

Registered number: 381117
Charity number: 20055325
CHY number: 15772

MISEAN CARA
(A company limited by guarantee)

REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
For the year ended 31 DECEMBER 2023

MISEAN CARA
(A company limited by guarantee)

CONTENTS

	Page
Reference and administrative details	1 - 4
Directors' report	5 - 23
Directors' responsibilities statement	24
Independent auditor's report	25 - 28
Statement of financial activities	29
Balance sheet	30
Statement of cash flows	31
Notes to the financial statements	32 - 62

MISEAN CARA
(A company limited by guarantee)

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

Directors	Mr. Kevin Carroll, Chair Sr. Josephine McCarthy PVBM, Vice Chairperson Ms. Marie Mulvey (resigned 29 September 2023) Mr. Charles Lamson Dr. Pauline Faughnan (resigned 29 September 2023) Sr. Franca Onyibor MSHR Ms. Sandra Neville Fr. Seamus O'Neill SPS Judge Patrick McMahon (resigned 19 July 2023) Mr. Philip O'Brien (appointed 17 May 2023) Rev. John Parkin (appointed 28 June 2023) Mr. Aidan Eames (appointed 20 September 2023) Ms. Eileen Hoffler (appointed 29 September 2023) Ms. Elizabeth Bogler (appointed 13 December 2023)
Company registered number	381117
Charity registered number	20055325
Charity tax exemption number	CHY 15772
Registered office	4th Floor Callaghan House 13-16 Dame Street Dublin 2
Company secretary	L&P Trustee Services Cantor Fitzgerald House 23 St. Stephen's Green Dublin 2
Chief executive officer	Mr. John Moffett
Independent auditors	UHY Farrelly Dawe White Limited FDW House Blackthorn Business Park Coes Road Dundalk Co. Louth
Bankers	Bank of Ireland Terenure Dublin 6
Solicitors	ByrneWallace 88 Harcourt Street Saint Kevin's Dublin 2

MISEAN CARA
(A company limited by guarantee)

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

Financial Oversight, Risk & Audit Committee	Fr. Seamus O'Neill, Chairperson Mr. Charles Lamson, Vice Chairperson Mr. Donal Murray (resigned 22 February 2023) Mr. John Gavigan Mr. Paolo Camisassa Ms. Vanessa Duffy
Governance Committee	Judge Patrick McMahon, Chairperson (resigned 19 July 2023) Mr Aidan Eames, Chairperson (appointed 8 November 2023) Sr. Josephine McCarthy PVBM, Vice Chairperson Prof. Gerry Whyte Ms. Marie Mulvey (retired 13 December 2023) Mr. Kevin Carroll Mr. Edward Keane
Programmes Oversight Committee	Dr. Pauline Faughnan, Chairperson (retired 28 June 2023) Rev. John Parkin, Chairperson (appointed 23 September 2023) Ms. Helen Breen (resigned 18 July 2023) Sr. Maura Clerkin SSL (retired 22 November 2023) Ms. Sulagna Mitra (retired 22 November 2023) Mr. Kevin Carroll Mr. Donal Murray (appointed 22 February 2023) Ms. Eileen Hoffler (appointed 20 September 2023) Ms. Kathleen Fahey (appointed 8 November 2023)
Safeguarding Committee	Ms. Sandra Neville, Chairperson Sr. Josephine McCarthy PVBM, Vice Chairperson Br. Placido Kaburu, Patrician Brothers Ms. Bernadette Casey
Fundraising Committee	Mr. Charles Lamson, Chairperson Ms. Miriam Enright, Vice Chairperson Mr. Philip O'Brien (appointed 19 July 2023)

MISEAN CARA
(A company limited by guarantee)

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS (Continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

Misean Cara Member Organisations: 2023

Augustinian Fathers
Capuchin Order
Carmelites (OCD)
Church Mission Society Ireland
Cistercians
Congregation of the Holy Spirit (Spiritans)
Congregation of the Passion
Congregation of the Most Holy Redeemer (Redemptorists)
Congregation of the Sisters of Mercy
Daughters of Charity of Saint Vincent de Paul
Daughters of Mary and Joseph
Daughters of the Holy Spirit
De La Salle Brothers
Edmund Rice Development
Faithful Companions of Jesus
Franciscan Brothers
Franciscan Missionaries of Mary
Franciscan Missionaries of Saint Joseph
Franciscan Missionaries of the Divine Motherhood
Franciscan Missionary Sisters for Africa
Franciscan Missionary Union
Franciscan Sisters of the Immaculate Conception
Good Shepherd Sisters
Holy Faith Sisters
Holy Family Sisters of Bordeaux
Institute of the Blessed Virgin Mary (Loreto)
Irish Jesuits International
Irish Ursuline Union
La Sainte Union
Little Company of Mary
Little Sisters of the Assumption
Marist Brothers
Marist Fathers
Marist Sisters
Medical Missionaries of Mary
Mill Hill Missionaries
Missionaries of Africa
Missionaries of the Sacred Heart
Missionary Oblates of Mary Immaculate
Missionary Sisters of Saint Columban (International)
Missionary Sisters of the Assumption
Missionary Sisters of the Holy Rosary
Missionary Sisters Servants of the Holy Spirit
Missionary Society of Saint Columban (Columban Fathers)

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(A company limited by guarantee)

**REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS (Continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

Misean Cara Member Organisations: 2023 (Continued)

Notre Dame des Missions
Order of Carmelites
Patrician Brothers
Poor Servants of the Mother of God
Presbyterian Church in Ireland
Presentation Brothers
Presentation Sisters of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Religious of Jesus and Mary
Religious of the Sacred Heart of Mary
Religious Sisters of Charity (RSC)
Rosminian Fathers
Saint Patrick's Missionary Society
Salesians of Don Bosco Ireland
Salesian Sisters
Servites
Sisters of Charity of Our Lady of the Incarnate Word
Sisters of Our Lady of Sion
Sisters of Our Lady of the Apostles
Sisters of Saint Clare
Sisters of Saint Joseph of Annecy – membership withdrawn on 24/10/2023
Sisters of Saint Joseph of Chambery
Sisters of Saint Joseph of Cluny
Sisters of Saint Louis
Sisters of the Cross and Passion
Sisters of the Holy Cross
Sisters of the Infant Jesus
Sisters of the Sacred Hearts of Jesus and Mary (Chigwell)
Society of African Missions
Society of the Divine Saviour
Society of the Divine Word
Society of the Sacred Heart
The Congregation of Dominican Sisters
The Congregation of the Mission (Vincentian Fathers)
Viatores Christi

2023 DIRECTORS' REPORT

The Directors of Miseen Cara present their annual report and audited financial statements for the period 1 January to 31 December 2023.

Strategic developments in 2023

Overview

Established in 2004, Miseen Cara is an Irish faith-based organisation supporting the overseas development work of missionaries. Collectively, Miseen Cara's 77 members work in over 50 countries and are part of a much bigger global missionary network that extends across the world with an extensive reach in Africa, Asia and Latin America.

In 2023, Miseen Cara provided funding support and accompaniment to 321 projects, implemented by 52 members in 52 countries. Please refer to the Section on Principal Objectives and Activities below for an overview of the life-changing work Miseen Cara members are doing in the areas of climate resilient livelihoods and decent work, quality education, better health, human rights, and emergency settings, striving to uphold the rights and human dignity of all, especially those furthest behind.

In addition to providing funding and accompaniment to projects around the world, in 2023, Miseen Cara undertook to redesigning its Grant Management System and accompanying policies and guidelines, and continued diversifying its funding streams, as outlined below.

Grant Management System redesign

Following review of Miseen Cara's grant management system (GMS) in 2022 and consultation with Miseen Cara membership, Board, and Irish Aid, it was agreed in early 2023 to re-design the GMS. The purpose of the re-design is to streamline the funding application process and increase predictability and flexibility of funding for members and their project teams. A detailed review of the impact on budgeting, cashflow and funding bandwidths was completed and approved by the board in October 2023, subsequently funding bandwidths have been communicated to members.

A new grant management system was co-designed with members, consisting of three development funding mechanisms: (1) project-based funding, (2) member managed grants (MMGs), which will provide a block grant of funding to members for a portfolio of projects through one application, and (3) in the future, the introduction of programme framework funding.

The focus throughout 2023 was on defining the parameters of the first two mechanisms, including an Organisational Capacity Assessment (OCA) process to determine eligibility to enter the Member Managed Grant, and supporting the first wave of nine members as they transition to Member Managed Grants. Overall, 42 members indicated their intent to transition into the new MMGs. This transition will happen in four waves from 2024 to 2027.

Eligibility to enter into the MMG is determined by an Organisational Capacity Assessment (OCA). Members wishing to move from project funding into the MMG undergo an independent assessment by an external reviewer against key requirements in four areas: structure and oversight; financial control; development practice; and safeguarding.

Nine members entered the first wave of transition in 2023 after successfully completing their OCAs.

As a result of the GMS, we have undertaken significant investment of our project management information system, MissionLinks, to accommodate the changes. Extensive work to redesign the Salesforce-based MissionLinks was initiated, this will enable the submission of proposals, reports, budgets and results frameworks online and efficiently aggregate data across a number of projects within MMG portfolios.

Policies and procedures

Transitioning into a new GMS required updating organisational processes and policies. The Funding Policy now includes details on the new funding mechanisms, the transition plans and updated funding appraisal criteria, while the new Monitoring, Evaluation, Research and Learning Policy recognises the different needs for monitoring, evaluation and oversight at project and member level, as well as within Miseen Cara.

Funding Diversification

Efforts to diversify the organisation's income continued throughout 2023, building on existing relationships and fostering new ones with the US-based GHR and Loyola foundations, Ornua Co-Operative Limited, and private donors.

In 2023, Miseen Cara also launched its first public emergency appeal after the Syria earthquake, to which our members responded very generously, enabling us to provide €45,000 in donations to members working in the crisis. Additionally, the membership contribution scheme provided almost €270,000 in additional income for the organisation.

Structure, governance and management

Constitution and objects

Miseen Cara is a company limited by guarantee not having a share capital. It is a registered charity, the object of which is to provide for the relief of poverty and the advancement of human rights by the accessing, securing and administering of funds for poverty relief development projects and the training of personnel to carry out such projects to high standards in accordance with good development practice.

Structure and purpose

Missionaries from Ireland, both religious and lay, have a long and inspiring tradition of working in developing countries. Miseen Cara was set up in 2004 to distribute public funding in support of their work amongst the poor and the vulnerable. It is a membership organisation consisting of 77 missionary and lay missionary organisations. It is governed by the Board of Directors. The Directors who held office during 2023 are listed on Page 1 of this report. The list of Miseen Cara member organisations in 2023 is set out on Pages 3-4 of this report.

The Board of Directors

Membership of the Board of Directors is open to individuals who have the requisite competencies, including:

- An appropriate range of skills, experience and expertise in the governance of corporate entities;
- A good understanding of, and competence to deal with, current and emerging issues relating to Miseen Cara's vision and mission; and
- An ability to effectively conduct oversight of the performance of Miseen Cara's management, and to exercise independent judgement.

Directors are also required

- To be independent of management;
- To be free of any significant business or other relationship that could be detrimental to the exercise of their duties at Miseen Cara, i.e., to act personally and not as the representative of any group or organisation.

Directors are elected by the membership at the Annual General Meeting for a term of three years. To be eligible for election, a candidate must be nominated by a member organisation, indicate their willingness to serve and outline the skills and experience they would bring to the Board. The nomination and election procedure is set out in the organisation's Constitution. The CEO is not a Board member.

In the event of a Director retiring before the expiry of their tenure, a substitute may be co-opted by the Board in accordance with the Constitution who will then be eligible for election at the next AGM.

Directors may serve up to two consecutive three-year terms. The Board Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson may serve no more than two consecutive two-year terms in those positions.

MISEAN CARA
(A company limited by guarantee)

Board renewal is based on skills, experience, knowledge and independence, supported by the recommendations of the Governance sub-committee.

The role of the Board of Directors is to set the organisation's strategic aims, to ensure that the necessary financial and human resources are in place, and to conduct oversight of management performance. It does this within a framework of prudent and effective controls which enables risk to be assessed and managed. The Board of Directors met on seven occasions during 2023, with the attendance of individual Directors as shown below.

Director	Number of Board Meetings		Notes
	Eligible to attend	Attended	
Mr Kevin Carroll (Chair)	7	7	
Sr Josephine McCarthy (Vice Chair)	7	6	
Fr Seamus O'Neill SPS (Chair of FORAC)	7	7	
Judge Patrick McMahon (Chair of Governance)	3	2	Resigned 19 July 2023
Mr Charles Lamson (Chair of Fundraising)	7	4	
Ms Sandra Neville (Chair of Safeguarding)	7	5	
Dr Pauline Faughnan (Chair of POC)	2	2	Resigned 29 September 2023
Sr Franca Onyibor	7	7	
Ms Marie Mulvey	4	0	Resigned 29 September 2023
Rev John Parkin (Chair of POC)	5	4	Appointed 28 June 2023
Mr Philip O'Brien	6	6	Appointed 28 June 2023
Mr Aidan Eames (Chair of Governance)	2	2	Co-opted 8 November 2023
Ms Eileen Hoffler	3	1	Co-opted 20 September 2023

Table 1: Directors' Board meeting attendance 2023

The Board has delegated some of its specific functions to standing committees which undertake detailed oversight in accordance with agreed terms of reference set out in the Governance Manual. At 31 December 2023, there were five sub-committees of the Board:

- **The Financial Oversight, Risk & Audit Committee (FORAC)** is responsible for monitoring and assessing Misean Cara's financial position. It assists the Board in verification of expenditure, that funds are utilised and audited according to approved procedures, that financial risk is minimised, that investments are carefully managed, and that a complete and accurate record is kept of financial transactions. The committee comprises two Directors and three external experts in finance. The committee meets at least four times per annum but may meet more often if an issue of importance arises upon which the Board requires advice. The Committee met five times during 2023.
- **The Governance Committee** is responsible for overseeing that Misean Cara has sufficient resources and the correct skills and expertise in place to achieve its strategic objectives and mission, as well as managing risk, including reviewing the governance arrangements of the organisation, the nomination process for Directors, and for providing the Board with advice on matters related to human resources. The committee comprises four Directors and two external experts in governance and HR. The Committee met on three occasions in 2023. The Company Secretary acts as secretary to the committee.
- **The Programmes Oversight Committee (POC)** reviews and provides advice on all matters relating to the programme of funding and other support to members including the funding schemes, capacity development, research, monitoring and evaluation. At year end, it comprised two Directors and four external individuals with relevant expertise. The committee met four times during 2023. The Senior Project Officer acts as secretary to the committee.
- **The Safeguarding Committee** is responsible for overseeing and ensuring that Misean Cara has adequate policies in place for Safeguarding and the prevention of sexual exploitation, abuse and harassment. These responsibilities include the oversight of the development and implementation of the safeguarding policy in line with good development practice and regulatory requirements, advising the CEO and Safeguarding Advisor on

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emerging best practice. The committee comprises two Directors and two external experts. The committee met on three occasions in 2023.

