

# NGOKO CHARITABLE TRUST

## TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT & ACCOUNTS

YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023



## CONTENTS

<b>01</b>	EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	1
<b>02</b>	WHO WE ARE AND WHAT WE DO	2
<b>03</b>	ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE	6
<b>04</b>	FUTURE PLANS	10
<b>05</b>	FINANCIAL REVIEW	12
<b>06</b>	ACCOUNTS SUMMARY	14
<b>07</b>	INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT	16
<b>08</b>	STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT	17
<b>09</b>	REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATION DETAILS	19
<b>10</b>	ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS	20

# 01 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

**2023 was another exciting year for Lesedi. Secondary school construction neared completion, and we were humbled by one incredible donation to build a science teaching block. The Secondary continued to expand with Form 3 starting in January 2024 with our first graduates due to complete their final exams in December 2025. Great progress was made in agricultural and other vocational skills.**

The journey continued:

- Lesedi Primary School had 388 children enrolled at 31 December 2023.
- Special needs teaching continued to be offered for 19 primary kids.
- Our Grade 7 exam pass rate was 62% vs 91% in 2022 / 63% in 2021.
- The core infrastructure for teaching Secondary Forms 1 to 4 was completed with two further double classroom blocks and four teachers' cottages. Well-done Benson, builders and funders!
- Construction started on a science teaching block (Chemistry and Biology lab, plus prep and support areas) following a very generous \$200,000 single donation.
- We further expanded our sponsorship program such that at December 2023 380 kids were sponsored (+25 on Dec 22)
- We provided over 150,000 school meals during 2023
- The clinic continued to expand its programs across a wide area.

Financially we had a very positive year with our highest ever annual level of donations received. We generated a net surplus of £91k in the year primarily driven by the science block donation.

Our achievements have only been possible due to the fabulous team we have at Lesedi and the ongoing support and generosity from our wider Lesedi family who continue to provide essential financial and moral support. A huge and heartfelt "Thank You!" to everyone on this journey with us.



*Graeme, Benson and Fiona*



# 02 WHO WE ARE AND WHAT WE DO

**Ngoko Charitable Trust is run by three committed volunteers, who are striving to reduce poverty in rural Zimbabwe through provision of quality education and healthcare. The Trust's main project is Lesedi Schools & Clinic situated in a rural area near Victoria Falls. Lesedi Primary and Secondary School is educating 450 local children, most of whom are supported through our sponsorship programme. Lesedi Clinic provides affordable, accessible healthcare to the surrounding communities.**

## About Us

The trustees of the Ngoko Charitable Trust are Fiona & Graeme Thompson and Benson Siyawareva. Fiona and Graeme are based in the United Kingdom and Benson lives in Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe. The three of them met on safari 20 years ago and have remained firm friends ever since. Benson and Fiona founded a safari company, Ngoko Safaris, together in 2005.

Benson grew up in rural Zimbabwe and knows first-hand how challenging it can be for children in rural communities to break out of poverty. In 2013 he became involved with the Ntabayengwe community, who live in a rural area near Victoria Falls. He realised that many children were dropping out of school and decided he needed to help.

Fiona and Graeme had always talked about "making a difference" so the three of them teamed up to transform Benson's dream into a reality.

As we commenced our journey, none of us could have envisaged the incredible support we would receive along the way, enabling us to transform our dreams into reality. The Ngoko Charitable Trust was registered in 2015 to support our work.

## Our Charitable Objective

The purpose of the Ngoko Charitable Trust is the prevention or relief of poverty in Zimbabwe by providing or assisting in the provision of education, training, healthcare projects and all the necessary support designed to enable individuals to generate a sustainable income and be self-sufficient.

What started as a small project in our spare time, has grown to take over our lives. Despite this, our passion to make a difference is stronger than ever and we are constantly inspired to do more to help those who through chance of birth need a helping hand to break out of the cycle of poverty and achieve their potential.

The responsibility for being custodians of this project are immense. We have started to look to the future and to how we can make Lesedi sustainable beyond the three of us. We have set up a local Trust in Zimbabwe, the Ngoko Trust and are looking at how we can continue to improve the long-term governance of the project.

