partnerships Fund Institutional Support Grant (ODA) funding 2023-2024.

FEBRUARY 2024

DREW UNIVERSITY SOCIAL IMPACT SEMESTER PROJECT

IN FEBRUARY 2024 One World Together partnered with [Drew University's Social Impact Semester](#). In the semester-long course, students learn how various types of social impact organisations are working to address social challenges and injustices. The course moves beyond the classroom to connect students to nonprofits and social enterprises in New York City and across the world.

Our Operations Manager, Skyler Colarusso, developed a project for the students to work on as part of their course. The project incorporated a research component to familiarise the students with the academic literature in the following areas: nonprofit youth engagement and empowerment, historic inequalities in traditional nonprofit funding systems, the pros and cons of unrestricted funding, and to review strategies for transnational upscaling of a nonprofit organisation.

The students were also tasked with developing a strategy for One World Together to scale-up in the United States, focusing on building a sustainable student society at Drew University and identifying other US-based universities that would be open to establishing an OWT society.

Most excitingly, the Social Impact students and One World Together were given the opportunity to run an in-person presentation at the [UN Committee on the Status of Women](#) week in March 2024. To prepare, the students designed a marketing strategy to promote the event and created the slide deck with interactive elements to engage attendees.

This project was funded by Drew University.



ENHANCING OUR STORYTELLING SKILLS

AT THE END OF FEBRUARY 2024 One World Together worked with Sustainable Change Studios to support our partners, Youth Board and SU Society to learn the power of effective story-telling.

We have really enjoyed working with [Sustainable Change Studio](#) at several key phases in this new journey of ours. First, in designing our community's 'brand' and values and, more recently, in supporting our partners, Youth Board and Students' Union society in how to share their thoughts, experiences and expertise through powerful story-telling.

Our partners found that the tasks assigned to them by Sustainable Change Studio helped them **“take a deeper dive into [their] thoughts ... experiences and stories,”** and **“tell real stories.”**

This workshop has assisted our amazing partners, Muungano wa Wanavijiji, [Shack Dwellers International Kenya \(SDI Kenya\)](#), [Play it Forward](#), and [Raising Futures Kenya](#) to showcase how they are achieving their missions and how we can make connections that catalyse and embrace the power of these through storytelling and strong communications.



This training was generously funded by the University of Manchester's International Science Partnerships Fund Institutional Support Grant (ODA) funding 2023-2024.



SUSTAINABLE CHANGE
STUDIO



The University of Manchester

COMMUNITY BUILDING & SOLIDARITY

MARCH 2024

OWT COMMUNITY SPACE LAUNCH

ON 15 MARCH our One World Together community came together at The University of Manchester to celebrate [the launch of our Community Space!](#) The event was attended by various Global Citizens, Youth Board members, the SU Society, our Community Partners, academics, friends and family. We are so grateful to (L-R) [Hannah Rose Laycock](#), [Lwanga Bwalya](#), Dot and Lina from Community Savers, [Eren Bozacigurbuz](#) and [Sammi Dé!](#)



And to our other two partners, Muungano wa Wanavijiji's Youth Federation and Raising Futures Kenya, who you can't see in this photo but were with us online. It was a full day of heartwarming stories from our partners and supporters, sharing their stories of getting involved with us!

Lwanga (Country Director, Play It Forward) compared the One World Together community to King Arthur and his Round Table,

“[his] innovation was a roundtable where he sat, him and his knights, and they could sit as equals... it was the first time, I think, among kings where power was sort of then distributed with other people apart from kings”.



Excitingly, for the first time at one of our events, we had a local Global Citizen, Hannah, share how One World Together “opened her eyes” to the challenges present in the traditional funding model.

We also had two students from the Global Development Institute, Eren and Sammi, speak on how joining OWT and our Student Union Society has enabled them to “look beyond academic echo chambers” to be able to identify the immediate needs and lived realities of local community members.

This Summit was generously funded by the University of Manchester’s International Science Partnerships Fund Institutional Support Grant (ODA) funding 2023–2024.

UNITED NATIONS NGO CSW IN NEW YORK, US

ON 19 MARCH 2024 One World Together and Drew University Social Impact Semester students presented at the [United Nations Committee on the Status of Women Forum](#).

Concluding eight weeks of collaboration, our parallel event hosted a [brainstorming session](#) on upscaling our long-term and unrestricted funding model to support brilliant local organisations across the globe!

