



# RELIEF INTERNATIONAL



# ANNUAL REPORT 2014



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All photos: Relief International  
Cover photos: Ghana (top); Bangladesh, Iran (center);  
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## MISSION

Our mission is simple: We **PARTNER** with some of the world's most vulnerable communities to relieve poverty, ensure well-being and restore **DIGNITY**. We support **COMMUNITIES** in their response to crisis. Our goal is to achieve a compassionate collaboration that creates lasting **SOLUTIONS**.



# A LETTER FROM THE CHAIR

## WHAT DO SELFIE STICKS AND RELIEF INTERNATIONAL HAVE IN COMMON?

All innovation can be as transformational as the cell phone or as whimsical as the selfie stick. All innovations share the inspiration of examining old challenges in a fresh way.

In 2014, Relief International (RI) embraced innovation that made us stronger, more efficient, and more capable of responding to the people we serve.

Our committed team rolled out a new way to capture our impact — easy-to-read dashboards with performance measurement, enhanced evaluation and measurement, superior reporting to donors and supporters. We welcomed our new CEO, Nancy Wilson, whose visits to staff and clients around the globe led us to develop an exciting strategic plan to guide our future. And we realized that we are good, even very good, in a number of areas.

RI executes high-caliber projects in health and education, and in economic opportunity. We excel in water, sanitation and hygiene, known as WASH in the humanitarian sector. The way forward — to best serve our beneficiaries — lies in nurturing and building on our strengths and expertise. Day by day. Year after year.

We thank all the many individuals and organizations who have collaborated so meaningfully with RI throughout the year — dedicated staff, devoted partners, loyal donors and supportive governments around the globe. On a highly personal level, I want to publicly acknowledge our fellow Board member, Geoff Bell, who diligently served as interim CEO at the beginning of 2014. Geoff led our transition before Nancy's arrival and strengthened our financial management, our staff development and our continuing delivery of high quality services to our clients.

Old questions. New answers. Together, they sparked new energy to Relief International, sustainable energy that happily has carried into 2015. Thanks for joining the RI family on this ride.

### **CHIP LEVENGOOD**

Chairperson of the Board



Myanmar

# A NOTE FROM THE PRESIDENT

## ONWARD INTO THE FUTURE

When I joined Relief International in March 2014, I was immediately impressed by our many assets: Our people, programs, partners and expertise. I also observed that the scope of our work was as big as our desire to reduce suffering. With such a large vista, it was easy to get lost when we described our work to others.

We quickly launched an effort to sharpen our focus and to create a more compelling message about what we do and how we do it. Over the following nine months, I met with staff around the world, convened the first ever strategy meeting between regional directors and senior management, and learned what was important to my colleagues and to the people we serve. Together, we crafted a way forward for the organization.



Sudan

That way forward is captured in our Strategic Plan. The fundamental goal of the strategic plan, which stretches from 2015 to 2020, is to answer just one question:

**How will Relief International make a substantial and significant difference in the lives of our planet's most vulnerable people?**

The answer is clear. By 2020, Relief International will be a leading organization partnering with vulnerable communities. We will get there by doing things The RI Way. That means we will embed local participation, an integrated service delivery approach, civic skills and partnership into every program. These elements turn short-term gains into long-term impact. We will invest in our strengths, focusing on four primary areas: education, health, economic opportunity, and water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH).

Approved by the Board of Directors in December 2014, the strategic plan has become the roadmap for our energetic journey into the future. We know we will get there with your support!

**NANCY E. WILSON**  
President and CEO

# AFRICA

In 2014, Relief International's programs spanned the African continent from east to west, serving more than 1.6 million beneficiaries in seven countries. Focusing primarily on health, education and economic opportunity, Relief International partnered with communities to bring training, services and increased well-being to some of the continent's most vulnerable people.



