



Foreword from Egmont's CEO

In 2000, the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV & AIDS (UNAIDS) announced its plan to eradicate HIV & AIDS by 2030. At the time, the world was witnessing a staggering number of new HIV infections. Every day, 8,500 people were becoming newly infected with the virus and 4,300 people were dying of AIDS-related illnesses. Since then, remarkable progress has been made in slowing the spread of HIV. Even countries with major epidemics such as Kenya, Mozambique and Zimbabwe are seeing a reduction in the number of new infections, thanks both to the concerted efforts of local organisations and to billions of dollars of international investment.

Undoubtedly, this is all good news. As treatments have become more affordable and accessible, people with HIV have started to live longer and healthier lives, and fewer children are being born HIV positive. However, these positive trends only tell part of the story. In fact, there are more people living with AIDS today than at any point in history and HIV remains the world's leading infectious killer.

Since 2000, 6,325,000 people have died of AIDS-related diseases in the six countries in which Egmont's partners operate. Children born in sub-Saharan Africa today enter a world shaped by three decades of the epidemic. Society's most vulnerable - women and children - are the most affected by this loss of life, often of key breadwinners, and face immense challenges both socially and economically. They are often unable to access adequate nutrition, afford treatment, or transport to clinics, or meet the cost of education. The reality for them, and the 15 million children already orphaned by AIDS across the region, is to live with the long-term impact of the disease on a daily basis.

Egmont has seen the most effective responses in addressing these long-term effects of AIDS arise at grassroots level. Dedicated, small-scale initiatives, often run by people directly affected by the epidemic themselves, have time and again delivered impressive results for relatively modest investment. This summer, Egmont's Programme Committee selected 6 new partners to join our portfolio from a shortlist of 20 organisations. As with all of Egmont's partners, these organisations

"Fifteen years ago there was a conspiracy of silence. AIDS was a disease of the 'others' and treatment was for the rich and not for the poor."

Michel Sidibé, Executive Director, UNAIDS.

- and the people behind them - have been selected for their competency and ability to deliver cost-effective results with projects that are innovative and sustainable. Most importantly, we believe that they will achieve a measurable difference in the lives of children and families affected by HIV & AIDS. As a new generation grows up under the shadow of the AIDS epidemic, Egmont's partner organisations - new and existing - and the many hundreds of organisations like them across the region will continue to play a vital role in reducing the impact of HIV & AIDS. We are delighted to introduce you to their work in the following pages.



Colin Williams OBE

Chief Executive

Meet Egmont's new partners

Dalitso Trust



In Malawi, more than 1 in 12 children dies before their 5th birthday. The Dalitso Trust has worked since 2002 in Malingunde, central Malawi, to reverse this trend and improve the lives of the children within their local community. Dalitso provides support for small-scale improvements in people's lives, and has a strict 'no hand-outs' ethos, preferring to support projects which will have long-term benefits within the community. These include simple but effective initiatives such as: building a latrine, removing standing water from near people's homes, building refuse pits, constructing efficient cooking stoves and helping to establish communal vegetable gardens. They also run a vaccination programme for local children. Dalitso's unique approach aims to achieve long term, sustainable change for very little monetary investment. Egmont has awarded Dalitso a small single year Innovation Grant of £7,652 to improve the health and livelihoods of 120 families in 4 villages around Malingunde.

Chiedza

Chiedza works in the resettlement area of Zvimba, 80km outside Harare. Land reform programmes in Zimbabwe have decimated the country's agricultural sector and left many farm labourers without work. Labourers often hail from neighbouring countries but find themselves unable to return as their children were born in Zimbabwe and lack dual citizenship.



