



Annual Report 2025



misean cara
Mission Support from Ireland



Martha Kockedhia Dut, 25, from South Sudan, faced a lot of upheaval while growing up, including time in a refugee camp in Kenya and repeated interruptions to her education. In 2024, supported by Irish Jesuits International, she enrolled in a Basic Mechanics and Driving programme at St. Peter Claver Centre in Rumbek — one of only three women among 32 students — and graduated to begin an internship as a mechanic and driver.

Photo: Emmanuel Loboka

Welcome

to the 2025 Annual Report of Mísean Cara.

We are an Irish non-governmental organisation supporting the overseas development work of Irish missionary organisations. Our 77 member organisations work at the forefront of long-term development and humanitarian work in 40 countries worldwide.

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Our Impact Around the World – 2025 Highlights*


In 2025 we supported **344 projects in 40 countries, implemented by 51 Misean Cara members.**

Worth €13.5m, these projects are helping to transform the lives of nearly **1.13m people** across the Global South by upholding the right to climate resilient livelihoods and decent jobs, quality education, better health, human rights and support during emergencies.

Livelihoods


 **71,314**
households improved their livelihood opportunities

 **84%**
of households had improved food and nutrition security

 **1,189**
contributions made to strengthen green, low-emission and climate resilient practices and policies

Education

 **118,807**
learners enrolled in quality education

 **98.1%**
of learners remained enrolled throughout the school year

 **1,868**
contributions made to education system strengthening

Emergencies**

 **47,000**
people were reached through emergency interventions

Health

 **983,000**
people accessed improved health care

 **70%**
of service users accessed health services free of charge


 **2,000**
health care professionals trained or upskilled


 **693**
contributions to building stronger health systems

Human rights

 **1.1m**
people in 26 countries supported in claiming their rights

 **8,588**
cases of human rights violations were reported to authorities

 **927**
victims of human rights violations accessed justice and legal support

 **881**
contributions to human rights systems strengthening

* These impact results were reported by our members in 2025, on projects using funding allocated in 2024.

** Supported using funding allocated in 2025



Nazenti Mbavungu, 33, a mother of seven from Riimenze, in Western Equatoria State, South Sudan, is one of many women who have benefitted from training delivered by Solidarity with South Sudan, a project supported by Misesan Cara through the Holy Faith Sisters. Over two years, Nazenti and her community have learned about nutrition, hygiene, food preparation and breastfeeding, transforming the health and wellbeing of their children. She has also been trained to grow a variety of vegetables, generating income to cover school fees and to diversify her family's diet with nutritious, balanced meals.

Photo: Nyokabi Kahura

Welcome – A message from the Chairperson and the CEO of Misean Cara

Welcome to Misean Cara’s Annual Report for 2025. In the pages that follow, we share an account of what we achieved over the course of the year, the progress made, the challenges navigated, and how we are looking ahead to the years to come.

By any measure, 2025 was a demanding year. For those working in international development and humanitarian response, we witnessed escalating conflicts, the relentless and disproportionate impact of climate change on communities least responsible for it, and significant shockwaves from reductions to global aid budgets. But the greatest burden of all of this was borne by the people and communities our members work alongside every day, those already living on the margins, for whom these compounding crises are not abstract challenges but daily realities.

It is in precisely these conditions that the value of the missionary presence is most clearly felt. A characteristic trait of the missionary way of working is their long-term presence among the poorest communities. The communities they serve are also their neighbours and partners, bound together by years of shared experience and trust. In 2025, that enduring commitment continued to be a source of hope for communities living through conflict, displacement and hardship across the Global South.

Progress and Impact in 2025

In 2025, we supported our members — Irish missionary organisations working across more than 40 countries — with grants worth €13.5m to deliver 344 projects reaching 1.13m people, upholding rights to climate-resilient livelihoods, quality education, better healthcare, human rights and emergency assistance in times of crisis.

This support came in the form of funding and practical support to strengthen our members’ capacity to deliver the highest quality development interventions. The continued rollout of our new Member Managed Grant system marked a significant step forward in our commitment to locally led development, placing greater decision-making power in the hands of in-country teams and project partners and closer to the communities where lives are being transformed. We also made important progress in fostering collaboration among members, such as the Children with Disabilities Programme, which will be a valuable resource for members working in this area for years to come.

Looking to the Future

2025 was the penultimate year of Misean Cara’s 2022–2026 strategy, a year in which we delivered on current priorities while also looking towards the next five years. A strategic review of our long-term funding partnership with Irish Aid provided an opportunity to reflect on the legacy of Irish missionary development and to begin mapping a shared vision for the future of our partnership. Its findings will inform Misean Cara’s strategic planning as we begin charting our course for the next chapter of our organisation. Our efforts to diversify our funding base also continued, as we work to build a more resilient financial foundation for the future.

Acknowledgements

We extend our sincere thanks to the members of Misean Cara’s Board of Directors and Sub-Committees for their guidance and commitment to good governance throughout the year. At our AGM, Kevin Carroll and Sr. Josephine McCarthy retired as Board Chair and Vice-Chair. Philip O’Brien and Elizabeth Bolger were subsequently elected as Chair and Vice-Chair by the Board.

Sadly, Kevin Carroll passed away in early 2026. Kevin brought to Misean Cara a wealth of experience, wisdom and genuine commitment to our mission, and his influence on our organisation will be felt for many years to come.

We would like to thank our members and their partners whose daily efforts in some of the world’s most demanding environments have resulted in many of the achievements highlighted in this report. They continue to inspire and humble us in equal measure. Thanks also to the Misean Cara staff and consultants, for their continued dedication this past year.

The results and impact of missionary development work that you'll read about in this report would not be possible without the generosity of our donors. We are grateful to Irish Aid, our strategic funding partner, for their continued support. We also gratefully acknowledge the support received in 2025 from the GHR Foundation, ESB, and the Brigidine Sisters.

As we look ahead to 2026, we do so with confidence and renewed purpose, inspired to continue supporting Ireland's living missionary legacy and the extraordinary difference it is making in the lives of people across the Global South.

Le chéile is féidir linn athrú a dhéanamh
(Together we can make a difference).



Philip O'Brien,
Chairperson



John Moffett,
Chief Executive Officer



Member: Franciscan Brothers /
Climate resilient livelihood support
for small farm households
Country: Uganda
Photo: Nyokabi Kahura

Misean Cara - Who We Are

Misean Cara is the Irish non-governmental organisation that funds and supports the international development work of Irish missionary organisations.

We are a membership-based organisation, with 77 members working in some of the most disadvantaged regions of the world and connected to a much wider global network of missionaries deeply rooted in the communities they serve.

Our mission is to resource and enable missionaries to deliver effective development work with the excluded and most vulnerable, which we fulfil through accessing funding for our members' projects and providing the accompaniment services that ensure their success and lasting impact. We support our members through capacity strengthening programmes, mentorship, monitoring and evaluation, and a robust system of information sharing and cross-member learning. We also work with our members to develop partnerships and alliances to address key development challenges, from climate-resilient agriculture to care for children with disabilities and health conditions affecting the most vulnerable populations.

Our Mission

To resource and enable missionaries to deliver effective development work with the excluded and most vulnerable.

Our Vision

A better world where people who are excluded from society are empowered to achieve a better quality of life.

Values

- Respect
- Justice
- Commitment
- Compassion
- Integrity
- Trust



Member: Irish Jesuits International / St. Theresa's Kindergarten, Rumbek.

Country: South Sudan

Photo: Irish Jesuits International

2025 at a Glance



€13.5m

in funding allocated to projects



344

projects funded



51

members supported



40

countries and almost 1.13 million people reached

Where We Work - Our Operating Context In 2025

Misean Cara operates in an international development landscape that is undergoing profound and rapid change.

The sharp contraction of global official aid budgets in 2025 (with overall Official Development Assistance (ODA) falling by 23.1% compared to 2024)¹ has created significant uncertainty for the international development sector. Funding for global health aid alone fell to its lowest level in 15 years. The broader political environment around donor funding is changing the role that aid plays in responding to the needs of people most in need around the world. Misean Cara's members and their overseas partners are experiencing the effects of these changes, with a significant part of members' work

which was not funded through Misean Cara having been reduced in scope or ended. Misean Cara is continuing to work with its members to pursue new funding sources and foster greater financial resilience and independence.

The years 2023–2025 were the three hottest ever recorded², and the climate emergency continues to define the conditions in which our members work. Inspired by the Papal encyclical, *Laudato Si'* (2015), Irish missionary organisations continue to prioritise adaptation and mitigation measures into their development programmes across all thematic areas, and in particular addressing climate resilient livelihoods as food insecurity remains widespread.

While 272 million children and young people remained out of school³, the Church in Sub-Saharan Africa remains the largest non-state actor in the provision of education and the largest provider

of education for girls. Irish missionary groups continued to provide education services for the poor and marginalised across the globe addressing the barriers that restrict access to education.

The changing demographics of Irish missionary organisations, with greater dependence on non-Irish missionaries, and the international development sector's growing emphasis on locally led development is reshaping how our members operate — and therefore how we support them. Working with our members to support the transition to locally led development has been a priority during the year.

- 1 www.oecd.org/en/data/insights/data-explainers/2026/04/a-historic-decline-in-foreign-aid-preliminary-2025-oda-data.html
- 2 wmo.int/publication-series/state-of-global-climate/state-of-global-climate-2025
- 3 www.unesco.org/en/articles/countries-commit-reducing-number-out-school-children-165-million



Member: Marist Brothers / New Horizons Project, Antsirabe

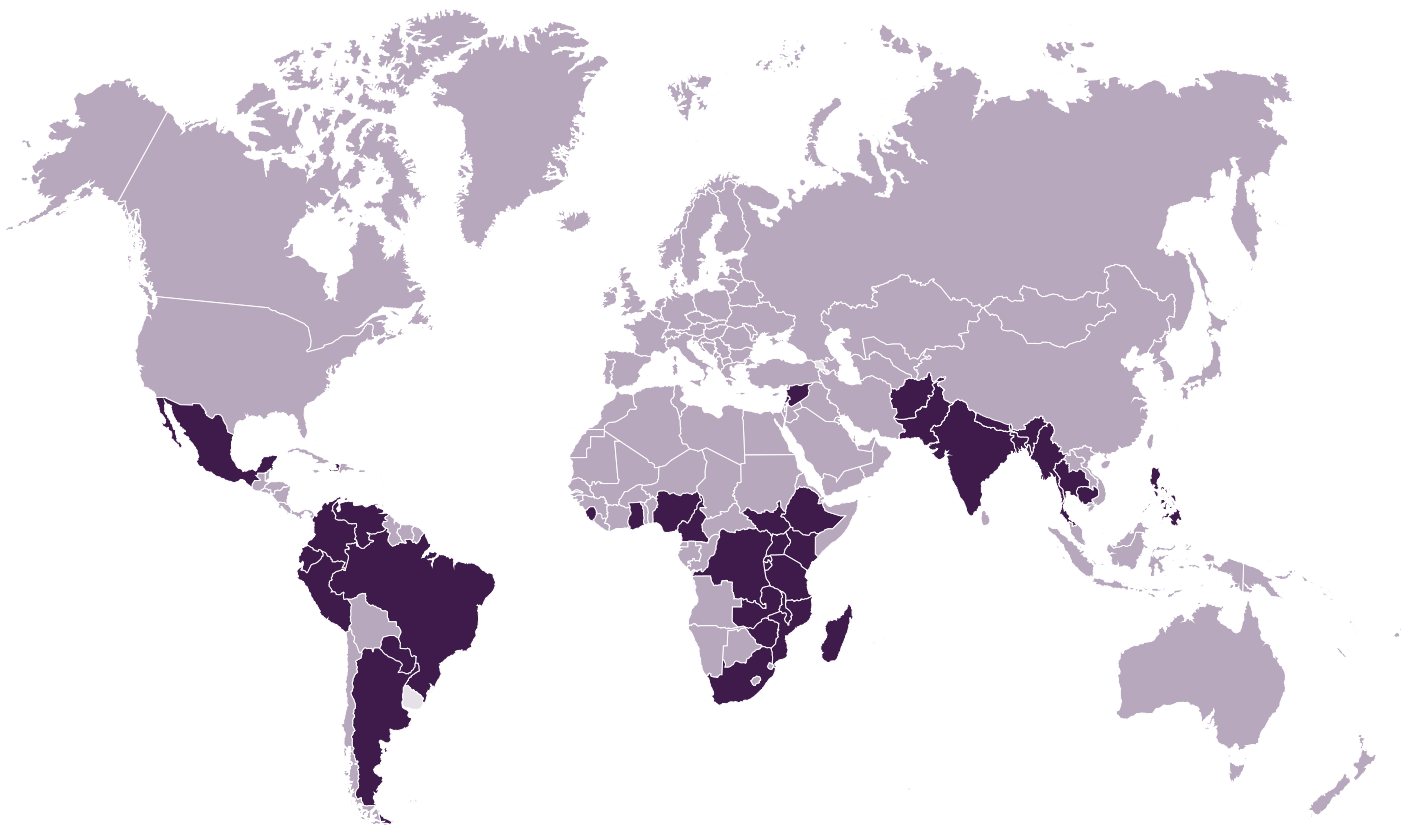
Country: Madagascar

Photo: Marist Brothers

Where Our Members Work

In 2025, our member organisations worked in some of the world’s most challenging and complex environments across Africa, Asia and Latin America.

With funds from Misean Cara, our members reached 1.13 million people with life-changing development interventions in climate-resilient livelihoods, education, health, human rights and emergency response, reaching over one million people who needed it most. In committing to reaching the furthest behind first this work has made a lasting contribution to upholding the rights of the most marginalised and vulnerable.



- Afghanistan
- Argentina
- Bangladesh
- Brazil
- Burundi
- Cambodia
- Cameroon
- Colombia
- Democratic Republic of the Congo
- Ecuador
- Ethiopia
- Ghana
- Haiti
- India
- Kenya
- Lebanon
- Madagascar
- Malawi
- Mexico
- Mozambique
- Myanmar (Burma)
- Nepal
- Nigeria
- Pakistan
- Paraguay
- Peru
- Philippines
- Rwanda
- Sierra Leone
- South Africa
- South Sudan
- Syria
- Tanzania
- Thailand
- Uganda
- Venezuela
- Zambia
- Zimbabwe

How We Work

The Missionary Approach to Development - What Makes it Unique?

In a world marked by ongoing crises, our members are working to deliver positive lasting change in response to significant development and humanitarian needs. The Missionary Approach to Development Interventions (MADI) offers a distinctive model of support to poor and vulnerable communities worldwide and is grounded in five core pillars.

The five defining pillars of the MADI framework are:

Crossing boundaries as part of a global missionary movement

A long-term commitment, giving missionaries deep insight into the local context, culture and practices of the communities where they live and work

A personal witness of missionary values, expressed through a simple lifestyle and solidarity with the poor

A prophetic vision, of a better, more equitable life for all

A holistic approach, that sees and treats people as dignified human beings with a wide range of capacities, needs and rights

While other development actors may reflect aspects of this approach, it is the combined application of all five pillars that underpins the effectiveness of missionary interventions, particularly in reaching those furthest behind first.