- **The Fundraising Committee** oversees and supports the strategy to diversify and increase funding and advises on the sources of prospective donations and fundraising activities within Misean Cara. A new Board member was appointed to the Fundraising Committee in September, increasing the members to four. The Committee formally met three times throughout 2023.

Each of these committees reports regularly on its delegated activities to meetings of the Board of Directors. This structure provides for effective oversight and increased efficiency at Board level. The inclusion of external individuals with relevant skills and expertise on each of these committees ensures that quality advice and guidance are available to the Board for prudent decision making.

Policies for inducting and training new board members

In line with the Governance Manual, Directors are appointed pursuant to formal letters of appointment detailing key terms and conditions and are required to sign a statement of acceptance of these. On appointment, Directors receive the necessary induction, training and ongoing support required to discharge their duties and exercise their responsibilities to maximum effectiveness, facilitated by the Company Secretary.

Decision-making and management

The Directors have approved a detailed Governance Manual that sets out the division of responsibilities between the Board, sub-committees and management, and is aligned with the Governance Code for the Community, Voluntary and Charitable Sector. The Directors have appointed Chief Executive Officer and have delegated operational decision-making powers to the CEO and the management team. The CEO provides a management report to the Directors at each meeting of the Board, setting out progress on the achievement of strategic objectives.

Directors' responsibilities in relation to the financial statements

The Directors are responsible for preparing the annual report and the financial statements in accordance with Irish Law and Financial Reporting Standard 102 *The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland* issued in the United Kingdom by the Financial Reporting Council, as modified by the Charities SORP (FRS 102). Company law requires the Directors to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company and of the surplus or deficit of the company for that period.

The Directors are responsible for keeping proper books of account that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the company. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the company and for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Compliance with Best Practice Guidelines

Misean Cara adheres to the Charities Governance Code from the Charities Regulatory Authority and follows the relevant guidelines for the management of conflicts of interest. The organisation is fully committed to honouring the standards contained within the Charities Institute of Ireland's Fundraising Codes of Good Practice and is also covered by the CII Triple Lock Standard.

Company secretarial services are provided by L&P Trustee Services who were re-appointed following a tender process in 2021. Their contract will run until July 2024.

Risk Management

The organisational risk register underwent its formal annual review and was approved by the Board in May 2023 using a Red/Amber/Green rating scheme. Risks having a Red rating in the latest register relate to:

- fraud and misappropriation of funds;
- failure in compliance around safeguarding;
- the loss, reduction or delay in receipt of Irish Aid funding.

Mitigation measures are in place for all risks.

Safety and Security

All staff who travel are required to attend personal security awareness training at least every three years. 9 staff attended hostile environment course during 2023 delivered by security consultants.

MISEAN CARA
(A company limited by guarantee)

Misean Cara's Staff Safety & Security Policy is reviewed annually, and an external consultant provides country-specific security briefings as staff members plan monitoring trips.

Human Resources

Turnover of staff in 2023 was consistent with previous years. Three staff resigned and departed in the latter half of the year with recruitment processes running into early 2024. Two staff were recruited during the year to fill posts vacated in 2022. An additional project officer was recruited on a temporary basis in September 2023 to assist with the GMS transition and a short-term increase in workload and a new three-year fixed term role of Programme Co-ordinator was created to co-ordinate the Children with Disability programme funded by the US GHR foundation.

Networking with other Organisations

Misean Cara is a member of a number of organisations and networks including:

- Charities Institute of Ireland
- Coalition 2030
- Dóchas
- Irish Forum for Global Education
- Irish Forum for Global Health
- Irish Forum for International Agricultural Development (IFIAD)
- My Legacy
- The Wheel
- Giving Ireland 2023

Membership of these networks gives Misean Cara access to accurate and timely information about trends in the sector as well as allowing it to share and network with like-minded organisations and contribute to wider national and international development initiatives from a position of recognised expertise and experience. Misean Cara is a signatory to codes of good practice including the Dóchas Safeguarding Code, the Dóchas Code of Conduct on Images and Messages, the Charities Governance Code and the Irish Charities Tax Reform Group Guiding Principles for Fundraising.

Safeguarding

The organisational Safeguarding Policy and Procedures were reviewed and updated in line with current legislation and international best practice. The safeguarding monitoring report and incident reporting pilot phases were completed, and work with members is ongoing to finalise the templates and processes. The requirements for members to submit standardised incident reports will continue with standardised templates and timeframes.

The Safeguarding Advisor conducted three member audits throughout 2023, to review safeguarding practices at member and project level and provided recommendations to improve practices. In 2023, Misean Cara received and managed seven safeguarding incident reports from seven members. Two of these reports were screened out as they did not meet the definitions of a safeguarding report for Misean Cara reporting requirements. Engagement was still provided to members on these reports to provide specialist support and guidance. All incidents in Misean Cara-funded projects were reported to Irish Aid. Misean Cara is satisfied that the incidents were managed appropriately by the member in each case. At year end, there was one open incident report involving ongoing criminal proceedings.

Principal objectives and activities

Project funding

Misean Cara supports its members in their humanitarian and development work by raising, administering and distributing funds, as well as increasing members' capacity to deliver high quality projects. In 2023, the organisation supported members' work in over 50 countries in the global south to the benefit of almost 1.9 million people.

In line with the Strategy 2022-2026, funding is provided to members under five strategic goals:

- Goal 1: Uphold the right to climate resilient livelihoods and decent jobs
- Goal 2: Uphold the right to quality education

MISEAN CARA
(A company limited by guarantee)

- Goal 3: Uphold the right to better health, clean water and sanitation
Goal 4: Uphold and advocate for human rights
Goal 5: Emergency assistance

In addition, funding was made available for member capacity development initiatives and through the Innovation Fund, which supports innovative approaches in selected thematic areas.

In 2023, Miseen Cara operated six funding schemes to address the five Strategic Goals:

- **Large grants:** to fund projects of 1 to 3 years, with up to €115,000/year
- **Medium grants:** to fund projects of 1 to 3 years, with up to €45,000/year.
- **Small grants:** to fund single-year projects with up to €15,000
- **Member Capacity Development (MCD) grants:** to support capacity development within member organisations with up to €20,000/year for single-year projects
- **Sudden-onset emergency response grants:** to support emergency interventions with up to €15,000 over a usual duration of 3 months.
- **Innovation Fund:** to fund single-year projects up to €15,000

Project grants under the Small, Medium and Large schemes are allocated to the four thematic sectors identified in Goals 1-4. The MCD scheme aims to strengthen skills and processes within member organisations and local project teams. The Innovation Fund has a different topic or topics each year, with the 2023 Innovation Fund aimed at supporting creative approaches to advancing climate action and protecting biodiversity.

Project proposals are submitted by members and, within its budget constraints, Miseen Cara approves funding to those that meet the stipulated criteria. The allocation of funding in any year is determined partly by existing commitments to multi-annual projects approved in previous years, and partly by new project approvals for the year in question. A portion of the annual budget is set aside each year for small grants, MCD, Innovation Fund and emergency assistance.

The 2023 allocation of funds across thematic sectors is shown in Table 2 below. While members are required to provide co-funding of at least 25% for their projects, this is not a requirement for emergency assistance or the Innovation Fund.

Project funding in 2023 (€)

Sector	No. of Projects	Miseen Cara funding	Co-funding sourced by members	Total project funding
Sustainable Livelihoods	56	2,180,227	2,027,420	4,207,647
Education	95	4,770,980	5,848,702	10,619,682
Health	59	3,181,457	3,898,904	7,080,361
Human Rights	46	2,405,163	1,507,956	3,913,119
Emergency Assistance	33	539,836	61,887	601,723
MCD	17	301,526	458,774	760,300
Innovation Fund	15	213,673	81,300	294,973
Total	321	13,592,862	13,884,943	27,477,805
%		49.5%	50.5%	100%

Table 2: Overview of project funding in 2023 by primary sector
(Source: MissionLinks & Member financial reports for Co-Funding)

MISEAN CARA
(A company limited by guarantee)

Table 3 below shows the breakdown of this funding by strategic goal and focus area.

Sustainable Livelihoods and Decent Work	€ 2,402,912	
Agricultural Development and Extension, and Land Resources	1,435,982	
Agricultural and Environmental Education and Training	250,414	
Agricultural/environmental policy and management	130,000	
Energy generation, renewable sources (including solar)	18,784	
Food Production, Pest Control and Post-Harvest Protection	40,000	
Biodiversity and biosphere protection	89,889	
Informal/Semi-Formal Financial Intermediaries	86,398	
SME Development	81,610	
Cottage Industries and Handicraft	269,835	
Education	4,823,073	
Early Childhood Education	645,742	
Primary Education & Equivalent for Adults	1,394,295	
Lower Secondary Education	641,545	
Upper Secondary Education	143,433	
Vocational Training	668,741	
Basic Life Skills for Youth and Adults	1,142,258	
Education Facilities and Teacher Training	187,059	
Health	3,176,181	
Basic Health Care	683,535	
Basic Nutrition	76,222	
Basic Health Infrastructure and Medical Services	780,424	
Communicable Disease Control and Mitigation	616,778	
Reproductive Health Care	369,283	
WASH provisions and training	193,808	
Health Education	245,158	
Health Personnel Training	136,000	
Mental Health and Well-being	74,973	
Human Rights	2,329,847	
Ending Violence Against Women and Girls	988,091	
Safe Migration and Mobility	82,500	
Democratic Participation and Civil Society	363,292	
Civilian Peace-Building, Conflict Prevention and Resolution	98,305	
Legal and Judicial Development	40,067	
Responsible Business Conduct	26,177	
Human Rights (other)	731,415	
Emergencies/Humanitarian Response	544,323	
Member Capacity Development (MCD)	316,526	
GRAND TOTAL		13,592,862

Table 3: Allocation of 2023 funding by strategic goal and focus area (Source: MissionLinks)

Overview of project funding by sector

1. Climate resilient livelihoods and decent jobs

Overview

The climate crisis continues to impact on farming households and local food systems. Many communities also continue to feel the impact of inflation with food prices surging by an average of 24% in 2020–22 in Sub-Saharan Africa. In 2023, more than one third of low-income and lower middle-income countries had annual domestic food inflation of more than 15%.

To tackle these challenges, Misan Cara members follow a holistic food systems approach, which takes account of the links between policies for food, climate, environment, and health, as well as the role of all players in the food value chain in realising a future where all people are food secure and have sufficient food at all times to meet their family needs, in an environmentally sustainable way. This approach, which includes climate resilient farming techniques allows small-scale farmers to adapt to changing weather patterns and withstand the global market shocks.

Allocation of 2023 funds

In 2023, a total of €2.4m was allocated to 56 livelihoods projects implemented by 33 members in 17 countries, targeting 137,133 people.

Misan Cara encourages livelihood development initiatives that are climate-friendly, enhance local food systems, restore and preserve ecosystems, and help protect against increasing natural threats such as drought and flooding. Being able to earn a living that enables a dignified lifestyle is a basic human right. Members' support for sustainable and climate resilient livelihoods can take many forms: finance for micro, small and medium enterprises, training in climate-resilient farming techniques, water harvesting, conservation, irrigation and co-operative business management skills and places emphasis on targeting women.

Example

The Presentation Sisters in Peru continue to strengthen the local food system in urban settlements on the outskirts of Lima by training families in hydroponics and agroecology. Through the training, extremely poor and marginalised families have increased production of nutritious food in limited spaces. The Presentation sisters are committed to *reaching the furthest behind first* while ensuring that *no-one is left behind*. Settlement families are now consuming and selling nutritious products grown in their hydroponic gardens, allowing them to generate an income, while also improving their own nutrition. In an environment where many suffer from anaemia, this also leads to secondary results, especially in children, who are now thriving and have better educational outcomes thanks to their overall improved health.

2. Education

Overview

In 2023 learning disruptions from the COVID-19 pandemic continued to affect educational outcomes, particularly in mathematics and reading proficiency. Many students from poorer and marginalised communities failed to return to school, exacerbating educational inequality and impacting future earning potential. Forced displacement, often caused by conflict and the adverse effects of climate change, further contributed to students missing out on education. According to UNESCO data, since 2021, the number of out-of-school children has risen by 6 million and is now estimated at 250 million globally.

Misan Cara members address these challenges by supporting out-of-school students to return to school, while identifying and addressing the causes of children dropping out of education. By training and upskilling teachers, improving school infrastructure, and advocating for improvements in education policies, members also strengthen the education system in some of the poorest countries in the world.

Allocation of 2023 funds

In 2023, a total of €4.8m was allocated to 95 education projects implemented by 39 members in 30 countries, targeting 166,472 people. Misan Cara members delivered education ranging from pre-primary through primary to secondary formal education, while also providing quality alternative and non-formal education, and vocational training.

Example

In Dar-Es-Salaam the Holy Union Sisters are building on the UNESCO model for Complementary Basic Education in Tanzania (COBET) to provide quality primary education to students who are too old to be enrolled in regular primary schools. Many of the students accepted in the school are street children or have escaped child labour in rural Tanzania, making their way to Dar-Es-Salaam to live with relatives and attend school. Students are fast-tracked through the first years of primary school before they transition into public primary schools for their final years of study. Many of these students excel in their studies, with some advancing to secondary school and university. However, the students who finish their education after primary school are better prepared to find stable employment as a result of the literacy and numeracy skills they have developed.

3. Health

Overview

The World Health Organisation estimates that between 2030 and 2050, a quarter of a million people will die annually of the effects of climate change. This shows the urgent need to link climate resilience, food and health, and to strengthen local health systems to withstand the inevitable shocks to the system the next decades will bring.

Misean Cara members are contributing to these efforts by equipping health centres and hospitals, training medical staff and community health workers, and educating community members in sustainable farming and basic hygiene to improve nutrition and health outcomes.