The Drew University students led the discussion, having prepared a slide deck that introduced One World Together, themselves, and their programme. The students also presented their own research findings and statistics related to social and gender inequalities in the traditional, short-term funding system. The presentation concluded with an interactive session, asking participants a series of questions about their organisation and their ability to access unrestricted funding, while initiating discussion on how, together, we can overcome these funding challenges.

It was an amazing experience at the United Nations! Our event was attended by various international organisations from Africa, Europe, and the United States, as well as Drew University students and academics.

One World Together funded this event through its ARC Accelerator prize funds.

APRIL 2024

ACCELERAISSER PROGRAMME

IN EARLY APRIL 2024 One World Together partnered with the Donor Whisperer, Rachel Collinson, to lead a campaign to learn more about our Global Citizens' motivation to give. The programme featured informative sessions regarding digital marketing; refining our branding and messaging; social media outreach; and improving our own website and donation page.

Over the following months, the Donor Whisperer programme will enable One World Together to inform our fundraising strategy and to better engage with the values of our wonderful Global Citizens.

This work has been generously funded through the University of Manchester.



MOVEMENTS TRUST PARTNERSHIP

IN APRIL 2024 we've joined 'the movement of movements', The Movements Trust!

Due to One World Together registered as a Community Interest Company, we can't access gift aid and it may act as a deterrent to larger gifts that people and organisations would prefer to be tax deductible. Those who know us at One World Together know we're passionate about our values of trust, solidarity and equity - and that means this was a cost that we decided we had to take to protect the feasibility our new approach.

The Movements Trust is a bit of a kindred spirit to us. They also exist to fill in gaps and fix problems in the funding landscape. For us, it's getting more unrestricted funding to community organisations. For them, it's getting more funds to social movements, recognising the barriers that make charity registration difficult or undesirable. They provide



movements like ours with fiscal sponsorship at no cost – acting as a charitable arm for members to receive bigger gifts that individual or corporate donors want to be gift aid-able or tax deductible.



MAY 2024

FIRST INSTITUTIONAL MEMBERSHIP

IN MAY 2024 we signed our first institutional membership with The University of Manchester! This means any UoM student can become a One World Together Global Citizen with no membership fee. Students can access our online Community Space and all the learning and engagement it offers, without the financial barrier. They can connect with our partners, learn about the challenges of existing funding systems, and learn about the power of this new movement in supporting community-centred development.



The University of Manchester

BELGIAN FEDERATION OF NGOs & 11.11.11

ON 14 MAY Niki Banks (OWT Co-Steward) and Lwanga Bwalya (Country Director of Play It Forward) were invited by [11.11.11](#) and the [NGO Belgian Federation](#) to [introduce One World Together](#) as an innovative funding mechanism as part of their session on decolonising finances for Belgian and Flemish NGOs working in global development.

In the session, **Niki Banks** spoke about how the OWT model and community strives to build long-term, predictable and unrestricted funding for our partner organisations. **Lwanga Bwalya** spoke passionately on behalf of Play It Forward, one of OWT's partners, on how our model enables our partners to be thoughtful in planning and in their project design, to look after staff and wellbeing, and to retain their staff members.

The event sparked lively discussions with the audience asking insightful questions related to the potential for dependency in unrestricted funding models. At the end of the session, Niki and Lwanga shared some key dimensions of our One World Together approach that these two organisations can use in their own work, looking particularly at finance, storytelling and partnerships.



END OF YEAR 1!



OUR FINANCIAL REVIEW

INTRODUCTION

We're happy to reflect on our funding and finances since we've launched, and what this means for our future. Highlighting our challenges as well as our successes is important to us. We believe in **radical transparency**: that taking our Global Citizens and supporters on our journey will build the solidarity that we need for our future success.

OPERATIONAL REVIEW

At our current level of operations, our operational costs (e.g. include salaries, accountancy services, web-hosting, software requirements, and community space platform costs) come to around **£25,000 per year**. That means through our membership-based model, we need around 4,000 members to reach our goal of becoming a financially-sustainable organisation. This would free us from a long-term dependence on fundraising and the high costs and insecurity that accompany this.