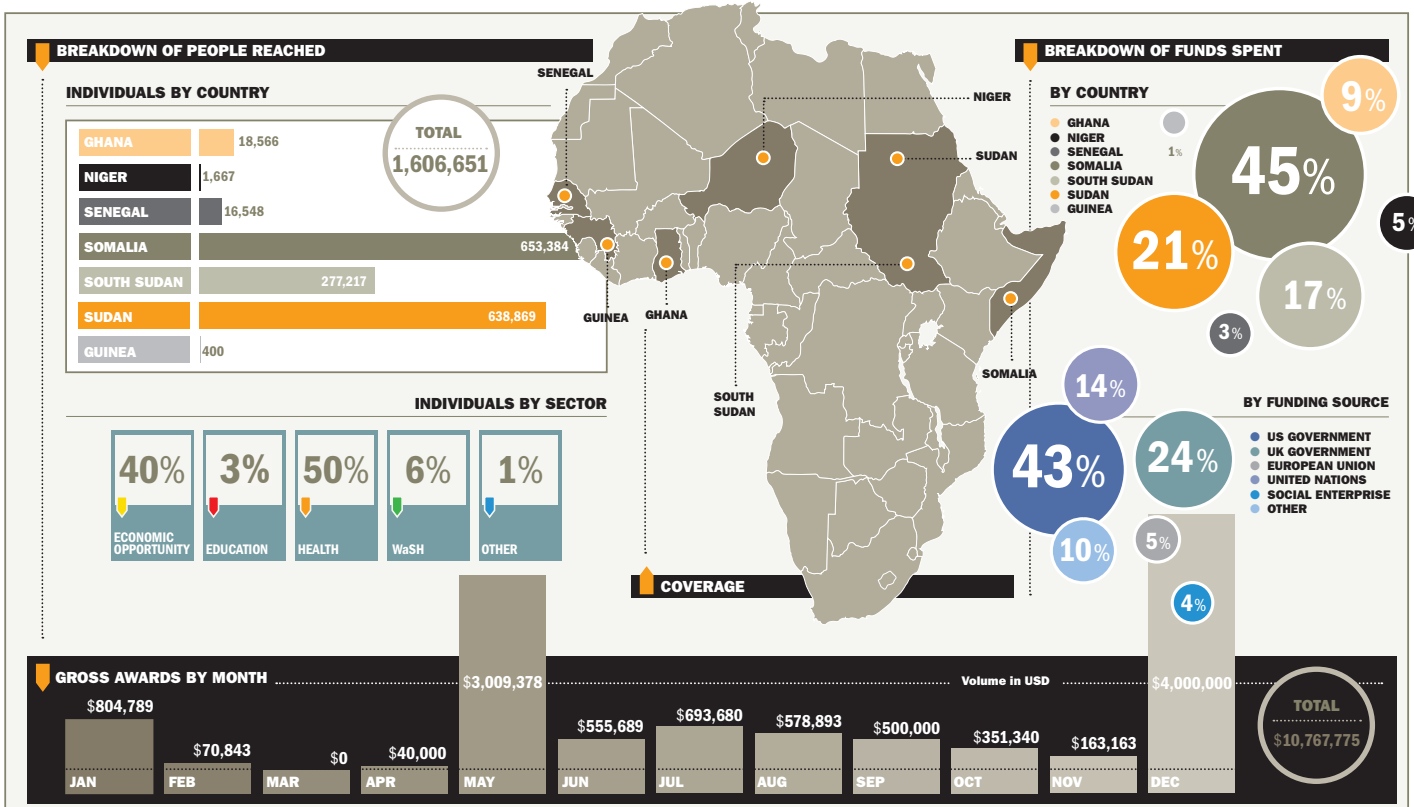
Sudan



Ghana

## ACTIVITIES AND PERFORMANCE AFRICA 2014

PEOPLE REACHED	NUMBER OF STAFF	FUNDS SPENT	GROSS AWARDS
1,606,651	412	\$16,839,241	\$10,767,775



# AFRICA

## SOMALIA

### HEALTHY ANIMALS, HEALTHY COMMUNITIES

Ahmed Arablow is a member of the Farawayne village in northwestern Somalia. For many years, he made his living by selling khat, a flowering green shrub that doubles as a stimulant drug and is ubiquitous in Somalia. Users chew the green leaves throughout the day, keeping a ball of cud in their cheeks, much like chewing tobacco. Some users smoke the chat, make tea from it or sprinkle it on food.



*A Somali man treats a goat.*

As a full-fledged Community Animal Health Worker, Ahmed now provides for his family and contributes a much-needed service to his community.

But when Relief International came to Farawayne to train residents in animal health, Ahmed decided to sign up. The Somali economy depends largely on livestock, making animal disease — and the diseases that can be passed between animals and humans — a critical concern. RI trained local community members to recognize and help reduce the instance of these zoonotic diseases.

