



CEDAR FUND
施達基金會

Beyond Feeding the Poor
豈止溫飽

In Christ we Love

2022-2023 Annual Report



(Incorporated with limited liability)



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施達基金會 CEDAR Fund



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**Dear children, let us not love with words or speech
but with actions and in truth.**

1 John 3:18



Foreword

After three years of the pandemic, our lives are starting over again. Everyone is adapting to the new social environment as work patterns evolve to be more diverse, the application of smart technology becomes more widespread, and the competition for human resources continues to intensify. Everyone says, 'There is no way to turn back!' to describe the current social situation.

CEDAR Fund's overseas partners may not have the opportunity to start over like we do after the pandemic.

In addition to facing life and economic difficulties, they have to bear the effects of external influences such as global climate change and wars, racial conflicts, and religious struggles from within and outside the country. The unstable international situation and international sanctions are making poverty alleviation development and disaster relief work more complex and challenging.

On the other hand, the global economic downturn has also resulted in a significant decrease and shrinkage in European and American aid to developing countries, which also poses a challenge to community work. Many institutions – including CEDAR – face pressing needs for community projects, yet fundraising is under the test to meet these demands.

Poverty alleviation has always been difficult, but we still keep going and will not back down. While faced with multiple challenges, we constantly examine whether our strategies and modes of implementation are effective in communicating information to the public about our work. Besides, we work more actively with partners to study how to improve project sustainability, actively promote community engagement and mobilise local churches, reducing dependence on external resources, and so on.

In faith, we remind ourselves to constantly seek the will of the Lord, to be united in Christ, to serve with one heart, and to trust in the guidance of the Holy Spirit to face and overcome different hardships.

In the area of local ministry, we are grateful for the many inspiring testimonies over the past two years, and many churches and believers in Hong Kong are willing to respond to the needs of their neighbours and communities, ranging from material support to spiritual care. CEDAR has the privilege of partnering with several churches, learning from them, and hopes to make better connections with them.

We also believe that our companion is more than just the body of Christ near us. We have the same connection with Christians abroad, who are loved and saved by the Lord Jesus.

May the supporters of CEDAR continue to walk with us to overcome the constraints and challenges of different environments to witness the Lord's mission together.

'Do not withhold good from those to whom it is due, when it is in your power to act.'
Proverbs 3:27



Board Chairman
Dr. Chan Nim Chung



Chief Executive
Dr. Chan Pui Si

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In Christ we build a just and compassionate world together.

Who We Are...

CEDAR Fund is an independent Christian relief and development organisation founded in Hong Kong. We strive to live out Integral Mission of the Church in partnership with Christians around the world to assist the poor and the needy.

We Are Called...

We are called to participate in the mission of God and to witness God's Kingdom on earth. 'From Church, Through Church' is our guiding principle of operation. In Christ, we are determined to build a just and compassionate world together with Christian churches and organisations worldwide. Based on our vision, our projects can be categorised into ten natures:

Project Natures



Anti-human Trafficking



Children and Youth Development



Creation Care



Peace and Reconciliation



Church and Community Mobilisation



Livelihood Development



Humanitarian Relief and Disaster Risk Reduction



Health



Urban and Rural Development



Advocacy

Europe

Poland, Slovakia, Ukraine

No. of Projects: 4

465,613 beneficiaries

The Middle East

Afghanistan, Lebanon, Syria

No. of Projects: 10

1,045,385 beneficiaries

Africa

Ethiopia, Rwanda, Zimbabwe

No. of Projects: 11

27,920 beneficiaries

China & Hong Kong

No. of Projects: 11

12,562 beneficiaries

Asia

Bangladesh, India, Myanmar, Nepal, Thailand, Creative Access Nations

No. of Projects: 51

81,114 beneficiaries

Thankful for God & You

CEDAR was able to walk alongside approximately **1,632,600** beneficiaries

and restore their dignity and value through **87** relief and development projects,

including **18** new development projects, through partnerships with **47** Christian

organisations and churches in **17** countries and regions around the world.