Allocation of 2023 funds

In 2023, a total of over €3.1m was allocated to 59 health projects implemented by 30 members in 18 countries, targeting almost 1.3m people. Significant efforts and resources were allocated to basic health care provision, including improving infrastructure and medical services, as well as the prevention of communicable diseases.

Example

The Society of the Divine Saviour in Kajiado county, Kenya pursues a holistic approach to improve the health and wellbeing of communities in remote rural areas. By focusing on improving income generation the project addresses some of the root causes of ill-health and diseases resulting from poverty while also promoting positive health seeking practices and creating awareness of the harms that can be caused by traditional practices. The project particularly focuses on the health and wellbeing of children, women, people living with HIV and AIDS, people with disabilities, and the elderly.

As a result of the income generating activities, household food security has improved as well as an upturn in families seeking help from health facilities which may have been unaffordable in the past. Notably, in its first year of implementation, the project supported 349 people living with disabilities, many of whom were provided with assistive device support, and 22 cataract surgeries were performed.

4. Human Rights

Overview

The year 2023 marked the 75th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. Yet, the world saw a continued deterioration in respect for human rights, largely due to the erosion of democracy in many regions, the climate crisis, growing inequalities, shrinking civil society spaces, and an increase in disinformation campaigns.

Allocation of 2023 funds

In 2023, a total of €2.3m was allocated to 46 human rights projects implemented by 19 members in 28 countries, as well as several multi-country projects, targeting 233,154 people. Members used their advocacy channels to seek changes in laws, policy or practice to protect people from human rights abuses. Many communities affected by human rights issues – from pollution to fossil fuel use, agribusiness activities to deforestation – are increasingly involved in bringing them to national and international attention, including indigenous peoples who are at the frontline of many environmental and climate change issues and desperately need to protect ecosystems critical to their survival. Members also continue to work with communities to provide input into the UN's Universal Periodic Review (UPR) processes including for Brazil, Ecuador, India and the Philippines.

Example

In Bolivia, the Marist Brothers brought together several religious congregations and civil society partners, to

support women, adolescents, and children to follow up on findings and recommendations from the Universal Periodic Review (UPR) on human rights in the country, including in relation to Gender Based Violence. Participants developed action plans to follow up on recommendations from the UPR and the UN Child Rights Committee; learned of mechanisms to prevent and report GBV; trained teachers, adolescents, and children on school mediation techniques to mitigate violence in schools; and deepened awareness and evidence of child labour issues in Bolivia. The adolescent participants of the project continue to meet in the Network of Adolescents to promote and defend human rights; and the project prompted a nascent network of child and adolescent workers (who often feel marginalised) to address relevant public policy issues.

5. Emergency and Humanitarian Response

Overview

In 2023, the war in Ukraine and – later in the year – the crisis in Gaza were widely covered in European news. Miseen Cara members responded to these armed conflicts, as well as numerous other crises, including food insecurity in the Horn of Africa, extreme weather events caused by El Niño, earthquakes, and terrorism and armed conflict.

Allocation of 2023 funds

In 2023, over €540,000 was allocated to 33 emergency and humanitarian projects implemented by 12 members in 12 countries, targeting 32,783 people. With their long-term presence on the ground, Miseen Cara members were able to act as first responders in multiple emergencies, providing immediate support to the communities affected. Members provided immediate relief in sudden-onset emergencies, including to earthquake survivors in Syria and Nepal, and people affected by severe weather events in India, South Sudan, Malawi, Colombia, Kenya, DRC and Peru.

Example

The Salesians of Don Bosco in Nepal worked closely with the Nepalese Government and the local Village Development Council to provide emergency relief to 130 vulnerable families following two strong earthquakes within three days in November 2023. The earthquakes claimed the lives of 153 and left more than 10,000 people displaced, with 35,455 houses partially and 26,557 houses fully destroyed. Having a presence near the epicentre, the Salesians were able to provide emergency kits including tarpaulins, tents, blankets, mosquito nets, buckets, jerry cans, warm clothes and kitchen sets to vulnerable families and fixed the roofing of ten houses.

6. Member Capacity Development

Overview

Striving to be a sustainable learning organisation, Miseen Cara continues to equip member organisations and project teams with tools and knowledge to contribute to Ireland's development agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The Member Capacity Development (MCD) scheme supports individual project staff to increase their skills and knowledge, strengthens member organisations overall, and supports the transition to locally-led initiatives.

Allocation of 2023 funds

In 2023, Miseen Cara allocated over €300,000 to support 16 members in the implementation of 17 capacity development projects in 20 countries, in addition to multi-country projects. A significant portion of MCD support in 2023 was allocated to strengthen local project teams in financial management, project management, results-based planning and safeguarding. To support locally-led development, several members were supported to set up local Development Offices, and to upskill local staff in data collection and strategic planning. Several members were supported in the creation of key organisational policies and procedures, including strategic plans, financial and human resources policies.

Example

The Medical Missionary Sisters of Mary used MCD funding in Nigeria for human resource skills development, organisational strengthening, institutional change, and systems development in one of their health clinics. Thanks to the project, staff are now more empowered to contribute to decision-making, while the managerial capacity of senior staff was also improved. A formal customer care unit was established, significantly improving the quality of care. The introduction of Clinical Meetings has served to improve interdepartmental relationships, and to reduce stress for both patients and staff. The interventions also reduced staff turnover, thus contributing to the sustainability of the clinic.

7. Innovation Fund

Overview

The Innovation Fund was created to support members and project teams in testing new, innovative approaches and to share this learning with the wider membership. The Fund supports both the piloting of new ideas and the testing of established approaches in new contexts. Recognising the pressing challenge of climate change, the 2023 Innovation Fund supported projects testing innovative approaches to climate action and protecting biodiversity.

Allocation of funding to the 2023 Innovation Fund

In 2023, the Innovation Fund supported 15 projects implemented by 14 members in 10 countries, worth over €210,000.

The Fund supported projects that promote alternative growing techniques, increased access to green energy and energy saving measures, sustainable and local food systems and biodiversity, and climate advocacy and collaboration.

Example

Edmund Rice Development in the Philippines supports the Sama-Bajau Community, who are affected by rising sea levels and an increasing number of storms and typhoons, which significantly damage mangroves plantations including the community mangrove nursery. Building on previous learning the community now plants more resilient and locally appropriate mangrove seedlings, working with the Local Government Unit Municipal Environment and Natural Resources Office and community volunteers. They are also producing educational materials on mangrove preservation and climate change adaptation to build awareness about climate change, the importance of mangrove preservation, sustainability planning, and risk reduction strategies. The project assists volunteers in conducting regular monitoring of the planted mangroves and provides support for the repair and maintenance of the mangrove nursery, to provide protection from future weather events and protect fishing livelihoods through the provision of a safe space for young fish to protect future fish stocks.

8. Care Reform for Children with Disability Programme

Building on a strong relationship with the US-based GHR Foundation, and following initial discussions in 2022, Misan Cara developed a proposal for a *Care Reform for Children with Disabilities Programme*, seeking funding for US\$ 1 million over the three-year period from July 2023 to June 2026. This proposal aligns with GHR's support for congregational networks of Catholic sisters under the Catholic Care for Children (CCC) programme in four African countries, which is based on the principle that the best place for children to develop and flourish in their lives is in a loving family home.

The Programme brings together nine Misan Cara-funded projects across Uganda, Kenya, Zambia and South Africa. It has a strong learning component and is intended to work in close collaboration with the CCC programme on the transitioning of children from institutional to family care.

Following the recruitment of a Programme Co-ordinator in September, initial assessments of eight projects and their contexts were conducted in Kenya, Uganda and Zambia, and discussions were also held with CCC representatives in the three countries. The visits identified many examples of excellent practice by member organisations and their projects in providing vital supports to very vulnerable children and their families in all three countries, often in very challenging contexts.

A composite report from the field visits has identified five key areas that will form the basis for discussion and finalisation of the Programme strategy over the three-year period:

1. Support for **technical capacity** development of members and projects for best practice delivery of disability services for children;
2. Learning from the successes and challenges of the various **in-school and outreach models** of service delivery and support currently being provided by members;
3. Addressing some of the **key gaps** and challenges in the disability sector in each country, as mentioned above;
4. **Collaboration with CCC** on their transitioning programme to family settings (and on approaches to disability more generally);
5. **Learning, influencing and collaborating** on disability with wider constituencies including the government agencies and NGOs at field level; the broader Misan Cara network; donor agencies

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(especially GHR and Irish Aid) and disability networks (including the Dóchas Disability Working Group).

A Programme Learning Group will be established in early 2024 to agree the strategy and take forward the agenda.

Advocacy

Misean Cara regularly amplifies the advocacy work of its members – particularly in relation to projects directly funded – and makes links to Irish Aid, relevant embassies, faith networks, and other likeminded organisations. Members worldwide engage with UN human rights mechanisms and Special Rapporteurs, as well as with the Justice Coalition of Religious at the United Nations and targeted national/regional bodies and networks.

In July, Misean Cara circulated a call from Ireland's Mary Lawlor, Special Rapporteur on Human Rights Defenders (HRDs), which was responded to by the Salesian Sisters – highlighting interventions, challenges, and risks from child and youth HRDs, citing examples from the Philippines, Brazil, Benin, and India, as well as advocacy towards UN forums in Geneva. These inputs feed into the Special Rapporteur's annual report and analysis/recommendations on good practice around the world as well as the challenges faced by children and youths who act as HRDs.

Misean Cara also connected Irish civil society delegates to the High-Level Political Forum on the SDGs with members of the Justice Coalition of Religious at the UN, where the representatives shared information, undertook joint advocacy, and supported positions and events of mutual interest, including some involving Irish government representatives.

Engaging on climate matters through the Laudato Si' Movement and action platform, in May Misean Cara organised a screening of the documentary film "The Letter – A Message from our Earth" featuring Pope Francis, which included discussions with the Bishop of Kilmore and a representative from the Laudato Si' Action Platform – Ireland. Misean Cara promoted a pre-COP advocacy call to action from the Jesuit Centre for Faith and Justice, encouraging ambitious EU positions in relation to four key asks; and supported a civil society call for Ireland to support a Fossil Fuel Non-Proliferation treaty at COP28.

In December, Misean Cara drew particular attention to the 75th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) and the 25th anniversary of the Declaration on Human Rights Defenders, encouraging members' and partners' recommitment to human rights values and work, as urged by the United Nations.

Learning and Development

1. Mentorship

In order to resource and enable development work with the excluded and most vulnerable people worldwide, Misan Cara's mentorship programme provides tailored accompaniment and capacity development support to local project teams. The four mentors are based in Latin America, East, West and Southern Africa, but also provide remote support to project teams outside these regions as required. The mentorship support is diverse and highly contextualised, with services differing depending on the region, local context and member requirements.

In 2023, mentors supported 189 project teams across 26 countries, working with 51 member organisations and directly supporting 748 project team members. Similar to previous years, mentors spent 40% of their time of project planning and proposal design, while noting an increase in their focus on reinforcing sustainability; spending 33% of their time on this area (+8% from 2022). There was a slight reduction in support time for project implementation (13%) and reporting (14%) from previous years.

Examples of mentor support include assistance with policy formulation, including disability, safeguarding, financial and human resource, training on participatory needs assessments, resource mobilisation planning, budgeting, and safeguarding, as well as guidance on commissioning and overseeing external project evaluations and audits.

In 2023, Misan Cara commissioned internal audits of the two host organisations that provide mentorship support to projects in West and East Africa through consultancy contracts. The audits took place in December 2023; reports have been submitted to Misan Cara and shared with the organisations concerned. Management responses to these reports have since been received and follow-up will take place during 2024.

2. Project monitoring

Throughout 2023, Misan Cara continued its hybrid approach to project monitoring. Overall, 44 monitoring engagements were carried out (30 in-person and 14 remotely), spanning across 28 members in 12 countries, and jointly accounting for over €6.6m in approved funding. While every effort was made to visit as many projects in person as possible, this was not always viable due to the location of projects or unforeseen events, such as a typhoon in the Philippines that prevented travel to a remote location.

Of the projects monitored, 58% were found very effective, with the remaining 42% receiving a satisfactory rating. Similarly, 60% of the projects were found to have strong financial systems and practices, with another 38% being satisfactory. One project was found to have unsatisfactory financial systems and oversight mechanisms and was provided with additional support and guidance to strengthen their systems and practices.

Additionally, 26 members monitored a total of 121 projects across 28 countries, using a hybrid approach with in-person and distance monitoring engagements.

3. Evaluation, Research, and Collaboration for Learning

Externally commissioned research and evaluations, along with meta-evaluations of member-managed evaluations were conducted to advance cross-organisational learning. The findings of the 2023 evaluation and research programme were shared through different channels, including as Learning Briefs, through social media, and conference participation, to raise the profile of development-focused missionary work nationally and internationally.

Review of the impact of the Loreto Sisters' long-term presence in Rumbek/South Sudan

In 2006, the Loreto Sisters were invited by the Catholic Bishop of Rumbek, South Sudan to set up a new mission in Rumbek, Lakes State, in order to establish a girls' boarding secondary school. Over the years, the mission evolved into three core programmes: a community based co-educational Primary School, an all-girls Secondary Boarding School, and a woman and child-centric Primary Health Care Centre. Other projects such as Agriculture, Internship and Vocational Training serve to support the main three programmes.

The review of the evolution of these programmes, carried out by Kenya-based consultants Out of the Box showed that the presence of the Loreto Sisters has created lasting impact on the girls attending and graduating from the Secondary School, as well as their families and the wider community. Thanks to the programmes, the

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general attitude in the community to education (from primary to tertiary) for boys and girls has changed, as has the health-seeking behaviour of community members. The presence of the Sisters has also contributed to advancing children's rights and safeguarding issues at local, regional and national level, including raising awareness of the harmful consequences of early and forced child marriage.

Recommendations of the review included consolidating existing projects to advance financial sustainability of the interventions, and to put in place long-term plans to move towards locally-led project management.

Meta-evaluations

In 2023, two meta-evaluations on human rights and sustainable livelihoods were initiated by Miseen Cara to be completed in 2024. These evaluations of member-commissioned, external evaluations sought to distil learning from the individual evaluation reports.

Learnings from Human Rights projects

This meta-evaluation analysed the outcomes, impact, learnings, and recommendations from 19 human rights project evaluations undertaken between 2018 and 2022 by 14 members across 11 countries.

The evaluation found that human rights projects supported by Miseen Cara facilitate mobilisation and contribute to the empowerment and solidarity-building in the communities where the projects are undertaken. Thanks to their long-term presence in the communities, project teams were able to mitigate adverse effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, but also other challenges such as political and economic changes by swiftly introducing new approaches and interventions.