# 02 WHO WE ARE AND WHAT WE DO

## Lesedi Project Background

The Ntabayengwe community, and other neighbouring communities, live in scattered homesteads just 15-20 minutes' drive from Victoria Falls. Despite being relatively close to town, the daily existence could be from another world. Most families survive by cattle raising and subsistence farming on the infertile Kalahari Sand soils. Human-wildlife conflict is rife as the area is adjacent to the Zambezi National Park and Jafuta Forest, so cattle are often taken by lions.

The people in this area are often poorly educated with low aspiration levels and limited role models. Prior to Lesedi, the nearest local school was many kilometres away. Children were often absent or dropped out of school altogether. Many parents, unable to pay school fees, preferred their children to remain at home to help with household chores. Alcohol dependence was an issue, with some households engaged in the illegal moonshine business. Many families are

dealing with ill health, including HIV and AIDS.

The cycle of poverty in these communities has persisted for generations and there was little hope for improvement without outside intervention.

## Lesedi Primary School

Our project started with construction of a simple shack to offer classes to pre-school children, with the initial intake of kids, our "pioneer" students, enrolling in 2014.

Thanks to the generosity of our ever-expanding Lesedi family, development has continued year on year and Lesedi Primary School now offers a full infant and junior education. Infant education consists of four years of schooling from Early Childhood Development (ECD) A to Grade 2. Junior education comprises five years from Grade 3 to Grade 7.

At the time of writing 281 children are enrolled at Lesedi Primary – 146 boys and 135 girls.



**Lesedi Primary School**



# 02 WHO WE ARE AND WHAT WE DO

We employ twelve teachers at the Primary school, with all salaries funded by donations through the Trust. A new special needs teacher joined in 2022.

Eighteen individuals from the local community also support the project as a clerk, cooks, groundsman, watchmen and helpers across all three sites.

The school is equipped with laptops, and we have a dedicated teacher for Information & Communication Technology (ICT), enabling the children to become digitally literate from a young age.

Lesedi is connected to mains electricity and water supply, although most water is supplied by a borehole. The school also has internet. These are considerable achievements considering the school's rural location.

## Lesedi Secondary School

Given the lack of high-quality Secondary education in the area, the decision was taken in 2020 to build a Secondary school on the Lesedi site.

The Trustees were keen that the school offered vocational and IT subjects, which is rare to find in rural schools in Zimbabwe.

During 2021, major construction works took place and in early 2022 67 students were enrolled in Form 1 with an even split from Lesedi Primary and other local primary schools.

The school is offering 10 subjects at Form 1 and 2. Core subjects of Mathematics, General Science, Ndebele, English, Geography, History, Physical Education and IT. Students choose two of four subjects from Food, Metal and Woodwork technology and design, and Agriculture.

Seven teachers were employed during the year, and this grew to twelve teachers by January 2024 when Form 3 commenced.

Initially support resources are being shared across both Primary and Secondary to minimise cost.

The Secondary school was formally annexed to Mosi-oa-Tunya Secondary school (the main 1,600+ pupil school in Victoria Falls town) for registration purposes



**Lesedi Secondary School**



# 02 WHO WE ARE AND WHAT WE DO

but Lesedi Secondary achieved its own standalone registration in May 2024.

Our pioneer students moved up to Form 3 in January 2024 and at the time of writing 175 children are enrolled at Lesedi Secondary - 99 boys and 76 girls.

## Lesedi Clinic

Having started the project at Lesedi, we soon realized that healthcare was a major problem. The nearest public clinic was far from Lesedi, with transport costs unaffordable for most. Health issues were often ignored, or a traditional healer visited instead.

Building a clinic at Lesedi – along with various ancillary buildings – was a hugely ambitious project but despite the challenges, Lesedi Clinic opened to the community in March 2020.

Lesedi Clinic provides local, affordable healthcare, antenatal care and

vaccinations. The clinic and school work closely together to monitor the welfare of our learners and provide ongoing treatment as necessary.

Along with the clinic, we have also built a maternity waiting-home for expecting mothers to stay during the final weeks of pregnancy.