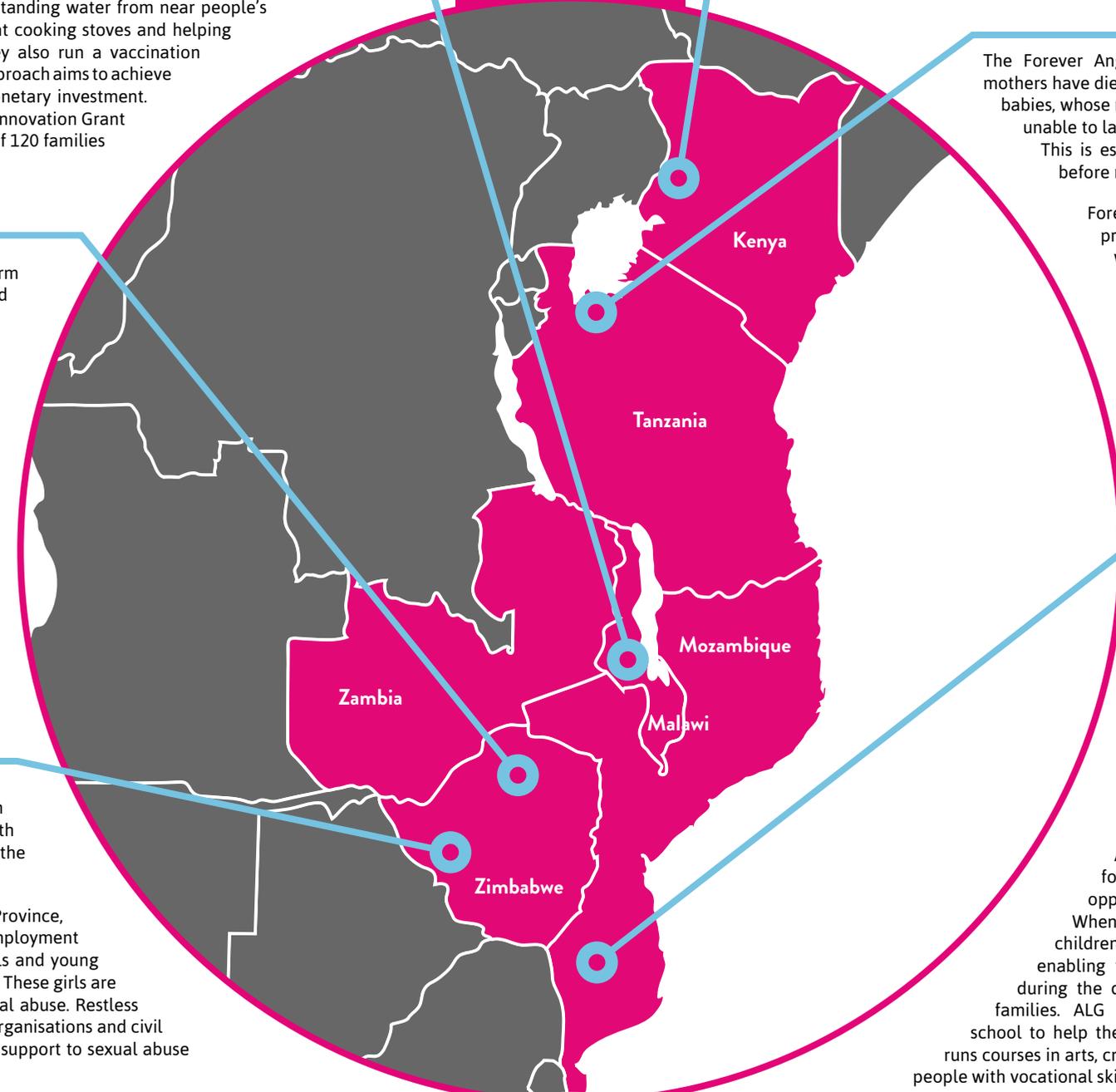
In Zvimba, poverty and squalor are rife and nearly 20% of the population is HIV+. Children are especially vulnerable, as they do not have any extended family to support them if their parents fall ill or die of AIDS related diseases. Chiedza provides nutritional support to struggling families and children, while training families in modern farming techniques to help them improve the productivity of their land. They support access to healthcare by providing transport for people living in remote rural areas, and paying for the cost of treatment. Chiedza also provide school fees and learning materials to vulnerable children.

Restless Development



In a country suffering one of the most severe AIDS epidemics in the world and where 55% of the population is under 24, reaching young people in Zimbabwe with information about how to avoid transmission of the disease is critical in reducing the prevalence of HIV.

Restless Development works in Matabeleland South Province, where the HIV prevalence rate is 21%. With unemployment at 80%, there has been a surge in the numbers of girls and young women resorting to prostitution as a means of survival. These girls are at high risk, not just of HIV infection, but also of sexual abuse. Restless Development works with healthcare providers, local organisations and civil authorities to deliver HIV prevention information and support to sexual abuse survivors and young women forced into sex work.



The recent progress in tackling HIV & AIDS in Kenya has been slow to reach the rural communities of Matunda, where the Girl Child Counselling Women Group (GCCWG) is based. Here, nearly three-quarters of the population has not been tested for HIV and 53% of households are single-mother families.