Advancing human rights for those furthest behind often involves challenging those in power and authority, and contributing to systemic change often requires long-term engagement from local to global level. The meta-evaluation found that many projects have initiated – and in some cases accelerated – the work on human rights by building on their long-term presence, with deep understanding, establishing strong relationships and earning the trust of different stakeholders involved. Recurring recommendations included to involve project participants and grassroots partners during project design; to support capacity building of the project team on a regular basis; and to aim at macro level impact, that can showcase the needs of the most vulnerable and open up spaces where their voices are heard.

Learnings from Sustainable Livelihoods and Climate-Resilience projects

This meta-evaluation reviewed evaluations of Miseen Cara-funded projects seeking to improve sustainable livelihoods and those working to mitigate the impact of climate change.

Eighteen sustainable livelihoods projects were reviewed, of which seventeen incorporated at least one climate resilience component. Evaluators found evidence of projects having strengthened the resilience of communities to withstand the adverse effects of climate change and adapt to and mitigate its impact.

Evidence was found for the effectiveness of specific types of interventions. These included kitchen gardens, energy saving stoves and sustainable agricultural techniques. For instance, the use of kitchen gardens produced compelling evidence of improved household food intake and improved income. The use of energy saving stoves resulted in significant cost savings and a reduction in the use of firewood.

Some of the key contributors to projects' successes include effective project management and the establishment of good governance structures. In addition, evaluators found benefits in the Missionary Approach to Development (MADI) which enabled project teams to holistically address their target communities' emotional, spiritual and physical needs.

Conference participation

Throughout the year, Miseen Cara staff attended conferences in order to stay abreast of the latest developments within the wider sector and to facilitate exchange with like-minded organisations. Additionally, staff made presentations at two key events throughout the year:

Irish Global Health Network TEDx Talks

Miseen Cara featured as a TEDx speaker and held a stand of information at the Irish Global Health Network conference in October 2023. The conference focused on Humanity and Health, with Miseen Cara's Health Project Officer, Niamh Caffrey, presenting on the intrinsic link between conflict and malnutrition, bringing many of the stories and experiences of Miseen Cara projects to the audience, through the eyes of a fictionalised girl

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called 'Mo'. The presentation was well-received by the international audience and a recording is available from the Irish Global Health Network's YouTube channel¹.

Development Studies Association of Ireland (DSAI)

Misean Cara worked to move on from a 'Leaving No One Behind' focus to zooming in further on 'Reaching the Furthest Behind' – an SDG-linked imperative underpinned by human rights frameworks. Human Rights Project Officer, Eamonn Casey, presented at the DSAI annual conference, addressing the complementarity between the Missionary Approach to Development (MADI) and Reaching the Furthest Behind First. The presentation also discussed Misean Cara's unique 6A's Approach², how this is embedded in its projects, and what it may have to offer to other development practitioners seeking to operationalise a Furthest Behind First approach.

The influence of Laudato Si' on addressing the global ecological crisis

Misean Cara supported a Masters student from Maynooth University with her research into the influence of Laudato Si' on the general thinking and practice of faith-based organisations (FBOs) in Ireland and their international partners in addressing the global ecological crisis.

4. Capacity Development and Learning Resources

As a learning organisation, Misean Cara is strongly committed to providing accompaniment to strengthen both member organisations based in Ireland and local project teams through the provision of trainings and learning resources.

Following the redesign of the Resource Hub in 2022, it continued to serve as the main distribution platform for Misean Cara learning material, tools, guidelines and policies. At the end of December, 451 users were registered on the Resource Hub (+88 from the previous year), and a total of 2,539 downloads had been made. In June, two webinars were organised for members on how to use the Resource Hub, with an attendance of 41 people.

As part of the accompaniment approach of the organisation Misean Cara provides an introduction to our ways of working for new staff that have joined our members during the year. new Member Development Officers (MDOs) and Assistant Member Development Officers (AMDOs) continue to receive a week-long online induction course. The 2023 MDO inductions were attended by eleven participants from Ireland, Kenya, Nigeria, the UK, and Italy. Additionally, since 2022, new MDOs and AMDOs are provided with access to Viatores Christi's *UpSkills* platform, which hosts self-paced online courses on project cycle management and monitoring & evaluation, amongst others. Misean Cara also continued its support for SOFIA's *Workshop on Project Management and Fundraising*, which is held in Rome, and which was attended by twelve participants from project teams in receipt of Misean Cara funding, based in Peru, India, South Sudan, Nigeria, Philippines, Uganda and Kenya. As part of the mentorship support, the regionally-based mentors organised a total of 20 training courses, attended by a total of 417 people from 13 countries.

¹ Recording at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tjKWzt8iesY>; Misean Cara's presentation starting at 7:20:00h

² Assess, Analyse, Accompany, Address, Advocate, Adapt; see further: [Learning Brief 2021/01](#)

FUNDING DIVERSIFICATION

With the aim to further diversify funding, 2023 saw the strengthening of existing partnerships and the exploration of new cooperations. The US-based GHR Foundation is providing a total of US\$1 million over the course of three years for a new *Care Reform for Children with Disabilities* programme in Kenya, Zambia, Uganda and South Africa. The US-based Loyola Foundation supported the Narus Primary Health Care Centre in South Sudan with €17,370, and Ornu Co-Operative Limited provided €5,000 for vocational skills training for students with intellectual disabilities in Zambia, while a private donor provided €5,000 towards the re-opening by the Vincentian Fathers of the Abba Gebremichael Catholic School in Ethiopia, which had been closed for the previous three years due to conflict in the Tigray region.

In 2023, Misesan Cara also launched its first emergency appeal following the earthquake in Turkey and Syria, raising €45,000 to support the Marist Brothers', the Salesian Sisters' and the Good Shepherd Sisters' crucial work in Syria.

In its second year, the membership contribution scheme generated €267,300 in additional income.

COMMUNICATIONS

Public profile

To boost awareness about Misesan Cara and its members, communications efforts in 2023 concentrated on delivering reinforced messaging via targeted channels that included online communications, print and broadcast media, and a user-friendly website with regularly updated content and calls to action, and a dozen thematic landing pages. The engagement rate on all social media accounts increased throughout 2023, with Facebook continuing to be the largest platform with 54,000 followers. At year end, the quarterly *MissionAid* newsletter for external audiences was circulated to 1,900 subscribers and had an open rate of 46%.

The work of Misesan Cara and its members was also covered in print, online, and broadcast media including by *The Irish Times*, *The Irish Independent*, *RTÉ*, *The Roscommon Herald*, *The Tablet UK*, and *La Repubblica (Italy)*. Topics covered included missionary relief efforts following the earthquake in Syria, interviews with senior Misesan Cara and Board leadership, member awards and profiles, and an international reunion between retired Sisters of the Missionary Sisters of the Holy Rosary and over 20 former students (originally from Cameroon) who travelled to Ireland from around the world to visit and pay honour to their former teachers and principals; a story that featured on the *RTÉ1* evening news.

For the eighth year in a row, Misesan Cara co-organised a live Mass on RTÉ in celebration of World Mission Sunday (22 October) in partnership with MISSIO Ireland and AMRI, and participated in the Pope's annual appeal for spiritual and financial support for the work of missionaries. As sponsor of *The Irish Catholic's* Mission Sunday Supplement in late October, Misesan Cara was the focus of editorial and pictorial coverage showcasing missionary development projects around the world and the enduring Irish missionary tradition.

The Misesan Cara 2022 Annual Report was shortlisted for a Good Governance Award by the Carmichael Institute, recognising excellence in Annual Reports by Irish charities and adherence to good governance standards.

Communication and engagement with members

As a membership organisation, Misesan Cara maintains frequent communication with all members to share important information and build engagement. Members receive a bi-monthly newsletter with information on Misesan Cara funding schemes, learning resources, upcoming events, advocacy opportunities, and administration and policy changes.

In 2023, Misesan Cara held two formal, in-person meetings for all members, as well as the AGM in June. The three meetings were attended by an average of almost 100 people from Misesan Cara's membership, board and staff, affording important opportunities for face-to-face discussion, collaboration and reunion. Additionally, Misesan Cara brought members together for less formal online meetings and trainings on topics such as safeguarding, advocacy training, member consultations on the new grant management system, and information meetings to share high-level information from the Dublin office.

FINANCIAL REVIEW 2023

Income and Expenditure

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with Irish Law and Financial Reporting Standard 102 *The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland* issued in the United Kingdom by the Financial Reporting Council, as modified by the Charities SORP (FRS 102). Mísean Cara received the majority of its income in 2023 from Irish Aid with the remainder coming from fundraising (€623,725). The funding received from Irish Aid for 2023 was €15.5 million, which is slightly increased from that received in 2022 at €15.4m as explained below. Income is analysed as restricted and unrestricted in accordance with donor funding terms.

The financial results for the year ending 31st December 2023 are set out in the Statement of Financial Activities on page 29. Total expenditure for the year was less than total income received by €617,681, driven mainly by two factors. In the first instance the new funding of €284,079 received from GHR in July 2023 was not fully deployed in 2023 as their funding year runs from July to June. This occurrence is likely to continue for the three years of the contract. Secondly, all of Members Contributions of €267,300 was carried forward to Reserves as planned and as detailed below.

For 2023, €14.9 million (€14.8 million; 2022) was restricted for use on charitable activities. Unrestricted income amounted to €1,199,698 (€1,235,257; 2022) of which €267,300 related to members Contributions for Designated purposes plus fundraising income of €2,398. This was for use on support costs attributable to charitable activities, costs of generating funds and governance costs.

In the 2023 Statement of Financial Activities, the resources expended are classified under the heading of charitable activities. The costs include grants, direct costs and allocated indirect support costs.

Resources expended on charitable activities amounted to €15.3 million in 2023. There were two principal strands of charitable expenditure, which are detailed in note 5 of the financial statements: Large Project grants (Single year and Multi-Annual) were 59.3 % of total charitable expenditure in 2023 (58.9% 2022) and Medium Project grants (Single year and Multi-Annual) were 21.3 % of total charitable expenditure (21.3% 2022). The schemes can be summarised as follows:

- **Large Projects** – This is Mísean Cara's principal scheme for supporting projects, offering member organisations the opportunity to apply for support in key sectors, for grants between €50,000 and €115,000. Multi-annual project support schemes allow projects to be funded up to a period of three years at a maximum level of €115,000 per annum. A total of €9,102,974 (2022 : €9,188,672), which includes support costs, was allocated under Large Projects in 2023. A total of 98 project proposals were approved. (See note 6 of the financial statements).
- **Medium Projects** – Through this scheme, members can access grants between €20,000 and €45,000 per year. Multi-annual project support schemes allow projects to be funded up to a period of three year at a maximum level of €45,000 per annum. A total of €3,268,037 (2022 : €3,320,616) in funding, which includes support costs, was allocated under Medium Projects in 2023. A total of 99 project proposals were approved. (See note 7 of the financial statements).

In addition to these two main strands additional funding was provided for Small Projects, Member Capacity Development, Emergencies and Innovation funding, as follows:

- **Small Projects** – Members can access grants between €5,000 and €15,000 under this scheme. A total of €524,074 (2022 : €606,865) in funding, which includes support costs, was allocated under Small Projects in 2023, covering 74 projects (see note 8).
- **Member Capacity Development** – Members can access grants in this category range from €5,000 up to €90,000 depending on the initiative and its duration (which can be up to three years). A total of €312,063 (2022 : €461,604) in funding including support costs was provided in 2023 covering 17 projects (see note 9).
- **Emergencies** – Members can access grants between €5,000 and €15,000 for urgent response to sudden onset emergencies/natural disasters. A total of €509,678 (2022 : €479,108) in funding, including support costs, was provided in 2023 for 33 emergency projects (see note 10).
- **Innovation Funding** – Members can access grants between €5,000 and €15,000 under this scheme. A total of €217,673 (2022 : €222,370) in funding, including support costs, was provided in 2023 for innovation projects (see note 11).

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Direct expenditure on other grants and development activities amounted to a total of €1,289,955 for the year. This included the cost of organisational development grants and activities, capacity building, research, and monitoring/evaluation/auditing of projects. These were administered outside of the funding schemes.

Support costs represent staff and overhead costs of the organisation and amounted to €593,262 in total for 2023 (see note 17). These costs are apportioned across the three expenditure headings as follows: charitable activities €513,990; costs of generating funds €43,393 and governance €35,879 and are classified under unrestricted funding.

Costs of generating funds were €158,193 (see note 19), being €114,800 in direct costs and €43,393 of support costs. This expenditure category included direct publicity, website, consultancy and allocated support costs. The Directors regard the management of the organisation's relationship with its main donor as being a key element in ensuring the ongoing funding and sustainability of the work of Miseen Cara.

The governance costs for the year amounted to €123,423 (see note 16) – being €87,544 in direct governance costs and €35,879 of support costs. Governance costs relate to the strategic management of the organisation and compliance with statutory requirements and are an important component in meeting corporate and regulatory responsibilities. These include company secretary, legal and audit costs, as well as allocated support costs with the latter costs classified under unrestricted funding.

Reserves Policy

Miseen Cara has a policy of retaining sufficient reserves to safeguard the continuity of its operations whilst at the same time committing the maximum possible resources to its activities and programmes. At the end of 2023 the accounts showed a combined (restricted & unrestricted) reserves total of €2,592,335. The detailed figures relating to the Reserve Account are to be found under note 25 in the notes to the financial statements. Activities and decisions related to the reserves account for 2023 were as follows:

Restricted Funds

Spending on charitable activities during the year amounted to €14,743,274; this was funded from incoming funding of €14,924,027. This generated a surplus of €180,753. These funds will be committed to Miseen Cara's activities and programmes in 2024.

Unrestricted Funds

- **Designated Contingency Fund:** The Directors have an agreed policy to hold a contingency reserve amounting to 50% of its budgeted payroll and unrestricted overhead expenditure for the next financial year as a reserve against shortfalls from the charity's principal sources of income, which at 31 December 2023 amounts to €893,798. This represents an increase of €58,862 all of which has been transferred from the General Fund.
- **Designated Fixed Asset Fund:** This fund recognises that a portion of reserves is invested in fixed assets and is not available for other purposes and equates to the net book value of fixed assets at the financial year end which at 31st December 2023 amounts to €119,982. This represents an increase of €68,959 all of which has been transferred from the general fund.
- **Members Contribution Fund:** During 2023 Members Contributed €267,300 in respect of an unspecified contingency fund and the promotion of Donor Engagement activities in equal measure.
- **General Fund:** This fund represents an amount, which is expendable at the discretion of the directors for the general purposes of the charity and amounts to €857,153 at the 31 December 2023. The increase in this fund is driven by the underspend in unrestricted funds of €169,628 during the year and the previously referenced transfers to the other funds.