We employ two nurses at the clinic, along with two nurse-aides and support staff. We also employ a doctor for weekly clinics. All costs are funded by donations to the Trust.

## Other projects

Given our charitable objectives, we would support projects outside of Lesedi and have provided some capital funds to help improve a clinic near Jerara, Zaka District in south-eastern Zimbabwe. However, given resources constraints we will likely be primarily focussed on Lesedi for the foreseeable future.



Lesedi Clinic

# 03 ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

**The Primary School is now at a mature stage offering nine grades of high-quality teaching with special needs support added in 2022. The Secondary School's core construction phase was completed in 2023 with the facilities in place to teach Forms 1 to 4. The Clinic continued to deliver quality health care to surrounding communities.**

## Background

The economic situation in Zimbabwe remains very precarious.

It is estimated that over 90% of Zimbabweans work in the informal economy, with many living hand to mouth. People have resorted to growing food on every spare patch of land and making money where they can to survive.

The local community is very reliant on the tourism industry which is slowly recovering post pandemic.

High inflation (over 500% pa) is impacting Zimbabwe and with such low incomes it has a terrible effect on families.

This financial pressure has continued to result in a big increase in the number of families being forced to leave the area in search of work.

It is sad when we lose learners, and we try to track "our" children where possible. We have hugely appreciated our sponsors who have kindly transferred their resources (and love) to new Lesedi children.

## 10 Year Milestone

In December 2023, the directors, staff and children celebrated Lesedi's ten-year anniversary.

The transformation has been incredible. Starting with one pre-school class in a concrete shack, our "pioneer students", Lesedi School is now a well-equipped school campus with 450 pupils. Lesedi Clinic is providing essential health services

to the school children and wider community.

This is a special milestone in Lesedi's life and a proud achievement since that first concrete shack – we now have 12 primary and 8 secondary classrooms, 4 vocational workshops, ablution blocks, a beautiful clinic, a huge dining/community hall, teachers' and nurses' cottages, plus all the infrastructure (boreholes and water tanks, mains electricity, roads, Wi-Fi etc).

There is still so much more for us to do. The challenging situation in Zimbabwe means that we must work harder to ensure that the community we serve receives the best education and health support possible.

## Lesedi Clinic

The Lesedi Clinic opened in March 2020.

The clinic is privately registered but operates as a local community clinic, providing care to the whole community.





# 03 ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

Our team works closely with local health officials to support their vital work.

Patient numbers have continued to increase during 2023. The clinic is already having a hugely positive impact, providing welfare support to the Lesedi children and becoming a valuable resource within the wider community.

Sister Irene and the rest of the nurses do a fabulous job in keeping the clinic as financially sustainable as possible with affordable consultation and prescription charges.

The clinic offers a full vaccination programme at Lesedi. The Zimbabwe Expanded Programme on Immunization (EPI) aims to reduce vaccine preventable diseases. Targeted mostly at the under-5s, vaccines protect from Tuberculosis, Hepatitis B, Diphtheria, Tetanus, Pertussis, Meningitis, Polio, Pneumonia etc. The clinic is also giving the HPV vaccine to girls aged between 10-14 years for prevention of cervical cancer. There is no charge for any of the vaccination services.

During 2023 there was also a dedicated polio vaccination campaign following an outbreak of the disease in Harare.

In addition to serving the wider community, Lesedi Clinic provides a vital health resource for our Lesedi learners.

Our learners with long term health conditions, such as diabetes, cerebral palsy, epilepsy and sickle cell anaemia are all under the care of the clinic.

In December 2023, 367 learners and teachers had eye screening by experts from the Eyepod Clinic in Victoria Falls with a number receiving follow up treatment / spectacles, all funded via the Trust.

## Lesedi Primary School

The school and the pupils are recovering from the significant time lost due to Covid lockdowns during 2020 to 2022.

The Primary school **Grade 7 exam results**, after a very positive 2022, were mixed.

The overall pass rate for Lesedi learners was 62% vs 91% in 2022 / 63% in 2021.

Unfortunately, we had a few children who had dropped behind and would have benefitted from special needs support but only had limited time to catch up.