### A POWERFUL PRESS MAKES POWERFUL PEOPLE

In 2014, RI trained more than 50 journalists at the first ever Media Training & Resource Centre in Garowe, Puntland State, Somalia. RI gave priority to women journalists during the selection process, and roughly half of the program participants were women. Our team established the media-training center in 2012 to empower the Somali press and deliver meaningful, impact-driven reporting to the general public. Today, the center is a hub for Somali journalists to pursue greater press freedom and to foster civil society through public dialogue.



*Budding journalists learn about videography.*

# AFRICA

## SUDAN

### SUPPORTING LIVELIHOODS IN DARFUR

When Monira joined RI's Community Saving and Loans Association program in north Darfur she received a loan of 2,500 Sudanese pounds (SDG), or about \$570/£350. She used the money to open a shop selling sugar, oil, tea, biscuits, vegetables and other items in demand in her community. Monira's business quickly took off, bringing in 700 SDG per month, or about \$160/£100. Within two months, she bought four sheep to begin a second business. Today, Monira is among 1,127 people reached by the program, which has helped her provide a healthy living for her family.



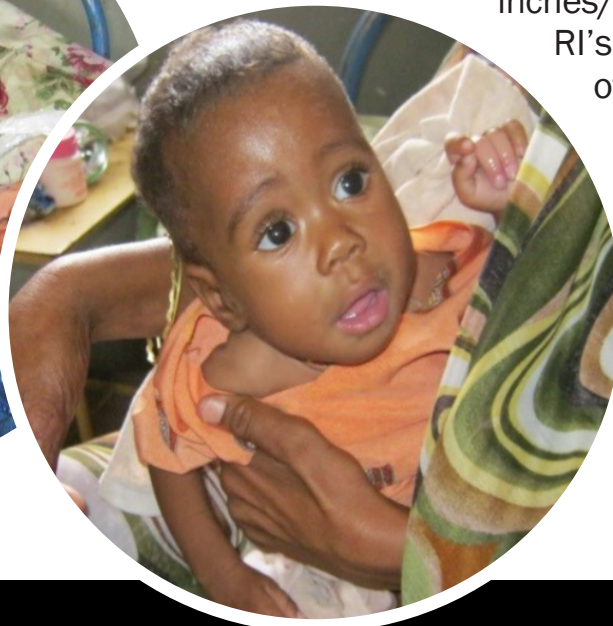
*Women in Sudan listen with their children.*

### SAVING LIVES WITH AN AWARD-WINNING NUTRITION PROGRAM

When 8-month-old Rasha Ahmed Issa arrived at the Relief International-supported Out-patient Therapeutic Program Center at Darfur's Zam Zam Camp the baby girl weighed only 10 pounds/4.7 kilograms. Her tiny upper arm measured only 2.5 inches/7 centimeters around. She was severely malnourished, and had other complications.

After just two months, Rasha had gained nearly 4.5 pounds/2 kilograms, tipping the scales at a healthier 15 pounds/6.8 kilograms. Her upper arm had plumped to more than 4.5 inches/11.6 centimeters.

RI's efforts on behalf of Rasha and other children like her won a model project award from UNICEF.



*Left: A severely malnourished baby Rasha. Right: Rasha, two months later.*

# ASIA

In 2014, Relief International was active in seven Asian countries. RI responded to the devastation of Typhoon Haiyan in the Philippines, promoted sustainable economic development in Bangladesh, and delivered training and services to more than 1.1 million beneficiaries across the continent.