Member Services and Capacity Strengthening

Strengthening the capacity of our members is at the core of Misesan Cara's strategy because we know that well-equipped, capable and accountable organisations are the foundation of effective missionary development work.

Misesan Cara provides a comprehensive range of accompaniment services designed to strengthen our member organisations' capacity to deliver high-quality development interventions and ensure that the communities they serve receive the most effective and sustainable support possible.

From accompaniment with project planning and implementation, to governance, safeguarding and learning, our services are designed to help members build the skills, systems and practices that enable them to make a lasting difference for the communities they serve.

On pages 12 through 18 of the report you can read more about our member services.

Upholding Rights through our Members' Work

Misesan Cara's strategy for 2022 – 2026 sets out five key goals that define how we will seek to achieve our organisational vision of a better world where people who are excluded from society are empowered to achieve a better quality of life:

- Uphold the right to climate resilient livelihoods and decent jobs
- Uphold the right to quality education
- Uphold the right to better health, clean water and sanitation
- Uphold and advocate for human rights
- Emergency Assistance

Our members play a critical role in how we work to achieve these goals. It's by supporting our members' projects and work in these five areas that Misesan Cara, as a strategic partner of Irish Aid, is able to further Ireland's contribution to the Strategic Development Goals.

On pages 20 through 31 of the report you can read about our achievements towards these goals in 2025 and the impact of our members' projects.

Delivering on our Strategy

Key Organisational Achievements in 2025

In 2025, we reached several important milestones in strengthening Misean Cara as an organisation and in deepening the support we provide to our members as they deliver long-term, high-impact development work across the Global South.

Streamlining our Grant Management System

In keeping with our commitment to enable locally led development and decision making, Misean Cara in 2025 continued the rollout of a redesigned Grant Management System that started in 2023. By the end of 2025, 19 members had transitioned to the Member Managed Grants (MMG) scheme, with efficiency benefits for both Misean Cara and members.

This included a 65% reduction in proposal numbers compared to 2023, which has streamlined our grant making processes, in turn freeing up staff and members' time for greater focus on delivering impactful development work.

Organisational Capacity Assessments and Member Capacity Strengthening

One of the agreed risk management strategies of the move to the new MMG scheme was a commitment to strengthening member capacities to effectively and accountably manage the funding granted. Informed by insights provided by Organisational Capacity Assessments (OCA) required of all members transitioning to the MMG, Misean Cara has been able to identify common capacity strengthening needs among our membership. We responded to these insights with tailored tools, training packages, resources and learning events throughout 2025.

Preparing for the Future: Our Visioning Exercise

With our current Strategy concluding at the end of 2026, we took an important step forward in 2025 by undertaking a Visioning Exercise with our members. This process examined emerging trends in members' operating contexts, staffing, capacity, and the evolving development challenges they face. A report outlining future scenarios and strategic considerations was finalised in September and will help guide the development of our next Strategy for 2027–2031.

Diversifying our Funding Base

To help ensure the long-term sustainability of Misean Cara and the work of our members, we launched a new Fundraising Strategy for 2025–2026. This strategy sets out an ambitious plan to raise additional funding primarily through applications to grants, trusts and foundations, reflecting our commitment to building a resilient and diversified resource base for the future.

Member Services

In 2025, Misean Cara provided services to members across five key areas:

- Member Capacity Strengthening
- Organisational Learning
- Safeguarding
- Quality Assurance
- Developing Effective Partnerships and Alliances

We were proud to make meaningful progress across all five areas over the course of the year. Read on to find out more.

Member Capacity Strengthening

Misean Cara's capacity strengthening approach aims to help member organisations build the systems, leadership and resilience they need to deliver lasting change, and to do so in ways that are increasingly locally led and locally owned.

In 2025, this work took shape across three interconnected areas:

Advancing Locally Led Development

The shift towards locally led development — placing decision-making power closer to the communities being served — continued to be a priority for Misean Cara in 2025. Two dedicated events brought members together to deepen their understanding and share their experiences. A workshop in March explored Misean Cara's Locally Led Development Position Statement, building shared understanding around what localisation means in practice.

A follow-up webinar in May drew **43** participants from **15** member organisations, with members sharing experiences of shifting decision-making in areas including primary healthcare in Kenya and anti-human trafficking work in Albania.

Supporting this dialogue, a research project conducted by Trinity College Dublin students examined how international NGOs and institutional donors are measuring progress towards locally led development. Their research provided practical recommendations that will inform Misean Cara's continued engagement with members on this theme in 2026.

Member Capacity Development Grants

Through the Member Capacity Development (MCD) funding scheme, Misean Cara supports members to strengthen their governance, project management systems and locally led development practices.

In 2025, a total of **€350,505** was allocated to support **25** members across **19** countries, reaching **1,587** representatives of member organisations at all levels.

Risk management, governance, succession planning and localisation were among the areas of particular focus during the year, alongside the development of stronger systems for assessing the capacity of local implementing partners.

Misean Cara Mentorship Programme

Misean Cara's mentorship programme provides tailored, hands-on support to members in Ireland and their project teams overseas.

In 2025, three development mentor consultants, based in Latin America, East Africa and Southern Africa, supported **1,163** project staff across **112** project teams in **18** countries, working with **33** member organisations in total.

A particular focus of mentors' work over the year was supporting project teams to adapt to the updated requirements of Misean Cara's Grant Management System, especially those members transitioning to Member Managed Grants. Mentors also convened country-level meetings to foster collaboration and shared learning among members.



Misean Cara staff and members at a regional meeting in Uganda to foster mutual learning and collaboration.

Photo: Paul Gichuki



Organisational Learning

Misean Cara actively fosters a community of learning among its members, making knowledge and good practice accessible through research, guidance documents, webinars and workshops that members can draw on and integrate into their work.

In 2025, two initiatives included:

Joint Research on Community Support for Children with Disabilities

In collaboration with the International Union of Superiors General (UISG) and Catholic Care for Children International (CCC), Misean Cara identified family and community support as a priority area for shared learning, recognising its significance for members working with children with disabilities across both networks. A joint research and learning review was commissioned and carried out by Christian Blind Mission Ireland, with the resulting guidance document due to be finalised in early 2026 and presented at the Misean Cara Children with Disabilities Conference in Nairobi in April 2026. The document will be a valuable practical resource for member organisations supporting families of children with disabilities.

The Members' Resource Hub

Misean Cara's online Resource Hub for members provides exclusive access to a growing library of policy documents, guidelines, templates and tools designed to address practical capacity and information needs. In 2025, the platform continued to grow in reach and use, with more than 630 registered users (a 16% increase on 2024) spanning 75 member organisations across 49 countries. Over the course of the year, nearly 4,000 downloads were made across 382 distinct documents, representing a 22% increase on the previous year. The steady growth in usage reflects the value members place on having reliable, relevant resources at their fingertips.

Member: Institute of the Blessed Virgin Mary (Loreto)

Country: India

Photo: Kolkata Mary Ward Ward Social Centre / Silver Lining Project

Safeguarding

Across the Global South, Misesan Cara members and their project teams have established themselves as examples of good practice in safeguarding, particularly in institutional education and healthcare settings where children and young adults are most vulnerable.

In 2025, Misesan Cara continued to support members in maintaining and strengthening a robust, consistent approach to safeguarding across all aspects of their work. Safeguarding policies were reviewed and updated in line with current legislation and best practice, and Misesan Cara's Safeguarding Advisor conducted in-person training sessions in Uganda, Zambia and Kenya during the year. These were complemented by four online webinars for project teams globally, covering Online Safety and Safeguarding Persons with a Disability, with between 50 and 100 member and project team representatives participating in each session.

Quality Assurance

As an organisation, our mission is to resource and enable missionaries to deliver effective development work with the excluded and most vulnerable.

To fulfil this mission and provide accountability to the communities our members serve, and to our donors and other stakeholders, we employ a rigorous standard of Quality Assurance. Our quality assurance framework comprises nine interrelated mechanisms that together provide oversight and compliance across all aspects of our work, assessing members' systems, structures and processes at an organisational level, while independent third parties and Misesan Cara staff review member self-reporting.

Member Managed Grants and Quality Assurance

The significant changes made to Misesan Cara's Grant Management System between 2022 and 2024 have placed greater autonomy in the hands of members and their project teams and brings those decisions closer to the communities they serve. In step with this shift, Misesan Cara's quality assurance processes have also evolved, with the emphasis moving from project delivery to organisational strategy. Members entering the Member Managed Grants scheme are required to demonstrate that they meet defined standards across governance and structure, financial controls, development practice and safeguarding.

Member Monitoring

Reflecting the change of emphasis with the MMG scheme, in 2025 we piloted a new approach to monitoring and engaging with member organisations as a whole, combining strategic conversations with members in Ireland followed up with project monitoring. In 2025, 15 members were monitored under this new model, generating valuable insights into areas for further capacity strengthening, including governance, financial controls, development practice and safeguarding. The approach was reviewed in December 2025, with a number of refinements identified for implementation in 2026.

Developing Effective Partnerships and Alliances

Misean Cara’s reach and impact are strengthened through the partnerships and alliances it builds and sustains at national and international levels. In 2025, two initiatives illustrated the value of this collaborative approach:

Strengthening Collaboration for Mission Development and Sustainable Financing

In 2025, Misean Cara staff participated in several significant Rome-based events aimed at deepening collaboration among grant-making partners and congregational foundations. A key focus was embedding the principles of synodality (collaborative, participatory decision-making) into the work of grant recipients, with joined-up thinking on grant mechanisms, reporting, localisation and long-term sustainable financing. Misean Cara’s Donor Engagement Manager attended two events in Rome as part of this agenda: a workshop on sustainable financing hosted by the Good Shepherd International Foundation (GSIF) and the International Union of Superior Generals (UISG), and a joint event supported by Misean Cara and GSIF exploring synodal approaches to mission development and greater congregational collaboration. In December, Misean Cara’s Funding Manager also addressed the Annual General Assembly of Solidarity with South Sudan in Rome, presenting on the Missionary Approach to Development.

Children with Disabilities: Transforming Lives through Inclusion

Across the Global South, children with disabilities are amongst the most vulnerable and most overlooked. Too often, they face practical barriers to accessing education and healthcare, but also, due to widespread stigma and discrimination, they can be excluded from the most basic experience of belonging, in their families, their schools and their communities. The Misean Cara Children with Disabilities (CWD) programme, funded by the GHR Foundation and Irish Aid for the period July 2023 to August 2026, is working to change that.

Built on the foundations of nine existing disability projects run by five Misean Cara member organisations across Kenya, Uganda, Zambia and South Africa, the CWD programme has three interconnected aims: to develop best practice models of support for children with disabilities, drawing on the significant experience of members; to share what is learned with the wider Misean Cara membership and beyond; and to complement the work of the Catholic Care for Children (CCC) programme, which focuses on transitioning children from institutional settings into family homes in the same four countries.

The CWD programme has focused on strengthening the capacity of member organisations in disability programming, fostering learning and collaboration across projects, and influencing practice and policy in the wider sector. Evidence so far is tangible: children are benefiting from better individual needs assessments, improved education plans, access to specialist supports and sensory equipment, and stronger community awareness and acceptance.

A final programme conference was organised for April 2026, which brought together members, partners and practitioners to share findings, tools and learning with the wider Misean Cara network and others working in the disability sector.

A Framework for Inclusion

A significant milestone of the programme in 2025 was the development of the Children with Disabilities Framework, which is a practical resource designed to support Misean Cara’s wider membership in their work with children with disabilities. Grounded in a holistic vision of care, inclusion and empowerment, the framework is organised around six dimensions of belonging: support for the child at home, family support, inclusive education, access to services, inclusive communities and inclusive societies. Accompanying the framework is a detailed guidance document that we circulated to all members, as well as a self-assessment tool to help organisations identify strengths and gaps in their disability programming. Further guidance papers on disability prevention, safeguarding and family support are currently in preparation.

The Children with Disabilities Framework and Toolkit can be accessed online via this QR code.





Photos: Nyokabi Kahura

Elijah's Story

When Elijah was born, he didn't cry. His mother, Resty, was assured by the doctor that some babies simply don't cry at birth and that over time he would be fine. But as the months passed, it became clear that Elijah wasn't hitting important milestones. He struggled to eat, was persistently underweight, and his delayed development gave growing cause for concern.

It was a neighbour whose own disabled grandchild was receiving support, who first mentioned CHIN, the Children in Need programme run by the Sisters of the Sacred Hearts of Jesus and Mary in Mukono District, Uganda. Resty made the call and one of the Sisters came to visit. After a full assessment by CHIN staff, Elijah was diagnosed with Cerebral Palsy, and CHIN welcomed Elijah and his family into the programme.

That decision was life-changing for Resty's family. Elijah now attends the CHIN centre regularly for physical therapy and education. Resty, meanwhile, has taken part in family support training, learning how to care for a child with a disability and how to advocate for his rights and inclusion. As part of the project's holistic approach to building family resilience, CHIN also supplied her with piglets to raise, a small but meaningful start to a more stable income.

Today, Resty is also working as an assistant teacher at CHIN, supporting both disabled and non-disabled children and helping other families navigate the journey she knows so well.

"When children are given proper support, they tend to have independence, they tend to have resilience," she says.

It is a sentiment echoed by CHIN's Monitoring and Evaluation Officer, Kawemba Richard: ***"The mother is happy, the family is happy."***

Established in 2004, CHIN currently supports 108 children through special needs education and provides therapeutic care and rehabilitation services to 200 children with disabilities and their families, made possible in part through Misesan Cara's CWD programme, with support from the GHR Foundation and Irish Aid.





Rosminian project managers attending a 3-day skills training workshop in Lushoto, Tanzania in October 2025.

Photo: Rosminians

Growing From Within: Building the Next Generation of Rosminian Leaders in East Africa

The Rosminians are growing. Vocations are increasing across East Africa, and a new generation of Tanzanian, Kenyan and Ugandan priests is stepping into leadership of development projects that include health centres, schools and community development. But up to ten years of study and formation for the priesthood has included almost no training in development practice, finance or management. Recognising this gap, and the opportunity it represents, the Rosminians made structured capacity strengthening a strategic priority.

Since 1945, the Rosminians have been serving communities in East Africa, running parishes, health centres, schools and community development projects across Tanzania, Kenya and, most recently, Uganda. Today, their East Africa Province is locally led, staffed entirely by Tanzanian, Kenyan and Ugandan priests, brothers and lay workers, with some from the Indian Province.

In 2025, with Misean Cara support, the Rosminians delivered a series of capacity strengthening workshops, including a three-day training in Lushoto, Tanzania. More than a dozen managers and project staff working across health, education and community development participated, building skills in project cycle management, results-based planning, monitoring and evaluation, financial management, fundraising and safeguarding. A complementary programme of targeted training for nearly 60 students currently in Rosminian formation for the priesthood will help ensure that the next generation of Rosminians arrives at their community development placements equipped and confident from the start for their ministry.

This investment in people is at the heart of Misean Cara's accompaniment model, focused on a commitment to building lasting impact in communities through local leadership that is skilled, supported and continuously learning.



Rosminian students for the priesthood attending a 2-day workshop in Nairobi in October 2025.