One real positive in the year was the recommencement of broader extracurricular activities which are so important for a child's growth. The school did particularly well in sports, choir and chess competitions against local schools.

## Lesedi Secondary School

During 2023 a further two double classroom blocks and four teachers' cottages were completed. We now have all the infrastructure needed to teach up to the end of Form 4 / "O" levels.



# 03 ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

Significant investment in **equipment** was also made which covered \$32k for computers and better Wi-Fi, equipment for the vocational subjects and science and a many text/workbooks. Desks, stools and chairs for Form 2 and 3 were hand made by local craftsmen providing much needed local employment.

Following recruitment of an energetic new agriculture teacher Mr Nyere, we were able to significantly expand our **agricultural projects**. The vegetable field was expanded and covered, the chicken run was properly put into operation and a new piggery was built with biogas for heating / lighting. As well as providing amazing hands-on learning experiences for the kids, the produce will supplement the school diet and generate extra funds.



Construction started on a **science teaching block** (Chemistry and Biology lab, plus prep area) following a very generous \$200,000 single donation.

Having these facilities in a rural school in Zimbabwe is a real privilege which when combined with high quality vocational and IT workshops means that we will have the facilities to teach a broad and high-quality curriculum.

At the time of writing, we have three Forms at the Secondary teaching 175 learners.

Seven secondary teachers were employed in 2023 with five more teachers joining in January 2024 as we started teaching the Zimsec level subjects from Form 3.

The Secondary school is very much work in progress but to have delivered what we have in four years (including two years disrupted by lockdowns) has been a huge success and we are massively thankful to Benson, the builders, the teachers, and everyone involved.

## Child Sponsorship

At the time of writing, 421 of the 456 children enrolled at Lesedi Primary and Secondary Schools are sponsored. The slow but steady increase in new sponsorships is especially pleasing given limited tourist group visit the school.

Without sponsorship, it is likely that many of our learners would not be regularly attending school, and certainly wouldn't have expectations to continue past their primary education. Our school meals are crucial to the welfare of many children, and for some the access to healthcare is proving to be a lifeline. For the charity, the sponsorship program provides much needed longer term financial security and engagement with a wider supporter base.

The \$360 per child per year sponsorship income is intended to cover school fees, two hot meals a day, uniform and a contribution to our welfare fund. An allocation is also made towards paying part of the teachers' salaries and other direct costs, with the charity directly paying for the remaining balance. In 2023, the sponsorship was able to cover 49% of



# 03 ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

the salaries, food and other direct operating costs (2022: 39%)

This higher support from sponsorship is partly driven by the difficult decision to increase our annual sponsorship rates to

\$360 from 1 January 2023. We lost several sponsors because of this increase, but we are incredibly grateful to most donors who could continue to support us at the increased rate.



# 04 FUTURE PLANS

**Our next major milestone will be when our pioneer students graduate from Lesedi in December 2025 – 12 years after we all started together! The Secondary School focus will be hitting this milestone with all the teachers, equipment and hard work required. The Primary School remains focussed on fine tuning so that we can deliver sustainable, improved results and ensure every child can do the basics well. For the Clinic it is all about making an even bigger positive impact.**

**However, our immediate concern is that the rains have been very poor over the last few months and Zimbabwe faces drought and starvation during 2024. This overshadows all that we are trying to deliver, and we must do all we can to help our learners and the community through this.**

## Lesedi Primary School

The Primary School is now operationally complete, with our final year – Grade 7 – completed in 2021. We now have a full complement of excellent teachers now also with special needs help and support staff working in quality facilities.

We need to ensure that we can deliver consistently high exam Grade 7 exam results and ensure that everyone leaves with good reading, writing and maths.

## Lesedi Secondary School

We are still very much in the work-in-progress on the Secondary school.

2024 will be focussed on delivering Form 3, the first year of the final two years leading up to the final Zimsec examinations in late 2025.

Construction is near completion with the Science Block expected to be finished by the middle of 2024. Additional buildings are needed (eg library and a music room) but the core structures are now in place.

Significant investment is still required in equipment, books, furniture etc.

