

A close-up photograph of a woman with a warm, smiling expression. She is wearing a patterned headwrap and a white t-shirt. She is holding a baby who is wrapped in a vibrant, multi-colored striped cloth. The baby is wearing a pink hat and looking towards the camera. The background is a soft-focus outdoor setting with greenery.

**TRANSFORMING LIVES**  
**BMS WORLD MISSION**

**IMPACT REPORT 2023**



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# A word of introduction

The Church in the Majority World is growing at a phenomenal rate and through your support BMS World Mission is being transformed by God to play its part in response to this. We are embracing fresh ways of working with networks, hubs and partnerships. We are promoting local leadership and mutuality in all our relationships and fostering sustainability in all our work.

We will continue to support mission workers from the UK and from the Global Church. We will also build networks, share learning, strengthen capacity, support innovation, respond to disasters and raise awareness of issues affecting the Global Church. We collaborate with international centres for mission where believers are trained and co-sent from everywhere to everywhere. BMS has much to give and much to learn and we cannot wait to participate with the UK and the Global Church on this path of mutual mission.

We hold ourselves and our partners-in-mission accountable in many detailed ways, which often involve faith-stretching goals, indicators and policies. You will find such things dotted across these pages but more importantly you will read stories of how your support has transformed the lives of flesh-and-blood humans in some of the world's most fragile places. Those stories are at the heart of what BMS does and you are at the heart of making that happen.

Our vision is for a world where all can experience faith in Christ and the abundant life only he provides. We pray that through these stories of impact you will encounter a God who is always infinitely concerned with the transformation of our lives, our hearts and our minds.



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Kang-San Tan'.

**Dr Kang-San Tan**  
General Director



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Marc'.

**Rev Marc Owen**  
Chair of the Board of Trustees

## OUR VISION

Together, we are working for a world where all can experience faith in Christ and the abundant life only He provides.

## OUR MISSION

We mobilise people, resources and skills across the Global Church to share the good news of Jesus and practical hope where they're needed most.

## HOW WE DO IT

We work hand-in-hand with global organisations, mission workers and supporters to: share Christ and nurture disciples; alleviate suffering and injustice; and enable all God's people to play their part in his mission.



Woven through all the work you make happen are the twin callings of creation stewardship and gender justice, without which abundant life in Christ is not possible.





## Heart for the Gospel

BMS enables mission movements of disciple makers around the world. Every year, thousands of people hear the gospel through BMS work in the hardest-to-reach countries. Alongside training and sending UK mission workers, we work in partnership with Global South church planters to send people from all places in all directions to build up the Global Church where the need for sharing the gospel is greatest.



## Hope for the World

We help tackle injustice, where those who bear the least responsibility suffer the most. We send skilled mission workers and empower partner organisations in the world's poorest countries. We work with local churches who are best placed to bring long-term community transformation. We also work with our partners to improve all aspects of life, including health, access to justice and education. We can do more together than we ever could alone.