Focus: Starting Anew after the Pandemic

Clara Chiu
Head of Partnership Development

Visiting our overseas partners is a significant focus for CEDAR's staff. These visits can help us track the progress of our ministries, the use of our funds by our partners and the lives of the beneficiaries. However, the primary objective of our visits goes beyond these aspects: we hope to enter the local communities of our partners and beneficiaries to gain first-hand experience of their lives. This includes understanding their living environment, assessing their quality of life, observing the effects of climate change, and exploring their religious and cultural contexts, which enable us to pray for their needs and express gratitude to God more comprehensively. Ultimately, the chief objective of our visits is to express our unity in Christ's body, which serves as the foundation for our shared commitment to strengthening local communities.

Netherlands
Oct 2022



Lebanon
Oct 2022

CEDAR's board member, consultant, Chief Executive and Programme Head visited our partner who advocates for peace in Lebanon. The CEO of our partner (4th from left) and a local student (3rd from left) participating in the inter-faith dialogue programme between the Lebanese and Syrian refugee youths organised by our partner.

Nepal
Nov 2022



Further reading:
Restore Dignity for
The Dalits

China
Feb, Mar, Jun 2023

Bangladesh
Feb 2023



Further reading:
The Pain and Anger
on the Journey of
Poverty Relief

Zimbabwe
Oct 2022

Ethiopia
Mar 2023



CEDAR staff visited a farmer (right) who received subsidised training. He showed us his rented piece of land and the tomatoes he has planted using sustainable organic agriculture technique.

Creative Access Nation
Dec 2022



A new CEDAR Programme Officer went on a monitoring trip for the first time, where she visited a children's home run by our partner in the Creative Access Nation with the Programme Head, and they celebrated Christmas with the children.

Myanmar
Sep 2022



During the pandemic, we were informed that our partner's community centres in Myanmar were forced to move. Concerned about the impact of this change on the local community, our Programme Head visited the new community centres immediately after Myanmar lifted the pandemic's restrictions. In the photo, residents who joined our partner's microfinance programme were learning financial tips for small businesses from our partner's staff.

May 2023



After the pandemic and the coup in Myanmar, three of our staff finally visited the refugee camps with our Myanmar partner who has been working with us for many years. The local temperature was as high as 38 degrees, which made our staff realise that the hot weather also brought many challenges to the local people on top of the persistent stagnation in economic development brought by the war.

Building Social Institutions and Trust in Ethiopia

Winnie Fung
Deputy Chief Executive

If society has always told me that I am poor and useless, how can I trust myself that I have internal strength and resources that I can offer to help others?

If societal structures have always worked against me, how can I trust that there can be a new social institution that values me and that I can belong to?

If my government has persuaded me to participate in a savings group before but I was never able to get my money back after putting money in, how can I trust this NGO who is persuading me to join another savings group?

Rebuilding trust is never easy, but I met quite a number of people on my visit to Ethiopia who, even after experiencing disappointment and betrayal, are still willing to trust.

I met these people in a village in Wolaita. Wolaita is south of Ethiopia's capital, Addis Ababa, and is a rural community that depends on small-scale, rainfed agriculture. Drought is common and rainfall patterns are unpredictable, so crop failure due to moisture stress is common. Households have very small plots of land with largely depleted soil, so the farm produce, which is typically maize and pigeon peas, can only support the household for six months out of the year. I was there in March, which is the beginning of what the locals call 'the hunger season'.

Since the rural households are living below subsistence level, most of them do not have the habit of saving money, and have very limited access to financial and technical services. This in turn makes them vulnerable to climate change, inflation, and other forms of economic and social instability.

In light of this, CEDAR partners with Tearfund Ireland and a local, church-based NGO called Terepeza Development Association to establish self-help groups (SHGs) in Wolaita. Through the SHGs, we train households on conservation agriculture and sustainable organic agriculture (SOA) techniques, and introduce macadamia nut

farming as a way to diversify income and promote climate resilient livelihoods. The SHGs also serve as a micro-savings and micro-lending institution, where group members (especially women) can gain access to financial resources and be economically empowered.

But such economic empowerment is not possible without building the first step of trust. Our field partners show up in the villages day after day, week after week, to build relationships with the villagers and to understand their needs. Such actions are not possible nor sustainable if not for the love of Christ. It is only because the villagers slowly begin to trust our partners that they are willing to give micro-savings and micro-lending a try. Otherwise, they have been traumatised by the experience of putting money into the government's savings programmes but never getting their money back.