A permanent Head Teacher, Lucy Chimbani, was appointed in May 2024 and is now providing strong leadership at the school. We need to review our teaching and other resources given the huge growth in the last 3 years and ensure that we are optimised for delivering high quality teaching up to Form 4.

For cost efficiency, we will share capacity and resources across Primary and Secondary as much as possible eg: dining & sports facilities.

## Lesedi Clinic

The Clinic will continue to be a major focus as it continues to expand its usage and community engagement. The team are doing an amazing job and have made the operations sustainable. The focus now is helping more people, delivering all the health needs for their catchment area.

## Water / food supplies

The provision of water and food to the schools and clinic is always very difficult in such a dry and remote area. The very poor rains in early 2024 are likely to make this position even more difficult for the next 12+ months with boreholes drying out and food becoming scarce. The local community has



# 04 FUTURE PLANS

been unable to grow their crops so starvation will become a real issue.

As a small charity 100% supported by private donations there is clearly a limit to what we can do to help. Our focus will be on providing adequate food and water to our learners and our staff, and where possible providing extra help (eg: possibly providing food during the holidays if we can raise additional funds and secure the supplies to do so).

## Other projects

With the focus on the secondary school there is no intention currently to spend material resources on other non-Lesedi projects. Clearly if a situation does arise, we can afford it after Lesedi needs and it would make a big difference in line with our charitable objectives then we would consider supporting.

## Fundraising

All of this requires money. We have been incredibly successful fundraising with over \$2.5 million now raised for the project. However, we need to keep increasing our income each year to keep up with the growth in ambition and students.

The sponsorship program is essential. As well as providing the friendships and connections, financially it makes both schools affordable to fund from more ad-hoc donations.

We need to find 35 more sponsors for the new 2024 intake and a further 60-70 in 2025. The is a huge undertaking and we are so thankful to our amazing supporters who have taken on more sponsorships and spread the word.

Sponsorship income is currently \$12k per month, but our outgoings are now over \$20k per month (salaries \$13k, food \$5k, utilities / other essential \$2-5k pm). We therefore

continue to rely on additional monthly or ad-hoc donations to cover the shortfall.

## Governance

Following the creation of the Ngoko Trust we will continue to improve on the charity governance.

A key element to this is succession planning and widening of the Trusts leadership beyond its three founders. There isn't a quick solution, but the trustees are aware of this issue and will ensure longer term plans are put in place.

We still have no administration costs in the UK from the running of the charity as we want to maximise the end \$ donation on the ground. Any UK admin costs and travel / other costs from trips to Lesedi by the trustees are all personally paid for.

Overall, we have very clear plans for the next few years but will keep the flexibility to ensure we grow as required. There are huge challenges to overcome but given our experience of the last 10 years and the wonderful Lesedi team we have, staff and supporters, we are confident of delivering on our ambitions.



# 05 FINANCIAL REVIEW

**The funding position during 2023 has improved with our highest recorded income level driven by a large \$200k one-off restricted income donation to fund a science teaching block. Significant expenditure was incurred on two double classrooms, teachers' cottages and equipping the Secondary School. Operational costs increased in 2023 due to the growth in the Secondary School but spend at the Primary and the Clinic was well controlled at broadly 2022 levels.**

A summary of our financial position is shown in **Section 06 Accounts** on pages 14 and 15.

Here we provide a brief narrative of the story behind the figures.

As before we account for our income and expenditure into two separate funds:

- Restricted: this ring fences income and costs allocated to a specific program (e.g. sponsorship) or project (e.g. Secondary school construction);
- Unrestricted: income that is not restricted can be spent freely on relevant charity costs.

## Income

### 1. Financial Donations

Most of our donations are from individuals, many of whom have visited the school and experienced first-hand the difference the project is making. Many of our donors have now generously supported the project for many years.

Every donation makes a difference, no matter how large or small. 100% of each donation we receive is spent directly on developing and supporting Lesedi with zero administration costs in the UK.

### 2. Child Sponsorship

Our child sponsorship program was introduced at the end 2017. The cost of sponsorship was US\$30 or £25 (£20 plus gift

aid) per month following a rate increase from 1 January 2023.