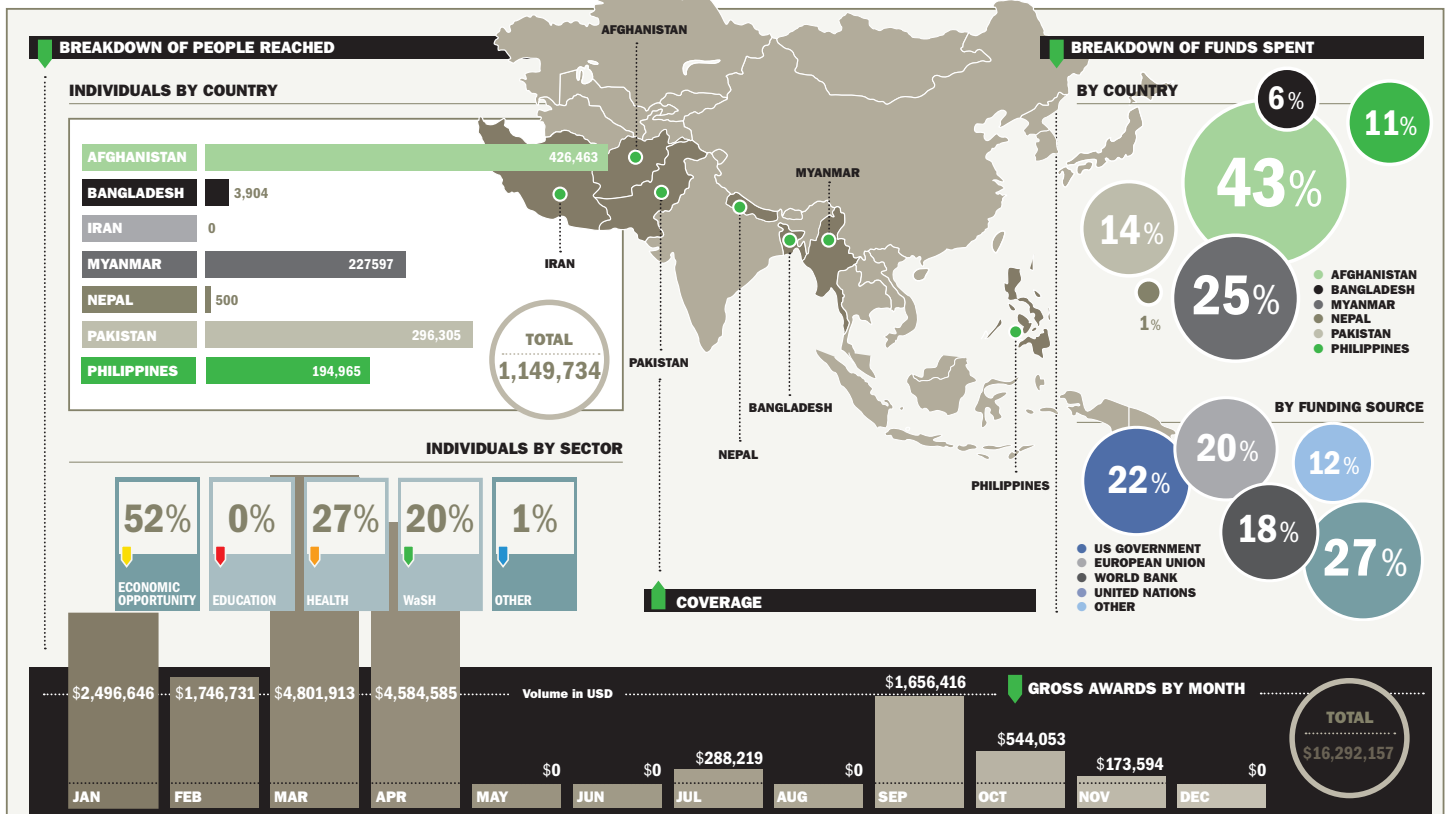


The Philippines

Afghanistan

## ACTIVITIES AND PERFORMANCE ASIA 2014

PEOPLE REACHED	NUMBER OF STAFF	FUNDS SPENT	GROSS AWARDS
1,149,734	519	\$11,991,231	\$16,292,157





# ASIA

## THE PHILIPPINES

### CLEANING UP AFTER TYPHOON HAIYAN

During the day it was bad enough. But at night, Christine was forced to trudge across her neighbor's muddy field in near total darkness to take her small children to the bathroom. All this because of Typhoon Haiyan.

Known locally as Typhoon Yolanda, Haiyan tore through the Philippines on November 8, 2013. With winds that reached 195 miles per hour/315 kilometers per hour and sea surges up to 20 feet/6 meters high, the storm devastated 41 provinces and displaced 3.4 million people. RI teamed with Kaiser-Permanente to send medical staff immediately after the storm, deploying emergency doctors, surgeons, nurses and other medical personnel to a hospital and mobile clinics around Tacloban City on Leyte Island.

But much more work was left. Christine and families like hers were without latrines and basic sanitation facilities. RI launched a program that installed a new concrete water tank and two communal faucets in the Balud community on Leyte Island, where children were often sent across unstable bridges to fetch potable water. RI supported the construction of shared and communal latrines in communities like Bagacay, Barugo, eliminating the unhygienic practice of open defecation. In the community of San Agustin, Jaro, where nearly 70 percent of households were without a latrine, RI teamed with local leaders to construct 12 new communal latrines.