Grants Policy

The Directors apply all the funds designated for grant-making in pursuit of its strategic objectives and allocate these funds against clear criteria which are reviewed regularly. For each funding scheme, Miseen Cara issues guidelines on the information to be supplied by members, details of the criteria against which proposals are reviewed, and the process and timescale involved. Proposals are assessed initially for completeness, accuracy and compliance with the established criteria. Those which meet the necessary requirements are then recommended onwards for a final decision.

PRIORITIES FOR 2024

In 2024, Misean Cara will celebrate its 20th anniversary with a number of events and publications to showcase the work of its members throughout the last two decades, as well as their long tradition in reaching those furthest behind. Multi-media material showcasing the impact of projects supported by Misean Cara over the last two decades will be curated and circulated to a wide audience. With a view to further diversifying the organisation's income, fundraising priorities for 2024 include harnessing existing relationships with donors and increasing Misean Cara's income through new funding sources. Networking and raising the organisation's profile are key to raising awareness for both Misean Cara and its members, while also attracting new funding partnerships.

Significant time and effort will continue to be invested in the redesign of the grant management system. The first nine (Wave 1) members will submit their MMG proposals and start project implementation in the first half of 2024. The work on the online proposal system on *MissionLinks* is expected to be completed in February 2024, followed by design and development work on the allocation and reports in Q2 and Q3. While Wave 1 members are starting the implementation of their MMG, Wave 2 members will undergo the organisational capacity assessments and receive training and guidance for their transition in 2025. Accompaniment and system strengthening support will also be provided to Wave 3 and Wave 4 members, who will transition into the MMG in 2026 and 2027 respectively.

To support the transition into the new system, offline templates and guidance documents will be finalised and circulated amongst members, while guidelines will also be prepared for members who opt to remain in project-based funding. In the latter part of the year, initial scoping work for future programme framework funding will be undertaken.

An Organisational Change Manager was appointed internally from January 2024, supporting the Grant Management System Coordinator, with other positions being backfilled.

To support the transition into this new system, the Funding and M&E policies, approved by the Board in December 2023, will be rolled out, and accompanying guidance documents will be circulated and made available from the Resource Hub. Additionally, a new Capacity Development policy will be developed in consultation with members, recognising members' and project teams' new needs under the new grant management system, while also contributing to the aim of promoting locally-led development.



Mr. Kevin Carroll
Director



Fr. Seamus O'Neill
Director

Date: 29/05/2024

MISEAN CARA
(A company limited by guarantee)

**DIRECTORS' RESPONSIBILITIES STATEMENT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

The directors are responsible for preparing the Directors' Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable Irish law and regulations.

Irish company law requires the directors to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under that law, the directors have elected to prepare the financial statements in accordance with Companies Act 2014 and FRS 102 The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (Generally accepted Accounting Practice in Ireland) issued by the Financial Reporting Council, as modified by the Charities SORP (FRS 102). Under company law, the directors must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the assets, liabilities and financial position of the company as at the financial year end date and of the or of the company for that financial year and otherwise comply with the Companies Act 2014.

In preparing these financial statements, the directors are required to:

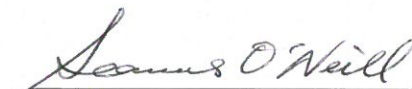
- select suitable accounting policies for the company financial statements and then apply them consistently;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether the financial statements have been prepared in accordance with applicable accounting standards, identify those standards, and note the effect and the reasons for any material departure from those standards; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the company will continue in business.

The directors are responsible for ensuring that the company keeps or causes to be kept adequate accounting records which correctly explain and record the transactions of the company, enable at any time the assets, liabilities, financial position and profit or loss of the company to be determined with reasonable accuracy, enable them to ensure that the financial statements and Directors' Report comply with the Companies Act 2014 and enable the financial statements to be audited. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

By order of the Board of



Mr. Kevin Carroll
Director



Fr. Seamus O'Neill
Director

Date: 29/05/2024

MISEAN CARA
(A company limited by guarantee)

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF MISEAN CARA
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Misean Cara ('the company') for the year ended 31 December 2023, which comprise the statement of financial activities, the balance sheet, the statement of cash flows and notes to the financial statements, including the summary of significant accounting policies set out in note 1. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is Irish Law and FRS 102 The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland issued in the United Kingdom by the Financial Reporting Council.

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the assets, liabilities and financial position of the company as at 31 December 2023 and of its surplus for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with Financial Reporting Standard 102, the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2014.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (Ireland) (ISAs (Ireland)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditors' responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the charitable company in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in Ireland, including the Ethical Standard as issued by the Irish Auditing and Accounting Supervisory Authority ("IAASA") Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the Directors' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the Directors with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

However, because not all future events or conditions can be predicted, this statement is not a guarantee as to the company's ability to continue as a going concern.

WISEAN CARA
(A company limited by guarantee)

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF WISEAN CARA (Continued)

Other information

The Directors are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the Annual report, other than the financial statements and our Auditors' report thereon. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether there is a material misstatement in the financial statements or a material misstatement of the other information. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Opinion on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2014

In our opinion, based on the work undertaken in the course of the audit:

- We have obtained all the information and explanations which we consider necessary for the purposes of our audit;
- the accounting records of the Company were sufficient to permit the financial statements to be readily and properly audited;
- The financial statements are in agreement with the accounting records;
- The information given in the Directors' Report is consistent with the financial statements;
- The Directors' Report has been prepared in accordance with the Companies Act 2014.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

Based on the knowledge and understanding of the Charity and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified any material misstatements in the Directors' Report.

The Companies Act 2014 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion, the disclosures of directors' remuneration and transactions required by sections 305 to 312 of the Act are not made. We have nothing to report in this regard.

WISEAN CARA
(A company limited by guarantee)

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF WISEAN CARA (Continued)

Responsibilities of directors

As explained more fully in the Directors' Responsibilities Statement, the Directors are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the Directors determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the Directors are responsible for assessing the Company's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the management either intends to liquidate the Company or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditors' responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an Auditors' report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (Ireland) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

As part of an audit in accordance with ISAs (Ireland), we exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion of the effectiveness of the charitable company's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the Directors.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of the Directors' use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the assets, liabilities and financial position of the Charity's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our Auditors' report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our Auditors' report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Charity to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

MISEAN CARA
(A company limited by guarantee)

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF MISEAN CARA (Continued)

The purpose of our audit work and to whom we owe our responsibilities

This report is made solely to the Company's members as a body, in accordance with Section 391 of the Companies Act 2014. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the Company's members those matters we are required to state to them in an Auditor's Report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the Company and the Company's members for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.




Thomas McDonagh

for and on behalf of UHY Farrelly Dawe White Limited

Chartered Certified Accountants
Statutory Auditor
FDW House
Blackthorn Business Park
Coes Road
Dundalk
Co. Louth

29/05/2024



MISEAN CARA
(A company limited by guarantee)

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (INCORPORATING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

	Notes	Restricted funds 2023	Unrestricted funds 2023	Total funds 2023	Restricted funds 2022	Unrestricted funds 2022	Total funds 2022
Income from:		€	€	€	€	€	€
Donations and Legacies	2 and 3	354,027	2,398	356,425	306,812	1,807	308,619
Charitable activities	2	14,570,000	1,197,300	15,767,300	14,510,574	1,233,450	15,744,024
Total Income		14,924,027	1,199,698	16,123,725	14,817,386	1,235,257	16,052,643
Expenditure on:							
Raising funds	19	17,577	140,616	158,193	7,091	118,717	125,808
Charitable activities	5	14,725,697	622,154	15,347,851	14,906,650	703,223	15,609,873
Total Expenditure		14,743,274	762,770	15,506,044	14,913,741	821,940	15,735,681
Gross transfers between funds	25	-	-	-	9,780	(9,780)	-
Net income for the year / Net movement in funds	25	180,753	436,928	617,681	(96,355)	413,317	316,962
Fund balances at 1 January		-	1,974,655	1,974,655	86,575	1,571,118	1,657,693
Fund balances at 31 December		180,753	2,411,583	2,592,336	-	1,974,655	1,974,655

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.

All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

MISEAN CARA
(A company limited by guarantee)

BALANCE SHEET
AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2023

		2023	2022
	Notes		
FIXED ASSETS			
Tangible assets	22	119,982	51,023
CURRENT ASSETS			
Debtors & prepayments	23	40,720	41,938
Cash at bank and on hand	28	8,653,129	9,215,742
		<u>8,693,849</u>	<u>9,257,680</u>
Creditors (amounts falling due within one year)	24	(6,221,495)	(7,334,048)
Net current assets		<u>2,472,354</u>	<u>1,923,632</u>
Total Assets less Current Liabilities		<u>2,592,336</u>	<u>1,974,655</u>
THE FUNDS OF THE CHARITY			
Restricted Funds	25	180,753	-
Unrestricted Funds	25	<u>2,411,583</u>	<u>1,974,655</u>
TOTAL CHARITY FUNDS		<u>2,592,336</u>	<u>1,974,655</u>

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the Directors and signed on their behalf by:

Kei Carroll

Mr. Kevin Carroll
Director

Seamus O'Neill

Fr. Seamus O'Neill
Director

Date: 29/05/2024

MISEAN CARA
(A company limited by guarantee)

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

	Notes	2023 Total €	2022 Total €
Cash flows from operating activities			
Net cash inflow from operating activities	27	<u>(460,060)</u>	<u>464,350</u>
Cash flows from investing activities			
Purchase of tangible fixed assets	22	<u>(102,553)</u>	<u>(35,866)</u>
Net Cash (used in) investing activities		<u><u>(102,553)</u></u>	<u><u>(35,866)</u></u>
Cash flows from financing activities			
Net cash provided by financing activities		<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year		(562,613)	428,214
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year	28	9,215,742	8,787,258
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year	28	<u>8,653,129</u>	<u>9,215,472</u>

MISEAN CARA
(A company limited by guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

1. Accounting policies

1.1 General Information

The Charity has applied FRS 102 The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (Generally accepted Accounting Practice in Ireland) issued by the Financial Reporting Council, as modified by the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) on a voluntary basis as its application is not a requirement of the current regulations for charities registered in the Republic of Ireland however it is considered best practice. As noted below, the Directors consider the adoption of the SORP requirements as the most appropriate accounting practice and presentation to properly reflect and disclose the activities of the organisation.

Misean Cara is a Company Limited by guarantee and is a public benefit entity incorporated in Ireland with a registered office at 4th Floor, Callaghan House, 13-16 Dame Street, Dublin 2 and its company registration number is 381117.

These financial statements comprising the Statement of Financial Activities, the Balance Sheet, the Statement of Cashflows and the related notes incorporating significant accounting policies constitute the individual financial statements of Misean Cara for the financial year ended 31 December 2023.

The nature of the Charity's operations and its principal activities are set out in the Directors Report.

Currency

The financial statements have been presented in Euro which is also the functional currency of the company.

1.2 Basis of preparation of financial statements

The financial statements have been prepared on the going concern basis, under the historical cost convention, and comply with the financial reporting standards of the Financial Reporting Council as modified by the Statement of Recommended Practice "Accounting and Reporting by Charities" effective 1 January 2019 and the Companies Act 2014.

Going Concern

The financial statements have been prepared on the going concern basis which assumes that the organisation will continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future.

At the balance sheet date, the organisation has a net asset position of €2,592,336 (2022 : €1,974,655) and unrestricted reserves of €2,411,583 (2022 : €1,974,655).

The Directors prepare annual budgets and cash flows to assist in financial planning matters for the organisation. These budgets demonstrate that the organisation will have sufficient resources to continue in operation for a period of at least 12 months from the date of approval of these financial statements and to continue to discharge its obligations as they fall due. In preparing these projections and forecasts, the Directors acknowledge that the principal source of funding is from Irish Aid. However, there is no indication that this funding will be withdrawn or curtailed by Irish Aid.

On this basis, the Directors consider it appropriate to prepare the financial statements on a going concern basis. Accordingly, these financial statements do not include any adjustments to the carrying amounts and classification of assets and liabilities that may arise if the Charity was unable to continue as a going concern.

MISEAN CARA
(A company limited by guarantee)

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

1. Accounting policies (continued)

1.3 Income

All incoming resources are included in the Statement of Financial Activities when the Charity is entitled to the income, the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy and it is probable the income will be received. All income derives from activities in Ireland.

Income from government and other grants, whether 'capital' or 'revenue grants', is recognised when the Charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the grants have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably. Grants, where entitlement is not conditional on the delivery of a specific performance by the Charity is recognised within income from donations and legacies. Grants, where related to performance and specific deliverables, are accounted for as the Charity earns the right to consideration by its performance and included within income from charitable activities.

Investment income and all other income is included when receivable.

1.4 Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to transfer economic benefit to a third party, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis. All expenses including support costs and governance costs are allocated to the applicable expenditure headings.

Irrecoverable VAT is charged against the expenditure heading for which it is incurred.

Costs of raising funds are costs incurred in attracting voluntary income, and those incurred in trading activities that raise funds.

Expenditure on charitable activities is incurred on directly undertaking the activities which further the charity's objectives, as well as any associated support costs.

Charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the Charity in the delivery of its activities and services for its beneficiaries. It includes both costs that can be allocated directly to such activities and those costs of an indirect nature necessary to support them.

Governance costs include those costs associated with meeting the constitutional and statutory requirements of the Charity and include the audit fees, costs of legal advice for trustees and costs linked to the strategic management of the charity including the cost of director meetings.

1.5 Interest receivable

Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably by the Charity; this is normally upon notification of the interest paid or payable by the Bank.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

1. Accounting policies (continued)

1.6 Currency

1) Functional and presentation currency

Items included in the financial statements of the Charity are measured using the currency of the primary economic environment in which the Charity operates ("the functional currency"). The financial statements are presented in Euro, which is the Charity's functional and presentation currency and is denoted by the symbol "€".

2) Transactions and balances

Foreign currency transactions are translated into the functional currency using the spot exchange rates at the dates of the transactions.

At each period end foreign currency monetary items are translated using the closing rate. Non-monetary items measured at historical cost are translated using the exchange rate at the date of the transaction and non-monetary items measured at fair value are measured using the exchange rate when fair value was determined.