While we are a long way from this dream of a financially-sustainable future, every new member takes us one giant step closer to achieving this vision – and we know we can do it. In the meantime we continue to **draw upon the £45,000** starting capital we won in the 2022 [Aspect Research Commercialisation \(ARC\) Accelerator](#) and continue to raise income where we can through events and merchandise sales.

So we celebrate this one-year milestone with mixed emotions. Excited by everything we have achieved and by the giant steps forward we have taken towards a more equitable, impactful and community-centred future. Filled with deep gratitude by the response of our partners and Global Citizens in sharing our vision and dream for a better future. Humbled by the fact that we're actually doing this. Together.

Our core income streams from launch to date are:

<p>Global Citizen membership and other income (Annual membership fees and other fundraising, minus payment transaction fees).</p>	<p>£2,194.10</p> <p><i>*This income supports our operational costs.</i></p>
<p>Solidarity Fund income (minus payment transaction fees and including £170.00 from OWT Student's Union Society fundraising activities)</p>	<p>£3,396.34</p> <p><i>*Every penny of our Solidarity Fund is split equally across our four partners each quarter.</i></p>

OUR ACCOUNTS

For the period ending 28th February 2024

Turnover

Solidarity Fund donations	£1,459
Membership dues	£1,325
Other revenue (ARC Accelerator investment)	£29,784
Total turnover	£32,568

Costs

Staffing	£17,293
Computer running costs	£1,521
One World Together t-shirts	£1,383
Travelling expenses (incl. Community Summit)	£5,206
Professional subscriptions	£51
Accountancy	£2,360
Charitable donations (Solidarity Fund)	£1,459
Currency charges	£41
Payment processing fees	£52
Advertising	£248
Events (national)	£343
Events (international)	£1,286
Taxation	£252.00

Total costs **(£31,495)**

Total profit **£1,073.00**

Accounts prepared by UHY Hacker Young, St James Building, 79 Oxford Street, Manchester, M1 6HT

LOOKING AHEAD



GOING INTO YEAR 2

So we celebrate this one-year milestone with mixed emotions. Excited by everything we have achieved and by the giant steps forward we have taken towards a more equitable, impactful and community-centred future. Filled with deep gratitude by the response of our partners and Global Citizens in sharing our vision and dream for a better future. Humbled by the fact that we're actually doing this. Together.

But we are also conscious of the big and important questions confronting us. It's clear that building a new system is a long-term commitment, not an overnight success story. We're pushing against decades of deeply entrenched interests and "business as usual", including millions of well-tuned marketing campaigns that have shaped us to believe that 'charity', not solidarity, is what it will take to change the world.

How can we get our messaging out there to let future Global Citizens know what we're doing and where to find us, when we have such a limited budget? How can we build alternative income streams to cover our operational costs as our membership grows? These questions must be framed within our constrained capacity – we have one part-time (0.5%) Operations Manager supported by two Chief Stewards. Our Chief Stewards are 100% committed but are working on an entirely voluntary basis, both employed in two awesome, but demanding, jobs.

So, here's our thinking for the year ahead – **can you support us?**

STRATEGY 1 – Getting our messaging and communications right to attract new Global Citizens.

We'll let you in on a secret. Behind One World Together are a small team of people who are completely new to this. We launched One World Together motivated by our frustration at existing funding systems and our passion and commitment for a genuinely community-centred alternative. But while we know there are way more than 4,000 around the world who would want to support a community-centred future, we have learned that we don't know where or how to find them. We've been working with [The Donor Whisperer](#) this year, learning what motivates our Global Citizens, the language that speaks to them, the basics of digital marketing, and finding out what doesn't work on our website. You may notice some changes to the website and our communications as we refine things.

STRATEGY 2 – Expanding our membership types

Since it will take several years to grow our individual memberships, [this year we have been building the foundations](#) for new forms of institutional memberships that can support our income-generation, build our reputation and brand and give new partners the opportunity to play an important role in building a community-centred future.

This year we joined [The Movements Trust](#)

who can provide fiscal sponsorship for us. We are a legally non-profit enterprise rather than a charity, so this is important. It means that people or organisations can fund us through The Movements Trust, making their donations tax-deductible and open to Gift Aid. We have a brilliant team working on a Business Strategy over the summer, inspired by our first institutional partnership with the University of Manchester that enables every single University of Manchester student to become a Global Citizen – for free.