Photo: Rosminians

Upholding Rights through our Members’ Work

Our support to Ireland’s missionary organisations comes in the form of project funding and member capacity strengthening services, which helps to enable and advance their ability to deliver life-transforming projects to the furthest behind and most in need. These projects, in alignment with Misesan Cara’s strategy for 2022 – 2026, advance five goals to uphold the rights to climate resilient livelihoods, quality education, better health and access to human rights, along with support during sudden-onset emergencies.

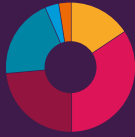
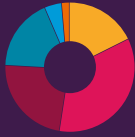
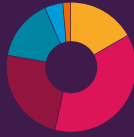
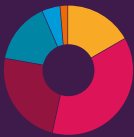
Over the course of pages 20 through 31, we invite you to read about the progress and results achieved in 2025 through our members’ projects in each of Misesan Cara’s five strategic goal areas, along with some of the challenges that were faced over the course of the year.

Charting Progress on our Strategic Goals - Year-on-Year Comparison

Each year, Misesan Cara funds a set of projects presented for approval by its members.

The projects, and what they are aiming to achieve, vary from year to year, so year-on-year trends can only give a sense of the scale of Misesan Cara support, rather than results achieved (see accompanying table). For example, while we can show the number of people reached per year, any variability in this figure is mostly due to the different types of projects funded (ie whether they are service delivery, advocacy, or civil society strengthening) rather than reflecting the ambition of projects funded.

In 2025, the number of people targeted by Misesan Cara projects fell to 1.13 million, from almost 1.9 million in 2024. This reduction aligns with a shift in projects put forward for funding by members, whereby more project objectives were focused on addressing the root causes of poverty through system strengthening than service delivery, which meant that fewer people would be targeted directly by programme interventions. Misesan Cara welcomes this emphasis on addressing structural issues as a cause of poverty, seeing this as a sustainable contribution to addressing people’s needs in the long-term.

	2022	2023	2024	2025
Members funded	53	52	52	51
Countries of activity	53	52	43	40
People reached	1.7m	1.9m	1.9m	1.13m
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Livelihoods ■ Education ■ Health ■ Human Rights ■ Emergencies ■ MCD 	€14.1m 	€13.6m 	€13.8m 	€13.5m 

Strategic Goal 1:

Uphold the Right to Climate Resilient Livelihoods and Decent Jobs



Projects under this goal contribute to UN Sustainable Development Goals: 1, 2, 7, 8, 9, 12, 13, 14 and 15

Our Progress towards Goal 1 in 2025:

71,314
households improved their livelihood opportunities

84%
of households had improved food and nutrition security

1,189
contributions made to strengthen green, low-emission and climate resilient practices and policies

€2,359,282
Total Climate Resilient Livelihoods Spending in 2025

In 2025, **33 Misean Cara members** implemented nearly **€2.36m in funding** for **113 projects** contributing to improved livelihoods across **26 countries**, targeting over **86,000 people**.

For communities across the Global South, the effects of climate change are a daily reality. In 2025, Misean Cara members continued to stand alongside those communities, working to protect livelihoods, strengthen food security and build lasting resilience.

Grounded in long-term relationships of trust and partnership, our members' work goes beyond immediate solutions. Through projects that are rooted in and shaped by the communities they serve, our members supported families and individuals to diversify their incomes, adopt more sustainable farming practices, access clean energy, and take an active role in protecting their local environments.

Across the year, this work took shape in four key areas:

- **Agriculture and Food Systems** — Members promoted sustainable, climate-smart approaches to farming that helped families grow more, waste less and build stronger local food systems, from improving crop varieties to better storage and transport.
- **Household Incomes and Jobs** — Skills training, job creation and support for small enterprises helped individuals and families to increase their incomes and better prepare for economic shocks.
- **Restoring Ecosystems** — Members supported communities in restoring and protecting the natural environments that their livelihoods depend on, while building local awareness of and action on climate change.
- **Renewable Energy** — Access to affordable, clean energy remained a priority, with members supporting communities most exposed to the impact of climate change to adopt renewable technologies that reduce costs and emissions alike.

Working Together for Greater Impact

One of the most powerful ways Misean Cara supports its members is by bringing them together to share knowledge and combine resources. In 2025, the Inter-congregational Sustainable Agriculture Programme (ICSAP), a partnership between seven Misean Cara members*, continued to demonstrate what is possible when organisations collaborate around a common goal. Working with farmers in Uganda, South Sudan and Kenya, the programme promotes farming approaches that are good for both people and the planet.

A particular highlight was the growing uptake of Indigenous Micro Organisms (IMO) technology, which is a low-cost, locally produced alternative to chemical fertilisers, amongst small-scale farmers in Uganda and across East Africa. Spearheaded by the Franciscan Brothers and the Sisters of the Sacred Hearts of Jesus and Mary, in collaboration with agricultural research institutions, this innovation reached over 3,000 farmers, helping them cut costs, improve yields and build healthier soils for the future. The programme's evidence-based advocacy also contributed to the inclusion of sustainable, climate-resilient farming approaches in Uganda's national agricultural training curriculum, promoting a meaningful step towards lasting, systemic change.

* Misean Cara members involved in ICSAP partnership: Daughters of Charity, Franciscan Brothers, Irish Jesuits International, Patrician Brothers, Salesian Sisters, Sisters of the Sacred Hearts of Jesus and Mary, and the Spiritans.

Climate Resilient Livelihoods in 2025: Context and Challenges

Despite facing persistent constraints, and occupying only 9% of agricultural land, in 2025 the world's 500 million smallholder farmers contributed significantly to global food supply and national food systems⁴. Overall, the communities our members work with are among those least responsible for the global climate crisis yet among those hardest hit. In 2025, extreme weather events continued to damage ecosystems, disrupt harvests and undermine livelihoods across the regions where our members work. Responding to these pressures requires solutions that address immediate needs while keeping long-term goals firmly in view, a balanced approach that the missionary approach to development is well positioned to support.

⁴ <https://openknowledge.fao.org/items/0c402799-d523-4164-b953-75f262fb7fbe>

Member: Saint Patrick's Missionary Society / Ungweru Organisation
Country: Malawi

Building a Future Beyond Hunger in Mchilawengo

Justin rarely managed to eat breakfast. Most days he ate once, sometimes twice a day and with meat protein hard to come by, his meals were mostly vegetable-based. "We struggled here when it came to generating income and the availability of food," he recalls. For Veronica, whose farm depended entirely on rainfall that was becoming less and less reliable, food insecurity was also familiar. "I mostly ate once a day," she recalls. "We faced hunger due to erratic rainfall. The harvest from our farms was too little to spare any for business."

Justin and Veronica live in Mchilawengo, a rural community in northern Malawi where, in 2024, their experience was far from unusual. Across the country, over 70% of the population lived on less than \$2.15USD a day, severe malnutrition admissions

had risen by 18% in a single year, and most households in Mchilawengo were producing well below average crop yields.

With Misesan Cara funding, Saint Patrick's Missionary Society and partner organisation Ungweru launched a multi-pronged intervention targeting 320 households. A solar-powered irrigation system freed farmers from dependence on rainfall. A livestock programme provided 32 households with pigs and 55 with chickens, with participants passing on offspring to neighbours and multiplying the benefit across the community. Bean seeds, cultivation training and a formally registered cooperative followed, with the group eventually securing a government loan to expand the community's agricultural capacity further still.

One year on, the results are striking. Bean yields have nearly tripled, groundnut production has more than doubled, and solar technology adoption has leapt from just 4% of households to 64%.

For Justin, the pigs he received have become a source of income that now pays for crop fertiliser, and the fees to send his children to school. For Veronica, the solar-powered irrigation system means she has food and income regardless of the rains. Their stories reflect the fact that in Mchilawengo today, families are not just surviving, they are planning and building a more secure future for themselves and their community.



Photos: Saint Patrick's Missionary Society / Ungweru Organisation



Misean Cara Climate Action Awards 2025

2025 marked the sixth year of the Misean Cara Climate Action Awards, which we launched in 2020 to honour the innovation and commitment of our members to tackling climate change in the vulnerable communities where they work. It is also a way for us to support our members in addressing a strategic priority area for Misean Cara.

Partnering on Climate Action

The climate emergency remains one of the defining challenges of our time. The years 2023-2025 have constituted the three hottest years ever recorded, and ecological risks have intensified across 96 countries since 2019, due to increased water stress, climate hazards, rising food insecurity and population growth. Those countries that have contributed least to climate breakdown remain those most vulnerable to its impact, and the least prepared to adapt to and mitigate its effects.

Poor and marginalised people suffer disproportionately from the lasting environmental and economic damage caused by rising temperatures, erratic weather patterns, severe drought and flooding, and biodiversity loss. This deepens the inequalities that threaten health, safety and livelihoods for millions already on the margins.

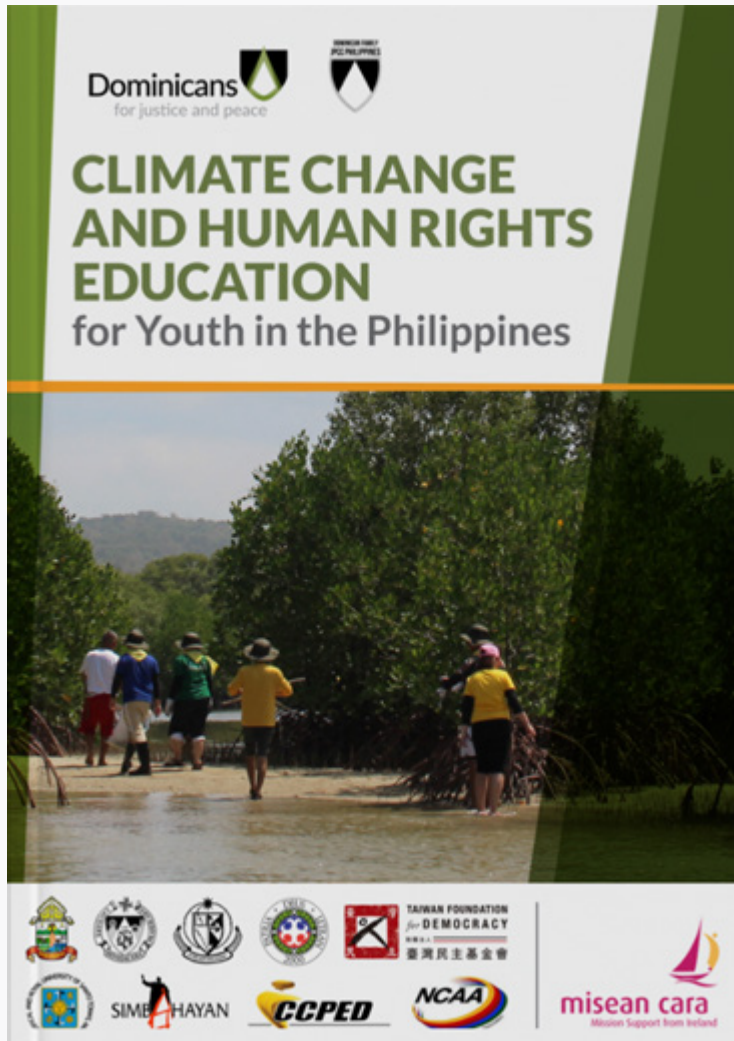
Working in 40 countries across the Global South, our members partner with communities in some of the hardest hit countries to develop sustainable, simple and cost-effective solutions to minimise the impact from the climate crisis. These solutions aim to prepare vulnerable communities for an uncertain future, building resilience through education, innovation and locally driven action.

2025 Climate Action Award Winners

This year's Climate Action Awards recognised three winners, whose projects span the Philippines, Zambia, Malawi and Zimbabwe. The winning projects are distinct for their focus on different dimensions of climate action: from education and youth advocacy to indigenous community engagement to generating green employment opportunities for out-of-work young people.

As part of its 2022–2026 Strategy, Misean Cara is focusing additional resources on the climate crisis and sustainability in all areas of support to its members. Misean Cara supports its members to:

- Improve agriculture, sustainable land practices, food nutrition and security
- Increase household income through skills training, job creation and improved livelihoods
- Contribute to sustainable local food systems strengthening
- Restore ecosystems
- Access renewable energy and technologies that help with adaptation



Second Place Project:

Enhancing Mangrove Biodiversity and Disaster Resilience in the Sama-Bajau Community

Member:

Edmund Rice Development

Country:

Philippines

Third Place Project:

Bridging Innovation and Learning for Marginalised Youth: Environmental Education and Solar Skills Training

Member:

Salesians of Don Bosco Ireland

Countries:

Zambia, Malawi, Zimbabwe



First Place Project:

Mainstreaming Climate Change and Human Rights Education for Youth in the Philippines

Member:

Dominican Sisters

Country:

Philippines

In the Philippines — a country significantly affected by climate change — the Dominican Sisters are transforming how young people learn about, and act on, environmental and human rights issues. At the heart of the project is an innovative educational handbook, the first of its kind within the Catholic educational context in the Philippines. Designed for both educators and students, it provides practical lesson plans aligned with the national curriculum, reframing climate change as both an environmental and social justice issue.

More than 100 educators from 58 schools tested the handbook, and within its first year over 9,400 students engaged with its materials. Some schools formally integrated it into their curriculum, while others launched complementary initiatives such as mangrove conservation projects and coastal clean-up campaigns. The project's influence has also reached national and international levels: the handbook was presented to the Philippines Department of Education and the Commission on Human Rights, and was showcased at COP29 in Azerbaijan, ensuring that local experiences continue to inform global climate policy discussions.

“The handbook was not just another manual. It gave us concrete lesson plans and tools that fit with our national curriculum, making it easy to bring climate change and human rights into the classroom.”

Filipino Teacher,
Dominican School Network

Strategic Goal 2:

Upholding the Right to Quality Education



Projects under this goal contribute to UN Sustainable Development Goals: 4, 5, 8, 10, 16

Our Progress towards Goal 2 in 2025:

118,807

learners enrolled in quality education

98.1%

of learners remained enrolled throughout the school year

1,868

contributions to education system strengthening

€5,123,902

Total Education Spending in 2025

In 2025, **32 Misean Cara members** implemented nearly **€5.12m in funding** for **166 projects** contributing to education in **33 countries**, targeting over **254,000 people**.

Education is one of the most powerful tools available for breaking cycles of poverty, but only when it is truly accessible, inclusive and of good quality. In 2025, Misean Cara members worked across the Global South to make quality education a reality for children and young people most at risk of being left behind.

Our members' work in Education spanned a wide range of contexts and needs, with a number of key themes emerging across the year:

- **Reaching the Excluded** — From children with disabilities in Zambia and Nepal to domestic workers' children in Haiti and girls facing barriers to secondary education in Madagascar, our members focused on those most at risk of being left out of learning, their projects are providing second-chance education, vocational pathways and community-led advocacy to boost access and ensure rights to education are upheld.
- **Supporting Displaced Learners** — In conflict-affected and fragile settings including South Sudan, Burkina Faso, Lebanon and Colombia, members delivered flexible, locally embedded education responses for refugees and internally displaced children.