Sponsorship income funds food and welfare costs for all sponsored pupils. A contribution is also made to teachers' salaries and other school operating costs. We hold a buffer of £10,000 of sponsorship money at the end of each year to ensure that sufficient cash flow is available.

## Payments

### 1. Building costs

Major projects during the year included:

Two secondary classroom blocks (£49k)  
 Four secondary teachers' cottages (£46k)  
 Start on secondary science block (£24k)  
 Piggery and other agricultural works (£13k)

### 2. Teachers' Salaries

The charity funded the salaries of nineteen teachers during the year, three more than 2022 due to growth in secondary teachers.

### 3. Food and operational costs

This covers the costs of food, utilities and other direct costs of running both schools. It also includes costs of uniforms, welfare and medical costs incurred.

### 4. School Furniture & Equipment

For the Primary this primarily relates to schoolbooks, plus some school supplies.



# 05 FINANCIAL REVIEW

The significant secondary spend (£49k) primarily covered the costs of computers and internet upgrades (£25k), desks, chairs, stools, text books and vocational equipment.

## 5. Other School Costs

Other costs relate to fuel, transport, internet, telephone and other sundries.

## 6. Clinic operational costs

Clinic salaries cover the salaries of 2 nurses, 2 nurse-aides plus a doctor and support staff.

## 7. Loss on Exchange

The 2023 accounts show a loss on exchange of £10,825 (2022: profit £18,463). As a UK-registered charity, we report in Sterling. However, on a day-to-day basis we generally work in US Dollars (USD). Donations received from the US are remitted to the project in USD. Our costs in Zimbabwe are primarily paid in USD. Converting the accounts into Sterling at the year-end results in a profit or loss on exchange depending on the change in the exchange rate during the year. It does not necessarily mean that a profit or loss has been realised.

## 8. Trustee Remuneration

No trustee remuneration was paid in 2023 or 2022.

## Balance Sheet

At the year end the charity was holding net monetary assets of £288,018. This was predominantly being held in US Dollars.

£154,042 of the net monetary assets at the year-end were restricted funds representing the science block fund (£132,666), the balance on the sponsorship fund (£10,000) plus funds for equipment and agriculture projects.

The amount of Unrestricted funds at 31 December 2023 was £133,976.

£60,000 will be held in reserve to cover salaries, in line with our Reserves Policy.

The balance of around £78,000 will cover equipment and ongoing running costs.

## Reserves Policy

Salaries form the bulk of our non-discretionary spending commitments and our policy is to keep a minimum of 6 months' salary cost in reserve in addition to amounts allocated to restricted funds.