## Help for the Journey

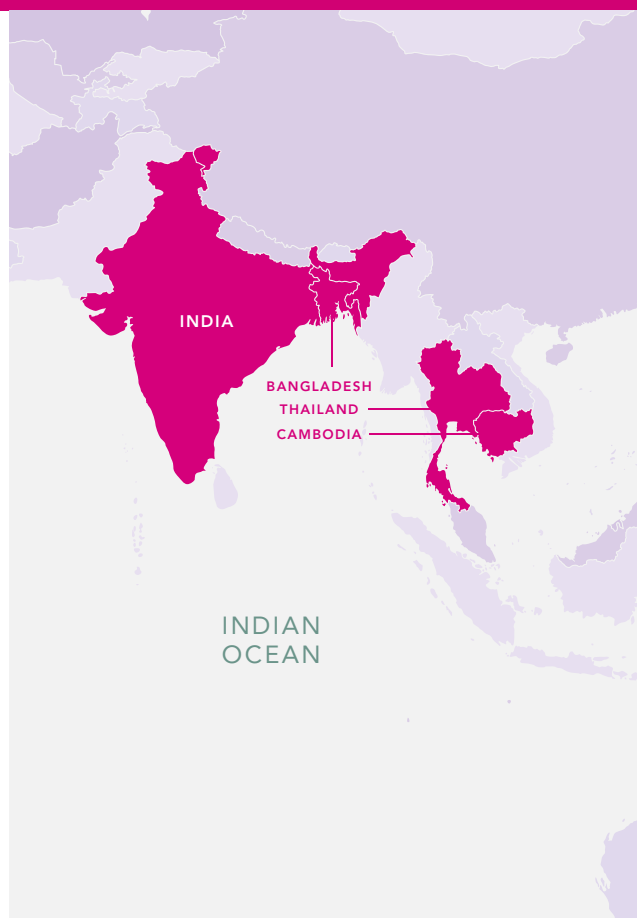
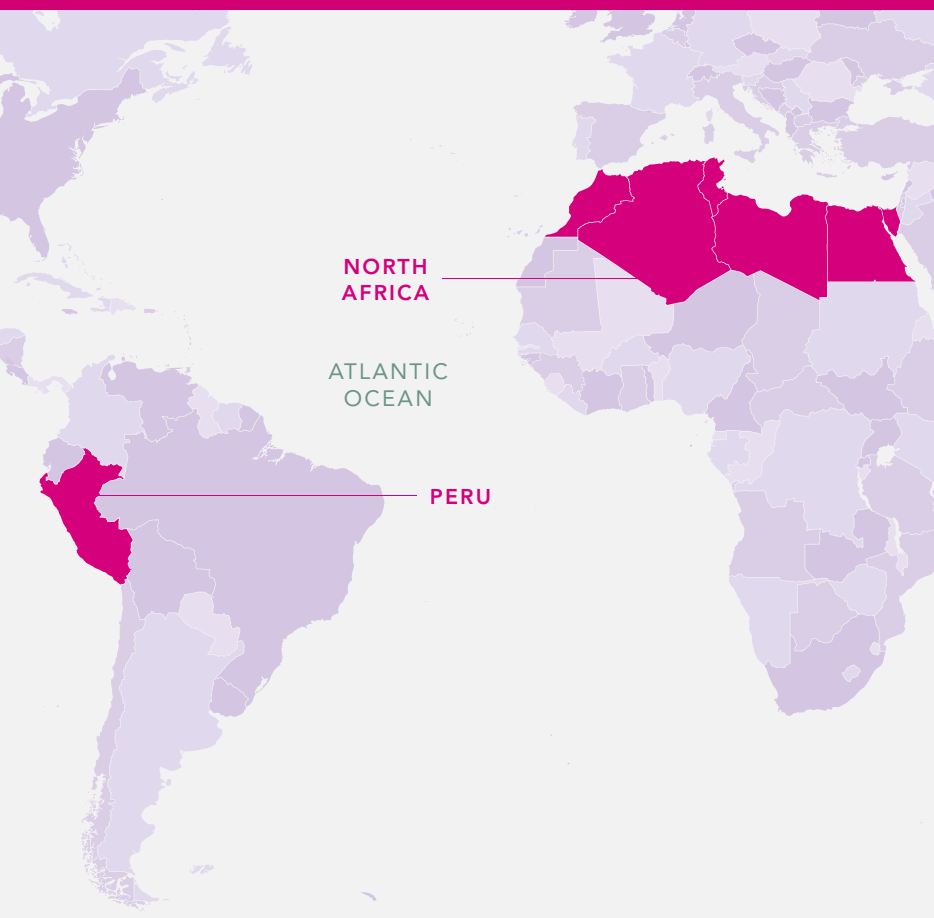
We walk with those forced to leave home, in a time where more people than ever before are displaced – a sign of the world's fragility. There are many reasons why people flee, including war, persecution, natural disasters, extreme poverty and repression. We aim to heal this fragility by responding to disasters, building up communities in origin countries, establishing partnerships of humanity in places of transit and creating networks of Christian welcome in destination countries.

# HEART

FOR THE GOSPEL



BMS enables mission movements of disciple makers around the world. Your support for BMS takes the good news of Jesus to where it's hardly been heard so all the world can experience abundant life in Christ.



## Impact by numbers

Figures from 2023

**179**

Number of church fellowships planted by BMS-enabled work in North Africa 2022-23

**23,127**

People trained in disciple-making across our partners in India, Bangladesh and Thailand

**16,960**

Number of church fellowships established across India, Bangladesh and Thailand

## CHALLENGE

### Building locally sustained ministry in Asia

Our partners in Bangladesh, Thailand and India trained an encouragingly high number of people in 2023. However, as we seek to build local ownership and sustainability, growth in numbers should be matched by growth in local sources of income. Unfortunately, the percentage of income from local sources remains stubbornly below the 30 per cent mark and appears to be a long way from our target of 50%. Despite its counter-intuitive nature, we are committed to promoting a model of sustainable, modest growth and turning down external funding with our partners.

### Persecution among church planters in India

Church planters in India have been subjected to widespread persecution. In September we received reports from one partner that the government was tracking evangelistic activity on social media and setting up helplines so the public could report evangelistic activity in their area to the authorities. Another partner reported persecution in Kashmir, Manipur (where BMS responded to the attacks on Christians through our relief fund), Haryana and Uttar Pradesh (where several partner-trained church planters are working).

Over 23,000 people – the vast majority in India – have been trained in disciple making and church planting across partners in India, Bangladesh and Thailand, which is an encouragingly high number. However, we are aware of a significant gender imbalance within that figure, with men outnumbering women by a ratio of three-to-one. Annet-Ttendo Miller,

BMS Gender Justice Co-ordinator, continues to work alongside partners to create practices and policies aimed at gender equity.

## LIVES TRANSFORMED

### Draw near with dumplings

In our appeal at the beginning of 2023, you met Som and Thew, a young couple who had recently come to faith in the village of Wang Daeng. This joy-filled couple are now helping lead at a new church planted in the nearby village of Ban Dara, where their son recently got baptised!

When we first met Thew, he shared his desire to one day make and sell his own food – a very different trajectory from his exhausting daily work as a manual labourer. Along with Suree, Wang Daeng's first believer, this dream has been made possible.

Located in front of Wang Daeng's church building, their recently launched food stall selling fried chicken, sticky rice and fried dumplings has been immensely popular in the community, especially with the children walking past it daily on their way to school! With every dumpling sold, Thew is providing for his family, building community and drawing newcomers into church with an inviting (and delicious!) welcome.

