ARUKAH NETWORK
FOR GLOBAL COMMUNITY HEALTH

2026 Annual Report











Table of Contents

Charity Overview 03

The Team & Trustees 04

Welcoming New Faces 05

Our Clusters 06

Our Past Year 07

The Year In Numbers 09

What Local Leaders Are Saying 10

Annual Accounts 11



CHARITY OVERVIEW









In recent years, we've seen aid being extremely cut off by the USA and the UK, and a decline in donor funding. This has resulted in countless loss of lives, worsening childhood and adult nutrition, and re-emerging deadly diseases in rural communities.

We know local leaders care about their communities and want to improve health and wellbeing. And **we believe that every community has the gifts and skills it needs to improve the health and wellbeing of all its members.**

The mission of Arukah Network is to support some of the poorest communities in Sub-Saharan Africa and India **to improve their physical and mental health, wellbeing and education.**

We do this by **empowering, encouraging, coaching, resourcing & training 'Clusters'** to **work out solutions from within, using their inherent gifts and skills.**

A Cluster brings together local community leaders from 10 to 50 local organizations, **who pledge to work in friendship and collaboration to address the needs of their community.** Together, they are able to take on larger, regional challenges that would be difficult for any single individual or organisation to handle alone.

Our role at Arukah is to **walk alongside them providing information, evidence, linkages and training to help them achieve their goals.**

MEET THE TEAM



Dr. Ted Lankester
Co-founder &
Custodian



Robins Odiyo
Cluster Development
Lead, Africa



Teresa Echevarria
Finance Lead



Brian Wainaina
Communications &
Network Engagement



Hormisdas Ndagijimana
Cluster Administrative
Assistant



Robert Kumar
Cluster Development
Lead, India

TRUSTEES



Keryann Cope
Chair



Andrew Tomkins OBE



Margaret Bee



Dan Ronoh



Jane Hellings



Mona Bormet



Nathan Grills

NEW FACES

This past year, we have been delighted to welcome Robert to the Support Team, and both Mona & Nathan to the Trustee Team.



Robert Kumar, one of the most experienced and effective Christian development leaders in North India, will help strengthen and enlarge the work of Arukah Network in India, and possibly beyond. He served as the president of the Uttarakhand Cluster and also started the Anugrah program which today supports more than 1,000 families through direct care and rehabilitation services.



Mona Bormet is a Program Director at Christian Connections for International Health (CCIH). In 2023, she was elected by the American Public Health Association (APHA) International Health Section to receive the Mid-Career Award which recognizes an outstanding mid-career professional who has demonstrated achievement, commitment and creativity in promoting international public health.



Nathan Grills is no stranger to Arukah, having been there from the beginning. He is a professor and public health physician working closely with the Uttarakhand Cluster and the government in India on disability inclusion, non communicable diseases, tobacco control and health curriculum development. He and Ted edited the fourth edition of Setting up Community Health and Development Programmes in Low and Middle Income Settings.

OUR CLUSTERS

UTTARAKHAND
India

BIHAR
India

NORTH EAST
India

CHABBS
Zambia

CHISEKESI
Zambia

MONZE
Zambia

EKARI
Malawi

KERICHO
Kenya

OBANDA
Kenya

New!
KITALE
Kenya

New!
KAOMA
Zambia

MARA
Tanzania

RWANDA
Rwanda

UVIRA
Democratic Republic of Congo

GOMA
Democratic Republic of Congo

LUBUMBASHI
Democratic Republic of Congo

This year, we were proud to welcome the Kitale (North Western Kenya) and Kaoma (Western Zambia) Clusters to the network. You can learn more about their work in the next section below.

We are also working together with local community leaders in **Ethiopia, India** and **Malawi,** and are encouraged by their willingness to collaborate. We hope to launch Clusters there in the coming months.
Learn more: https://www.arukahnetwork.org/clusters











THE PAST YEAR

This year, the communities we work alongside have faced serious challenges, from conflict and disease to poverty and a lack of protection for women and children. At the same time, donor giving continues to decline, and smaller, long-term development charities like Arukah are feeling the strain.

Yet the stories that follow show our distinct Arukah model is still proving its effectiveness. Led by local people who know their communities, Clusters are responding with courage and creativity, and making a little go a long way.



Resilience In The Midst Of Conflict

The Goma Cluster continues to live with the effects of the ongoing war. Men are forcefully recruited to join the rebels and women continue to experience conflict and gender based violence. This year the Cluster ran a programme of psychosocial support, dignity and economic reintegration, where 27 female survivors shared their experiences.