And Christine? She signed up for the water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) program offered by Relief International and UNICEF, where she learned to build latrines — and to teach others how to do the same. She sold one of her family's pigs to buy materials and spent the next two days applying what she'd learned. Today, Christine teaches others.



*Above: Christine poses outside her home.  
 Left: A woman receives medical care from an RI staff member.*

# ASIA

## BANGLADESH

### PIRATES AND TIGERS AND CRABS, OH MY!

Sotish Munda once scratched out a living collecting crabs from the mangrove forest known as the Sundarbans.



*RI has made ecotourism another source of income in the Sundarbans.*

“It was a terrifying experience each and every time,” Sotish said. “There was a constant fear of being attacked by man-eating tigers. We also used to watch out for forest officials and pirates who would endlessly intimidate us.”

Most communities in the Sundarbans, the world’s largest continuous mangrove forest, make a living by harvesting traditional resources, such as honey, snails, oysters, crabs, fish, wood and palm leaves. With the forest endangered – and full of dangers to the people – Relief International partnered with communities to create alternative sources of income.

Wood collector Sudir Rishi had pulled his eldest son out of school to help support the family. With financial support from RI, Sudir launched a leather-curing business. Today, he collects leather from local villages then refines it for sale at market. He earned enough to buy his wife a sewing machine, which she uses to make clothes for paying customers. Nurun Nahar Begum, a widow who once foraged crabs and worked as a maid to support her children, received business and asset management training, and today runs a successful crab fattening business.

Sotish is also prospering.

“Now that I have my own crab fattening business outside the forest,” he said, “I can earn enough to run my family of five.”



*Ecotourists learn to appreciate the environment in the Sundarbans*

# MIDDLE EAST

In 2014, Relief International was active in seven countries in the Middle East. In Lebanon, RI continued a major initiative that provided more than 254,000 beneficiaries with access to primary health and nutrition services using five mobile medical units. In Turkey, RI and Turkish authorities worked together to provide essential, life-saving medicines and non-food items to more than 192,000 Syrian refugees fleeing to Suruc, Turkey from Kobane, Syria. Overall, RI delivered education, health, hygiene and life-saving services to more than 1 million beneficiaries in the Middle East.