# 06 ACCOUNTS SUMMARY

## Summary of Financial Activities

	Year to 31 December 2023			Year to 31 December 2022		
	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
<b>Income:</b>						
Donations	176,241	193,563	369,804	190,655	30,014	220,669
Sponsorship income	-	112,060	112,060	-	90,721	90,721
<b>Total income</b>	<b>176,241</b>	<b>305,623</b>	<b>481,864</b>	<b>190,655</b>	<b>120,735</b>	<b>311,390</b>
<b>Expenditure on charitable activities:</b>						
<b>Building costs</b>	<b>72,496</b>	<b>62,557</b>	<b>135,053</b>	<b>61,039</b>	<b>4,187</b>	<b>65,226</b>
<b>Primary operational costs:</b>						
Salaries	30,659	29,327	59,986	34,585	22,389	56,974
Food & school operational costs	-	41,037	41,037	-	41,253	41,253
School furniture & equipment	1,495	1,431	2,926	3,282	2,124	5,406
Other school costs	7,111	6,802	13,913	9,120	5,905	15,025
	<b>39,265</b>	<b>78,597</b>	<b>117,862</b>	<b>46,987</b>	<b>71,671</b>	<b>118,658</b>
<b>Secondary operational costs:</b>						
Salaries	17,410	16,654	34,064	10,664	6,903	17,567
Food & school operational costs	-	16,329	16,329	-	15,593	15,593
School furniture & equipment	37,135	11,844	48,979	43,188	-	43,188
Other school costs	502	480	982	1,390	901	2,291
	<b>55,047</b>	<b>45,307</b>	<b>100,354</b>	<b>55,242</b>	<b>23,397</b>	<b>78,639</b>
<b>Clinic operational costs:</b>						
Salaries	17,893	-	17,893	18,180	-	18,180
Equip, medicines & consumables	1,164	-	1,164	4,054	-	4,054
Other clinic running costs	3,206	-	3,206	1,544	-	1,544
	<b>22,263</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>22,263</b>	<b>23,778</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>23,778</b>
<b>Local administration costs</b>	<b>1,702</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1,702</b>	<b>1,955</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1,955</b>
<b>Bank fees</b>	<b>2,478</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>2,478</b>	<b>3,197</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>3,197</b>
<b>Loss/(Profit) on exchange</b>	<b>10,825</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>10,825</b>	<b>(18,463)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(18,463)</b>
<b>Total expenditure</b>	<b>204,076</b>	<b>186,461</b>	<b>390,537</b>	<b>173,735</b>	<b>99,255</b>	<b>272,990</b>
<b>Net movement in funds</b>	<b>(27,835)</b>	<b>119,162</b>	<b>91,327</b>	<b>16,920</b>	<b>21,480</b>	<b>38,400</b>
<b>Reconciliation of funds:</b>						
<b>Total funds brought forwards</b>	<b>161,811</b>	<b>34,880</b>	<b>196,691</b>	<b>144,891</b>	<b>13,400</b>	<b>158,291</b>
<b>Total funds carried forwards</b>	<b>133,976</b>	<b>154,042</b>	<b>288,018</b>	<b>161,811</b>	<b>34,880</b>	<b>196,691</b>



# 06 ACCOUNTS SUMMARY

## Balance Sheet as at 31 December

	2023			2022		
	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
<b>Current Assets:</b>						
Debtors	399	-	399	209	-	209
Cash at bank and in hand	133,577	154,042	287,619	161,602	34,880	196,482
<b>Total net assets</b>	<b>133,976</b>	<b>154,042</b>	<b>288,018</b>	<b>161,811</b>	<b>34,880</b>	<b>196,691</b>
<b>Funds of the Charity:</b>						
Restricted Funds	-	154,042	154,042	-	34,880	34,880
Unrestricted Funds	133,976	-	133,976	161,811	-	161,811
<b>Total funds</b>	<b>133,976</b>	<b>154,042</b>	<b>288,018</b>	<b>161,811</b>	<b>34,880</b>	<b>196,691</b>

Note:

The accounts are prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice for Charities (SORP 2015) and applicable accounting standards (FRS102).

A full copy of the accounts is available on the website: <https://lesedizim.org/news/>



# 07

## INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Ngoko Charitable Trust (the "Trust") for the year ended 31 December 2023.

### Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 (the Act").

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried under Section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

### Independent examiner's statement

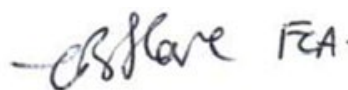
The charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 and I am qualified to undertake the examination by being a qualified member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England & Wales.

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that, in any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in respect of the Trust as required by section 130 of the Act; or
- the accounts do not accord with those records; or
- the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair view' which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Colin Hoare Accountancy Services Ltd  
Chartered Accountants  
10 The Green  
Cheddington  
Buckinghamshire  
LU7 0RJ



Dated 01<sup>st</sup> August 2024



# 08 STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE & MANAGEMENT

**Ngoko Charitable Trust is an unincorporated Trust, constituted under a Trust Deed dated 25 May 2015 and is a registered charity (registration number 1163965).**

## Public Benefit

The Trustees confirm they have complied with the duty in the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit which addresses the need for all charities' aims to be, demonstrably, for the public benefit.

Ngoko Charitable Trust fulfils the public benefit by the relief of poverty, and improvement of poor education and health outcomes for children and their families. Details about the specific programmes pursued can be found earlier in this report.