These projects are addressing not just learning needs but also trauma, language barriers and the practical challenges of insecurity and poverty. In July 2025, Misean Cara brought together members working with forcibly displaced learners to share experiences, insights and findings from a 2024 external review, which highlighted the promising, locally led approaches emerging across diverse contexts.

- **Inclusive Education for Children with Disabilities** — Several members deepened their commitment to inclusive education in 2025, combining teacher training, peer-led psychosocial support, and the strengthening of Parent-Teacher Associations and School Management Committees to improve and sustain service delivery for children with disabilities.
- **Education and Climate Resilience** — Climate change is proving increasingly disruptive to education, with extreme weather damaging infrastructure and interrupting school calendars. Our members responded to a growing number of climate-related education emergencies, while also recognising education itself as a vital tool for building communities' long-term resilience to the many damaging effects of climate change.

Education in 2025: Context and Challenges

Encouraging progress was seen in global education during 2025, with more children than ever in school. Participation in early years education is growing, particularly in sub-Saharan Africa where in the past decade there has been a ten-percent increase at this level⁵. Less encouraging are signs of the pressures on these hard-won gains. 272 million children and young people worldwide remain out of education entirely. Global spending per child has barely moved since 2010, raising real concerns about quality and learning outcomes even with rising enrolment⁶. For our members, the impact of climate change, conflict and displacement are some of the biggest obstacles to upholding the right to quality education.

⁵ World Education Statistics 2025 | Institute for Statistics (UIS)

⁶ media.unesco.org/sites/default/files/webform/ed3002/wwh-education-finance-insightnote.pdf

Member: Marist Brothers
Country: Cambodia

LaValla School - Bringing Inclusive Education to Children with Disabilities in Cambodia

When Pheak arrived at LaValla School in 2016, he came in a wheelchair, his legs straight out in front of him due to his knees being positioned at the reverse of his legs. He had one simple wish: to be able to sit with his legs facing downwards. With the support of visiting surgeons, a complex operation and eight months in plaster casts followed by intensive physiotherapy, that wish was granted. Three years later, at his Year 6 graduation ceremony, Pheak walked to the front of the room to collect his certificate.

In Cambodia, a child born with a physical disability faces odds that are stacked against them from the very beginning. The country has the largest gap in educational attainment between students with and without disabilities in the whole of Southeast Asia, with nearly half of all people with disabilities excluded from education nearly entirely. Stigma, poverty, inaccessible infrastructure and a shortage of trained teachers combine to keep children out of classrooms that could change their lives. For girls with disabilities, the barriers are even greater; they are among the first to drop out, vulnerable to early marriage and compounded discrimination that limits their opportunities.

Since 1998, LaValla School in Takhmao has been consistently helping children with disabilities overcome these barriers and achieve success for themselves beyond the school walls. Run by the Marist Brothers, with support from Misesan Cara, LaValla is Cambodia's only dedicated school for children with physical disabilities, helping to transform hundreds of lives over more than two decades.

What makes LaValla exceptional is not just what it teaches, but how. With a teacher-to-student ratio of 1:11, every child receives individual attention and support. Crucially, all of LaValla's teachers are themselves graduates of the school; qualified educators with disabilities who bring not just professional expertise but

lived experience to their classrooms and provide a model of inspiration for the students.

The school provides primary education on-site, with students then supported to transition into secondary education in inclusive government schools, helping to foster social integration and self-reliance. Healthcare and rehabilitation services, including physiotherapy, hydrotherapy and prosthetic support, address students' physical needs alongside their academic ones. Extracurricular programmes are provided in music, sewing, English and computing to broaden horizons and build skills for future employment. LaValla also sponsors girl-led initiatives to strengthen self-esteem, promote gender equality and actively challenge the cultural norms that put girls at greatest risk of dropping out.

The outcomes at LaValla speak to what is possible when children with disabilities are supported holistically. Around 85% of LaValla's secondary students pass national exams and go on to higher education. Graduates are finding skilled employment, achieving financial independence and through their example are helping to shift their communities' perceptions of what a person with a disability can achieve.

Pheak is among them. In 2025 he completed Year 12 and moved on to university on a scholarship from the Cambodian Ministry of Education. He has represented Cambodia in parasports, competing in wheelchair shot put at international events.

LaValla School is proof that disability need never define a child's future. With the right support, the right teachers and the right mindset, every child can achieve their full potential.

Strategic Goal 3:

Upholding the Right to Better Health, Clean Water and Sanitation



Projects under this goal contribute to UN Sustainable Development Goals: 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 10, 13

Our Progress towards Goal 3 in 2025:

+ 983,000
people accessed improved healthcare

70%
of service users accessed health services free of charge

2,000
health care professionals trained or upskilled

693
contributions to building stronger health systems

€2,701,212
Total Health Spending in 2025

In 2025, **28 Misean Cara members** implemented over **€2.7m** in funding for **105 projects** contributing to better health outcomes across **24 countries**, targeting over **488,000 people**.

Good health is both a fundamental human right and a foundation for all other aspects of life from education to livelihoods to strong families and communities. In 2025, Misean Cara members continued to bring essential health services to some of the most remote, marginalised and vulnerable communities in the Global South, working where the need is greatest but often underserved due to distance and instability.

Across the year, our members' work centred on several interconnected themes:

- **Maternal and Child Health —**
With 95% of all maternal deaths occurring in low- and middle-income countries, the vast majority preventable, members maintained a strong focus on improving access to maternal, newborn and child healthcare, through investments in infrastructure, outreach services and the training of skilled health professionals.

- **Holistic Health and Wellbeing —**
Recognising that good healthcare is more than just a matter of access to a clinic, our members took a whole-person approach to wellbeing. This included the integration of psychosocial support and counselling for at-risk and trauma-affected populations — among them conflict-affected children in Lebanon, Colombia and Uganda, and addiction-affected young people in Kenya and Myanmar.

- **Tackling Disease —**
Members strengthened community capacity to prevent and treat communicable diseases such as malaria, TB and HIV/AIDS, as well as non-communicable conditions such as diabetes and hypertension, through health education, mobile clinics, telemedicine and targeted public health messaging.

- **Water, Sanitation and Health Infrastructure —**
Investment in WASH facilities and broader health infrastructure remained a priority, helping to create the conditions in which communities can sustain good health outcomes for the long term.

SafeBirth4All: Working to End Obstetric Fistula

Obstetric fistula is one of the most overlooked public health and human rights crises facing women and girls in the Global South and one that is almost entirely preventable. Misean Cara is a founding member of the SafeBirth4All coalition, which brings together the Medical Missionaries of Mary, AMRI and Rights Proof in a shared mission to prevent and eradicate obstetric fistula globally by 2040. In 2025, the coalition hosted a conference in Dublin to coincide with the International Day to End Obstetric Fistula, launched a dedicated web presence and continued to build the advocacy and programme structures needed to turn commitment into lasting change.



Health in 2025: Context and Challenges

In 2025, global health saw significant contributions made in eliminating communicable and tropical diseases but also brought with it some serious reversals, many resulting from significant global aid cuts over the year (falling to their lowest level in 15 years)⁷. The impact of aid cuts is being felt seriously across maternal and child health where for the first time this century, under-five mortality is projected to rise. Vaccination programmes have been disrupted, as well as disease surveillance and maternal health services in the countries that can least afford it. Progress in global immunisation coverage has stalled, skilled care at birth is still far from universal, and more than one billion people worldwide are living with mental health conditions that health systems are struggling to address.

⁷ [https://www.thelancet.com/journals/lancet/article/PIIS0140-6736\(25\)02313-X/abstract?rss=yes](https://www.thelancet.com/journals/lancet/article/PIIS0140-6736(25)02313-X/abstract?rss=yes)

Member: Mill Hill Missionaries

Country: Pakistan

Community Healthcare Transforming Lives in Rural Pakistan

Ramzi's family are Kutchi Kholi, a tribal people in Pakistan's Sindh province. They are landless sharecroppers at the bottom of a rigid caste system. For the last fifteen years, Ramzi and his family have worked on a landlord's land in Chambar village, Sindh province, tending to fields from dawn to dusk, earning very low wages, and forbidden from building a safe, permanent home of their own. Poor access to clean water means the family contends with chronic skin diseases, intestinal infections and constant risk from other more serious water borne diseases.

Government health services are difficult to access and when devastating floods hit the region in 2022, the health situation got worse. 7.4 million people across Sindh were displaced, and families like Ramzi's, already living on the edge, were pushed into deeper crisis. For women and children, the consequences were especially severe. Limited healthcare resulted in persistent maternal mortality rates, chronic malnutrition, and untreated disease and infection including diarrhoea, malaria and Hepatitis C.

With Misesan Cara funding, the Mill Hill Missionaries launched a Community Healthcare Project in Tando Allahyar that operates on the conviction that prevention and education are as vital as treatment and medication. Trained midwives conduct regular home visits and health awareness sessions across 15 villages, covering prenatal care, nutrition, hygiene and disease prevention. Thirty hand pumps installed across 15 villages are providing clean water to families for the first time, with locally elected pump committees ensuring long-term maintenance. A Training of Trainers programme is building a network of local women equipped to carry health knowledge into their communities long after the project ends and teenage mothers are receiving prenatal support and becoming peer advocates for other young women. As an indication of community mindset change, villagers who once avoided hospitals out of fear of discrimination are now seeking medical care independently.

Ramzi's family, with the support of the project team, has also taken an important step in building a healthier more secure future for themselves. Pooling savings from selling livestock, he and his brothers purchased their own plot of land and were assisted in navigating the ownership documentation process to secure their land rights. Fifteen other families have moved with them and now live in permanent homes with clean water and toilets.

"We are now free and living in peace," one of the women said shortly after the move. "We have made some good steps."



Photos: Mill Hill Missionaries



Strategic Goal 4:

Upholding and Advocating for Human Rights



Projects under this goal contribute to UN Sustainable Development Goals: 1, 4, 5, 8, 10, 11, 13, 16

Our Progress towards Goal 4 in 2025:

1.1m
people in 26 countries supported in claiming their rights

8,588
cases of human rights violations were reported to authorities

927
victims of human rights violations accessed justice and legal support

881
contributions to human rights systems strengthening

€2,545,653
Total Human Rights Spending in 2025

In 2024, 29 Misean Cara members implemented over **€2.54m** in funding for **124 projects** promoting human rights across **22 countries**, targeting over **260,000 people**.

Upholding human rights is integral to all the work of Misean Cara’s members, woven through projects in education and livelihoods to health and emergency response. In 2025, members continued to stand alongside those most at risk, working at the community level to protect and promote rights, while also engaging at national and international levels to advocate for stronger legal frameworks and more effective protections.

Across the year, members’ work spanned four interconnected areas:

- **Raising Awareness and Mobilising for Rights –**
Members integrated advocacy into their projects, with a particular focus on forcibly displaced people. In Kenya, Zambia, Nigeria and South Africa, members worked to strengthen the capacities of people with disabilities and the institutions serving them, building opportunities for equitable access to livelihoods, health and education.
- **Realising Rights in Practice –**
From empowering student campaigns for child-friendly cities in India to developing community-driven alternatives to child labour in the cobalt mining regions of the DRC to providing holistic care for crime-affected children in urban Brazil, we funded our members work to turn rights from theory into lived reality. In Lebanon, Thailand, Colombia,

South Sudan and South Africa, our members also supported displaced households to access legal counsel and basic services, navigating systems that are often complex, underfunded and difficult to reach.

- **Protecting Land Rights –**
Inequitable access to land leaves many households at risk of being dispossessed, particularly those in indigenous communities or those headed by women and older people. In Uganda, Kenya and Paraguay, members worked to strengthen locally led systems by providing legal support, conflict mediation and knowledge to help communities engage effectively with the authorities responsible for protecting their rights.
- **The Right to a Healthy Environment –**
Members advanced the right to a clean, healthy and sustainable environment through local campaigns, awareness raising and direct engagement with public authorities in countries including Haiti, Kenya and the Philippines, with a particular focus on communities in informal urban settlements and climate-vulnerable coastal and riverside areas.

Human Rights in 2025: Context and Challenges

Trends that have been building for years intensified in 2025, including the spread of authoritarianism, the erosion of civil and democratic freedoms, and the undermining of international legal frameworks. Millions living through conflict, repression and environmental disaster found themselves without adequate State or legal protection. Children remained disproportionately affected, with over half of detected trafficking cases in sub-Saharan Africa and South Asia involving children, while people with disabilities, particularly women, children and those in rural areas, continued to face persistent and serious abuses.

Closing the Digital Divide for Girls

In 2025, two Misesan Cara members, the Salesian Sisters and the Good Shepherd Sisters, continued a joint initiative to advance digital rights for girls across six countries in the Global South. Combining hands-on digital skills training with high-level advocacy, the project contributed a submission to a UN consultation on youth and digital education, drawing on voices from 16 countries. A Misesan Cara learning event in September brought members together to share insights on digital rights, online safety and mental health, and the difference access to technology is making in girls' lives in communities from rural India to South Sudan.



Member: Edmund Rice Development
Country: Kenya

“I’m Not Just a Mother, I’m Also a Girl with a Future”: Sarah’s Story from Langas, Kenya

Sarah was seventeen, a first-time mother of a newborn baby, and facing a very uncertain future. With only a primary school education, and emotional trauma from years of neglect and abuse while living in her grandmother’s home, she was forced to leave because of the pregnancy and resettle in a new community with her mother and aunt. Feeling isolated and hopeless, Sarah very nearly lost her will to live. “Before this programme,” she would later say, “I had no voice and no plan. I used to cry alone and think my life had ended.”

Sarah grew up in Langas, an informal settlement in Eldoret, Kenya, where poverty, gender inequality and little access to reproductive health services leave many adolescent girls vulnerable. For girls like Sarah, early pregnancy brings not just hardship but an erosion of fundamental rights: the right to education, to dignity and a future she chooses for herself.

With Misesan Cara funding, the Edmund Rice Eldoret Empowerment Program (EREPP) runs Wezesha Dada, a human rights-centred empowerment project for girls that tackles these challenges at every level of community life, believing that real change requires the transformation of the homes, schools, and community structures that shape girls’ lives.

To help them overcome barriers and stay in school, over 1,000 girls have received menstrual hygiene support and 1,108 have completed sexual and reproductive health and rights education. Teachers, community health workers and caregivers have been taught to respond to vulnerable girls with empathy and rights-based practice. The project has also engaged more than 900 boys in positive masculinity sessions aimed at teaching them to stand with rather than against girls and their rights.

Sarah’s turning point came when a Wezesha Dada mentor found her during a door-to-door outreach and simply listened. She was invited to join a young mothers’ group, where life skills sessions, one-to-one mentorship and the company of peers who understood her experience began to slowly rebuild her confidence. With her mentor’s encouragement, she re-enrolled in secondary school and is now on track to complete her final year.

“Now I believe I can finish school and start my salon one day. I’m not just a mother, I’m also a girl with a future.”

In Langas, across the community, attitudes that once normalised abuse and excluded young mothers are beginning to shift. A coordinated support system is emerging in homes, schools and community spaces where the dignity, education and agency of adolescent girls are not just recognised but actively championed.