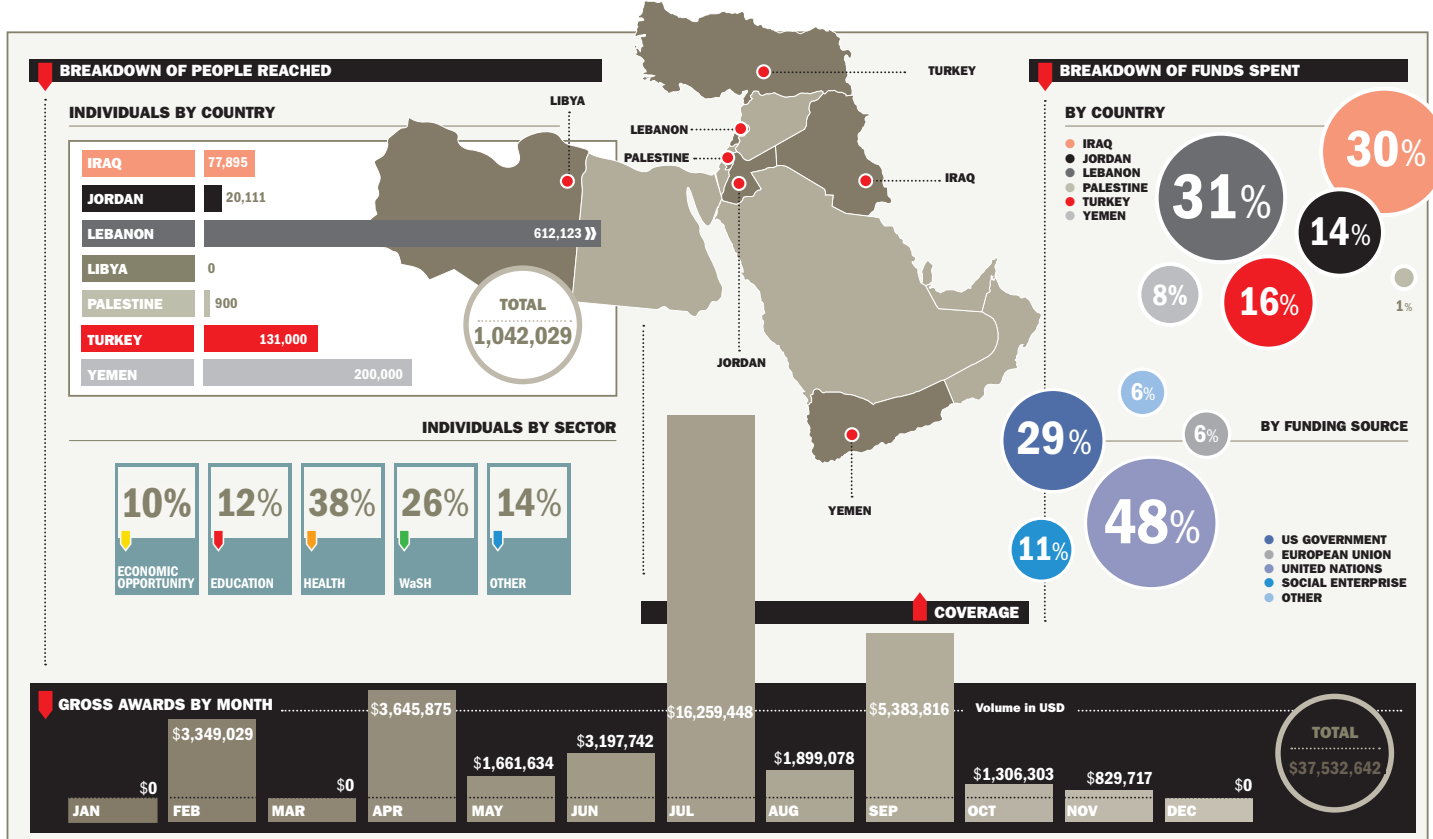


Lebanon

Jordan

## ACTIVITIES AND PERFORMANCE MIDDLE EAST 2014

PEOPLE REACHED	NUMBER OF STAFF	FUNDS SPENT	GROSS AWARDS
1,042,029	318	\$20,913,983	\$37,532,642



# MIDDLE EAST

## JORDAN

### A SAFE SPACE TO PLAY AND LEARN

Jassem and his wife, Ibtisam, arrived at Za’atari refugee camp in north Jordan with their five young children after fleeing their home in Daraa, Syria. The couple registered their two daughters, Ala’ and Jinan, with RI’s remedial education program in the camp and quickly noticed its impact on the girls.

“The existence of the RI center in the camp is very important for children like my daughter Jinan because she is so active and needs a safe place to play and let go of her energy,” Jassem said. “And Ala’s English language skills have improved after joining the program.”



*A student in RI’s Za’atari education program.*

In partnership with UNICEF, RI offers a remedial education center that provides Syrian refugee children with educational classes to help them make up for lost schooling. The children also enjoy a robust slate of recreational activities.

“Both of my daughters return to the tent happy and cheerful because they enjoy the recreational activities the center offers, which are not offered enough in the formal schools,” said Ibtisam.

### PARENTS AS CHANGE AGENTS

Learning often starts at home. Relief International partnered with UNICEF to improve the water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) practices of Jordanian and Syrian students at 45 schools in Irbid and Mafrq governorates, and to make their parents an integral part of the education process. Improving hygiene practices reduces the instance of communicable diseases. RI established or improved 54 “hygiene clubs,” groups that meet to discuss effective hygiene practices. The clubs engaged more than 1,000 parents, many of whom went on to spread the word by conversing with other parents about cleanliness and hygiene. The clubs have reached a total of nearly 15,000 parents.

“This education is important for our lives, health and community,” said one parent. “We have to work with RI so the success will be sustainable.”

# FINANCIALS

## UNITED STATES

<b>REVENUE</b>	<b>2014</b>	<b>2013</b>
Grants and contributions	\$20,011,491	\$21,538,222
Contributed goods and services	\$1,250,377	\$1,530,716
Other income	\$1,621,029	\$3,837,523
<b>Total support and revenue</b>	<b>\$22,882,897</b>	<b>\$26,906,461</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>	<b>2014</b>	<b>2013</b>
Programs and services	\$22,593,540	\$25,117,919
Fundraising	\$99,704	\$142,033
General and administrative	\$3,736,480	\$4,041,225
<b>Total expenses</b>	<b>\$26,429,724</b>	<b>\$29,301,177</b>
Increase (decrease) in net assets	(\$3,546,827)	(\$2,394,716)
Net assets beginning of the year	\$9,683,571	\$13,489,249
Net assets end of the year	\$6,136,744	\$11,094,533