## Appointment of Trustees

There must be at least 3 trustees. Apart from the first trustees, every trustee must be appointed for a term of 3 years by a resolution of the trustees passed at a special meeting. The current trustees are all founding trustees of the Charity and hold office for the following periods:

Fiona Thompson .....3 years to 2026  
 Benson Siyawareva ..... 3 years to 2025  
 Graeme Thompson ..... 3 years to 2024

In selecting individuals for appointment, the trustees have regard to the skills, knowledge and experience needed for the effective administration of the charity.

All trustees give their time freely and no trustee remuneration has been paid.

## Organisational Structure

The management of the Charity is split between the UK and Zimbabwe.

Benson Siyawareva, in Zimbabwe, is the driving force behind the establishment of Lesedi and manages all the projects and development locally.

The Ngoko Trust, a trust set up in Zimbabwe on which Benson is a trustee, is the registered owner of the schools and clinic, and employs the teaching staff and nurses.

In the UK, Fiona Thompson, handles administration of the sponsorship program. Graeme Thompson manages the finances. Fundraising and communication with supporters is a joint effort.

Lesedi Primary School is being led by our excellent headmistress, Mrs A. Mutori, who is highly experienced and ambitious for the educational standards at the school. The Secondary school since May 2024 has been led by the wonderful Lucy Chimbani.

In December 2023, the Primary school had twelve teachers and the Secondary seven teachers. Eighteen support staff from the local community support Lesedi as cooks, groundsmen, watchmen and helpers. Many locals have also been involved in all the construction projects.

A school advisory council oversees the day to day running of the Primary school. The council comprises of five village elders plus the school principal. The village elders are appointed by the community. The committee is overseen by a school Board of Directors, which includes Benson Siyawareva as Chairman. In addition, the Secondary School has its own Development committee.

# 08 STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE & MANAGEMENT

Lesedi Clinic is in the capable hands of our matron-in-charge, Sister Irene, and nurse, Sister Nhondova, along with two nurse-aides and support staff. Dr Gwenhamo provides weekly consultations and supervision.

The Trustees oversee the day-to-day activities at the school and clinic.

### Risk Management

The Trustees actively review any major risks which the Charity faces on a regular basis and believe that we have appropriate procedures and controls to identify and mitigate against risks we are exposed to.

### Adoption of the Annual Report

The trustees declare that they have approved the annual report and accounts.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees.



Graeme Thompson

Treasurer

01<sup>st</sup> August 2024





# 09

## REFERENCE & ADMINISTRATION DETAILS



### **Charity name**

Ngoko Charitable Trust

### **Charity number**

1163965

### **Principal Address**

28 Station Road  
Tring  
Hertfordshire  
HP23 5NG

### **Trustees**

Benson Siyawareva  
Fiona Thompson  
Graeme Thompson

### **Independent Examiner**

Colin Hoare Accountancy Services Ltd  
10 The Green  
Cheddington  
Buckinghamshire LU7 0RJ

### **Bankers**

Barclays Bank PLC

# 10

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

**A huge thank you to all our financial supporters some of whom have made some very large donations that have allowed us to complete the Secondary school and fund a new science teaching block. We offer our thanks to everyone who is on this journey with us. Our achievements to date would not have been possible without your generous support.**



All our funding comes from donations by private individuals, with many of our supporter's kind enough to remember us in their charitable giving year after year. Each donation is valued, from a few dollars to buy a birthday gift for a sponsor child to the uniquely overwhelming donations we receive - to drill a borehole, build a classroom block or renovate a clinic. Just as vital are the donations that enable us to pay salaries and day to day running costs.

A donation is a gesture of generosity but also one of trust. We are honoured by the trust you place in us and very aware of our responsibility to spend your donations wisely – and in full – as instructed or where they are needed most.

While financial donations fund all our projects, it is love that gives Lesedi its heart. Thank you to all our child sponsors whose love and caring means the world to the Lesedi children and their families.

A school is only as good as its teachers, and a clinic is only as good as its nurses. We thank them for their dedication.

We extend our sincere gratitude to everyone who has provided support to Lesedi and the Ngoko Charitable Trust. Your support is heart-warming and an inspiration to us all.