Thew



# The next generation of evangelists

**From Bangladesh to Thailand, India to Cambodia, meet six incredible young people serving in some of the least evangelised places in the world - thanks to your support.**

## **Jyoti, Bangladesh**

At the end of 2022, Jyoti, along with Nandita, became the first women to be ordained as a Baptist pastor in Bangladesh. They were supported every step of the way by BMS mission workers, Louise and Peter Lynch. BMS' partnership with the Bangladesh Baptist Church Sangha creates the opportunity for Jyoti to develop, train and support the next generation of Christian leaders in Asia.

**With your support, Pastor Jyoti is now studying for her Masters in Divinity at the Philippine Baptist Theological Seminary in Baguio City, Philippines.**

She says, "I am learning many unknown things about the Word of God as well as the teaching methods of a teacher. I am learning how to think about theology in the context of Bangladesh."

On completion of her course, Jyoti plans to return to her homeland with many hopes for what can be achieved. "When I observe the churches here in Baguio City, I see how the church is peacefully and spiritually functioning. It helps me think about our churches in Bangladesh. I see the dream as a peaceful and spiritually mature church in Bangladesh."

## **Pisal, Cambodia**

Even though fewer than one per cent of the Cambodian population is Christian, people are still coming to faith. Pisal first heard about Jesus as a child when missionaries came to his village, but it wasn't until he moved to Phnom Penh to study that he met BMS-supported worker Pastor J and his relationship with Jesus blossomed.

"I am from a Buddhist family but there are Christians in my village, so I used to go to church during Christmas because they gave us good food and good gifts," Pisal explains. "But I never listened to the Word of God, I never touched a Bible. When I came to Phnom Penh to join University in 2019 [and met Pastor J], it was the first time I sat for Bible study.

"I learned many things about Jesus, but I still didn't believe in him. I often had bad dreams and couldn't sleep most of the night, but then I remembered the Bible study and Jesus came to mind. **One night, I prayed to Jesus for a good night's sleep, and that night I slept peacefully.** I kept praying every night and whenever I had a problem I prayed to God. I began to believe that Jesus is real. After more Bible study and fellowship, I decided to give my life to Jesus and got baptised in 2021. It was the best decision I've ever made. I am happy to be a follower of Jesus." Pisal is now one of the leaders at the dormitory led by Pastor J, and is living out Christ's example in all he does there.

**Jyoti, Bangladesh**







Thailand

### **Bam, Team and Grape, Thailand**

Bam (aged 17), Team (18) and Grape (16) all came to faith through the ministry of the church in Wang Daeng. They all come from troubled backgrounds: Bam lost her father at an early age and her mother has financial issues; Team's mother died of cancer a couple of years ago and he now lives with his grandmother; Grape's parents divorced, and she also lives with her grandmother. Since becoming Christians, God has been their strength in helping them through difficult times.

**Through your support, all three received disciple-making training over the last year and they were able to travel to Chiang Mai for leadership training, which really helped them go deeper in their faith.** They have only been believers for a few years but are already involved in leadership at the church. Bam, Team and Grape were all involved in running the Christmas outreach at the local school. Team is planning to go to Bible College next year and your support will help to pay for his fees. Grape is also hoping to go to Bible College in the future. Our partners in Thailand hope that they will all be involved in leadership and church ministry long into the future.

### **Shyam, India**

Shyam Biswas from West Bengal is an auto rickshaw driver by profession and, thanks to your support, he heard the gospel through the teaching and preaching of a BMS-supported evangelist and accepted Christ into his heart and life. He has become a great disciple for Jesus and now uses his auto rickshaw as his own God-given opportunity to preach the gospel to his passengers. He has also attached the Jesus film tablet to his auto and all the passengers get an opportunity to watch the film. In the last year, Shyam has started four new home groups through his auto rickshaw ministry.