The organisation works to help these families, encouraging both mothers and children to get tested, and educating adults and children about how HIV is contracted and can be avoided. GCCWG identifies those most at risk of HIV infection and provides vocational training to mothers in these households, thereby helping them to establish an independent income stream.

Girl Child Counselling Women Group



Forever Angels

The Forever Angels (FA) orphanage supports new-born infants whose mothers have died in childbirth or succumbed to AIDS complications. Some babies, whose mothers are in such an advanced state of HIV that they are unable to lactate, are given life-saving milk formula by the orphanage. This is essential work in Tanzania where one in five children die before reaching their first birthday.

Forever Angels does not operate as a traditional orphanage but prefers to support infants within their own family networks where possible or reintegrate severely malnourished infants once they have been brought up to a healthy weight. Forever Angels then assists individual families to establish sustainable income streams to feed their children and fund basic household costs.

Of the 281 children supported by Forever Angels since its inception in 2006, 79% have been adopted or reintegrated into their family networks.



A Little Gesture

A Little Gesture, A Great Help (ALG) supports children affected by HIV & AIDS in Gaza Province, Mozambique, where the HIV prevalence rate is 25%. With Egmont's support, ALG will provide vital support for 50 children at the Santa Luisa Marillac School, where 75% of the pupils have lost either one or both of their parents to AIDS related illnesses. ALG will cover the cost of the children's school fees and also provide them with daily nutritional support.

ALG will also offer direct medical support for children infected with HIV or other opportunistic diseases, such as TB or cholera. When they are too sick to attend school, the children will be cared for at ALG's day-care centre, enabling the children's carers to continue to work during the day, and earn an income to support their families. ALG offers children additional tutoring after school to help them catch up with missed school-work, and runs courses in arts, crafts and agriculture, starting to equip young people with vocational skills for future employment.



News & Updates

Egmont Quiz Night

Egmont's Quiz Night took place on May 14th this year at the Thames Rowing Club on the Putney Embankment. Over 120 people attended, answering a series of fiendishly challenging questions devised by Quiz Master Andrew Newell based on the 7 deadly sins.

Over £6,500 was raised on the night, including £1,970 pledged to Egmont partner, Vision of Hope (VoH), who help orphaned and vulnerable girls living rough on the streets of Lusaka. The money pledged will enable VoH to provide 8 girls at high risk of infection with shelter and food for a year, and pay for their school fees, uniforms and other essentials.

A big thank you to everyone who attended, and especially to the dedicated and tireless quiz organisers, Ali Newell and Mango Ingrams.

Running up the Wall

On June 20th, Egmont supporter Tom Rogers ran from Carlisle Castle to the Baltic Quay in Gateshead to raise money for Egmont's partners. Tom's ultra-marathon followed the length of Hadrian's Wall from west to east, both on and off road, for 69 miles.

Tom's Herculean feat of endurance is made all the more remarkable by the fact that he had never competed in a full marathon before. Finishing in the top 10%, Tom has raised over £1,750 for Egmont – every penny of which will be committed to projects in Africa. Thank you, Tom!!

Three weeks in Africa

This July, one of our Ambassadors, Helen Fairclough, spent three weeks with Egmont partner Mitengo in Chongwe, Zambia. Helen successfully bid for the opportunity to volunteer with Mitengo at our Fundraising Dinner in 2012. Whilst she was there, Helen ran a fundraising workshop for Mitengo staff, helping them to develop their processes and tools for raising funds within Zambia. After a chance meeting at the local petrol station, she also persuaded Zambia's premier musician, Dalisoul, to host a benefit concert in Chongwe for Mitengo.

Helen worked alongside Mitengo members to sow nutritious crops in their communal gardens which will improve the health of the women and their children. "The women that I met were incredible. Women are so powerful in Africa. My time there showed me that with trust and small amounts of financial support, they have the capability of transforming their own and their families' lives".



Partner News

Over the past few months, Egmont has been piloting a new method of communication with our partners. Using Facebook, which is now ubiquitous across Africa, we have been encouraging our partners to use their mobile phones to update us in real-time with information, photos and insights into their activities and impact.

While this will not replace our standard reporting process, it has enabled our partners to share with both Egmont and each other the approaches which are having the most powerful impact on improving the lives of children and families affected by HIV & AIDS.

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