Likewise, it takes trust to try out new, unheard-of farming techniques. Conservation agriculture techniques such as mulching are very different from the traditional way of ploughing in Ethiopia. Our field partners learnt and adapted the methods from Zambia and Tanzania, but introducing them to farmers in Ethiopia would require some brave souls to be willing to try it out for a year first. I met some of these 'early adopter' farmers who jokingly told me they had no choice but to try, since otherwise they would starve to death. Their neighbours are able to see their resulting increase in crop yields and can follow suit. The SHGs, therefore, provide a social network for both the sharing of knowledge, the cultivation of a sense of belonging, and the provision of social, emotional, and spiritual support.

Ethiopia Projects



Children and Youth
Development
120 beneficiaries
HK\$206,815



Church and
Community Mobilisation
6,380 beneficiaries
HK\$644,263

No. of Beneficiaries: **6,500**

Funding: **HK\$851,078**



The author (middle) and project staff Rebecca (second from left) visited farmers and partners. The fields they were in used SOA techniques to grow yams.

Have you experienced the power of community?

Created by God who values His relationship with each of us, we are innately created for connection. As babies, we yearn for the comforting embrace of our parents, cries defusing instantly with a familiar touch. As children and youths, we venture into the new territories of playgrounds and schools to find joy and belonging in friendships. As grown-ups thrust into the realities of adulthood, we experience beauty in a broken world through family and colleagues who remind us that we are not alone.

After international borders finally reopened in late 2022, I had the opportunity to visit our partners in Bangladesh. A land of rickshaws and rivers, Bangladesh is a densely populated and rapidly urbanising country deeply affected by natural disasters and social injustices. We visited a large urban slum in Dhaka, the capital city, with our local partner. As we got off the car, a vast field filled with shattered bricks and twisted metal stretched in front of us. I couldn't believe this was where over 12,000 people once lived. Just a few weeks before our visit, residents in this area were forced to demolish the homes that they had built themselves and lived in for years when the government issued a sudden notice for slum redevelopment. Without any government support for resettlement, these people lost their homes and were left to fend for themselves.

Yet not all was lost. Confronted with this crisis, local leaders known as 'People's Institutions' (PI) who are trained by our local partner played a key role in supporting the people's resettlement. Setting up communication systems for the community and liaising with government officers to avoid further injustices, PIs maintained close contact with the people to meet their immediate needs as they moved to surrounding areas. In spite of the drastic change to their living conditions, one thing remained unchanged: their sense of community. Although now physically scattered, PIs encouraged the people to continue to attend regular meetings as they had previously done in groups and forums, ready to follow up with counselling as needed. Faced with increasing cases of school drop-out, child marriage and gender-based violence due to heightened financial pressures, PIs and community members increased their alertness on protecting gender and child rights through monitoring possible cases, resisting when needed through community intervention, and seeking ways to empower girls through a wide range of vocational training. Our local partner told us that as a result of the project's awareness raising and capacity building activities, the community is empowered to and capable of supporting one another and taking constructive actions even during such critical times.

In the face of hardships and adversity, we can feel so discouraged and helpless. But the little strength we have as individuals is multiplied beyond measure when we come together as a community in Christlike love. In community, we share one another's burdens and embrace one another's sorrows. In community, we find comfort in baring our vulnerabilities and find joy in strengthening others. In community, we learn to find solutions together and learn to trust God even when we can't. Our circumstances may be out of our control, but when we build each other up in the love of Christ, our resilience to endure and overcome challenges grows. That is the power of community in Christ.



The author (front left) with the local leaders, known as 'People's Institutions', in the Justice Committee who play a key role in helping the community's resettlement and protecting gender and child rights.

Bangladesh Projects



Children and Youth
Development
4,174 beneficiaries
HK\$682,478



Church and
Community Mobilisation
8,501 beneficiaries
HK\$470,720



Livelihood Development
2,870 beneficiaries
HK\$359,533



Humanitarian Relief
and Disaster
Risk Reduction
8,715 beneficiaries
HK\$532,195

No. of Beneficiaries: **24,260**

Funding: **HK\$2,044,926**

Join Hands with the Church and Witness the Transformation of Our Brothers and Sisters' Lives

Ken Wong
Communications Officer

In addition to carrying out relief and development work worldwide to fulfil Integral Mission, CEDAR also values its work with local churches to embody its Integral Mission through educational activities and build a just and loving world in Christ.