Pastor J, Cambodia

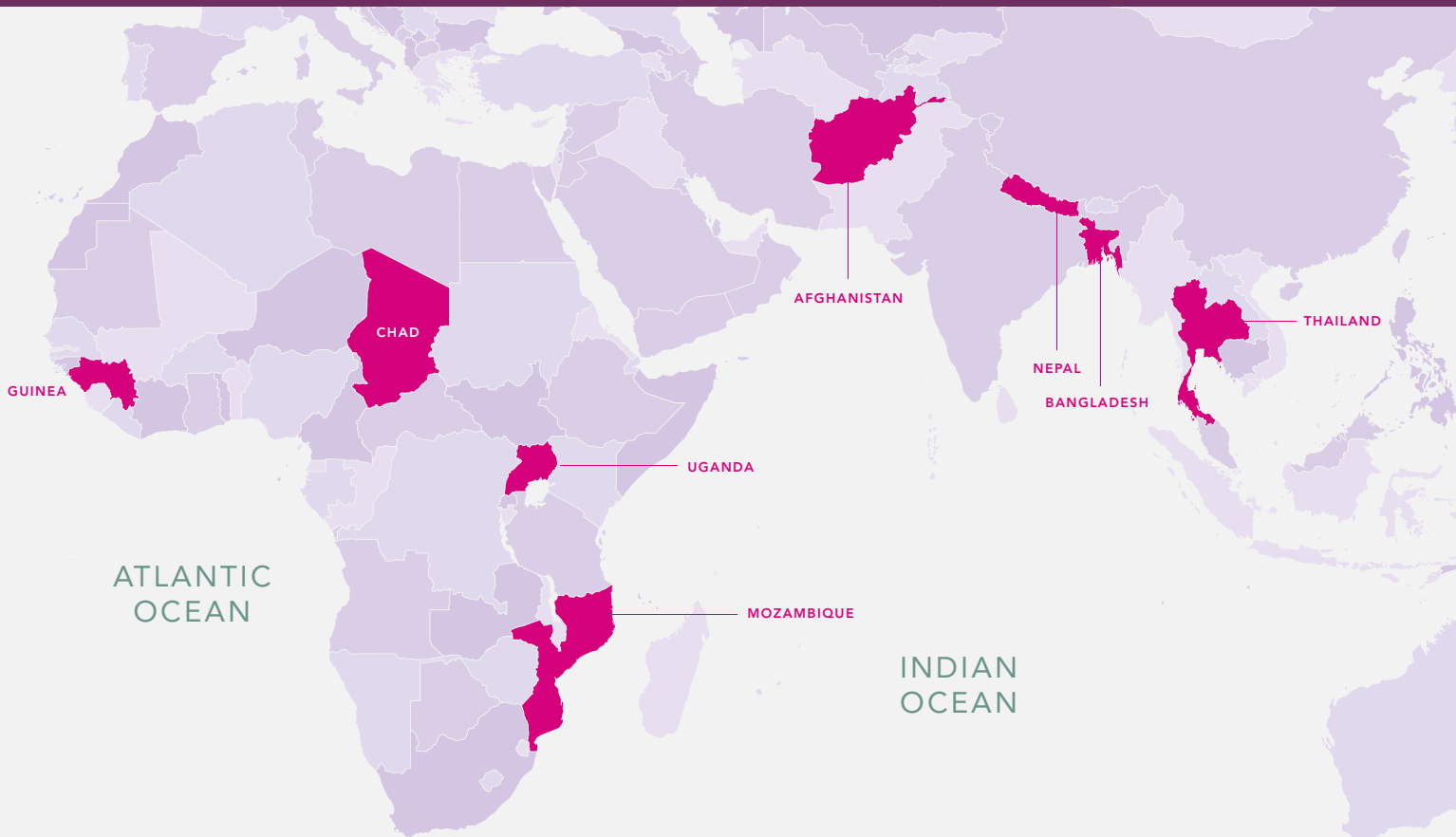


# HOPE

FOR THE WORLD



BMS helps tackle the injustices of those living on the margins, where those who bear the least responsibility suffer the most.



## Impact by numbers

Figures from 2023

**20,775**

People benefiting from enhanced partner training

**154**

People trained in church and community mobilisation (CCM) work

**22,500**

People treated at Guinebor II hospital, Chad

## CHALLENGE

### Taliban rule in Afghanistan

In 2021, we reported that just under 15,000 people had been reached by BMS' community-based projects. In 2023 that figure was down to just over 2,000. The Taliban government are a major contributing factor in this reduction, in particular through their ban on Afghan women from working for NGOs.

### Lack of definitive CCM data

How we measure the impact and reach of our church and community mobilisation projects at this stage is hampered by uncertain data. However, we have developed a target framework where we hope to see 25 churches implementing CCM by the end of 2025. We have started working with two new CCM partners in Sierra Leone and fresh data will come from those communities. We also want to measure the change in people's lived experience, although we recognise partner-based reporting has its limitations.

### Wanted: skilled mission workers

In countries we wouldn't classify as 'fragile', BMS partners now have adequate local resources to draw on. This shift frees up resources and allows BMS to focus in part on the work of strengthening the capacity of partners. However, skilled mission workers are still very much required, particularly in Afghanistan and Chad. Here, partners still require BMS to be able to second and support gaps in necessary expertise.

## LIVES TRANSFORMED

### Benjamin, Chad

Imagine having no help to reset broken bones, no support to give birth or treat cancer, and no drugs to ease end of life care. Without Bardai hospital in Chad, an easily treated infection could have ruined Benjamin's life.

Benjamin was in terrible pain when he came to see BMS mission workers Mark and Andrea Hotchkin at Bardai hospital: what was a minor infection at first had caused his arm to swell to twice its size. He knew there was no way he could work or earn money for his family. If Benjamin can't work, there's no way he can afford hospital treatment. It's a terrible catch-22 that the Hotchkins have seen time and again over their last 13 years in Chad.

Benjamin received emergency medical care, and was able to return to work. He is one of the many patients treated every day in Bardai. You have helped to heal children with pneumonia who've travelled across scorching desert with their families, people who've suffered brutal accidents while working on treacherous gold fields and, in one of the harshest environments on earth, to welcome new life into the world.



# Three lives transformed in Nepal

## Anshu

“Please do not tear off or throw my clothes away. This is my last piece of clothing.” Those were the last words that Anshu, a new mother who had given birth only seven days previously, shared before she fainted on the threshold of Chaurjahari Hospital (CHR) in Nepal. Staff at the BMS-supported hospital rushed to Anshu’s aid, determined to discover the cause of her critical condition. Beside her, her exhausted husband stood with their nine-year-old daughter, cradling the couple’s brand-new baby. Slowly, the team began to piece together what had happened. Anshu had had a premature birth at home, just seven months into her pregnancy. Although the baby was delivered safely, Anshu bled heavily and fainted at home, leaving her husband incredibly scared.



Anshu

Taking his wife on his back, along with all their savings (around £71) and giving their newborn to his nine-year-old daughter, the family walked for four hours to the nearest bus stop. From there, they made the 11-hour bus journey to CHR.