Foreign exchange gains and losses that relate to borrowings and cash and cash equivalents are presented in the statement of financial activity within 'costs of charitable activities'. All other foreign exchange gains and losses are presented in the statement of financial activity within 'expenditure on charitable activities'.

1.7 Taxation

No charge to current or deferred taxation arises as the Charity has been granted charitable status under Sections 207 and 208 of the Taxes Consolidation Act 1997, Charity No CHY 15772.

1.8 Operating leases

Leases in which substantially all the risks and rewards of ownership are retained by the lessor are classified as operating leases. Payments made under operating leases (net of any incentives received from the lessor) are charged to statement of financial activity on a straight-line basis over the period of the lease.

1.9 Tangible fixed assets and depreciation Cost

Cost

Tangible fixed assets are recorded at historical cost or deemed cost, less accumulated depreciation. Cost includes prime cost, overheads and interest incurred in financing the construction of tangible fixed assets. Capitalisation of interest ceases when the asset is brought into use.

Depreciation

Depreciation is provided on fixtures and fittings and office equipment & computer equipment, on a straight-line basis, so as to write off their cost less residual amounts over their estimated useful economic lives.

The estimated useful economic lives assigned to the assets are as follows:

Fixtures and fittings	-	10% Straight Line
Office equipment	-	15% Straight Line
Computer equipment	-	33% Straight Line

The Charity's policy is to review the remaining useful economic lives and residual values of tangible fixed assets on an on-going basis and to adjust the depreciation charge to reflect the remaining estimated useful economic life and residual value.

MISEAN CARA
(A company limited by guarantee)

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

1. Accounting policies (continued)

Fully depreciated assets are retained in the cost of the asset and related accumulated depreciation until they are removed from service. In the case of disposals, assets and related depreciation are removed from the financial statements and the net amount, less proceeds from disposal, is charged or credited to the Statement of Financial Activities.

Impairment

Assets not carried at fair value are also reviewed for impairment whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying amount may not be recoverable. An impairment loss is recognised for the amount by which the asset's carrying amount exceeds its recoverable amount.

1.10 Debtors

Debtors are recognised initially at transaction price (including transaction costs) unless a financing arrangement exists in which case they are measured at the present value of future receipts discounted at a market rate. Subsequently these are measured at amortised cost less any provision for impairment. A provision for impairment of receivables is established when there is objective evidence that the company will not be able to collect all amounts due according to the original terms of receivables.

1.11 Cash at bank and in hand

Cash and cash equivalents include cash on hand, demand deposits and other short-term highly liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less. Bank overdrafts are shown within borrowings in current liabilities on the statement of financial position.

1.12 Trade and other creditors

Trade and other creditors are classified as current liabilities if payment is due within one year or less. If not, they are presented as non-current liabilities. Trade payables are recognised initially at the transaction price and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

1.13 Employee benefits

The Charity provides a range of benefits to employees, including paid holiday arrangements and defined contribution pension plans.

1) Short term benefits

Short term benefits, including holiday pay and other similar non-monetary benefits, are recognised as an expense in the period in which the service is received.

2) Defined contribution pension plans

The Charity operates a defined contribution plan. A defined contribution plan is a pension plan under which the Charity pays fixed contributions into a separate fund. Under defined contribution plans, the Charity has no legal or constructive obligations to pay further contributions if the fund does not hold sufficient assets to pay all employees the benefits relating to employee service in the current and prior periods.

1.14 Provisions

Provisions are recognised when the Charity has a present legal or constructive obligation as a result of past events; it is probable that an outflow of resources will be required to settle the obligation; and the amount of the obligation can be estimated reliably.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

1. Accounting policies (continued)

Where there are a number of similar obligations, the likelihood that an outflow will be required in settlement is determined by considering the class of obligations as a whole. A provision is recognised even if the likelihood of an outflow with respect to any one item included in the same class of obligations may be small. Provisions are measured at the present value of the expenditures expected to be required to settle the obligation using a pre-tax rate that reflects current market assessments of the time value of money and the risks specific to the obligation. The increase in the provision due to passage of time is recognised as a finance cost within expenditure on charitable activities.

1.15 Contingencies

Contingent liabilities, arising as a result of past events, are not recognised when (i) it is not probable that there will be an outflow of resources or that the amount cannot be reliably measured at the reporting date or (ii) when the existence will be confirmed by the occurrence or non-occurrence of uncertain future events not wholly within the company's control. Contingent liabilities are disclosed in the financial statements unless the probability of an outflow of resources is remote.

Contingent assets are not recognised. Contingent assets are disclosed in the financial statements when an inflow of economic benefits is probable.

1.16 Fund accounting

The following funds are operated by the Charity:

Restricted Funds

Restricted funds represent grants, donations and sponsorships received which can only be used for particular purposes specified by the donors or sponsorship programmes binding on the Directors. Such purposes are within the overall aims of the Charity.

Unrestricted Funds

Unrestricted funds include general funds and designated funds and represent amounts which are expendable at the discretion of the Directors in furtherance of the objectives of the Charity and which have not been designated for other purposes. Such funds may be held in order to finance working capital or capital expenditure.

Designated Funds

Designated funds are unrestricted funds earmarked by the Directors for particular purposes. The aim and use of each designated fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements. The designations have an administrative purpose only and do not legally restrict the Board's discretion in applying the funds. Investment income, gains and losses are allocated to the appropriate fund.

1.17 Critical accounting estimates and areas of judgement

The preparation of these financial statements requires management to make judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the application of policies and reported amounts of assets and liabilities, income and expenses.

Judgements and estimates are continually evaluated and are based on historical experiences and other factors, including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances.

The Charity makes estimates and assumptions concerning the future. The resulting accounting estimates will, by definition, seldom equal the related actual results.

MISEAN CARA
(A company limited by guarantee)

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

1. Accounting policies (continued)

Useful Economic Life of Tangible Fixed Assets

The annual depreciation of tangible fixed assets is sensitive to changes in the estimated useful economic lives and residual values of the assets. The useful economic lives and residual values are reviewed annually. They are amended when necessary to reflect current estimates, based on technological advancement, future investments, economic utilisation and the physical condition of the assets.

Going concern

The directors have prepared budgets and cash flows for a period of at least twelve months from the date of the approval of the financial statements which demonstrate that there is no material uncertainty regarding the Chairty's ability to meet its liabilities as they fall due and to continue as a going concern. On this basis the directors consider it appropriate to prepare the financial statements on a going concern basis.

MISEAN CARA
(A company limited by guarantee)

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

2 Income from Charitable Activities

	Restricted funds 2023 €	Unrestricted funds 2023 €	Total funds 2023 €	Total funds 2022 €
Irish Aid	14,570,000	930,000	15,500,000	15,440,574
Loyola Foundation	17,370	-	17,370	-
GHR Foundation	284,079	-	284,079	252,203
Syria Appeal	47,578	-	47,578	-
Ornua	5,000	-	5,000	-
Electric Aid	-	-	-	9,812
Americares	-	-	-	44,797
Members Contribution	-	267,300	267,300	303,450
	<u>14,924,027</u>	<u>1,197,300</u>	<u>16,121,327</u>	<u>16,050,836</u>
<i>Total 2022</i>	<u>14,817,386</u>	<u>1,233,450</u>	<u>16,050,836</u>	

3 Other Income

	Restricted funds 2023 €	Unrestricted funds 2023 €	Total funds 2023 €	Total funds 2022 €
Fundraising Income	<u>-</u>	<u>2,398</u>	<u>2,398</u>	<u>1,807</u>
	<u>-</u>	<u>2,398</u>	<u>2,398</u>	<u>1,807</u>
<i>Total 2022</i>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,807</u>	<u>1,807</u>	

4. Expenditure on charitable activities

Expenditure on charitable activities includes transfer of grant funds overseas and the cost of goods, services, salaries and support costs related to development activities. The expenditure on charitable activities is analysed in detail in the notes 6-19 below.

MISEAN CARA
(A company limited by guarantee)

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

5 Charitable Activities

	Restricted funds 2023 €	Unrestricted funds 2023 €	Total funds 2023 €	Total funds 2022 €
Large Scheme Funding (Note 6)	8,795,661	307,313	9,102,974	9,188,672
Medium Scheme Funding (Note 7)	3,157,710	110,328	3,268,037	3,320,616
Small Scheme Funding (Note 8)	506,357	17,690	524,047	606,865
Member Capacity Development Funding (Note 9)	301,526	10,537	312,063	461,604
Emergency Fund (Note 10)	492,473	17,205	509,678	479,108
Innovation Funding (Note 11)	210,325	7,348	217,673	222,370
Organisational Development (Note 12)	126,140	4,406	130,546	43,875
Capacity Building (Note 13)	668,327	23,350	691,677	647,421
Research and Development (Note 14)	1,739	58	1,797	11,906
Monitoring, Evaluation and Audit - Members/Projects (Note 15)	450,180	15,755	465,935	516,596
Governance (Note 16)	15,259	108,165	123,423	110,840
	<u>14,725,697</u>	<u>622,154</u>	<u>15,347,851</u>	<u>15,609,873</u>
<i>Total 2022</i>	<u><i>14,906,650</i></u>	<u><i>703,223</i></u>	<u><i>15,609,873</i></u>	

MISEAN CARA
(A company limited by guarantee)

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

6 Large Scheme Funding (€50,000 - €115,000 per project)

	Restricted funds 2023	Unrestricted funds 2023	Total funds 2023	Total funds 2022
	€	€	€	€
Columban Fathers	303,489	-	303,489	306,796
Daughters of Charity of St Vincent de Paul	438,101	-	438,101	447,933
De La Salle Brothers	448,276	-	448,276	442,246
Divine Word Missionaries	114,500	-	114,500	105,800
Edmund Rice Development	295,909	-	295,909	377,872
Faithful Companions of Jesus	230,000	-	230,000	230,000
Franciscan Brothers	115,000	-	115,000	115,000
Franciscan Missionaries of St Joseph	398,886	-	398,886	297,101
Franciscan Missionaries of the Divine Motherhood	291,211	-	291,211	381,190
Franciscan Missionary Sisters for Africa	360,781	-	360,781	395,000
Franciscan Missionary Union	182,300	-	182,300	157,450
Franciscan Sisters of the Immaculate Conception	115,000	-	115,000	-
Good Shepherd Sisters	336,063	-	336,063	319,083
Holy Family Sisters of Bordeaux	-	-	-	115,000
Institute of the Blessed Virgin Mary (Loreto)	374,999	-	374,999	123,683
Jesuit Missions	533,841	-	533,841	516,804
Little Company of Mary	94,684	-	94,684	94,684
Little Sisters of the Assumption	52,368	-	52,368	83,687
Marist Brothers	64,058	-	64,058	198,643
Marist Fathers	-	-	-	50,000
Medical Missionaries of Mary	472,694	-	472,694	339,683
Mill Hill Missionaries	85,000	-	85,000	-
Missionary Sisters of the Holy Rosary	229,605	-	229,605	196,246
Missionary Sisters of the Assumption	265,000	-	265,000	290,000
Notre Dame des Missions	90,000	-	90,000	-
Presentation Brothers	118,293	-	118,293	59,657
Presentation Sisters	100,000	-	100,000	84,998
Presbyterian Church in Ireland	-	-	-	114,882
Religious of the Sacred Heart of Mary	-	-	-	117,760
Rosminian Fathers	-	-	-	(53,755)
Saint Patrick's Missionary Society	505,513	-	505,513	580,312
Salesian Sisters	559,064	-	559,064	443,822
Salesians of Don Bosco Ireland	345,593	-	345,593	370,247
Servants of the Holy Spirit	-	-	-	(31,374)
Sisters of Charity (RSC)	-	-	-	14,600
Sisters of Sacred Hearts of Jesus and Mary (Chigwell)	460,000	-	460,000	460,000

MISEAN CARA
(A company limited by guarantee)

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

6 Large Scheme Funding (continued)

	Restricted funds 2023 €	Unrestricted funds 2023 €	Total funds 2023 €	<i>Total funds 2022 €</i>
Sisters of St Louis	114,786	-	114,786	80,000
Society of the Divine Saviour	262,802	-	262,802	196,114
Society of the Sacred Heart	180,000	-	180,000	119,983
Spiritans	115,000	-	115,000	(505)
The Redemptorists	20,000	-	20,000	340,578
Viatores Christi	114,684	-	114,684	345,000
Large Applications Assessment Cost	8,161		8,161	5,520
Support Costs (see note 17b)		307,313	307,313	356,932
Total 2023	<u>8,795,661</u>	<u>307,313</u>	<u>9,102,974</u>	<u><i>9,188,672</i></u>
<i>Total 2022</i>	<u><i>8,831,740</i></u>	<u><i>356,932</i></u>	<u><i>9,188,672</i></u>	

MISEAN CARA
(A company limited by guarantee)

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

7 Medium Scheme Funding (€20,000 - €45,000 per project)

	Restricted funds 2023 €	Unrestricted funds 2023 €	Total funds 2023 €	Total funds 2022 €
Augustinian Fathers	-	-	-	49,850
Columban Fathers	50,000	-	50,000	50,000
CMS Ireland	115,000	-	115,000	25,000
Daughters of Charity of St Vincent de Paul	114,509	-	114,509	141,021
De La Salle Brothers	-	-	-	40,000
Divine Word Missionaries	-	-	-	(500)
Dominican Sisters	45,000	-	45,000	
Edmund Rice Development	123,271	-	123,271	159,000
Franciscan Brothers	-	-	-	25,000
Faithful Companions of Jesus	26,751	-	26,751	45,000
Franciscan Missionaries of St Joseph	73,500	-	73,500	119,376
Franciscan Missionary Sisters for Africa	148,077	-	148,077	245,000
Franciscan Sisters of the Immaculate Conception	134,997	-	134,997	75,000
Good Shepherd Sisters	182,828	-	182,828	164,909
Institute of the Blessed Virgin Mary (Loreto)	224,495	-	224,495	235,822
Jesuit Missions	-	-	-	45,000
La Sainte Union	34,700	-	34,700	-
Little Sisters of the Assumption	69,999	-	69,999	147,756
Marist Brothers	233,205	-	233,205	133,864
Medical Missionaries of Mary	90,000	-	90,000	45,000
Mercy Sisters (Ireland)	39,428	-	39,428	38,065
Missionary Sisters of the Holy Rosary	96,575	-	96,575	22,030
Notre Dame des Missions	-	-	-	25,000
Passionist Fathers	61,172	-	61,172	77,756
Poor Servants of the Mother of God	69,365	-	69,365	69,990
Presentation Sisters	60,000	-	60,000	-
Presbyterian Church in Ireland	40,987	-	40,987	42,980
The Redemptorists	90,000	-	90,000	25,000
Religious of Jesus and Mary	29,000	-	29,000	29,999
Religious of the Sacred Heart of Mary	115,000	-	115,000	45,000
Sisters of Charity (RSC)	25,000	-	25,000	25,000
Salesian Sisters	74,997	-	74,997	170,963
Salesians of Don Bosco Ireland	220,365	-	220,365	180,000
Saint Patrick's Missionary Society	23,420	-	23,420	68,500
Servants of the Holy Spirit	42,559	-	42,559	-