Strategic Goal 5:

Emergency Assistance

Total Emergency Assistance Spending in 2025:

€459,472

Each year, we allocate dedicated funding to ensure that our members can respond rapidly when sudden crises strike. In 2025, that funding enabled the swift delivery of lifesaving aid, essential supplies and compassionate care to those hardest hit, supporting individuals, families and communities as they began the long road to recovery.

The global humanitarian landscape in 2025 continued to be shaped by escalating crises driven by intensifying conflict and climate-related disasters and often leading to population displacement. Around the world, the total number of people displaced by emergencies rose to over 120 million, marking a tenth consecutive year of increase. While wars in Gaza, Ukraine, and Sudan drew much of the world's attention, many climate-driven emergencies, including flooding, drought, and tropical storms stretched the resilience of local response systems and global humanitarian resources alike and were a focus for our members' emergency response.

Amid this challenging landscape, Misean Cara members were often among the first to respond, made possible by their long-term presence and deep-rooted trust within the communities they serve. From supporting communities affected by major oil spillages in Ecuador and cyclones in Madagascar to earthquakes in the Philippines and conflict in South Kivu in the DRC, our members delivered targeted, rapid responses where they were needed most.

Meeting the immediate and complex needs of displaced people was a recurring theme across 2025. The Presbyterian Church in Ireland provided life-saving cash assistance to 105 households returning to Herat Province in Afghanistan, a country where over 17 million people faced acute food insecurity over the winter. Members also responded to devastating floods across Kenya, India, Nigeria, Zambia and Brazil.

In Nairobi, following a devastating fire in the Madoya slum in September, the Franciscan Missionary Sisters for Africa moved swiftly to provide food, shelter and rent support to affected families, while connecting 167 children and young people with trauma counselling, school supplies and income-generating activities to support their recovery.

In 2025, Misean Cara members **responded to 32 sudden-onset emergencies** implemented by **13 members** in **19 countries**, targeting over **47,000 people**.

Key Support Areas

Cyclone:

Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), Haiti, Madagascar, Mozambique, Zambia

Earthquake:

Myanmar, Philippines

Fire:

Kenya

Floods & Landslides:

India, Kenya, Mexico, Mozambique, Nigeria, Pakistan, South Sudan, Zambia

Oil Spill:

Ecuador

Typhoon:

Philippines

War & Conflict:

Afghanistan, DRC, Rwanda, South Sudan, Syria

Member: Presentation Sisters

Country: Philippines

Rooted in Community: The Presentation Sisters Respond to Typhoon Kalmaegi

When Typhoon Kalmaegi struck the central Philippines in November 2025, it became the deadliest to strike the region since 2021, leaving at least 269 people dead and another 523 injured and 113 missing. The coastal communities near Cebu, no strangers to climate-related crises, were left devastated by flooding, destroyed homes, and the sudden loss of crops and livelihoods.

In low-lying Binalbagan, surrounded by mountains, rivers and seas on three sides, floodwaters from multiple directions converged at high tide, sweeping away homes and crops. For the indigenous Badjao community, located in Mambaling, Cebu City, their coastal home offered no protection from the typhoon's force or the surging tides, leaving their homes roofless, flooded and uninhabitable after the storm.

The Presentation Sisters have been rooted in these local communities for decades, with 26 years of continuous ministry in the Badjao community alone. In the immediate aftermath of Kalmaegi, the Sisters opened their school in Binalbagan as an evacuation centre, offering shelter, food and care to families left without housing. In the weeks that followed, working closely with community leaders and local teachers, they delivered

food hampers, clothing, blankets, household essentials and roofing materials to 41 families in Binalbagan and 520 Badjao households, reaching an estimated 2,100 people. On Christmas Eve, 520 families received food hampers prepared together with local youth and teachers, an act of solidarity and hope during an especially difficult time that happened to coincide with the 250th Anniversary of the foundation of the Presentation Sisters Congregation with the aim of serving the needs of the most marginalised.

Beyond the practical, the Sisters also aimed from the start to bring moral support and encouragement to the communities, as a necessary first step towards helping them get started with rebuilding their lives and livelihoods, and to help position them to be active participants in advocating for increased protection of their homes, livelihoods, and their basic human rights in the face of increasing climate change.

The response of the Presentation Sisters after Typhoon Kalmaegi reflects the strength of Misesan Cara's members during sudden onset emergencies. Rooted in long-term relationships, presence and trust, they are able to respond quickly with support and hope when disaster strikes.



Photos: Presentation Sisters

Public Engagement and Fundraising

Public Profile Building and Engagement

In 2025, Misean Cara's communications strategy and activities aligned with and supported the organisation's overall Strategy for 2022 – 2026, in particular the objective to build Misean Cara's profile with Irish audiences and to support our efforts to grow and diversify its income streams.

Throughout the year, we undertook a multi-channel approach to our communications, aiming to amplify campaigns and messaging that focused on a range of topics, events, and fundraising initiatives. We put emphasis on creating regular, engaging content for Misean Cara's website and social media channels in order to build online engagement, while also increasing our profile through sustained advertising campaigns and coverage in print, online and broadcast media. Since 2021, Misean Cara has informed its communications strategy with research from the Dóchas Worldview Study into public perceptions and opinions about Ireland's Overseas Development Assistance programme. Insights and data from Worldview is used to determine where, when and how best to reach Irish audiences with targeted messaging. We also share these findings with Misean Cara members to help inform their own engagement strategies with supporters.

In 2025, advertising and interviews with Misean Cara staff and Misean Cara members were heard on radio outlets reaching audiences of 540,000+ weekly listeners across Ireland. Coverage about Misean Cara and its members was featured in more than 40 editorial and special interest articles that appeared in print and online publications. These included topics such as: the living legacy of Irish missionary work; Misean Cara's 2024 Annual Report launch; World Mission Sunday; the Misean Cara Climate Action Awards; and members and projects reaching significant milestones, such as Sr. Teresa McKeon (Sisters of Saint Joseph of Cluny) celebrating 70 years as a missionary in Sierra Leone, and the 30th anniversary of the Sisters of Saint Louis AAVE Group project in Brazil.

Misean Cara's website was updated with more than 23 news features, seven staff- and guest-authored blogs, and five special campaign landing pages all promoted through social media, helping to achieve an almost 10% increase in web visits over 2024. A special feature of our annual broadcast calendar is the RTÉ World Mission Sunday Mass which airs each October to a live TV audience across Ireland and globally (through RTÉ's streaming service). This broadcast mass has been co-hosted annually by Misean Cara for more than 10 years along with MISSIO Ireland and AMRI. As sponsor of The Irish Catholic Newspaper's Mission Sunday Supplement in late October, Misean Cara was the focus of coverage showcasing missionary development projects around the world and the enduring Irish missionary tradition. The supplement was distributed to the Irish Catholic's readership of 24,600 weekly subscribers across Ireland and an online audience of 2,700 website visitors (7,000 page views daily).

Across its four main social media channels, Misean Cara in 2025 continued to see increased gains in engagement and reach, including a 44% increase in Facebook views over 2024, and a more than 80% increase in Instagram views in 2025 after launching the channel in 2024.

While taking stock of the year's progress and results, it is important to recognise the challenges experienced along the way in our efforts to increase the reach and impact of our messaging. The rise of mis- and dis-information regarding global issues is felt as much in Ireland as around the world, creating a more challenging media and digital landscape for communicating accurately and effectively around issues of global aid and international development. This was perhaps especially true in regards to social media, where negative messaging and content on some platforms rose substantially in 2025. The rapidly growing use of AI in 2025 also created new challenges for communicators in the INGO sector, who must remain vigilant to counteract the negative effects of AI generated images on wider perceptions of humanitarian work.

Fundraising

Our fundraising objective for 2025 focused on cultivating funding partnerships with new and existing donors whose values align with Mísean Cara and our members. We employed a grants officer to specifically develop our prospect pipeline and to work cross-organisationally and with our members, to match funding opportunities with innovative programmes that address the needs of those we serve.

There were many challenges throughout the year, including Global ODA cuts which made funding even more competitive, with funders citing a dramatic increase in the number for funding applications received. During the year we approached 17 donors with proposals, 14 of which were new donors to Mísean Cara. By year's end, we had received notification of six rejected proposals, two successes and nine pending decisions. We also received €330,765 from existing donors for programmes including GHR Foundation's support for our Children with Disabilities Programme, a multi-country, multi-congregational initiative. ESB Electric Aid provided funding towards the SafeBirth4All (SB4A) campaign, a coalition working to end Obstetric Fistula. While the Brigidine Sisters continued to support the SSHJM Inclusive Development Programme (IDP), in Northern Province, Zambia.

We received notification of funding from two new donors late in 2025, the Michael Guinee Foundation for €100,000 SB4A project implemented by the Medical Missionaries of Mary in Nigeria, and USD\$10,000 from NuSkin Force for Good Foundation for LaValla School for Children with Disabilities in Cambodia, supported by the Marist Brothers, all of which will be delivered in 2026.

In addition to the above, we also received €245,397 from our members, from the Mísean Cara membership contribution scheme.

Mísean Cara once again received the Charities Institute of Ireland's Triple Lock status, demonstrating the highest standards of transparency, governance, and ethical fundraising and reinforcing public and donor confidence in our organisation.

For every €1 we spent on fundraising in 2025, we raised €3.



Irish Aid – Strategic Funding Partnership

Since Mísean Cara was established in 2004, the Government of Ireland's Irish Aid programme has been our primary source of funding and our most enduring partner in the work of supporting missionary-led development. Over more than two decades, that partnership has enabled us to receive and disburse millions of Euro in support to our members for their work to reach some of the world's most marginalised communities across Africa, Asia, Latin America and the Middle East.

In 2025, our partnership with Irish Aid entered an important new chapter. An independent strategic review, jointly undertaken by both organisations, provided an opportunity to reflect on the legacy of Irish missionary development — past, present and future — and to chart a course forward together. The review examined the strategic, operational and financial dimensions of our partnership and resulted in a shared conceptual framework for its longer-term evolution. Its findings will also inform Mísean Cara's own strategic planning process as we look ahead to 2026 and beyond.



Irish Aid

An Roinn Gnóthaí Eachtracha agus Trádála
Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade

Nurturing Our Team and Culture

Within our 2022 – 2026 Misean Cara Strategy is a set of four Organisational Objectives, the first of which is: Nurture our team culture.

To uphold this, we are committed to building and supporting a culture that reflects our organisational values, prioritising wellbeing and encouraging continuous improvement amongst our staff.

Each year we conduct a staff survey to strengthen the understanding of how our employees are engaged in their work and the organisation’s performance. Results, comparable against other organisations in the Irish community, voluntary and charitable sector are presented to staff for discussion and drawn upon for planning. Survey results in 2025 indicated Misean Cara exceeding the benchmarked score for overall employee engagement, and team relationships.

Staff retention remained high during the year, with two fixed term contracts reaching completion and not replaced. One member of staff resigned to take up employment overseas and one member of staff retired. Both were replaced through open external recruitment exercises.

During 2025, staff training took a collective approach to explore contextual changes within the aid sector. We enrolled 11 staff from our funding, learning, donor engagement and communications teams on the Justice Based Approach (JBA) course offered by United Edge to explore the rapidly changing development context, current development theory and approaches. The six-week JBA course facilitated engagement with development practitioners globally, enabling the team to critically assess and debate current development approaches with respect to the Missionary Approach to Development and distil learning to advance the mission of Misean Cara.

Organisational Objectives:

Nurture our team culture

Increase our profile in Ireland and diversify & increase our funding

Rationalise & strengthen our member services

Develop effective partnerships & alliances

Our Values

Respect

Justice

Commitment

Compassion

Integrity

Trust



Miscan Cara AGM, June 2025
Photo: Jenny Barker Photography

Governance & Audit

Legal Status

Constitution and objects

Misean 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 accessing, securing and administering funds for poverty relief development projects and training 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. Misean Cara was set up in 2004 to distribute public funding amongst the 77 missionary and lay missionary organisations that make up its members, thus supporting their work in over 50 countries. It is governed by the Board of Directors. The Directors who held office in 2025 are listed on Page 37 of this report. The list of Misean Cara member organisations in 2025 appears on the inside back cover of this report.

Misean Cara's Board of Directors

Misean Cara is guided by a Board of Directors with responsibility for oversight of governance, policy development, strategy and fiduciary matters. Our Board members draw on vast experience in overseas development, as well expertise in other areas including marketing, fundraising, financial management, safeguarding and legislation.

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 control 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 six occasions during 2025.

Our board members are elected by members at Misean Cara's AGM and serve for a three-year term. 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.

Membership to our 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 Misean Cara's vision and mission; and
- An ability to effectively conduct oversight of the performance of Misean 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 Misean Cara, i.e. to act personally and not as the representative of any group or organisation.

The Board of Directors met on six occasions during 2025. Each individual Director's attendance is outlined on the next page along with a short biography.

Misean Cara Board of Directors 2025

Philip O'Brien was elected Chairperson of the Misean Cara Board in 2025, having joined the Board in 2023. Philip's experience in international development includes work in health and educational strategy development; fundraising; child rights; and public policy and advocacy. He has held senior leadership positions overseas with UNICEF, Concern Worldwide and the Elizabeth Glaser Pediatric AIDS Foundation. Philip is currently President Emeritus of the Board of Association Montessori Internationale. (6/6).

Elizabeth Bolger, was elected as Vice-Chairperson in 2025 after joining the Board in 2023. Elizabeth has 25 years' experience in the nonprofit sector, in Ireland and abroad, including as Director of People, Programmes & Strategic HR with The Wheel and time with an international development agriculture project in Uganda. She is currently Director of Operations with the Irish Rule of Law International and has served on the Board of Comhlámh. (6/6)

Charles Lamson joined the Board in 2020 and is also the Chairperson of the Fundraising Committee. He is Head of Fundraising for the Irish Red Cross and has served as CEO of Sightsavers Ireland and as a Board member of Dóchas. His career includes over 20 years in not-for-profit leadership and fundraising in the US and Ireland. (5/6)

Sr. Franca Onyibor, a Misean Cara Board member since 2021, is the congregational leader of the Missionary Sisters of the Holy Rosary. She has over 20 years of mission experience as an educator in Zambia and Nigeria. She has also worked on peacebuilding in Nigeria and children's rights in Chicago. She has a background in science, counselling, spirituality, and nonviolent communication. (5/6)

Fr. Seamus O'Neill of St. Patrick's Missionary Society joined the Misean Cara Board in 2021 and is Chairperson of the Financial Oversight, Risk & Audit Committee. He has worked as a missionary in Turkana, Kenya and later as Chancellor of Lodwar Diocese. He has also served as Congregational Leader of St. Patrick's Missionary Society. (5/6)

Reverend John Parkin, a retired Methodist Minister, joined Misean Cara's Board in 2023. His experience in international development includes work with Christian Aid and the Methodist World Development and Relief Fund. He served as an election observer in South Africa in 1994 during the country's first full democratic elections, and as a human rights observer in Palestine. (6/6)

Eileen Hoffler, who joined the Board in 2023, has a background in community development including past roles with the Society of St Vincent de Paul, as CEO of SERVE and project work with several missionary congregations. Eileen currently runs a nonprofit consultancy and is pursuing a PhD on Irish missionaries' response to evolving development discourse. (4/6)

Aidan Eames, who joined the Board in 2023, is a practising solicitor and consultant with Clark Hill LLP, with specialties in regulation and governance in for-profit and nonprofit organisations. Aidan has served on the boards of numerous charitable organisations including as Chairman and Acting CEO of the Agency for Personal Services Overseas/APSO. (6/6)

Tina Campbell is an independent safeguarding consultant, specialising in work with religious and faith-based congregations, including 25 years' safeguarding experience with the Catholic Church. Tina is a regular speaker at international safeguarding conferences, supporting organisations and religious congregations in reviewing safeguarding policies and implementation and developing safeguarding training programmes. Tina joined the Misean Cara Board in 2024. (5/6)

William J. Carlos joined the Board in June 2025. His distinguished career with Ireland's Department of Foreign Affairs included postings as Ambassador of Ireland to Uganda and Rwanda, Mozambique and Botswana, and the Philippines and Republic of Palau. He also served as Head of Development/Head of Mission for Ireland's Embassy in Tanzania and was Director of the Evaluation and Audit Unit for the Department of Foreign Affairs. He has also worked in Asia, Africa and Eastern Europe with the International Rescue Committee (IRC) and Concern Worldwide. William retired in 2024. (4/4)

Two members retired from the Board in 2025 after completing their two terms of office:

Kevin Carroll served as Chairperson of the Misean Cara Board from 2021, having joined in 2019. Kevin retired from the Board in June 2025. (2/2)

Sr. Josephine McCarthy, Presentation Sisters, joined the Board in 2018, and served as Vice-Chairperson from 2021. She retired from the Board in June 2025. (2/2)



Member: Holy Rosary Sisters, Health Centre Ngonyek climate action projects
Country: Kenya
Photo: Holy Rosary Sisters

Board Sub-Committees

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. As of 31 December 2025, there were six sub-committees of the board.