As a church mentor, I deeply understand that it is not easy to experience how 'life changes life'. I am grateful that during the past year since I joined CEDAR, I have had the opportunity to cooperate with different churches, witnessing the transformation of the lives of church members through our sharing activities has deeply inspired me.

I recall a conversation where I was chatting with a church pastor before leading an event. The pastor had always cared about the poor, and the love of Christ allowed him to see the needs of the poor. However, he hopes to not only see this for himself but also for the entire church to understand marginalised groups' needs and bear witness to God's love in unity. I was curious and asked why he invited CEDAR to share instead of sharing with brothers and sisters himself.

The pastor shared with me his challenges in discussing poverty issues inside the church, where various constraints and busy pastoral responsibilities limited the scope and opportunities to discuss such matters. Even if they had the chance, they have few stories from the poor to share, making it difficult for brothers and sisters to understand



The author went to the church to lead the card game 'Cheat & Trap.'

the situation of the impoverished in detail. Therefore, they hope to cooperate with CEDAR to broaden their horizons and cultivate a heart to care for the poor through different activities such as simulation games, story sharing, and Bible studies.

During the event, we offered participants an opportunity to glimpse the conditions and workings of human trafficking through our card game 'Cheat & Trap'. By playing the roles of human traffickers, agents and villagers, brothers and sisters strove to win the game. In the sharing session after the game, some participants expressed their resonance with the helplessness and despair of human trafficking victims and their understanding of the immense challenges experienced by anti-human trafficking workers.

It is deeply inspiring and empowering to witness how our brothers and sisters went from knowing nothing about human trafficking to developing empathy for the trafficked victims. Let us thank our Lord, for He not only moved pastors to respond to His love but also enabled CEDAR to join hands with churches to deliver the message of caring for the poor. What a blessing to witness the transformative impact on the lives of brothers and sisters!

Hong Kong Project



Creation Care
9,440 beneficiaries
HK\$113,000



Church and
Community
Mobilisation
1,250 beneficiaries
HK\$525,575

No. of Beneficiaries: **10,690**
Funding: **HK\$638,575**

Hong Kong Advocacy, Education and Fundraising activities



Having worked with
churches, seminaries,
Christian organisations
and schools **123**



Organised
120
activities



Reaching
13,383
people



CEDAR's Devotion App



Invite CEDAR to share



1 Donation Option

- Monthly Gift (by credit card or autopay) HK\$ _____
- Increase your monthly gift amount to HK\$ _____
(If you donate by direct debit autopay, please complete the Monthly Donation Form and send the original back to us)
- One-off Gift HK\$ _____

2 I would like to support

- According to CEDAR's need
- Particular Category > Relief & Rehabilitation Poverty Alleviation, Development, and Advocacy
- Specific Project: _____
- Specific Donation Campaign > 'Remove Price Tag, Free Body & Soul' 'Join Hands Join Hearts'
- 'Care for the Disaster-stricken Poor' 'Restore Dignity for the Poor'
- 'Long-term Assistance to the Conflict-stricken Poor'

3 Donor's Information (BLOCK LETTER)

(Please use the same name as in your tax information.)

Donor's Code (if applicable) _____

Name: _____ (Pastor / Deacon / Mr. / Ms.)

Address: _____ (for receipt issuance)

Email: _____ Phone: _____

Church: _____

Your personal information will be used by the Organisation for the matters (including but not limited to contacting, handling event registrations, issuing receipts, research/analysis/statistical purposes, fundraising, opinion gathering, event/training course invitations/provision of information of the Organisation).

I do not want to receive event/training course invitations/provision of information of the Organisation.

Signature _____

4 Donation Method

Autopay (Please complete the Monthly Donation Form [download at link.cedarfund.org/rd-form-en or contact us for the form] and send back the original)

Credit Card (VISA / Mastercard / UnionPay / JCB) *

Monthly donation will be debited automatically from your credit card account monthly until your further notification.

Card No.	Card Expiry Date (Should be valid for the next 3 months)	Signature <small>Must be the same signature on the back of the card</small>
Cardholder's Name	/ (MM/YY)	

Cheque (payable to 'CEDAR Fund') > Cheque No.: _____

Direct Deposit: HSBC 004-600-385678-001 / BEA 015-185-68-00931-7 SSA
BOC 012-581-2-020114-7 / DBS 016-478-001364162

Fast Payment System: FPS ID: 3354016

PayMe: Scan the QR code on the right



5 Donation Receipt

Donations of HK\$100 or above are tax-deductible in HK with our receipts. For regular donation by autopay or credit card, an annual receipt will be issued in April.

