

Dream Big Ghana Foundation

Annual Review

April 1st 2019 – March 31st 2020



1. Introduction

Dream Big Ghana Foundation (DBGF) was formally established on 24th April, 2013. The charitable objects of the Foundation are as follows:

- (i) *The prevention and relief of poverty, sickness and distress, especially but not exclusively in the Volta Region of Ghana, by supporting and encouraging the work of Dream Big Ghana NGO, a not-for-profit organisation working in community development.*
- (ii) *Such other charitable purposes as the trustees for the time being shall from time to time think fit.*

As of April 1st 2019, the DBGF Board comprised of five trustees:

- Christopher Croudace (Chair)
- Linda East (Secretary/Treasurer)
- Charles French
- Barnaby King
- Jessica Miller

Dominic Bride was welcomed to the Board and formally appointed as our sixth Trustee in November, 2019. Christopher Croudace remains the Chair of DBGF and Linda East the Secretary/Treasurer.

In addition to our AGM held on 7th September 2019, six ordinary Board Meetings took place on the following dates: 11th May 2019; 9th June, 2019; 7th September 2019 (following the AGM); 11th November 2019; 11th January 2020 and 28th March 2020.

Ghanaian international and Newcastle United player, Christian Atsu, continues to be our patron and has been supporting our work.

2. DBGF governance

DBGF is registered with the Charity Commission (number 1156992). We are recognised by HMRC (Charities Reference Number EW09861) and will claim gift aid on eligible donations received in 2019-2020.

We appointed UHY Hacker Young, Nottingham to prepare our Annual Report and Statement of Accounts for the year ending 31st March 2019, which were duly submitted

to the Charity Commission. UHY Hacker Young have been reappointed to prepare our Annual Report for the financial year 2019-2020. In addition to preparing our Annual Report, we are grateful to UHY for their sharing expertise in the charitable sector and regularly advising us on the financial and legal context within which we operate.

3. The year's activities

1. We have continued to support the programmes of our major beneficiaries, Dream Big Ghana NGO and Denyigba Lorlor NGO, both financially and with mentorship and advice.
2. We have continued to employ Dougal Croudace as Programmes Director for Dream Big Ghana Foundation (DBGF), ensuring regular reporting and accountability for our programmes of work in Ghana.
3. As of September 2019, we began working with a third beneficiary to relieve poverty in the Volta Region of Ghana, namely Dzita Turtle Protection (DTP). DTP employs a team of local guides who patrol the beaches to protect endangered sea turtles and their hatchlings.
4. We have strengthened our Board of Trustees through recruiting Dominic Bride, a recent graduate with the invaluable experience of a prolonged internship at Dream Big Ghana NGO.
5. The DBGF Board have worked together to develop a five-year strategic plan for Dream Big Ghana Foundation to guide our work from 2020-2025.
6. We have worked with a consultancy firm, Money Tree Fundraising, to enhance our expertise and assist us to maximise our charitable income.
7. We have continued with a systematic programme of formulating and implementing a comprehensive range of policies and procedures to guide our work.
8. We have kept our website and social media up to date in order to inform supporters of our activities (www.dreambigghana.org.uk).
9. We supported the first four-week Dream Renewables renewable energies course, held in Dzita in August, 2019.
10. We utilised donor funding to support the construction of a children's playground in Dzita, an inspiring project that has been documented in a report and video by Dominic Bride.
11. We have increased donor income through improved management of the JustGiving online platform.

12. In line with our strategic objective to improve the evidence base for our programmes, we have worked with Zak Gratton to develop a proposal for soil analysis and with Dominic Bride and Dream Big Ghana NGO to evaluate our EcoSan programme. We submitted a grant application to The Fore for funding for our sanitation programme, which unfortunately was not successful.
13. We have submitted a grant application to the Mohammed Bin Zayed Species Conservation Fund to support two marine conservation experts to work with Dzita Turtle Protection during the 2020-2021 turtle laying season. We are grateful to Matthew Barnes and Niamh Byrne for sharing their expertise.
14. We have supported a nimble response from Dream Big Ghana NGO to the Covid-19 pandemic, quickly raising funds to support the NGO's emergency response.
15. Five Trustees have visited our beneficiaries in Ghana at various points during the year, supporting our projects and seeing with our own eyes how donor funds are being spent. (Three of the five trips were at the Trustee's personal expense, including flights. Expenses were paid for two Trustees to undertake longer visits to deliver programmes of teaching and carry out evaluation research with Dream Big Ghana NGO.)

4. Fundraising activities and donations

The Trustees are very grateful to our supporters and donors for their generous support this year. In no particular order, we would like to thank the following individuals and organisations.