STRATEGY 3 - Continuing to nurture a new generation of supporters of global development who put communities first

Emerging from three decades of University of Manchester teaching and research and supported by our Youth Board and Students' Union Society we are constantly inspired by the commitment of young people to a better future. We know that **young people are passionate about change** – genuine change that redresses deep inequalities and injustices and that centres, respects and gives power and resources to low-income people and communities. That makes us particularly excited about our new partnership with the University of Manchester, because it removes any financial barrier to students and welcomes them into our online community space and the learning journey that we benefit from there.

In the coming years we would like to deepen these investments through developing a curriculum for Global Citizenship. We are delighted to have received a small grant from The University of Manchester's Civic Engagement funds

to develop and pilot this in partnership with a local Manchester-based secondary school.

CONCLUSION

As we reflected on our year's successes and achievements through putting our Annual Report together, we laughed and said 'one thing we're not short of at One World Together is ambition'. We are united by a dream and the commitment of our partners and Global Citizens in getting behind that dream. We can end on a quote from Margaret Meade that has motivated us since One World Together was nothing but an idea. We reflect on this regularly on those days when we ask ourselves, 'can we do it?'

“Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed, citizens can change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has”.

We will continue to build on our successes, expand our movement, and deepen our impact. We will continue to transform the nature of support for global development, shifting money and power directly to communities and the organisations working closely with them.

We're in this together. Thank you for coming on board this shared journey and mission towards a community-centred future.



THANK YOU

As we reflect on the past year, our hearts are filled with gratitude for the incredible support we've received from our community. Each success story, every milestone reached, and all the positive change we've driven together would not have been possible without you.

To our Global Citizens, your generous contributions have been the lifeblood of our mission. Your unwavering commitment empowers us to continue our work and expand our impact.

To our Student Union Society and Youth Board, your dedication and passion inspire us daily. Whether you've given your time, skills, or energy, you've helped us build a stronger and more compassionate community.

To our partners - Community Savers, Muungano wa wanavijiji, Raising Futures Kenya, Play It Forward, thank you for believing in our vision and collaborating with us to turn that vision into reality. Your belief in our mission has been a driving force behind our success, and we are deeply grateful for your ongoing support and partnership.

To our sponsors your support amplifies our reach and helps us to achieve what we cannot do alone. **The University of Manchester**, your commitment to education and social responsibility has provided us with the tools and resources needed to expand our reach and impact. To the amazing team at the **ARC Accelerator Programme** - one year down and a future to go! Thank you for helping us build towards this incredible launch and milestone. **The Movements Trust**, your dedication to social change has been a cornerstone of our work. Your belief in our cause and financial backing has allowed us to continue our mission with confidence and ambition.

Finally, to everyone who believes in our cause and works alongside us, we extend our deepest thanks. Together, we're not just making a difference—we're building a better future.

With the deepest gratitude,



BLOGS & MEDIA

BLOGS

[Celebrating our Launch](#) | 3 June 2023

[‘What does your £1 mean to you?’](#) | 25 June 2023

[From sea change to tidal wave](#) | 5 July 2023

[Some research and reading that has inspired us at One World Together](#) | 21 August 2023

[Celebrating the launch of our website with a very special offer](#) | 24 August 2023

[From firefighting to social justice: How One World Together strengthens social movements](#) | 9 November 2023

[A December update from One World Together](#) | 15 December 2023

[One World Together Community Building Summit 2024](#) | 31 January 2024

[Community Savers Leaders visit Kenya](#) | 6 March 2024

[One World Together launches new Community Space](#) | 25 March 2024

[One World Together: Empowering Youth and Fostering Change](#) | 2 April 2024

[Celebrating our Launch Community is at the heart of everything we do at One World Together!](#) | 15 April 2024

[Student Spotlight: Shepard Riley, The University of Manchester](#) | 28 May 2024

PODCASTS

[In Conversation: Jon Alexander with Nicola Banks and Chibwe Masabo Henry](#) | December 2024

[Lwanga Bwalya of Play it Forward Zambia speaks with One World Together](#) | 18 April 2024

VIDEOS

[Introducing One World Together](#) | 26 July 2023

[One World Together at Nairobi Community Building Summit](#) | January 2024

[Lwanga Bwalya talks about One World Together at Community Space Launch](#) | March 2024

[Aspect venture case study: ONE WORLD TOGETHER](#) | 22 March 2024

CONTACT INFORMATION

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