MISEAN CARA
(A company limited by guarantee)

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

7 Medium Scheme Funding (continued)

	Restricted funds 2023 €	Unrestricted funds 2023 €	Total funds 2023 €	<i>Total funds 2022 €</i>
Sisters of Sacred Hearts of Jesus and Mary (Chigwell)	70,000	-	70,000	25,000
Sisters of St Joseph of Cluny	25,000	-	25,000	38,350
Sisters of St Louis	45,000	-	45,000	-
Society of the Sacred Heart	-	-	-	44,897
Society of the Divine Saviour	69,895	-	69,895	70,000
Spiritans	185,000	-	185,000	230,000
Viatres Christi	108,615	-	108,615	217,000
Medium Applications Assessment Cost		-	-	-
Support Costs (see note 17b)		110,328	110,328	128,988
Total 2023	<u>3,157,710</u>	<u>110,328</u>	<u>3,268,037</u>	<u>3,320,616</u>
 <i>Total 2022</i>	 <i><u>3,191,628</u></i>	 <i><u>128,988</u></i>	 <i><u>3,320,616</u></i>	

MISEAN CARA
(A company limited by guarantee)

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

8 Small Scheme Funding (€5,000 - €15,000 per project)

	Restricted funds 2023 €	Unrestricted funds 2023 €	Total funds 2023 €	Total funds 2022 €
Carmelites (OCD)	44,997	-	44,997	-
Edmund Rice Development	15,000	-	15,000	-
CMS Ireland		-	-	(386)
Daughters of Mary and Joseph	15,000	-	15,000	27,224
Divine Word Missionaries	15,000	-	15,000	-
Dominican Sisters		-	-	10,000
Faithful Companions of Jesus	5,350	-	5,350	-
Franciscan Brothers	15,000	-	15,000	9,500
Franciscan Missionaries of St Joseph	15,000	-	15,000	30,000
Franciscan Missionary Sisters for Africa	23,000	-	23,000	10,000
Franciscan Missionary Union	14,462	-	14,462	-
Franciscan Sisters of the Immaculate Conception	15,000	-	15,000	39,000
Good Shepherd Sisters		-	-	15,000
Institute of the Blessed Virgin Mary (Loreto)		-	-	15,000
La Sainte Union	15,000	-	15,000	15,000
Little Company of Mary		-	-	20,000
Little Sisters of the Assumption	28,380	-	28,380	49,892
Marist Brothers	15,000	-	15,000	15,000
Medical Missionaries of Mary		-	-	24,985
Missionary Sisters of the Assumption		-	-	15,000
Missionary Sisters of the Holy Rosary		-	-	15,000
Patrician Brothers	24,147	-	24,147	28,829
Presentation Brothers		-	-	3,964
Presentation Sisters	13,440	-	13,440	-
Religious of the Sacred Heart of Mary	41,250	-	41,250	30,000
Salesian Sisters	10,000	-	10,000	10,000
Salesians of Don Bosco Ireland	15,000	-	15,000	15,000
Servants of the Holy Spirit	-	-	-	14,883
Sisters of Charity (RSC)	14,750	-	14,750	10,000
Sisters of the Infant Jesus		-	-	50,400
Sisters of Sacred Hearts of Jesus and Mary (Chigwell)		-	-	30,000
Sisters of St Joseph of Cluny	29,984	-	29,984	-
Sisters of St Louis	45,428	-	45,428	-

MISEAN CARA
(A company limited by guarantee)

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

8 Small Scheme Funding (continued)

	Restricted funds 2023 €	Unrestricted funds 2023 €	Total funds 2023 €	<i>Total funds 2022 €</i>
Society of the Divine Saviour	41,114	-	41,114	10,000
Spiritans		-	-	30,000
Viatores Christi	20,055	-	20,055	-
The Redemptorists	15,000	-	15,000	40,000
Support Costs (see note 17b)		17,690	17,690	23,574
Total 2023	<u>506,357</u>	<u>17,690</u>	<u>524,047</u>	<u>606,865</u>
<i>Total 2022</i>	<i><u>583,291</u></i>	<i><u>23,574</u></i>	<i><u>606,865</u></i>	

MISEAN CARA
(A company limited by guarantee)

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

9 Member Capacity Development Scheme

	Restricted funds 2023	Unrestricted funds 2023	Total funds 2023	Total funds 2022
	€	€	€	€
Augustinian Fathers	20,000	-	20,000	24,950
CMS Ireland	-	-	-	25,279
Daughters of Charity of St Vincent de Paul	-	-	-	15,000
De La Salle Brothers	-	-	-	30,000
Edmund Rice Development	-	-	-	26,500
Faithful Companions of Jesus	20,000	-	20,000	-
Franciscan Missionaries of St Joseph	-	-	-	29,078
Franciscan Missionary Sisters for Africa	-	-	-	(11,667)
Franciscan Missionary Union	-	-	-	21,550
Good Shepherd Sisters	-	-	-	9,999
Institute of the Blessed Virgin Mary (Loreto)	19,912	-	19,912	25,995
Little Sisters of the Assumption	5,136	-	5,136	-
Marist Brothers	19,000	-	19,000	23,000
Medical Missionaries of Mary	20,000	-	20,000	-
Patrician Brothers	25,815	-	25,815	27,092
Presentation Sisters	-	-	-	(6,279)
The Redemptorists	3,725	-	3,725	-
Salesian Sisters	27,298	-	27,298	30,000
Sisters of Sacred Hearts of Jesus and Mary (Chigwell)	20,000	-	20,000	13,392
Sisters of St Joseph of Cluny	20,000	-	20,000	23,013
Sisters of St Louis	10,750	-	10,750	24,750
Society of the Sacred Heart	27,668	-	27,668	-
Spiritans	20,000	-	20,000	-
Society of the Divine Saviour	29,980	-	29,980	36,400
Society of the Sacred Heart	-	-	-	30,000
Viatores Christi	-	-	-	45,622
Vincentian Fathers	12,242	-	12,242	-
Support Costs (see note 17b)	-	10,537	10,537	17,930
Total 2023	<u>301,526</u>	<u>10,537</u>	<u>312,063</u>	<u>461,604</u>
<i>Total 2022</i>	<i><u>443,674</u></i>	<i><u>17,930</u></i>	<i><u>461,604</u></i>	

MISEAN CARA
(A company limited by guarantee)

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

10 Emergency Funds (up to €15,000 per project)

	Restricted funds	Unrestricted funds	Total funds	Total funds
	2023	2023	2023	2022
	€	€	€	€
Augustinian Fathers	-	-	-	15,000
Columban Fathers	-	-	-	15,000
Daughters of Charity of St Vincent de Paul	30,000	-	30,000	15,000
Edmund Rice Development	-	-	-	15,000
Franciscan Missionaries of St Joseph	-	-	-	22,291
Franciscan Missionary Sisters for Africa	15,000	-	15,000	-
Good Shepherd Sisters	15,000	-	15,000	44,999
Institute of the Blessed Virgin Mary (Loreto)	14,885	-	14,885	30,000
Jesuit Missions	15,000	-	15,000	55,907
Little Company of Mary	15,000	-	15,000	-
Marist Brothers	75,000	-	75,000	45,000
Medical Missionaries of Mary	-	-	-	12,500
Mill Hill Missionaries	13,500	-	13,500	-
Missionary Sisters of the Holy Rosary	-	-	-	15,000
Saint Patrick's Missionary Society	14,951	-	14,951	15,000
Salesians of Don Bosco Ireland	90,000	-	90,000	45,000
Salesian Sisters	60,000	-	60,000	30,000
Sisters of Sacred Hearts of Jesus and Mary (Chigwell)	-	-	-	14,999
Society of the Divine Saviour	-	-	-	10,000
Sisters of St Joseph of Cluny	-	-	-	14,800
Spiritans	120,000	-	120,000	30,000
Viatores Christi	-	-	-	15,000
Vincentian Fathers	14,137	-	14,137	-
Support Costs (see note 17b)	-	17,205	17,205	18,612
Total 2023	<u>492,473</u>	<u>17,205</u>	<u>509,678</u>	<u>479,108</u>
Total 2022	<u>460,496</u>	<u>18,612</u>	<u>479,108</u>	

MISEAN CARA
(A company limited by guarantee)

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

11 Innovation Funding

	Restricted funds 2023 €	Unrestricted funds 2023 €	Total funds 2023 €	Total funds 2022 €
Edmund Rice Development	15,000	-	15,000	15,000
Daughters of Mary and Joseph	3,810	-	3,810	-
Franciscan Brothers	-	-	-	(3,635)
Franciscan Missionary Sisters for Africa	15,000	-	15,000	30,000
Institute of the Blessed Virgin Mary (Loreto)	15,000	-	15,000	30,000
Marist Brothers	15,000	-	15,000	29,999
Medical Missionaries of Mary	14,974	-	14,974	26,848
Missionary Sisters of the Holy Rosary	(3,348)	-	(3,348)	-
Poor Servants of the Mother of God	14,889	-	14,889	-
Presentation Brothers	15,000	-	15,000	14,272
Saint Patrick's Missionary Society	15,000	-	15,000	11,250
Salesians of Don Bosco Ireland	15,000	-	15,000	15,000
Salesian Sisters	15,000	-	15,000	-
Sisters of Sacred Hearts of Jesus and Mary (Chigwell)	30,000	-	30,000	15,000
Society of the Sacred Heart	15,000	-	15,000	-
Spiritans	-	-	-	15,000
Viatres Christi	15,000	-	15,000	15,000
Support Costs (see note 17b)	-	7,348	7,348	8,636
Total 2023	<u>210,325</u>	<u>7,348</u>	<u>217,673</u>	<u>222,370</u>
<i>Total 2022</i>	<i><u>213,734</u></i>	<i><u>8,636</u></i>	<i><u>222,370</u></i>	

MISEAN CARA
(A company limited by guarantee)

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

12 ORGANISATION DEVELOPMENT

	Restricted funds 2023 €	Unrestricted funds 2023 €	Total funds 2023 €	Total funds 2022 €
Management Information Systems	114,640	-	114,640	42,572
Vision Document/Strategy	-	-	-	(400)
Consultancies	11,500	-	11,500	-
Support Costs (see note 17)	-	4,406	4,406	1,703
	126,140	4,406	130,546	43,875
<i>Total 2022</i>	<u>42,172</u>	<u>1,703</u>	<u>43,875</u>	

13 CAPACITY BUILDING

	Restricted funds 2023 €	Unrestricted funds 2023 €	Total funds 2023 €	Total funds 2022 €
In-Country Mentorship	186,714	-	186,714	231,923
Capacity Building - Courses	18,462	-	18,462	3,223
Mentor Field Meetings	23,863	-	23,863	6,214
Missionary Development Officer Inductions	-	-	-	445
Salaries Allocation	439,288	-	439,288	380,468
Support Costs (see note 17)	-	23,350	23,350	25,148
	668,327	23,350	691,677	647,421
<i>Total 2022</i>	<u>622,273</u>	<u>25,148</u>	<u>647,421</u>	

MISEAN CARA
(A company limited by guarantee)

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

14 RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

	Restricted funds 2023 €	Unrestricted funds 2023 €	Total funds 2023 €	Total funds 2022 €
Learning Review	89	-	89	57
Developing Linkages & Networks	1,650	-	1,650	-
Research Projects	-	-	-	11,389
Support Costs (see note 17)	-	58	58	460
	<u>1,739</u>	<u>58</u>	<u>1,797</u>	<u>11,906</u>
<i>Total 2022</i>	<u><i>11,446</i></u>	<u><i>460</i></u>	<u><i>11,906</i></u>	

15 MONITORING & EVALUATION

	Restricted funds 2023 €	Unrestricted funds 2023 €	Total funds 2023 €	Total funds 2022 €
15.a Monitoring and Evaluation				
External Evaluations	13,860	-	13,860	70,474
MDO Field Visits	-	-	-	35,293
Misean Cara - Monitoring Trips	32,277	-	32,277	8,879
Reviewing Members Reports	18,439	-	18,439	27,255
Salaries Allocations	314,357	-	314,357	299,689
Support Costs (see note 17)	-	13,695	13,695	17,844
	<u>378,933</u>	<u>13,695</u>	<u>392,628</u>	<u>459,434</u>
15.b Audit Members/Projects				
Salaries	58,930	-	58,930	54,941
Finance Audits Field Visits - Consultants	12,317	-	12,317	-
Finance Audits Field Visits - Finance Staff	-	-	-	-
Support Costs (see note 17)	-	2,060	2,060	2,221
	<u>71,247</u>	<u>2,060</u>	<u>73,307</u>	<u>57,162</u>
Total 2023	<u>450,180</u>	<u>15,755</u>	<u>465,935</u>	
<i>Total 2022</i>	<u><i>496,531</i></u>	<u><i>20,065</i></u>	<u><i>516,596</i></u>	

MISEAN CARA
(A company limited by guarantee)

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

16 GOVERNANCE COSTS

	Restricted funds 2023 €	Unrestricted funds 2023 €	Total funds 2023 €	Total funds 2022 €
Statutory External Audit Fees		15,269	15,269	13,523
Legal and Other Professional Fees	15,259	23,067	38,325	19,182
Board & Membership Costs		33,951	33,951	29,356
Support Costs		35,879	35,879	48,779
	<u>15,259</u>	<u>108,165</u>	<u>123,423</u>	<u>110,840</u>
<i>Total 2022</i>	<u>9,665</u>	<u>101,175</u>	<u>110,840</u>	

17 SUPPORT COSTS

	Charitable Activities 2023 €	Raising Funds 2023 €	Governance Costs 2023 €	Total funds 2023 €	Total funds 2022 €
Payroll Costs	317,016	26,839	22,192	366,048	412,900
Other Staff Costs	36,951	3,122	2,580	42,653	49,511
Office Premises Costs	62,699	5,356	4,427	72,482	96,908
Office Administration and ICT Costs	89,700	7,434	6,146	103,280	102,937
Depreciation	7,624	643	533	8,800	12,959
Total	<u>513,990</u>	<u>43,393</u>	<u>35,879</u>	<u>593,262</u>	<u>675,215</u>
<i>Total 2022</i>	<u>602,048</u>	<u>24,388</u>	<u>48,779</u>	<u>675,215</u>	

In 2022 and 2023, all support costs related to unrestricted funds.