## UNITED KINGDOM

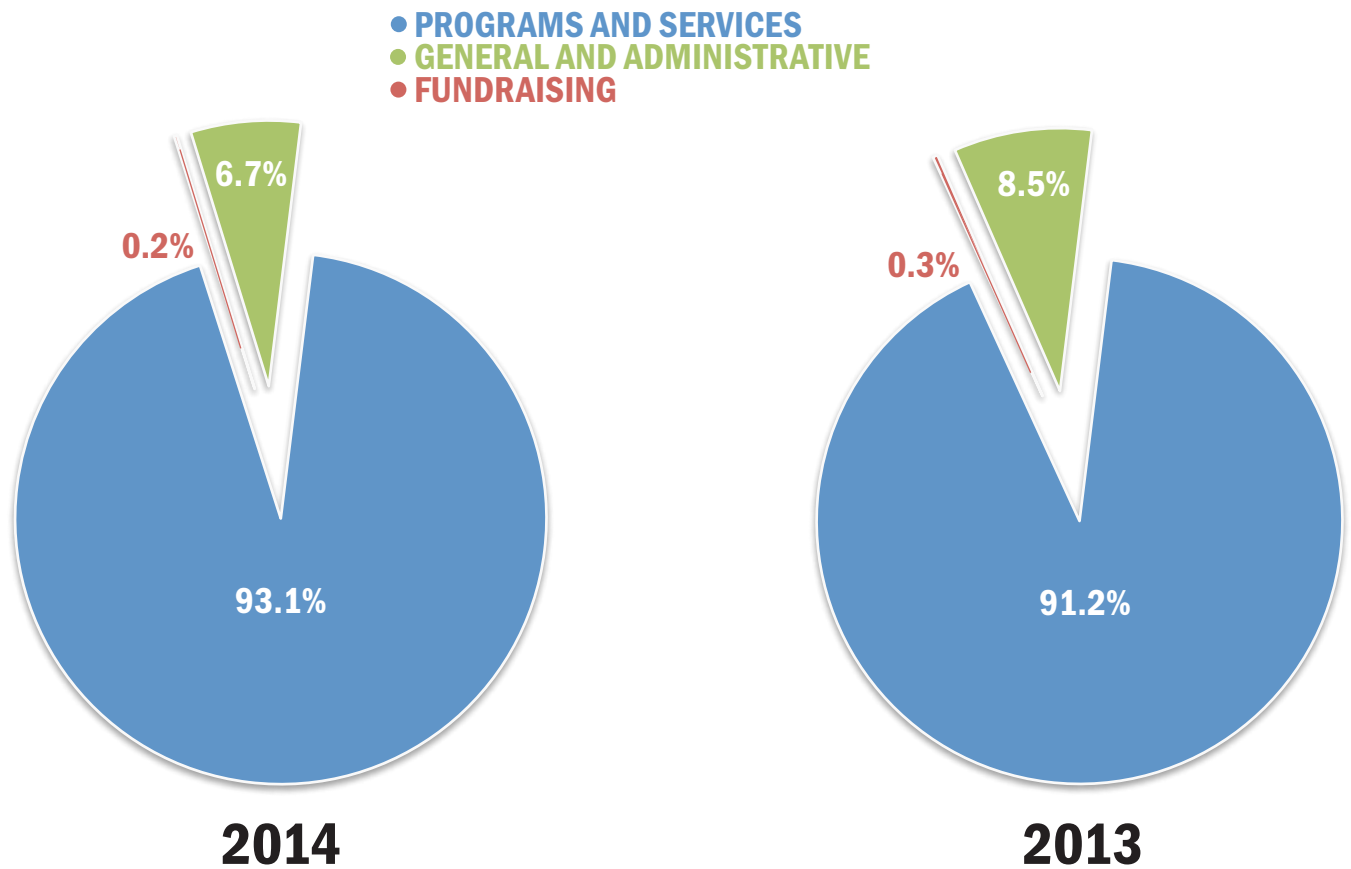
<b>INCOMING RESOURCES FOR GENERATED FUNDS</b>	<b>2014</b>	<b>2013</b>
Voluntary income		
Donations and other voluntary income	\$4,409	\$9,502
Donated commodities	\$671,402	\$139,287
Investment income	\$353	\$393
Grants and contributions	\$29,142,514	\$18,716,220
<b>Total incoming resources</b>	<b>\$29,818,678</b>	<b>\$18,865,402</b>
<b>RESOURCES EXPENDED</b>	<b>2014</b>	<b>2013</b>
Costs of generating funds	\$1,367	\$3,649
Charitable activities	\$30,093,856	\$18,709,776
Governance	\$44,732	\$39,128
<b>Total expenses</b>	<b>\$30,139,955</b>	<b>\$18,752,553</b>
Net movement in funds	(\$321,277)	\$112,849
Fund balances beginning of the year	\$827,885	\$715,038
Fund balances end of the year	\$506,608	\$827,887