- University of Nottingham nursing student, Brigid Martin, who raised the funds to build an EcoSan toilet for the Anyanui local health clinic.
- The Pope family, who donated funds for a family EcoSan toilet in lieu of sending Christmas cards and presents.
- 'Party for the People', a ticketing website who donated funds to support the MMT Weekender planned for November 2020.
- The people who support us with regular monthly payments via Virgin Money Giving or direct debit: Gill Clements, Helen & Simon Hobbs, Glenn Miller, E. Cooper, Paul Kerswill, Linda East, Jessica Miller and Matt Keane.
- The private donors who have made generous contributions to Dream Big Ghana Foundation during the year to support various programmes and projects: David McGibney, Hugh Newton, Christian Atsu, Joanna Von Behaim, Steve Elliott, Edward Findlay and David Bond.
- Debbie Beauchamp, who trekked 125km along the Camino de Santiago to raise funds for Dzita Turtle Protection.

- Barnaby King and the Dream Renewables team, who completed the Inflatable 5k in April 2019 to raise funds for the Dream Renewables course.
- Charlie French, who organised a football tournament in May 2019 to raise funds for Dream Big Ghana NGO's sports programme.
- Jack George, who ran the North Downs Ultra Marathon in September 2019 to raise funds for a family EcoSan toilet.
- Jamie Pearson and his partner Nadine, who climbed Kilimanjaro in January 2020 and raised sufficient funds for three family EcoSan toilets.
- Safo Mawuko Kutorwo and friends, who cycled 275km from Wli to Accra to raise funds for Denyigba Lorlor NGO's reforestation programme.
- Georgie Wordley and Jen Harkness of ASIME (www.asimeclothing.com), who have established a fashion label and social enterprise in collaboration with a local business in Dzita and will be donating a proportion of their profits to DBGF.
- We have received substantial donations via Just Giving and Paypal towards our two campaigns, 'Plant 1000 trees in 2020' and Dream Big Ghana NGO's Covid-19 Emergency Response. It is impossible to name everyone who has been so generous, but we would particularly like to thank Raddec International for their substantial contribution towards the Covid-19 Emergency Response.
- Finally, we would like to thank Elizabeth Wingfield for her financial and moral support since returning from her visit to Ghana earlier this year.

5. Grants received

In April 2019, DBGF received an extremely generous grant from Goldman Sachs Gives, allowing us to continue to support and develop our programme of work and to achieve the activities listed above (Section 3). A further grant from Goldman Sachs Gives was received in March 2020 to support our work in the financial year 2020-2021.

6. Grants made to Dream Big Ghana NGO

From April 1st, 2019 – March 31st, 2020, DBGF made three grants to Dream Big Ghana NGO. The funds were utilised by the NGO to fund the eco-sanitation programme (domestic and schools), the sports programme and the activities of the Community Learning Centre. Please see Dream Big Ghana NGO's 2019 Annual Report for full details and photographs. The report can be accessed via the following link: www.dreambigghana.org.uk/dream-big-ghana-ngo-annual-report-2019.

7. Grants made to Denyigba Lorlor NGO

From April 1st, 2019 – March 31st, 2020, DBGF made three grants to Denyigba Lorlor NGO. The funds were utilised by the NGO to fund their cultural and reforestation programmes.

8. Grants made to Dzita Turtle Protection

From April 1st, 2019 – March 31st, 2020, DBGF made two grants to Dzita Turtle Protection. The funds were utilised to purchase a bike-truck to enable more frequent and efficient beach patrols, and to meet the salaries and equipment needs of the turtle protection team. A full report on the 2019-2020 turtle season can be accessed via the following link:

www.dreambigghana.org.uk/dzita-turtle-protection-report-on-turtle-laying-season-2019-2020

9. Summary of annual income and expenditure

Dream Big Ghana Foundation's Annual Report and Financial Statement 2019-2020 is currently being prepared by our accountants. It should be available from September 2020, when a full copy can be requested from linda.east@dreambigghana.org.uk.

10. Plan of work for 2020-2021

Our priority for the coming year is to raise funds to support Dream Big Ghana NGO and Denyigba Lorlor NGO to consolidate, deliver and further develop their programmes related to education, sanitation, health, cultural development, community sports and reforestation. We will also support Dzita Turtle Protection in their efforts to conserve local marine life, creating opportunities for employment and sustainable tourism. This is an unusual year, in which priority will be given to initiatives mitigating the impact of Covid-19 on the communities we serve.

Trustees' Declaration

In preparing this report, we confirm that we have complied with the duty in section 4 of the Charities Act 2006 to have due regard to public benefit guidance published by the Commission.

Dream Big Ghana Foundation
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www.dreambigghana.org.uk