Doctors examined Anshu and found remnants of placenta inside her uterus. She needed an emergency operation and blood transfusion, and CHR staff donated their own blood to save Anshu’s life. But your support for Anshu didn’t stop there. Upon realising how little the family had to spend on medical treatment, the team at CHR were able to provide Anshu’s care, including food support, for free during their stay. **Your support made all this possible and saved Anshu’s life. Thank you.**

## Kaku

Imagine a chance encounter that leads to new beginnings for a whole village. That’s exactly what happened when staff at BMS partner Human Development Community Services, Nepal (HDCS) met Kaku, a member of the Chepang people of Nepal, on his way to tend to his farm. Kaku had happened upon a gathering of project staff members and people from a local village, discussing health and the prevention of disease. Noticing his curiosity, those gathered invited Kaku to join the meeting.

It was all new to Kaku, coming from a semi-nomadic people group which is thought to be one of the most marginalised in Nepal. Kaku was hooked as he began to hear about the benefits of handwashing for the prevention of water-borne diseases, worms and typhoid, and after the session, two members of staff were invited back to Kaku’s home to chat further. Kaku received a hygiene kit, complete with soap,



**Kaku**

a comb, toothbrush, face mask, nail clippers, water purification drops, a towel and some toothpaste. Kaku's motivation to change his own habits was clear, but his vision for what he'd learnt went even further.

As an elder in his own community, he's started encouraging his neighbours towards good hygiene practices too. Members of his village soon witnessed the improvement to the health of Kaku's family – and staff at HDCS were inspired too. **"Kaku was extremely thankful to the project for their small effort, which has brought him hope and the realisation of better health,"** the team shares.

## **Hari**

Imagine being a carpenter and relying on the strength of your limbs to carve heavy furniture or move planks of wood. Then imagine one day noticing the toes in your right foot swelling, before experiencing a burning pain throughout your leg. That was the situation Hari Thapa found himself in – and knowing that his family of five were relying on him, he sought medical treatment right away. But after visiting

various health institutions and trying different medicines, all Hari was left with were vast bills, and no improvement to his leg. One April, Hari tried once more to get a diagnosis, and visited BMS-supported Green Pastures Hospital for treatment. He was finally given a diagnosis of leprosy and prescribed effective medicine, but after experiencing side-effects, Hari quickly discontinued the treatment.

It wasn't until Hari met Tham, a BMS-supported pastoral counsellor who had recovered from leprosy himself, that Hari felt confident enough to restart his treatment. By this time, he had ulcers on both legs which needed surgery and further care. Sessions with Tham have reassured Hari that his medicine is working and have helped him process his regret at not continuing his treatment sooner. **"Now he is happy and he said that his health is improving and he has learned self-care skills for his ulcer care,"** say the team at Green Pastures. Thank you for being there for Hari and for enabling Tham to do his important work, too.



**Tham**

# HELP

FOR THE JOURNEY



We walk with those forced to leave home, in a time where more people than ever before are displaced – whether within their own countries or having crossed borders.



## Impact by numbers

Figures from 2023

**13,107**

Refugees cared for through BMS-partnered humanitarian work while on the move (target: 400)

**692**

People trained to work with refugees through BMS-related ministries

**305**

Number of partner workers supported by BMS through networks whose work focuses on refugees (target: 15)

## CHALLENGE

### Re-imagining our work in 'source' countries

In last year's report, we introduced you to Sam Chaise, our Help for the Journey ministry lead. Over the last six months of 2023, Sam has been re-designing the 'source' element of our work with forcibly displaced people. We will be shifting the focus of our Help for the Journey resources to the 'journey' and 'destination' elements and look forward to reporting next year on Sam's progress.

### Strategies for help beyond 'home'

Nevertheless, a humanitarian response to the movement of forcibly displaced people into Europe is necessary. The EU Commission note that 36.4 million (official) refugees were resident in the EU by mid-2023. £3 billion out of a total budget of £23 billion of the UK's official 'aid' budget is set aside to meet challenges of displacement caused by fragility in Ukraine, Africa and Central Asia. The humanitarian response to these forcibly displaced people is the pressing social reality of this age and remains a vital cultural and mission question for the Church in Europe.

### Help beyond the mere basics

Most refugees cared for on the move by BMS partners are supported with basic provisions including washing facilities. We will look to develop our Help for the Journey programme by exploring what 'home' means with the goal of providing support beyond the essential basics.

## LIVES TRANSFORMED

### 'This is the place Jesus would be'

Haniele Laurindo works at the community centre set up by our partner in Lesbos. She tells the story of a woman from a Muslim background who decided to volunteer there because she felt it was a place of peace. Haniele explained, "In one of our first conversations we could tell her that Jesus is God and is the one who gives us peace."

When the lady's documents were ready for the next stage in her journey, on her last day at the centre, she shared with Haniele that she "was feeling really thankful for the way she was treated. She said that since she met us, she was asking herself some questions like: 'Why are you so worried about offering the best for the women? Why are you caring for the details like keeping everything organised and clean?'" It gave Haniele a chance to share her testimony, "I am here because God has called me to leave my country to share my love with women like you. I also believe that Jesus, the Son of God, would be here doing this for you nowadays. And Jesus cares for details, he cares for you, so in the same way we care for you and all the women that come here.

"She was speechless and impressed. Her eyes opened and she said, 'Now I understand why you do this. In my life, I've met a lot of bad people, I didn't believe that good people exist anymore. But here, all of you are good. **You treat me like family, like my sisters and I would never imagine that I would meet people like you in Lesbos.**' Those were her last words in the centre. We hugged each other and cried together."