The Cluster has also trained women in leadership and inclusive governance and started a basket-weaving programme that gives members a skill they can use to start local businesses. It has also kept up its weekly food assistance for orphaned and vulnerable children, does community awareness campaigns for the current Ebola epidemic, and also supported survivors of gender-based violence to start farming. One survivor said: *"The harvests enabled us to meet certain essential needs and gradually regain our dignity and autonomy."*





From Separate Groups To One Strong Voice

In Kitale, Kenya, women's groups, youth groups, farmers, teen mothers & people living with disabilities were each facing hard struggles alone. Their mobiliser, Dominic, was trained in the Cluster model by Robins, and saw a chance to bring them together. He formed the Kitale Cluster, which launched in late 2025 and now links 12 groups. With very few resources, the Cluster has relied on volunteers to help groups reach their goals.

One example is the group of people living with disabilities. The Cluster helped them register with the National Council for Persons with Disabilities and pressed together for unpaid funds to be released. As a result, the county office stepped in and some members have started receiving their monthly stipends. Next, the Cluster plans a dairy goat project whose income will fund its administration and provide seed capital for member groups to grow and share.



THE PAST YEAR











Building Safer Communities In India

Across India, NGOs, schools and community organisations work closely with women and children, but many lack the practical skills to prevent sexual harassment and abuse or to respond well when it happens. The Uttarakhand Cluster believes that protecting vulnerable women and children is a God-given responsibility entrusted to all His people, and it decided to equip its members and partners to carry it out.

After almost three months of planning, preparation and prayer, the Cluster brought in an experienced trainer to lead a two-day workshop on the Prevention of Sexual Harassment and the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences. The workshop included devotionals, teaching sessions, group discussions, practical activities and reflections, which helped members connect what they learned to real situations in their own work. **48 people** from different NGOs, schools and organisations took part, and they are now putting what they learned into practice to create safer environments for women and children in their communities.

Hope For Teen Mothers In Rwanda

Many teen mothers in Rwanda have been forced to leave school early and have no steady source of income to support their families. Their children are the most at risk of malnutrition and poor development. Working through its existing community networks, the Rwanda Cluster set out to improve nutrition in these households right away and to give them a small asset they could grow. The Cluster chose poultry because chickens need little space, mature quickly and provide both food and something to sell. Community leaders and volunteers identified the households in greatest need.

So far, **300 chickens have reached 80 households**, along with practical training in shelter, feeding, hygiene and disease prevention. Teen mothers are now sharing eggs and poultry with other pregnant women in their communities, which was not part of the original plan. Volunteers are staying on to support families after distribution, and the project has built a support network that did not exist before.

Unfortunately, the Cluster experienced a set back recently after a devastating fire erupted in the market destroying a lot of their supplies and injuring three of them. They are recovering well and we hope to continue supporting them as they recover.

THE PAST YEAR



New life for Clusters in Zambia

Zambia has three Arukah Clusters, Monze, Chisekesi and Chabbs, and each needed something different. Monze had been inactive for a long time, Chisekesi had gone through changes in its leadership and had just received seed funding, and Chabbs had stopped sending updates. A visit by Robins to all three brought a fresh start. In Monze, a former member who still cared about the Cluster had gathered new members, and together they revived it and gave it a new name. Robin's visit also helped launch a new Cluster in Kaoma located in the Western Province. It has about 70 members, mostly women, followed by youth and men. Kaoma faces inadequate water and sanitation, limited access to markets and unreliable electricity, and its members have set goals for water and sanitation, adding value to farm produce, a skills centre, life-skills training and electricity, as well as a children's playground. Robins delivered leadership trainings during his visit spanning leadership mindset and personal growth, building strong and healthy teams, servant leadership and empowerment, community transformation through an asset-based approach, and innovation and local wisdom. It ended with action planning to help leaders train others. The hope is that the Zambian Clusters will govern themselves, run effectively and inspire new Clusters across the country.

YEAR IN NUMBERS

4.2K WEBSITE VISITORS

200+ COMMUNITY LEADERS TRAINED IN AFRICA & INDIA

1.9K PODCAST PLAYS

264 WOMEN RECEIVING AGRICULTURAL AID, 64 RECEIVING PSYCHOSOCIAL SUPPORT IN GOMA

10.8K SOCIAL MEDIA REACH

2 NEW CLUSTERS IN KENYA AND ZAMBIA

WHAT LOCAL LEADERS ARE SAYING...



"Our Cluster's chicken project has shown what's possible when you meet people where they are with something practical and culturally familiar. Teen mothers who were isolated are now sharing food with their neighbours. Community volunteers who helped distribute chickens are now part of a support network that didn't exist before."