An analysis of the above support costs across various funds is set out below:

FUNDING SCHEME SUPPORT COSTS	2023	2022
Large Scheme funding (Note 6)	307,313	356,932
Medium Scheme funding (Note 7)	110,328	128,988
Small Scheme funding (Note 8)	17,690	23,574
Member Capacity Development funding (Note 9)	10,537	17,930
Emergency funding (Note 10)	17,205	18,612
Innovation funding (Note 11)	7,348	8,636
Organisational Development (Note 12)	4,406	1,703
Capacity Building (Note 13)	23,350	25,148
Research and Development (Note 14)	58	460
Monitoring Evaluation & Audit of member projects (Note 15)	15,755	20,065
Governance Costs (Note 16)	35,879	48,779
Raising funds (Note 19)	43,393	24,388
	<u>593,262</u>	<u>675,215</u>

MISEAN CARA
(A company limited by guarantee)

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

18 APPORTIONMENT OF SALARY COSTS

Misean Cara apportions salary costs on the basis set out in the below table:

Salary Allocations		Restricted		Unrestricted		Total
Name	Capacity Building	Audit	Monitoring & Evaluation	Fundraising	Programme Support Allocation	
CEO	10%		15%	10%	65%	100%
Admin Officer	25%				75%	100%
Admin Assistant	25%				75%	100%
Donor Engagement & Comms Manager				95%	5%	100%
Comms Officer	25%		10%	15%	50%	100%
Grants Officer	60%		20%	10%	10%	100%
Financial Controller	10%	20%		5%	65%	100%
Finance Officer	10%	70%			20%	100%
I.T. Officer	50%				50%	100%
Funding Manager	40%		25%		35%	100%
Senior Project Officer	40%		25%		35%	100%
Project Officer x 6	35%		35%		30%	100%
Safeguarding Advisor	40%		60%			100%
L&D Manager	65%		25%		10%	100%
L&D Officer x 3	35%		65%			100%
Programme Coordinator	50%		50%			100%

MISEAN CARA
(A company limited by guarantee)

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

19 Raising Funds

	Restricted funds 2023 €	Unrestricted funds 2023 €	Total funds 2023 €	Total funds 2022 €
Promotional Activities	17,577		17,577	7,091
Website and Publicity		7,219	7,219	28,690
Salaries Allocation		70,772	70,772	57,314
Direct Fundraising Expenses		19,232	19,232	8,325
Support Costs (see note 17a)		43,393	43,393	24,388
	<u>17,577</u>	<u>140,616</u>	<u>158,193</u>	<u>125,808</u>
<i>Total 2022</i>	<u>7,091</u>	<u>118,717</u>	<u>125,808</u>	

20 Net Income / (Expenditure)

This is stated after charging:	2023	2022
	€	€
Results (stated after charging)		
Depreciation	33,593	37,969
Auditor's remuneration	<u>15,271</u>	<u>13,523</u>
	<u>48,863</u>	<u>51,492</u>

MISEAN CARA
(A company limited by guarantee)

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

21 STAFF COSTS

Staff costs were as follows:

	2023	2022
	€	€
Salaries	1,093,347	1,014,465
Employers PRSI	116,356	106,494
Pension Costs	91,795	84,353
	<u>1,301,498</u>	<u>1,205,312</u>

The average number of persons employed by the charity during the year was as follows:

	2023	2022
Management	5	5
Finance & Administration	3	3
Learning & Development	5	3
Fundraising & Communications	2	2
Project Funding	7	5
Safeguarding	1	1
Total	<u>23</u>	<u>19</u>

The number of higher paid employees were:

	2023	2022
	No	No
€60,000 - €70,000	1	1
€70,000 - €80,000	2	1
€80,000 - €90,000	-	-
€90,000 - €99,999	1	1

The annual remuneration of the key management personnel amounts to €414,913 (2022 : €444,035) including pension benefits, of which €111,931 (2022 : €109,671) related to the Chief Executive Officer (the 2022 remuneration was updated to include employer PRSI).

During the year, no Director received any remuneration (2022 : €Nil).

During the year, no Director received any benefits in kind (2022 : €Nil).

During the year, no Director was reimbursed for vouched expenses (2022 : €Nil).

MISEAN CARA
(A company limited by guarantee)

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

22 TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Fixtures and Fittings €	Office Equipment €	Computer Equipment and Software €	Total €
Cost or Valuation				
at 1 January 2023	20,525	16,505	399,942	436,972
Additions	-	60	102,493	102,553
Disposals			(909)	(909)
As at 31 Dec 2023	20,525	16,565	501,526	538,616
Depreciation				
at 1 January 2023	18,968	16,505	350,476	385,949
Charge to Support Costs	1,096	60	7,719	8,875
Charged to Non-Support Costs			24,720	24,720
Eliminated in respect of Disposals			(909)	(909)
As at 31 Dec 2023	20,064	16,565	382,006	418,635
Net Book Amounts				
As at 31 Dec 2023	461	-	119,520	119,981
As at 31 Dec 2022	1,557	-	49,466	51,023

23 DEBTORS

	2023	2022
	€	€
Due within one year		
Prepayments and accrued income	<u>40,720</u>	<u>41,938</u>

MISEAN CARA
(A company limited by guarantee)

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

24 CREDITORS: Amounts falling due within one year

	2023	2022
	€	€
Amounts due to member organisations	6,075,575	7,166,252
Trade Creditors	16,128	15,551
Other Creditors (Credit Cards)	2,184	494
PAYE / PRSI	30,900	26,210
Pensions	14,909	-
Deferred Income (see below)	13,620	2,000
Accruals	68,179	64,115
Irish Aid	-	59,426
	<u>6,221,495</u>	<u>7,334,048</u>

DEFERRED INCOME

	2023	2022
	€	€
Deferred income at 1 January 2023	2,000	-
Resources deferred during the year	13,620	2,000
Amounts released from previous years	<u>(2,000)</u>	<u>-</u>
Deferred income at 31 December 2023	<u>13,620</u>	<u>2,000</u>

MISEAN CARA
(A company limited by guarantee)

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

25 STATEMENT OF FUNDS

Statement of Funds - current year

	Balance at 1 January 2023	Income	Expenditure	Transfers in / out	Balance at 31 December 2023
	€	€	€	€	€
Unrestricted funds					
Contingency Fund	834,936	-	-	58,862	893,798
Fixed Asset Fund	51,023	-	-	68,959	119,982
Member Contribution fund	273,350	267,300	-	-	540,650
	1,159,309	267,300	-	127,821	1,554,430
General funds					
General	815,346	932,398	(762,770)	(127,821)	857,153
Total Unrestricted Funds	1,974,655	1,199,698	(762,770)	-	2,411,583
Restricted funds					
Restricted funds	-	14,924,027	(14,743,274)	-	180,753
Total of Funds	1,974,655	16,123,725	(15,506,044)	-	2,592,336

SUMMARY OF FUNDS

Summary of Funds - current year

	Balance at 1 January 2023	Income	Expenditure	Transfers in / out	Balance at 31 December 2023
Unrestricted Funds	1,974,655	1,199,698	(762,770)	-	2,411,583
Restricted funds	-	14,924,027	(14,743,274)	-	180,753
	1,974,655	16,123,725	(15,506,044)	-	2,592,336

MISEAN CARA
(A company limited by guarantee)

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

STATEMENT OF FUNDS (continued)

Statement of Funds - prior year

	<i>Balance at 1 January 2022</i>	<i>Income</i>	<i>Expenditure</i>	<i>Transfers in / out</i>	<i>Balance at 31 December 2022</i>
	€	€	€	€	€
Unrestricted funds					
Contingency Fund	827,112	-	-	7,824	834,936
Fixed Asset Fund	53,126	-	-	(2,103)	51,023
Member Contribution fund	-	303,450	(30,100)	-	273,350
	880,238	303,450	(30,100)	5,721	1,159,309
General funds					
General	690,880	931,807	(791,840)	(15,501)	815,346
Total Unrestricted Funds	1,571,118	1,235,257	(821,940)	(9,780)	1,974,655
Restricted funds					
Restricted funds	86,575	14,817,386	(14,913,741)	9,780	-
Total of Funds	1,657,693	16,052,643	(15,735,681)	-	1,974,655

SUMMARY OF FUNDS

Summary of Funds - prior year

	<i>Balance at 1 January 2022</i>	<i>Income</i>	<i>Expenditure</i>	<i>Transfers in / out</i>	<i>Balance at 31 December 2022</i>
Unrestricted Funds	1,571,118	1,235,257	(821,940)	(9,780)	1,974,655
Restricted funds	86,575	14,817,386	(14,913,741)	9,780	-
	1,657,693	16,052,643	(15,735,681)	-	1,974,655

MISEAN CARA
(A company limited by guarantee)

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

Reserves Policy

Misean Cara has a policy of retaining sufficient reserves to safeguard the continuity of its operations whilst at the same time committing the maximum possible resources to its activities and programmes. At the end of 2023 the financial statements showed total reserves of €2,592,336 broken down between restricted and unrestricted reserves.

Restricted funds

Restricted funds represent income received that can only be used for particular purposes specified by donors.

Such purposes are within the overall aims of Misean Cara. It is the policy of Misean Cara to fully apply such funds for the purposes for which they were donated as quickly as possible.

Unrestricted funds

General unrestricted funds are for use at the discretion of the Charity in furtherance of the objectives of Misean Cara.

Designated funds

These represent funds that Misean Cara has at its discretion set aside for specific purposes which would otherwise form part of the unrestricted funds of the Charity. At the end of 2023 these are funds set aside for the specific purposes of:

- Funds set aside as a contingency to cover a portion of payroll and unrestricted overheads in the next financial year as a contingency against shortfalls in the Charity's main sources of income.
- Funds set aside to cover the investment in fixed assets representing the net book value of fixed assets at the balance sheet date.
- Member contribution fund consists of voluntary contributions from members. This fund is set aside to cover the costs of strengthening, enhancing & expanding the services of Misean Cara currently offers to its members. This fund also ensures the continued support from Irish Aid.

26 Analysis of Net Assets between Funds

	Restricted funds	Unrestricted funds	Total funds
Analysis of net assets between funds - current year	2023	2023	2023
	€	€	€
Tangible fixed assets	-	119,982	119,982
Current assets	361,506	8,332,343	8,693,849
Creditors due within one year	(180,753)	(6,040,742)	(6,221,495)
	<u>180,753</u>	<u>2,411,583</u>	<u>2,592,336</u>
		<i>Unrestricted funds</i>	<i>Total funds</i>
Analysis of net assets between funds - prior year		2022	2022
		€	€
Tangible fixed assets	-	51,023	51,023
Current assets	-	9,257,680	9,257,680
Creditors due within one year	-	(7,334,048)	(7,334,048)
	-	<u>1,974,655</u>	<u>1,974,655</u>

MISEAN CARA
(A company limited by guarantee)

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

27 Reconciliation of net movement in funds to net cash flow from operating activities

	2023	2022
	€	€
Net Income / (Expenditure) for the year (as per Statement of Financial Activities)	617,681	316,962
Adjustment for:		
Depreciation charges	33,593	37,969
Decrease / (Increase) in Debtors	1,218	10,727
Increase / (Decrease) in Creditors	(1,112,552)	98,692
Net cash provided/(absorbed) by operating activities	<u>(460,060)</u>	<u>464,350</u>

28 Analysis of Cash and Cash equivalents

	2023	2022
	€	€
Cash at Bank and In Hand	8,653,129	9,215,742
	<u>8,653,129</u>	<u>9,215,742</u>

	At 1 January 2023	Cash Flow	At 31 December 2023
	€	€	€
29 Analysis of change in net cash			
Cash at Bank and In Hand	9,215,742	(562,613)	8,653,129
Total 2023	<u>9,215,742</u>	<u>(562,613)</u>	<u>8,653,129</u>

MISEAN CARA
(A company limited by guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

30. Company status

Misean Cara is a company limited by guarantee and accordingly does not have a share capital.

Every member of the company undertakes to contribute such amount as may be required not exceeding €1 to the assets of the charitable company in the event of its being wound up while he or she is a member.

31. Capital commitments

A capital commitment of €139,400 for the development of a new module on the organisational database was entered into in 2023. This phase of the module is expected to be completed by 30 September 2024.

32. Contingent liabilities

There were no contingent liabilities at the balance sheet date.

33. Pension commitments

The company operates a defined contribution pension scheme in respect of all permanent employees. The pension charge represents contributions due from the company and amounted to €91,795 (2022 : €84,353).

34. Taxation

The company is limited by guarantee not having share capital and it has been granted charitable exemption by the Revenue Commissioners.

35. Operating lease commitments

At the balance sheet date, Misean Cara had obligations under non-cancellable operating leases as follows:

	2023 €	2022 €
Not later than 1 year	62,500	62,500
Later than 1 year and not later than 5 years	140,625	203,125
	<u>203,125</u>	<u>265,625</u>

Misean Cara has made contractual offers to its Member Organisations to fund multi-annual projects. The terms of these contracts outline that funding for subsequent years will be released in accordance with the fulfilment of the contract terms and conditions and the receipt of funding from Irish Aid, Misean Cara's principal funder.

MISEAN CARA
(A company limited by guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

36. Related party transactions

In 2023, 3 of the 10 directors (2022 : 3 directors) who served on the board of Misean Cara during the year were members of organisations who received funding under the various funding schemes. The amount of funding allocated to those members in 2023 was €1,055,156 (2022 :€1,002,057).

No other related party transactions took place during the year ended 31 December 2023.

37. Key management personnel

The details disclosed in Note 21 represent the compensation paid to key management personnel, in line with S9.30 of the Charities SORP.

38. Post balance sheet events

There have been no significant events affecting the company since the year end which in the opinion of the Directors require disclosure in the financial statements.

39. Controlling party

The company is controlled by the Board of Directors acting in concert.

40. Approval of the financial statements

The Financial Statements were approved by the Board on 15th May 2024.