The Governance Committee is responsible for overseeing that Misean Cara has sufficient resources and the correct skills and expertise in place to achieve its specific 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. Committee meetings are attended by the Company Secretary and the CEO. The Committee met on six occasions during 2025.

Committee Members

Aidan Eames (Director & Chair of Committee) Attended 4 of the 4 committee meetings he was eligible to attend.
Elizabeth Bolger (Director & Vice-Chair of Committee) - 3/4
Prof. Gerry Whyte - 4/4
Edward Keane - 4/4
Philip O'Brien (Director) - 3/4
Kevin Carroll (Director) - 1/2 (Retired 25 June 2025)
Sr. Josephine McCarthy - 2/2 (Retired 25 June 2025)

The Remuneration Committee was established by the Board in 2024 to assist the Board in fulfilling its oversight responsibilities in relation to remuneration matters. The Committee met once in 2025.

Committee Members

Elizabeth Bolger (Director & Chair of Committee) - 1/1
Aidan Eames (Director) - 1/1
Fr. Seamus O'Neill (Director) - 1/1

The Financial Oversight, Risk and Audit Committee (FORAC) is responsible for monitoring and assessing Mísean 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 meets at least four times per annum but may meet more often if an issue of importance arises upon which the Board requires advice. Committee meetings are attended by the Financial Controller, Financial Officer (Secretary to the Committee) and the CEO. The Committee met four times in 2025.

Committee Members

Fr. Seamus O'Neill (Director & Chair of Committee) - 4/4
 Charles Lamson (Director & Vice-Chair of Committee) - 4/4 (Resigned 20 November 2025)
 John Gavigan - 3/4
 Paolo Camisassa - 2/4
 Vanessa Duffy - 1/4
 William J. Carlos - 3/4 (Appointed 5 March 2025)

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 mechanisms, capacity development, research, monitoring and evaluation. At year end, the Committee was comprised of two Directors and four external individuals with relevant expertise. Committee meetings are attended by the Project Funding Manager, Learning and Development Manager and Senior Project Officer (Secretary to the Committee). The Committee met three times in 2025.

Committee Members

Rev. John Parkin (Director & Chair of Committee) - 3/3
 Eileen Hoffler (Director & Vice-Chair of Committee) - 3/3
 Kathleen Fahey - 3/3
 Finola Finnan - 3/3
 Rev. Sahr Yambasu - 3/3 (Appointed 30 April 2025)
 Donal Murray - 1/3

The Safeguarding Committee is responsible for overseeing and ensuring that Mísean 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 emerging best practice. The Committee currently comprises one Mísean Cara director and three external experts, one of whom previously was a Mísean Cara Director. Recruitment of further committee members and the appointment of a Vice-chair is underway. The Committee met on three occasions in 2025.

Committee Members

Tina Campbell (Director & Chair of Committee) - 3/3
 Sandra Neville - 3/3
 Bernadette Casey - 3/3
 Br. Placido Kaburu - 3/3
 Sr. Josephine McCarthy - 1/2 (retired 25 June 2025)

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 Mísean Cara. There are three members of the Committee, including two Board members and one external expert. The Committee met three times in 2025. Committee meetings are attended by the Donor Engagement Manager, and the Communications and Marketing Officer.

Committee Members

Charles Lamson (Director & Chair of Committee) - 3/3
 Philip O'Brien (Director & Vice-Chair of Committee) - 3/3
 Séamus O'Conghaile - 3/3

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 and Oversight

Policies for inducting and training new Board members

In line with the Governance Handbook, 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 to discharge their duties and exercise their responsibilities to maximum effectiveness, facilitated by the Company Secretary.

Decision-making and management

A Governance Handbook 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 a 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.

Performance Management

The CEO reports at each meeting of the Board on progress towards operational targets and their contribution towards Misean Cara's Strategy, including grant management processes and systems, services provided to members, fundraising and communications. At team level, each departmental manager maintains a Performance Management and Development System with each staff member, jointly reviewed bi-annually, under which the progress of individual contributions towards operational targets in accordance with Job Descriptions and Misean Cara's Strategy are identified, monitored and appraised.

Directors' responsibilities in relation to the financial statements

The Directors are responsible for preparing the annual report and the financial statements in accordance with the 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 the 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 taking reasonable steps to for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Investment Policy

Misean Cara's investment policy is reviewed annually, and the risk appetite is very low. The key criteria for investment include keeping all funds in Ireland, avoiding any risk to capital, and ensuring sufficient available resources to fund activities on a day-to-day basis while obtaining the best interest earning return taking into account security and liquidity requirements. A panel of appropriate banks is maintained, reviewed by the FORAC committee and approved by the Board annually. Cash flow projections are reviewed monthly and surplus cash is placed on deposit as appropriate.

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 2025 the accounts showed combined (restricted & unrestricted) reserves total of €3,031,006. 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 2025 were as follows:

Restricted Funds

Spending on charitable activities and raising funds during the year amounted to €14,960,531; this was funded from incoming funding of €14,903,566 and the release of reserves of €50,438. This release of reserves together with the deficit for the year of €56,995 and the opening balance in restricted funds of €195,451 leaves a closing balance of €188,924 in restricted funds.

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 2025 amounts to €1,082,161. This represents an increase of €33,223 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 2025 amounts to €193,927. This represents a reduction of €11,212 all of which has been transferred to the general fund.
- **Designated Member Contingency Fund:** To improve disclosure Misean Cara decided to change the way the Members Contribution Fund was described to reflect the purpose of the resources held in that Fund. As a result, the Members Contingency Fund and the Fundraising Investment Fund were created. The former holding €320,000 is designed to mitigate any large unbudgeted and unexpected expense without having to divert any operational expenses.

- **Designated Fundraising Investment Fund:** This fund is designated to support the key objective of diversifying Misesan Cara income sources and at the end of 2025 held €736,247.
- **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 €509,747 at the 31 December 2025. The small decrease in this fund is driven by the underspend in unrestricted funds of €56,865 during the year and the previously referenced transfers to the other funds of €72,449 as shown in note 25 of the Financial Report.

Compliance with Best Practice Guidelines

Misesan 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 for three years following a competitive tender process in July 2024.

Misesan Cara's reports (including Directors' Report, Financial Statement and Annual Report) are submitted annually to the Good Governance Awards Committee operated by the Carmichael Institute. The Committee provides detailed feedback across five criteria (transparency; governance; strategy, performance and impact; financial information; and reader experience). This appraisal helps Misesan Cara to further ensure standards are maintained while identifying areas for improvement. Several recommendations from the Awards Committee have been incorporated into Misesan Cara's annual reporting for 2025.

Risk Management

Organisational risk was reviewed regularly at board meetings with the CEO providing updates on critical actions and any material risks that emerged. A full review of the risk register will be undertaken in the first quarter of 2026.

Security Management

Misesan Cara staff who travel overseas as part of their work are required to undergo personal security awareness training once every three years. A firm of security consultants, all of whom have served overseas with the Irish Defence Forces, is engaged to deliver the training. In 2025, six staff members attended a one-day course. Misesan Cara has also contracted a security expert to provide country-specific security briefings in advance of all staff travel. In addition, this consultant runs an annual exercise with the Crisis Management Team and carries out an annual review of the organisational Staff Safety & Security Policy.

Human Resources

The turnover rate in 2025 was consistent with the previous years at 18%. There were four leavers, two of whom had reached the end of their contracts, one employee retired and another resigned. Both of the latter were replaced in 2025. The headcount at the end of the year was 22 (20 Full Time Equivalents and 2 Part Time).

Networking with other organisations

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

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

Membership of these networks gives Misesan Cara access to accurate and timely information about trends in the sector as well as allowing it to share and network with like-minded and peer organisations and contribute to wider national and international development initiatives from a position of recognised expertise and experience. Misesan Cara adheres to the Dóchas Guide on Ethical Communications, the Charities Governance Code and the Irish Charities Tax Reform Group Guiding Principles for Fundraising.

Safeguarding

The organisational Safeguarding Policy and Procedures, and the Protection from Sexual Exploitation Abuse and Harassment (PSEAH) Policy were reviewed and updated in 2025 in line with current legislation and best practice. The Safeguarding Advisor travelled to Uganda, Zambia and Kenya in September, where she conducted project visits, facilitated a safeguarding workshop in Lusaka, and convened a safeguarding-specific meeting in Nairobi attended by 50 representatives from member organisations and their partners.

In 2025, Misesan Cara received reports of and managed 7 safeguarding incidents, with specialist support and guidance provided to the members concerned. All reportable incidents in Misesan Cara-funded projects were reported to Irish Aid. Misesan Cara is satisfied that all the incidents were managed appropriately by the member in each case. The Safeguarding Advisor facilitated four online safeguarding webinars for members throughout 2025.

Company Information

For the year ended 31st December 2025

Board of Directors

Mr. Philip O'Brien (Chairperson, appointed June 2025)
Mr. Kevin Carroll (Chairperson - Retired 25 June 2025)
Ms. Elizabeth Bolger (Vice-Chairperson, appointed June 2025)
Sr. Josephine McCarthy PBVM (Vice-Chairperson - Retired 25 June 2025)
Mr. Charles Lamson (Resigned 10 December 2025)
Sr. Franca Onyibor MSHR
Mr. William Carlos (Appointed 25 June 2025)
Fr. Seamus O' Neill SPS
Rev. John Parkin
Ms. Eileen Hoffler
Mr. Aidan Eames
Ms. Tina Campbell

Financial Oversight, Risk & Audit Committee

Fr. Seamus O'Neill SPS (Chairperson)
Mr. Charles Lamson (Vice-Chairperson - Resigned 20 November 2025)
Mr. John Gavigan
Mr. Paolo Camisassa
Ms. Vanessa Duffy
Mr. William Carlos (Appointed 5 March 2025)

Governance Committee

Mr. Aidan Eames (Chairperson)
Ms. Elizabeth Bolger (Vice-Chairperson)
Sr. Josephine McCarthy PBVM (Vice-Chairperson - Retired 25 June 2025)
Prof. Gerry Whyte
Mr. Kevin Carroll (Retired 25 June 2025)
Mr. Edward Keane
Mr. Philip O'Brien (Appointed 16 July 2025)

Programmes Oversight Committee

Rev. John Parkin (Chairperson)
Ms. Eileen Hoffler (Vice-Chairperson)
Ms. Kathleen Fahey
Ms. Finola Finnan
Rev. Sahr Yambasu (Appointed 30 April 2025)
Mr. Donal Murray

Safeguarding Committee

Ms. Tina Campbell (Chairperson)
Ms. Sandra Neville
Ms. Bernadette Casey
Br. Placido Kaburu
Sr. Josephine McCarthy PBVM (Vice-Chairperson - Retired 25 June 2025)

Fundraising Committee

Mr. Charles Lamson (Chairperson)
Mr. Philip O'Brien (Vice-Chairperson)
Mr. Séamus O'Conghaile

Remuneration Committee

Ms. Elizabeth Bolger (Chairperson)
Mr. Aidan Eames
Fr. Séamus O'Neill

Company Registration Number
381117

Charity Registration Number
20055325

Charitable 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. Stephens 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
Byrne Wallace
88 Harcourt Street
Saint Kevin's
Dublin 2



Misean Cara AGM, June 2025

Photo: Jenny Barker Photography

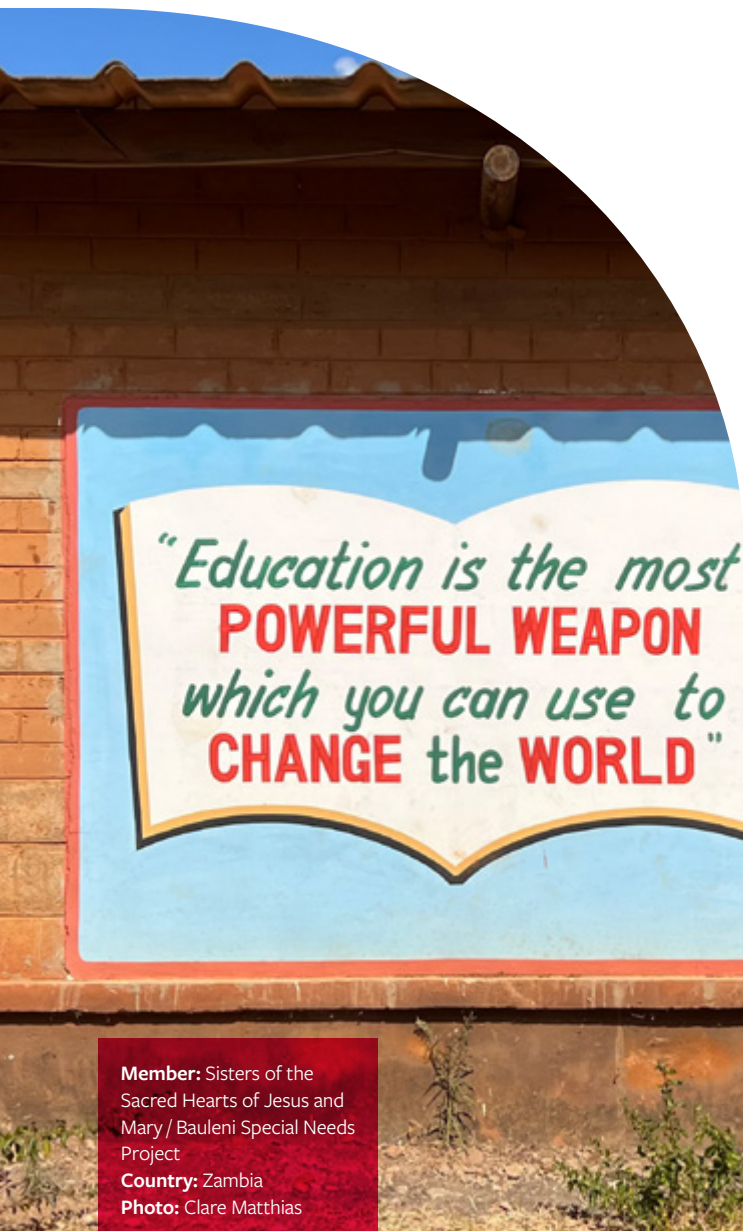
Extracts from the Financial Statements 2025