## Experiencing the love of Jesus for the first time

How did you and your church spend last Christmas? Whatever comes to mind, you're likely picturing somewhere cosy, warm and safe. You're probably not thinking of a rough sea crossing, biting winds and the anguish of fleeing the country you love. That's how Bibi\* spent last Christmas night.

Bibi is from Afghanistan. Life there was desperate. And after being forced to flee, Bibi found herself living in a tent in a Greek transit camp, on the island of Lesbos. **The BMS-supported welcoming centre outside the camp provides a safe space for women to wash, relax and experience the love of Jesus for the first time.**

In the spirit of focusing on care for women, our partner on Lesbos runs a spa programme designed to offer vital and often overlooked activities that bring back a sense of normalcy to shattered lives, including foot washing and massage, haircuts and nail painting. Our partner runs these programs with the support and collaboration of a wonderful team of community volunteers - volunteers who are refugees themselves.

## People, not pawns for politicians

The work of our partner supporting refugees in Lesbos continues to grow and change as the situation changes. In the lead up to the last year's Greek presidential elections, the camp management was ordered by the government to begin enforcing a strict policy to only provide food for people whose asylum cases were still in process.

This left roughly 500 people without access to food at a time when rising food prices across Europe hit foodbanks for refugees the hardest. **Thanks to your support, our partner teamed up with other organisations to address the situation. Their hospitality area truly became a place of gathering for conversation and community.**

## Creating spaces to share the gospel

Your generosity in supporting our Help for the Journey work meant that last year, our partnership could expand into Cyprus to work with the increasing numbers of refugees on the island. Alongside providing vital psychological support, you have made possible projects that create deep connections. This includes an art club for women run in the centre every Thursday where, on any given week, women from Afghanistan, Kurdistan, Ukraine and Congo join the group. Also on Thursday mornings, our partner began a Social Café. They use the outdoor area to set up a coffee station and many tables with different board games and activities. During this time, our own volunteers engage and play games with the refugees and asylum seekers who come. Families said that it has really helped them, especially with providing distraction for the children during the week. Our partner asks for prayer that the Social Cafe will provide space for more intentionally evangelistic conversations.

*\*name changed for security purposes*





**"You treat me like family, like my sisters and I would never imagine that I would meet people like you in Lesbos."**

**Volunteer, BMS-supported centre, Greece**

# CREATION STEWARDSHIP



In all our work in every location we must love God through honouring his handiwork. And to love God we must love our neighbour. We all depend on the same planet, so our choices have consequences for others and our choices also have a dimension of justice.

**For in him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things have been created through him and for him.**

Colossians 1:16



**BMS is committed to creation stewardship in every aspect of our mission:**

Through the actions of our mission workers, in respectful collaboration with our partner organisations, through the mission programmes and projects we support and through our UK presence, in operations and buildings and the training of all who work for us.

Target to reduce carbon emissions by **45%**

As part of that commitment, we have a target to reduce our carbon emissions by 45% by the end of 2025. Our 2023 figure is a 3.4% decrease from 2022, and an 18% decrease from the 2019 baseline.

## CHALLENGE

Creation stewardship is evidently a critical issue. However, we must acknowledge that it is frequently perceived as a western preoccupation. To many partners, environmental concerns can appear as a long-range nebulous risk when compared to the daily challenges they face. Our 2024 plan is to re-imagine even more contextualised engagement with partners, balancing local perception with global understanding in ways that make sure our mission remains truly polycentric.

## LIVES TRANSFORMED

In a country heavily reliant on fossil fuels, Guinebor II Hospital (G2) in Chad has recently upgraded its solar panel array. In a country that, on average, has 264 days of sunlight a year, attention has moved to sustainable energy. And it's your incredible support that's making this green revolution possible at the hospital. G2 has always relied on a combination of diesel generators and its small existing array of lead acid solar panels. However, even this system has its issues. It was too complex for anyone in-country to fix when it broke

down; when someone required oxygen, a small diesel generator was needed; medications were going out of date due to the storage fridges overheating; surgeries were having to be powered by generators; babies were being delivered by torchlight and there were no fans on the wards – a big issue when temperatures can hit 45 degrees.

The overhaul of G2's solar has meant a massive transformation for the hospital. The project, part-funded by BMS supporters, has enabled G2's solar capacity to increase threefold, allowing the hospital to reduce significantly its dependence on diesel generators. The whole project was also completed alongside a Chadian electrician, allowing local staff to take ownership of the project and be equipped with the knowledge and skills to repair and maintain the solar array.



# GENDER JUSTICE



**Every piece of work reflects our commitment to gender justice.** The pinnacle of God's creation was human beings - 'in our image...male and female her created them' and their shared existence wasn't just good, it was very good. Everywhere we work we see the blight of gender injustice on lives of countless women. It is impossible to be about the mission of God in the world and not be compelled to act.