# FINANCIALS

## EXPENSES (US AND UK COMBINED)

	2014	2013
Fundraising	\$101,071	\$145,682
Programs and services	\$52,687,396	\$43,827,695
General and administrative	\$3,781,212	\$4,080,353
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$56,569,679</b>	<b>\$48,053,730</b>

## ANNUAL EXPENSES (US AND UK COMBINED)



# LEADERSHIP

## LEADERSHIP

- Nancy E. Wilson**  
Chief Executive Officer & President\*
- Jamie Hall**  
Senior Vice President, Performance, Accountability & Learning\*\*
- Adam Koons**  
Senior Vice President, International Programs
- Ann Koontz**  
Senior Vice President, Social Enterprise
- Les Rubin**  
Chief Financial Officer
- Stephen Croll**  
Vice President, Operations
- Jamie Jones**  
Vice President, Program Development
- Elia Makar**  
Vice President, Human Resources
- Pascal Arthaud**  
Regional Director, Asia\*\*\*
- Pierre Bry**  
Regional Director, Africa\*\*\*
- Emily Romero**  
Regional Director, Middle East\*\*\*
- Geoff Bell**  
Interim President & Chief Executive Officer\*\*\*\*

\*effective March 2014  
 \*\*effective March 1. Previous title: Director, RI- UK  
 \*\*\*In May 2014, titles were changed from Program Director to Regional Director  
 \*\*\*\*served until March 2014

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Oxford Global Media
  - Rob Cope\***  
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- \*effective August 2014

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- Rob Cope**  
Remember A Charity
- Paul “Chip” Levensgood**  
Chairperson, Relief International
- Barbara Simmonds**  
Independent Accounting Professional

# OUR SUPPORTERS

## OUR CONTRIBUTING PARTNERS

Relief International partners with a broad range of organizations – communities, local NGOs, international NGOs, corporations, foundations and institutional donors – to shape and support our programs.

We would like to specifically thank and acknowledge our donor partners from 2014:

**European Commission (EC)**

**Humanitarian Aid Department of the European Commission (ECHO)**

**U.K. Department for International Development**

**U.N. Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA)**

**U.N. Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)**

**U.N. Children's Fund (UNICEF)**

**U.N. Development Program (UNDP)**

**U.N. Office for Project Services (UNOPS)**

**U.N. World Food Program (WFP)**

**Office of the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)**

**U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID)**

**USAID Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance (USAID/OFDA)**

**U.S. Department of State Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration (PRM)**

**U.S. Department of State Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons (TIP)**

**U.S. Department of State Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights and Labor (DRL)**

**Islamic Relief**

**The Embassy of New Zealand, Yangon, Myanmar**

**Start Network**

**The California Endowment**

**World Bank**





# HOW TO CONNECT

## DONATE

Give now to empower communities fighting poverty, conflict and crisis. Relief International relies on the generosity of people like you to continue the award-winning programs that save lives – and create hope – in some of the world’s most fragile communities.

### TO MAKE A TAX-DEDUCTIBLE CONTRIBUTION:

- Visit our website at [www.ri.org/donate](http://www.ri.org/donate)
- Call (855) ACT-NOW1 or (800) 573-3332
- Mail a check payable to Relief International (Attn: Donations, specify program)

Relief International  
1101 14th St. NW, Suite 1100  
Washington, DC 20005 USA

Relief International-UK  
Development House  
56 - 64 Leonard Street  
London EC2A 4LT UK

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# THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT

YOU AND GENEROUS SUPPORTERS LIKE YOU MAKE OUR PROGRAMS POSSIBLE



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