~ Manasse - Cluster Mobiliser, Rwanda



"Many small faith-based and community organisations in India serve isolated, underserved areas but lack the funding, training, technical expertise and peer connections they need, while the Foreign Contribution Regulation Act restricts their access to international capacity-building support. The Cluster model helps close these gaps by enabling organisations to learn together, share resources, build capacity and collaborate. It helped the Uttarakhand Cluster coordinate the flooding disaster response supporting approximately 8,000 families, strengthen disability inclusion by developing disability-focused programmes and promoting disability-inclusive churches and livelihoods, and run bi-annual learning workshops on emerging issues."

~ Robert Kumar, Cluster Development Lead, India



"An essential truth to remember is that communities should not be only considered as recepients of aid, but as partners. They are full fledged decision-makers, clear actors of their own future."

~ Jackson - Humanitarian & Goma Cluster Mobiliser



"The environment of our Cluster is such that it generates learning. There's a lot more collaboration rather than competition here, and everything's based on relationships. You feel like people are doing things with more passion, and it's very infectious."

~ Sushma - Health trainer, India

We are truly grateful to God for the amazing work and direction being offered by the Cluster leaders, and for our Friends who enable us to continue encouraging, supporting, informing and training them.

For a small monthly donation, you can become a 'Friend of Arukah' and help us walk alongside local leaders as they bring lasting change to their communities. **Learn more and get started here.**

ANNUAL ACCOUNTS

Statement of Arukah Network's Financial Activities for the year ended 31st July 2026

	Unrestricted Funds		Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	2026 Total Funds	2025 Total Funds
	General Funds	Designated Funds				
INCOMING RESOURCES						
Total Voluntary Income	21,773	0	160		21,933	21,847
Grants	36,807		40		36,847	10,000
Other Incomes	74		0		74	85
Total Incoming resources	**58,654**	**0**	**200**	**0**	**58,854**	**31,932**
RESOURCES EXPENDED						
Costs of generating funds	6,000		500		6,500	4,450
Charitable activities	36,518		0		36,518	32,664
Finance and Administration	7,798				7,798	7,318
Total Resources expended	**50,316**	**0**	**500**	**0**	**50,816**	**44,432**
Net Income(Expenditure) for the year and net movement in funds	8,338		-300		8,038	-12,500
Fund Balance brought forward at 31 July 2026					33,962	46,462
Fund balances carried forward at 31 July 2025	8,338	0	-300		42,000	33,962

FUNDS		
General Fund	33,479	25,141
Restricted funds	8,521	8,821
Total funds	42,000	33,962
Cash held at CAF Bank as at 31 July 2026	42,905	34,445
Less/Cash held in Post-box Account		
Cash held in PayPal account		
Other Debtors	504	926
	43,409	35,371
Payment due to HMRC and Nest for July 2026	0	0
Other Creditors	-1,409	-1,409
Reconciled cash in hand	42,000	33,962

Continued on next page

ANNUAL ACCOUNTS

Continued...

	Unrestricted Funds		Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	2026 Total Funds	2025 Total Funds
	General Funds	Designated Funds				
1 Voluntary Income						
1.1. Gift-Aided Donation	1,560		160		1,720	3,703
1.2 Tax Recovered	390		40		430	926
1.3 Other	19,823				19,823	17,218
1.4 Events/Training	0				0	0
1.5 Income from Investments	74				74	85
Total Voluntary Income	21,847	0	200	0	22,047	21,932
2 Other incoming resources						
2.1 Grants	36,807				36,807	10,000
Total Incoming resources	**58,654**	**0**	**200**	**0**	**58,854**	**31,932**
RESOURCES EXPENDED						
3 Costs of generating funds						
3.1 Fundraising	6,000				6,000	4,450
Total Resources expended	6,000	0	0	0	6,000	4,450
4 Charitable activities						
4.1 Cluster costs	34,481		500		34,981	26,794
4.2 International Forums	0				0	0
4.3 Networking	0				0	1,300
4.4 Management and strategy	2,037				2,037	4,570
4.5 Other expenses	0	0	0		0	0
	36,518	0	500	0	37,018	32,664
5 Finance and Administration						
5.1 Insurance	298				298	298
5.2 Administration	7,500				7,500	7,020
	7,798	0	0	0	7,798	7,318
Total resources expended	**50,316**	**0**	**500**	**0**	**50,816**	**44,432**

Notes **1.1. Donations given as one-off and by regular payment**
1.2 Tax reclaimed up to 31 July 2026
2.1 Grant received from Chalk Cliff Trust, Ogle Trust, ICS, SMB Charitable F, Christian Connection International and St Columbas Church of Scotland.

Dr. Ted Lankester
Co-founder & Custodian

Ted

Kerryann Cope
Trustee Chair

Kerryann

ARUKAH NETWORK
FOR GLOBAL COMMUNITY HEALTH

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