**Speak up for those who cannot speak for themselves, for the rights of all who are destitute.**

Proverbs 31: 8



**BMS is committed to gender justice in every aspect of our mission:**

**Over the course of 2023, we had a target to enlist 10 Gender Justice champions from across the BMS World Mission network with a plan for them all to be fully trained in 2024. By the end of the year, 10 BMS mission workers plus four UK-based staff joined with 14 others from our partners to form a 28-strong global team.**

**We work with our partners to develop gender policies and work towards the raising up of women in leadership roles. In 2023, 14 out of 44 partners had women in their senior executive leadership with best practices found among partners in Uganda, Bangladesh and Spain.**

## CHALLENGE

We aim for half of all partners to have developed and implemented their own gender charter or policy, which is in line with BMS Gender Charter by end of 2025. The 2023 number is below 40 per cent and we hope to translate the gender policy into Hindi, French, Nepali, KiSwahili, Bengali and Arabic by the end of 2024.

## LIVES TRANSFORMED

The issues of creation stewardship are so often issues of climate justice and issues of climate are so often issues of gender justice. That hit home when we asked women from across BMS to share stories ahead of COP28.

### Claire Bedford, BMS pharmacist, Guinebor II Hospital, Chad

The new solar power system at G2 Hospital means we have enough energy to light and ventilate the new women's ward that opened a couple of months ago. Wonderfully, women can now always give birth with adequate lighting and they are also able to be hospitalised in a well-lit and ventilated ward.

### Sahara Mishra, Human Development Community Services, Nepal

There are profound and disproportionate impacts of environmental problems on local communities in Nepal, particularly affecting women. Women, who often play a pivotal role in agriculture, other income-generating work and household

management, bear the brunt. These environmental crises have increased their workload and exacerbated the existing gender inequalities. Our job is to empower women to close that gap.

### Susan Blanch Alal, Justice Livelihoods Health, Uganda

Let me tell you about Alice, who's been supported by Justice Livelihoods Health (JLH) in Gulu. Alice says that the impact of climate change causes difficulties for a greater percentage of women than men, especially those living in the city or nearby towns. She shares how difficult it is to get firewood because of deforestation in the area, and confesses that women have been beaten by their husbands for cooking late or for asking for money for charcoal or firewood.

## Impact by numbers

28

Gender justice  
champions enlisted

8

Languages our gender policy  
will be available in by end  
of 2024

14

Partners with women in senior  
leadership (target: 9)

# DISASTER RECOVERY

**We all know how it works, don't we? Disasters happen. We don't know why. The poor suffer, we donate money, the West swoops in and fixes everything. Everyone lives happily ever after.**

But that's not how it works. There are no quick fixes. Recovery and rebuilding after a war, drought or tsunami can take decades. Psychological scars don't heal when the TV crews move on.

BMS works with local partners. We directly support people who are on the ground and understand the situation. We don't send goods manufactured here that threaten local economies there. Our work is looking forward. We give more grants to long-term recovery than immediate relief – that might mean paying for trauma counselling, rebuilding businesses or replanting crops.

BMS raises money before disasters happen so that we can respond when they do. We can only do that because of you. Without your giving, none of the relief work we do could happen. With your giving it can.