- Yes, please send me donation receipts (by email / mail) * > Receive a receipt after every donation Receive an annual receipt
- No, thanks.

(* Please delete as appropriate)

Please complete this form and send it back to us with cheque, bank-in slip or screenshot of successful payment:

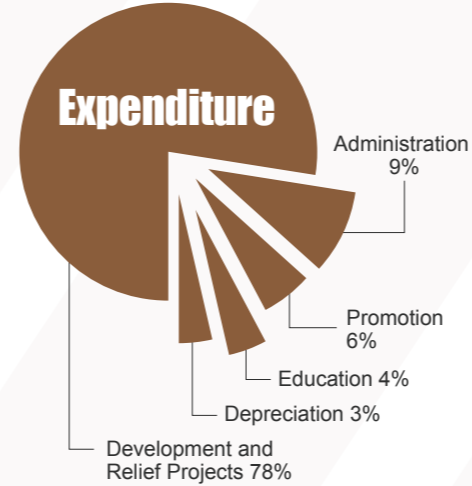
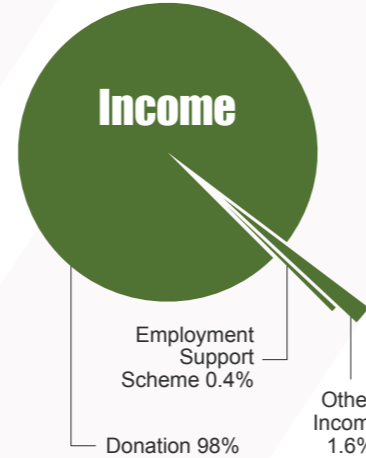
Mailing Address: CEDAR Fund, G.P.O. Box 3212, Hong Kong
Email: sharing@cedarfund.org
WhatsApp (for donation matters only): 5160 7549



Beyond Feeding the Poor
豈止溫飽

Financial Report

From 1/7/2022 to 30/6/2023



Income	HK\$
Donation	25,614,390
Other Income	431,302
Employment Support Scheme	103,600
Total	26,149,292

Expenditure	HK\$
Development and Relief Projects	22,720,821
Administration	2,662,695
Promotion	1,615,922
Education	1,247,082
Depreciation	983,475
Total	29,229,995

Deficit (3,080,703)

Thank you for your continual support!
Please continue to support CEDAR and its partners' work with prayers and donations.



We are CEDARIANS



CEDAR is committed to professional standards in ministry planning and development, and is accountable to God and donors for the faithful use of all resources entrusted to us. The Board is responsible for the organisation's administrative management, strategy development and financial plan. The Board set up three specific committees that offer advice and recommendations to the Board regularly. All board members participate on a voluntary basis.

Board

Dr. Chan Nim Chung (Chairman)
 Dr. Christine Lau Pui Ting (Vice-Chairman)
 Mr. Benjamin Yam Kwok Hei (Honorary Treasurer)
 Rev. Irene Suen Ching Man (Honorary Secretary)
 Rev. Anders Chan Ming Chuen
 Rev. Anthony Lee Chap Yung
 Dr. Alex Ip Hon Ho
 Mr. Joseph Chan Kwok Fong
 Dr. Winnie Fung Wan Yi (Until Dec 2022)
 Dr. Bernard Wong Kwok Wai (Until Dec 2022)

Consultant

Mr. Oliver Mark
 Dr. Faith Ho
 Dr. Mok Chiu Yau

Chief Executive

Dr. Chan Pui Si

Deputy Chief Executive

Dr. Winnie Fung

Theology Development

Mr. Fountain Chik

Programme

Ms. Chung Pui Ling
 Mr. Edward Lai
 Ms. Rebecca Lee
 Ms. Edith Cham
 Mr. Ivan Tsoi

Partnership Development

Ms. Clara Chiu
 Mr. Tony Chan
 Mr. Ken Wong
 Mr. Ness Ma (Until Apr 2023)

Ministry Support

Mr. Anthony Kwan
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 Mr. Ryan Wong
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Network