€16,193,556
Total Income

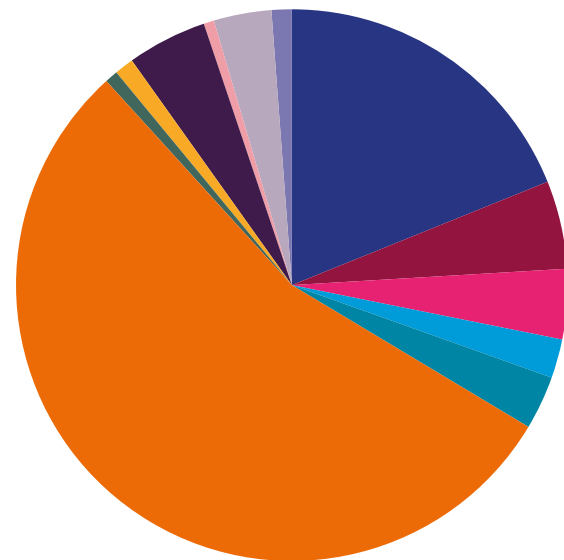
€15,939,259
Total Expenditure

€188,840
Expenditure on Raising Funds

€15,750,419
Expenditure on Charitable Activities



Member: Sisters of the Sacred Hearts of Jesus and Mary / Bauleni Special Needs Project
Country: Zambia
Photo: Clare Matthias



Breakdown of Funds

Large Scheme Funding	€2,975,063
Medium Scheme Funding	€813,300
Small Scheme Funding	€647,521
Member Capacity Development	€359,257
Emergency Fund	€495,688
MMG Funding	€8,609,486
Innovation Funding	€120,400
Organisational Development	€177,805
Capacity Building	€737,156
Research and Development	€95,714
M&E and Audit of Member Projects	€532,674
Governance	€186,355

Directors' Responsibilities Statement

For the year ended 31st December 2025

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 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



Mr Philip O'Brien
Director



Fr. Seamus O'Neill
Director

Date:
13 May 2026

Independent Auditors' Report to the Members of Misean Cara For The Year Ended 31 December 2025

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Misean Cara ('the company') for the year ended 31 December 2025, 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 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) *Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)*.

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 2025 and of its profit for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with FRS 102 The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland, as modified by the Charities SORP (FRS 102); and
- have been properly 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 described below in the *Auditor's responsibilities* for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the company in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of financial statements in Ireland, including the Ethical Standard for Auditors (Ireland) issued by the Irish Auditing and Accounting Supervisory Authority (IAASA), 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 company's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from the date 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.

Other information

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

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 course of 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.

Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2014

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

- the information given in the directors' report for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared, which includes the directors' report prepared for the purposes of company law, is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the directors' report has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

We have obtained all the information and explanations which, to the best of our knowledge and belief, are necessary for the purposes of our audit.

In our opinion the accounting records of the company were sufficient to permit the financial statements to be readily and properly audited, and the financial statements are in agreement with the accounting records.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

Based on the knowledge and understanding of the company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified any material misstatements in the directors' report.

We have nothing to report in respect of our obligation under the Companies Act 2014 to report to you if, in our opinion, the disclosures of directors' remuneration and transactions specified by sections 305 to 312 of the Act are not made.

Responsibilities of directors for the financial statements

As explained more fully in the statement of directors' responsibilities, the directors are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the applicable financial reporting framework that 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, if applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless management either intend to liquidate the charitable company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the company's financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's 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.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the IAASA's website at: <https://iaasa.ie/publications/description-of-the-auditors-responsibilities-for-the-audit-of-the-financial-statements/>. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

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 as a body, 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

Date: 22nd May 2026

Statement Of Financial Activities

(Incorporating Income And Expenditure Account)

For The Year Ended 31 December 2025

	Notes	Restricted funds 2025 (€)	Unrestricted funds 2025 (€)	Total funds 2025 (€)	Restricted funds 2024 (€)	Unrestricted funds 2024 (€)	Total funds 2024 (€)
Income from (€):							
Donations and Legacies	2	333,566	264,397	597,963	383,747	0	383,747
Other Income	3	0	95,593	95,593	0	76,872	76,872
Charitable activities	2	14,570,000	930,000	15,500,000	14,570,000	1,191,200	15,761,200
Total Income		14,903,566	1,289,990	16,193,556	14,953,747	1,268,072	16,221,819
Expenditure on:							
Raising funds	19	31,782	157,058	188,840	38,117	145,288	183,405
Charitable activities	5	14,928,749	821,670	15,750,419	15,113,932	740,108	15,854,040
Total Expenditure	5	14,960,531	978,728	15,939,259	15,152,049	885,396	16,037,445
Gross transfer between funds	25	50,438	(50,438)	0	213,000	(213,000)	0
Net surplus/(deficit) for the year / Net movement in funds	25	(56,995)	311,262	254,297	(198,302)	382,675	184,373
Fund balances at 1 January 2025		195,451	2,581,258	2,776,709	180,753	2,411,583	2,592,336
Fund balances at 31 December 2025		188,924	2,842,082	3,031,006	195,451	2,581,258	2,776,709

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year. All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

Balance Sheet

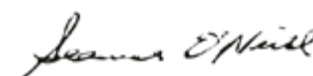
As at 31 December 2025

	Notes	2025 (€)	2024 (€)
Fixed Assets			
Tangible assets	22	193,927	205,139
Current Assets			
Debtors & prepayments	23	67,548	83,971
Cash at bank and on hand	28	5,186,605	6,524,166
		5,254,153	6,608,137
Creditors (amounts falling due within one year)	24	(2,417,074)	(4,036,567)
Net current assets		2,837,079	2,571,570
Total Assets less Current Liabilities		3,031,006	2,776,709
The Funds Of The Charity			
Restricted Funds	25	188,924	195,451
Unrestricted Funds	25	2,842,082	2,581,258
Total Charity Funds		3,031,006	2,776,709

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



Mr. Philip O'Brien
Director



Fr. Seamus O'Neill
Director

Date: 13 May 2026

Statement of Cash Flows

For The Year Ended
31 December 2025

	Notes	2025 (€)	2024 (€)
Cash flows from operating activities			
Net cash inflow from operating activities	27	(1,240,632)	(1,979,295)
Cash flows from investing activities			
Purchase of fixed assets	22	(96,928)	(149,668)
Net Cash (used in) investing activities		(96,928)	(149,668)
Cash flows from financing activities			
Net cash provided by financing activities		0	0
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year		(1,337,560)	(2,128,963)
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year	28	6,524,166	8,653,129
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year	28	5,186,605	6,524,166

Notes to the Financial Statements

For The Year Ended 31 December 2025

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 Cash Flows and the related notes incorporating significant accounting policies constitute the individual financial statements of Misean Cara for the financial year ended 31 December 2025.

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. Figures in the financial statements are rounded to the nearest Euro.

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 €3,031,006 (2024: €2, 776,709) and unrestricted reserves of €2,842,081 (2024: €2,581,258).

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.

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.

Member Contributions are included in income on a cash received basis.

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.

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.

Any foreign exchange gains and losses, including any relating to borrowings and cash and cash equivalents 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 Activities 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, office equipment and computer equipment and software, 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 and software - 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.

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.

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.

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 Charity'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.

2. Income from Charitable Activities

Income from Charitable Activities

	Restricted funds 2025 (€)	Unrestricted funds 2025 (€)	Total funds 2025 (€)	Total funds 2024 (€)
Irish Aid	14,570,000	930,000	15,500,000	15,500,000
Income from Donations and Legacies				
Bridgidines	20,000	0	20,000	20,000
GHR Foundation	299,776	0	299,776	310,555
Syria Appeal	0	0	0	1,084
Ornua	0	0	0	5,114
Electric Aid	11,000	0	11,000	36,994
Dominican Sisters	0	10,000	10,000	10,000
Spiritans	2,250	0	2,250	0
Other Donations	540	0	540	0
Members Contribution	0	254,397	254,397	261,200
	333,566	264,397	597,963	644,947
Total 2025	14,903,566	1,194,397	16,097,963	16,144,947
Total 2024	14,953,747	1,191,200	16,144,947	

3. Other Income

Other Income

Bank Interest Received & receivable	0	95,151	95,151	75,718
Fundraising Income (PayPal + others)	0	442	442	1,154
Total 2025	0	95,593	95,593	76,872
Total 2024	0	76,872	76,872	

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 5-19 below.

5. Charitable Activities

	Restricted funds 2025 (€)	Unrestricted funds 2025 (€)	Total funds 2025 (€)	Total funds 2024 (€)
Large Scheme Funding (Note 6)	2,847,734	127,329	2,975,063	6,401,779
Medium Scheme Funding (Note 7)	778,493	34,807	813,300	2,005,590
Small Scheme Funding (Note 8)	619,808	27,713	647,521	787,919
Member Capacity Development Funding (Note 9)	343,882	15,375	359,257	276,644
Emergency Fund (Note 10)	474,472	21,216	495,688	655,109
MMG Funding (Note 11a)	8,241,015	368,471	8,609,486	4,093,794
Innovation Funding (Note 11b)	115,250	5,150	120,400	0
Organisational Development (Note 12)	170,448	7,357	177,805	148,317
Capacity Building (Note 13)	703,239	33,917	737,156	710,544
Research and Development (Note 14)	93,732	1,982	95,714	20,309
Monitoring, Evaluation and Audit - Members/Projects (Note 15)	509,875	22,799	532,674	568,161
Governance (Note 16)	30,801	155,554	186,355	185,873
Total 2025	14,928,749	821,670	15,750,419	15,854,039
Total 2024	15,113,931	740,108	15,854,039	

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

	Restricted funds 2025 (€)	Unrestricted funds 2025 (€)	Total funds 2025 (€)	Total funds 2024 (€)
Augustinian Fathers	70,000	0	70,000	80,000
Columban Fathers	310,000	0	310,000	322,204
De La Salle Brothers	450,053	0	450,053	548,299
Dominican Sisters	55,000	0	55,000	0
Faithful Companions of Jesus	0	0	0	230,000
Franciscan Brothers	145,917	0	145,917	115,000
Franciscan Missionaries of the Divine Motherhood	95,000	0	95,000	114,000
Franciscan Missionaries of St Joseph	0	0	0	317,279
Franciscan Missionary Union	115,000	0	115,000	173,000
Franciscan Sisters of the Immaculate Conception	111,000	0	111,000	115,000
Good Shepherd Sisters	0	0	0	221,473
Holy Faith Sisters	70,000	0	70,000	0
Institute of the Blessed Virgin Mary (Loreto)	0	0	0	281,444
Jesuit Missions	230,000	0	230,000	230,000
Little Company of Mary	0	0	0	94,684
Marist Brothers	216,250	0	216,250	240,891
Marist Fathers	50,000	0	50,000	0
Medical Missionaries of Mary	(1,576)	0	(1,576)	296,611
Mill Hill Missionaries	70,978	0	70,978	87,101
Missionary Sisters of the Assumption	0	0	0	285,000
Missionary Sisters of the Holy Rosary	114,939	0	114,939	325,000
Presentation Brothers	30,000	0	30,000	45,000
Presentation Sisters	0	0	0	90,000
Presbyterian Church in Ireland	63,680	0	63,680	59,111
The Redemptorists	0	0	0	154,218
Rosminian Fathers	71,600	0	71,600	0
Salesians of Don Bosco Ireland	115,000	0	115,000	115,000
Salesian Sisters	0	0	0	460,599
Sisters of Sacred Hearts of Jesus and Mary (Chigwell)	0	0	0	356,066
Sisters of St Louis	110,744	0	110,744	86,830
Society of the Sacred Heart	109,855	0	109,855	203,086
Spiritans	0	0	0	236,958
Society of the Divine Saviour	164,094	0	164,094	254,712
Vincentian Fathers	65,000	0	65,000	0
Large Applications Assessment Cost	15,200	0	15,200	15,300
Support Costs (see note 17b)	0	127,329	127,329	247,913
Total 2025	2,847,734	127,329	2,975,063	6,401,779
Total 2024	6,153,866	247,913	6,401,779	

7. Medium Scheme Funding (€20,000 - €49,999 per project)

	Restricted funds 2025 (€)	Unrestricted funds 2025 (€)	Total funds 2025 (€)	Total funds 2024 (€)
Carmelites (OCD)	45,000	0	45,000	0
Columban Fathers	0	0	0	55,000
CMS Ireland	45,000	0	45,000	72,193
Daughters of Charity of St Vincent de Paul	0	0	0	(25,000)
Daughters of Mary and Joseph	0	0	0	36,680
Dominican Sisters	45,000	0	45,000	90,000
Franciscan Brothers	18,750	0	18,750	45,000
Franciscan Missionaries of the Divine Motherhood	0	0	0	37,000
Franciscan Missionaries of St Joseph	0	0	0	88,911
Franciscan Sisters of the Immaculate Conception	40,000	0	40,000	84,100
Good Shepherd Sisters	0	0	0	112,125
Holy Faith Sisters	30,000	0	30,000	45,000
Institute of the Blessed Virgin Mary (Loreto)	(6,534)	0	(6,534)	(22,163)
La Sainte Union	34,700	0	34,700	34,700
Marist Brothers	168,550	0	168,550	45,000
Medical Missionaries of Mary	0	0	0	85,000
Mercy Sisters (Ireland)	49,346	0	49,346	44,779
Mill Hill Missionaries	20,000	0	20,000	0
Missionary Sisters of the Holy Rosary	26,800	0	26,800	66,550
Passionist Fathers	79,218	0	79,218	58,415
Patrician Brothers	25,817	0	25,817	38,017
Poor Servants of the Mother of God	37,823	0	37,823	89,720
Presentation Brothers	0	0	0	25,000
Presentation Sisters	(30,000)	0	(30,000)	19,285
Presbyterian Church in Ireland	0	0	0	40,889
The Redemptorists	0	0	0	85,000
Religious of Jesus and Mary	35,000	0	35,000	0
Religious of the Sacred Heart of Mary	90,000	0	90,000	115,000
Rosminian Fathers	0	0	0	65,800
Salesian Sisters	0	0	0	149,401
Servants of the Holy Spirit	38,862	0	38,862	63,120
Sisters of Charity (RSC)	30,000	0	30,000	0
Sisters of Sacred Hearts of Jesus and Mary (Chigwell)	0	0	0	44,217
Sisters of St Louis	45,000	0	45,000	45,000
Spiritans	0	0	0	66,625
Society of the Divine Saviour	(89,839)	0	(89,839)	44,944
Vincentian Fathers	0	0	0	82,616
Support Costs (see note 17b)	0	34,807	34,807	77,666
Total 2025	778,493	34,807	813,300	2,005,590
Total 2024	1,927,924	77,666	2,005,590	