## Impact by numbers

# 18,077

**People benefiting from BMS relief work in 2023**

## LIVES TRANSFORMED

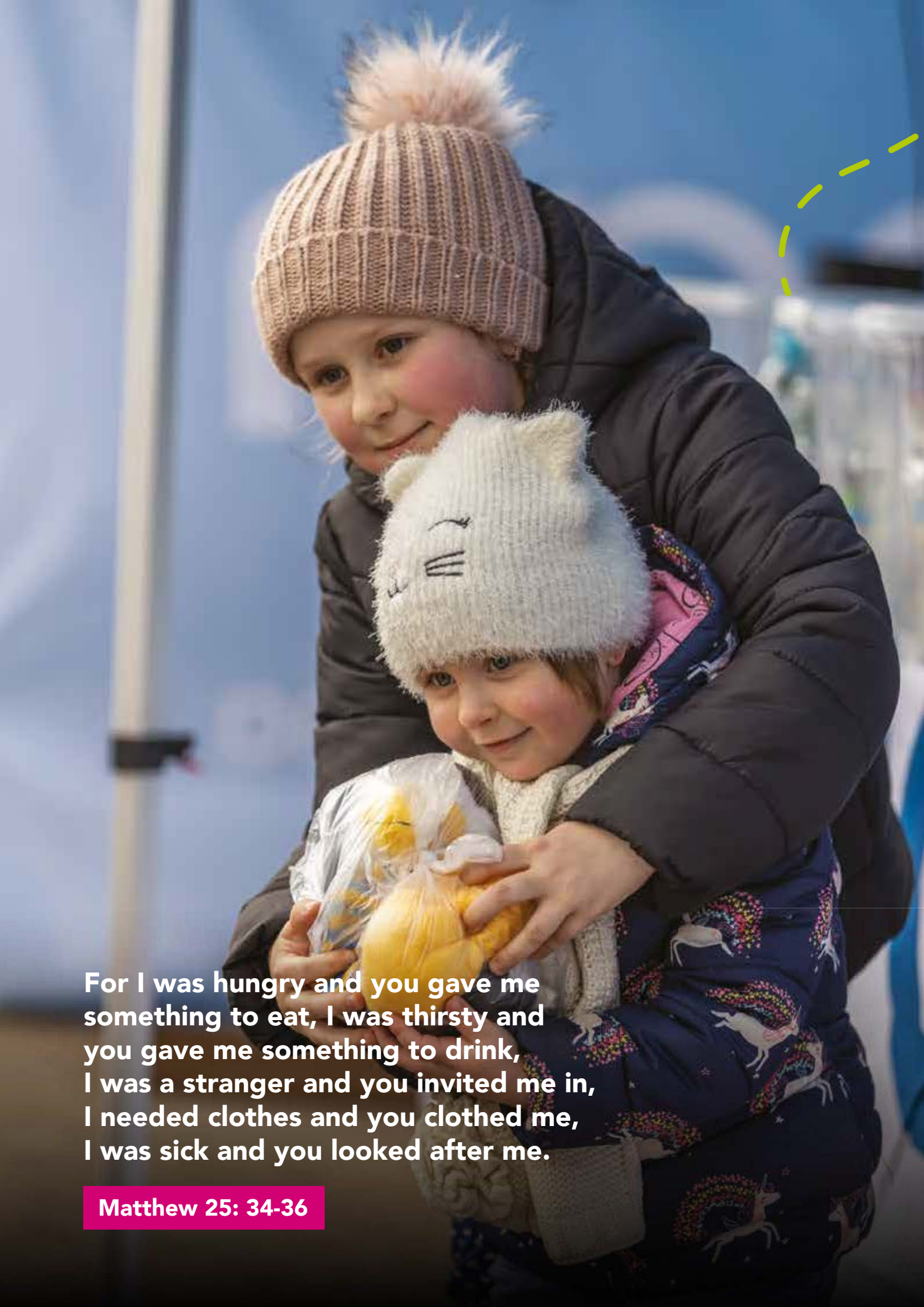
### The Türkiye-Syria earthquake

Imagine life in the aftermath of a devastating earthquake. As wintery conditions do their worst, all you have is a temporary shelter to keep the cold weather at bay.

Now imagine too that you are displaced, by war and economic collapse. That was the heart-breaking reality for so many in Türkiye (formerly Turkey) and Syria in the wake of the earthquake in February 2023. But at least they had that shelter. And thanks to your incredible and rapid generosity, the people of Syria and Türkiye had not just shelter but also much-needed medical kits, blankets, heating tools and mattresses.

And now more than ever, as the work of rescue becomes the work of rebuilding and restoring, they continue to need your prayers.





**For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me.**

**Matthew 25: 34-36**

# Expenditure

**45%** of charitable expenditure went on our Hope for the World work



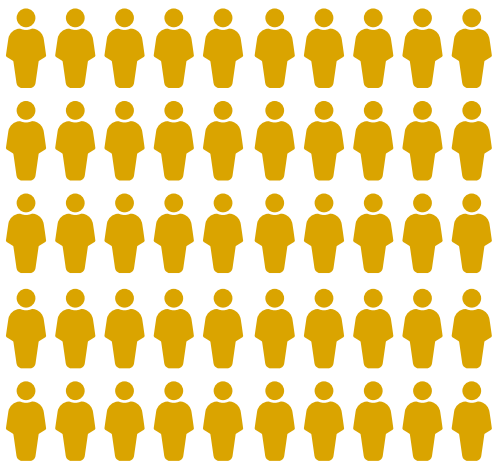
- Hope for the World 45%
- Heart for the Gospel 22%
- Help for the Journey 14%
- Raising Awareness 13%
- Historic Partners 6%

“Historic partners” represents work that is being phased out over a period of 4 years since the introduction of the new strategy in 2021. Historic partners have continued to achieve impact in our previous strategic areas. The overall expenditure takes into account commitments that have been made to partners, a number of which have struggled with the continued global cost of living crisis.



The one who plants and the one who waters have a common purpose, and each will receive wages according to the labour of each. For we are God's servants, working together

1 Corinthian 3: 7-9



**49,940**

Community members positively affected by partner projects  
(target: 50,000)



**767**

Mission workers and BMS-supported workers across the globe after three years (target: 450)



**305**

Number of partner workers focused on refugee work

# Celebrating supporters

**None of all that featured over these 28 pages could have happened without the incredible financial and prayerful generosity of UK churches and you.**

From the small quiet prayer at your desk when a story of transformation drops into your email inbox to a fundraising event involving the whole church community, it all makes a difference. We are constantly surprised and inspired by the tales that reach us of supporters' acts of kindness and sacrifice.

Our mission workers were buoyed to hear about the BMS World Mission-themed Christmas tree that became the centre of prayers for mission at Stockton Baptist Church. The power of your prayers throughout Advent combined with your financial generosity as you raised over £60,000 for our Safe Haven winter appeal, meaning refugees arriving on the Greek island of Lesbos will receive a truly Christian welcome.



Away from the cold of Christmas, summer at BMS means home assignments for our mission workers. None of those visits to share their stories of transformation would be possible without your hospitality. Whether you've organised a mission worker visit, hosted a dinner, offered a room or a lift, thank you so much!

When we asked for prayers for our Ukrainian brothers and sisters on the anniversary of the Russian invasion, we didn't expect over 400 to come in, with a special shout out to the children of Darnall Road Baptist Church who sent in their own prayers for Ukrainian children.

We know of many other such stories of faith-filled prayer and generosity and know too there are many we never hear about or, when we do, we do so in the form of an answered prayer or an unmarked cheque. You make all that we do possible and for that we remain always grateful.



Share abundant **life,**  
for generations.

Leave a gift in your Will.



**We'd love to hear from you. Contact us now:**

**Phone:** 01235 517615

**Email:** [legacies@bmsworldmission.org](mailto:legacies@bmsworldmission.org)

**Website:** [www.bmsworldmission.org/legacies](http://www.bmsworldmission.org/legacies)





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