8. Small Scheme Funding (€50,000 - €14,999 per project)

	Restricted funds 2025 (€)	Unrestricted funds 2025 (€)	Total funds 2025 (€)	Total funds 2024 (€)
Augustinian Fathers	60,000	0	60,000	30,000
Carmelites (OCD)	40,000	0	40,000	0
Edmund Rice Development	0	0	0	(10,010)
Columban Fathers	0	0	0	15,000
CMS Ireland	29,997	0	29,997	0
Daughters of Charity of St Vincent de Paul	0	0	0	18,000
Daughters of Mary and Joseph	45,000	0	45,000	15,000
Divine Word Missionaries	14,391	0	14,391	15,000
Franciscan Brothers	40,000	0	40,000	30,000
Franciscan Missionaries of the Divine Motherhood	9,000	0	9,000	9,000
Franciscan Missionaries of St Joseph	9,000	0	9,000	64,861
Franciscan Missionary Union	29,000	0	29,000	0
Franciscan Sisters of the Immaculate Conception	7,000	0	7,000	0
Good Shepherd Sisters	0	0	0	66,000
Institute of the Blessed Virgin Mary (Loreto)	0	0	0	73,742
Marist Brothers	15,000	0	15,000	30,000
Medical Missionaries of Mary	10,999	0	10,999	37,527
Mill Hill Missionaries	36,929	0	36,929	41,793
Missionary Sisters of the Assumption	0	0	0	24,000
Patrician Brothers	11,500	0	11,500	0
Poor Servants of the Mother of God	0	0	0	15,000
Presentation Brothers	29,911	0	29,911	17,500
Presentation Sisters	0	0	0	8,000
The Redemptorists	0	0	0	19,282
Religious of the Sacred Heart of Mary	45,000	0	45,000	45,000
Rosminian Fathers	6,450	0	6,450	12,500
Salesians of Don Bosco Ireland	0	0	0	0
Salesian Sisters	0	0	0	39,999
Servants of the Holy Spirit	15,000	0	15,000	6,933
Sisters of Charity (RSC)	27,375	0	27,375	22,500
Sisters of Sacred Hearts of Jesus and Mary (Chigwell)	9,000	0	9,000	36,000
Sisters of St Louis	69,256	0	69,256	44,430
Society of the Sacred Heart	30,000	0	30,000	0
Spiritans	0	0	0	25,348
Vincentian Fathers	30,000	0	30,000	5,000
Support Costs (see note 17b)	0	27,713	27,713	30,514
Total 2025	619,808	27,713	647,521	787,919
Total 2024	757,405	30,514	787,919	

9. Member Capacity Development Scheme

	Restricted funds 2025 (€)	Unrestricted funds 2025 (€)	Total funds 2025 (€)	Total funds 2024 (€)
Augustinian Fathers	15,000	0	15,000	0
Carmelites (OCD)	15,000	0	15,000	0
Edmund Rice Development	15,000	0	15,000	15,000
CMS Ireland	0	0	0	(2,142)
Daughters of Charity of St Vincent de Paul	0	0	0	13,425
Daughters of Mary and Joseph	15,000	0	15,000	0
De La Salle Brothers	15,000	0	15,000	0
Franciscan Brothers	15,000	0	15,000	0
Franciscan Missionaries of St Joseph	15,000	0	15,000	0
Franciscan Missionary Sisters for Africa	15,000	0	15,000	15,000
Franciscan Sisters of the Immaculate Conception	15,000	0	15,000	15,000
Good Shepherd Sisters	14,350	0	14,350	0
Holy Faith Sisters	0	0	0	15,000
Institute of the Blessed Virgin Mary (Loreto)	14,507	0	14,507	15,000
Little Sisters of the Assumption	9,416	0	9,416	0
Marist Brothers	15,000	0	15,000	15,000
Medical Missionaries of Mary	15,000	0	15,000	0
Mercy Sisters (Ireland)	0	0	0	4,550
Mill Hill Missionaries	15,000	0	15,000	0
Missionary Sisters of the Assumption	15,000	0	15,000	0
Patrician Brothers	0	0	0	23,840
Presentation Brothers	15,000	0	15,000	15,000 *
Presentation Sisters	14,300	0	14,300	0 *
Rosminian Fathers	10,931	0	10,931	3,721
Saint Patrick's Missionary Society	0	0	0	15,000
Salesians of Don Bosco Ireland	15,000	0	15,000	15,000
Salesian Sisters	15,000	0	15,000	0
Sisters of Sacred Hearts of Jesus and Mary (Chigwell)	12,509	0	12,509	0
Sisters of St Joseph of Cluny	0	0	0	14,928
Sisters of St Louis	3,999	0	3,999	0
Society of the Sacred Heart	0	0	0	27,610
Spiritans	15,000	0	15,000	0
Society of the Divine Saviour	0	0	0	15,000
Viatore Christi	15,000	0	15,000	15,000
Vincentian Fathers	(6,130)	0	(6,130)	15,000
Support Costs (see note 17b)	0	15,375	15,375	10,712
Total 2025	343,882	15,375	359,257	276,644
Total 2024	265,932	10,712	276,644	

* In the 2024 financial statements, an amount of €15,000 classified as MCD was attributed to Presentation Sisters. This should have been attributed to Presentation Brothers. This has been corrected by way of reclassification, with no impact on the total MCD expense reported.

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

	Restricted funds 2025 (€)	Unrestricted funds 2025 (€)	Total funds 2025 (€)	Total funds 2024 (€)
Augustinian Fathers	14,800	0	14,800	0
De La Salle Brothers	15,000	0	15,000	0
Franciscan Missionary Sisters for Africa	15,000	0	15,000	15,000
Franciscan Sisters of the Immaculate Conception	0	0	0	15,000
Good Shepherd Sisters	0	0	0	104,998
Jesuit Missions	15,000	0	15,000	0
Marist Brothers	75,000	0	75,000	105,000
Medical Missionaries of Mary	0	0	0	14,725
Mill Hill Missionaries	15,000	0	15,000	13,500
Patrician Brothers	0	0	0	28,559
Presentation Sisters	15,000	0	15,000	0
Presbyterian Church in Ireland	9,938	0	9,938	15,000
The Redemptorists	30,000	0	30,000	30,000
Saint Patrick's Missionary Society	15,000	0	15,000	15,000
Salesians of Don Bosco Ireland	90,000	0	90,000	90,000
Salesian Sisters	45,000	0	45,000	89,957
Sisters of Sacred Hearts of Jesus and Mary (Chigwell)	45,000	0	45,000	0
Spiritans	74,734	0	74,734	75,000
Society of the Divine Saviour	0	0	0	3,000
Viaiores Christi	0	0	0	15,000
Support Costs (see note 17b)	0	21,216	21,216	25,370
Total 2025	474,472	21,216	495,688	655,109
Total 2024	629,739	25,370	655,109	

11. Member Managed Grant and Innovation Funding

11a. MMG Project Funding

	Restricted funds 2025 (€)	Unrestricted funds 2025 (€)	Total funds 2025 (€)	Total funds 2024 (€)
Edmund Rice Development	600,000	0	600,000	600,000
Daughters of Charity of St Vincent de Paul	558,000	0	558,000	568,000
Franciscan Missionaries of St Joseph	426,283	0	426,283	0
Franciscan Missionary Sisters for Africa	579,000	0	579,000	589,000
Good Shepherd Sisters	322,800	0	322,800	0
Institute of the Blessed Virgin Mary (Loreto)	490,000	0	490,000	0
Irish Jesuits International	370,000	0	370,000	370,000
Little Sisters of the Assumption	257,420	0	257,420	169,311
Medical Missionaries of Mary	490,000	0	490,000	0
Missionary Sisters of the Assumption	256,600	0	256,600	0
Presentation Sisters	215,550	0	215,550	0
The Redemptorists	469,420	0	469,420	0
Saint Patrick's Missionary Society	579,000	0	579,000	589,000
Salesians of Don Bosco Ireland	451,050	0	451,050	451,050
Salesian Sisters	580,192	0	580,192	0
Sisters of Sacred Hearts of Jesus and Mary (Chigwell)	581,800	0	581,800	0
Sisters of St Joseph of Cluny	158,200	0	158,200	143,200
Spiritans	400,000	0	400,000	0
Viatres Christi	455,700	0	455,700	455,700
Support Costs (see note 17b)	0	368,471	368,471	158,533
Total 2025	8,241,015	368,471	8,609,486	4,093,794
Total 2024	3,935,261	158,533	4,093,794	

	Restricted funds 2025 (€)	Unrestricted funds 2025 (€)	Total funds 2025 (€)	Total funds 2024 (€)
Edmund Rice Development	8,000	0	8,000	0
Daughters of Charity of St Vincent de Paul	18,000	0	18,000	0
Franciscan Missionary Sisters for Africa	8,000	0	8,000	0
Institute of the Blessed Virgin Mary (Loreto)	8,000	0	8,000	0
Marist Brothers	8,000	0	8,000	0
Missionary Sisters of the Assumption	9,000	0	9,000	0
Salesians of Don Bosco Ireland	8,000	0	8,000	0
Salesian Sisters	8,000	0	8,000	0
Sisters of Sacred Hearts of Jesus and Mary (Chigwell)	35,000	0	35,000	0
Vincentian Fathers	5,250	0	5,250	0
Support Costs (see note 17b)	0	5,150	5,150	0
Total 2025	115,250	5,150	120,400	0
Total 2024	0	0	0	

12. Organisation Development

	Restricted funds 2025 (€)	Unrestricted funds 2025 (€)	Total funds 2025 (€)	Total funds 2024 (€)
Management Information Systems	152,164	0	152,164	126,600
Consultancies	18,284	0	18,284	16,171
Support Costs (see note 17b)	0	7,357	7,357	5,546
Total 2025	170,448	7,357	177,805	148,317
Total 2024	142,771	5,546	148,317	

13. Capacity Building

	Restricted funds 2025 (€)	Unrestricted funds 2025 (€)	Total funds 2025 (€)	Total funds 2024 (€)
In-Country Mentorship	148,089	0	148,089	138,694
Capacity Building - Courses	5,705	0	5,705	25,441
Mentor Field Meetings	16,705	0	16,705	14,511
Salaries Allocation	532,740	0	532,740	503,621
Support Costs (see note 17b)	0	33,917	33,917	28,277
Total 2025	703,239	33,917	737,156	710,544
Total 2024	682,267	28,277	710,544	

14. Research and Development

	Restricted funds 2025 (€)	Unrestricted funds 2025 (€)	Total funds 2025 (€)	Total funds 2024 (€)
Learning Review	37,366	0	37,366	0
Developing Linkages & Networks	1,012	0	1,012	500
Research Projects	55,354	0	55,354	19,592
Support Costs (see note 17)	0	1,982	1,982	217
Total 2025	93,732	1,982	95,714	20,309
Total 2024	20,092	217	20,309	

15. Monitoring and Evaluation

15a. Monitoring and Evaluation

	Restricted funds 2025 (€)	Unrestricted funds 2025 (€)	Total funds 2025 (€)	Total funds 2024 (€)
External Evaluations	0	0	0	46,000
MDO Field Visits	0	0	0	0
Misean Cara - Monitoring Trips	21,511	0	21,511	54,372
O/Seas Conferences, Development & Exposure Trips	24,315	0	24,315	9,825
Reviewing Members Reports	9,180	0	9,180	25,200
Salaries Allocations	393,717	0	393,717	351,424
Support Costs (see note 17b)	0	20,064	20,064	19,620
	448,723	20,064	468,787	506,441
15b. Audit Members/Projects				
Salaries	61,152	0	61,152	59,147
Finance Audits Field Visits - Consultants	0	0	0	189
Finance Audits Field Visits - Finance Staff	0	0	0	0
Support Costs (see note 17b)	0	2,735	2,735	2,384
	61,152	2,735	63,887	61,720
Total 2025	509,875	22,799	532,674	
Total 2024	546,157	22,004	568,161	

16. Governance Costs

	Restricted funds 2025 (€)	Unrestricted funds 2025 (€)	Total funds 2025 (€)	Total funds 2024 (€)
Statutory External Audit Fees	0	12,726	12,726	15,802
Legal and Other Professional Fees	30,801	31,883	62,684	81,803
Board & Membership Costs	0	70,028	70,028	50,921
Support Costs (see note 17a)	0	40,917	40,917	37,347
Total 2025	30,801	155,554	186,355	185,873
Total 2024	52,517	133,356	185,873	

17a. Support Costs	Charitable Activities 2025 (€)	Raising Funds 2025 (€)	Governance Costs 2025 (€)	Total funds 2025 (€)	Total funds 2024 (€)
Payroll Costs	413,308	31,636	25,513	470,457	423,591
Other Staff Costs	51,100	3,911	3,155	58,166	52,694
Office Premises Costs	68,531	5,245	4,230	78,006	77,387
Office Administration and ICT Costs	123,690	9,219	7,434	140,343	124,470
Depreciation	9,487	726	585	10,798	12,269
Total 2025	666,116	50,737	40,917	757,770	690,411
Total 2024	606,753	46,311	37,347	690,411	

In 2024 and 2025, all support costs related to unrestricted funds.

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

17b. Funding Scheme Support Costs	2025 (€)	2024 (€)
Large Scheme funding (Note 6)	127,329	247,913
Medium Scheme funding (Note 7)	34,807	77,666
Small Scheme funding (Note 8)	27,713	30,514
Member Capacity Development funding (Note 9)	15,375	10,712
Emergency funding (Note 10)	21,216	25,370
MMG funding (Note 11a)	368,471	158,533
Innovation funding (Note 11b)	5,150	0
Organisational Development (Note 12)	7,357	5,546
Capacity Building (Note 13)	33,917	28,277
Research and Development (Note 14)	1,982	217
Monitoring Evaluation & Audit of member projects (Note 15)	22,799	22,004
Governance Costs (Note 16)	40,917	37,347
Raising funds (Note 19)	50,737	46,311
	757,770	690,411

18. Apportionment of Salary Costs

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

Salary Allocations	Restricted			Unrestricted		Total
	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%
Organisation Change Manager	40%		25%		35%	100%
Funding Manager	40%		25%		35%	100%
Senior Project Officer	35%		35%		30%	100%
Senior Project Officer	100%					100%
Project Officer x 4	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%
HR Strategy					100%	100%

19. Raising Funds

	Restricted funds 2025 (€)	Unrestricted funds 2025 (€)	Total funds 2025 (€)	Total funds 2024 (€)
Promotional Activities	31,782	0	31,782	38,117
Website and Publicity	0	12,385	12,385	5,749
Salaries Allocation	0	82,022	82,022	83,612
Direct Fundraising Expenses	0	11,914	11,914	9,616
Support Costs (see note 17a)	0	50,737	50,737	46,311
Total 2025	31,782	157,058	188,840	183,405
Total 2024	38,117	145,288	183,405	

20. Net Income / (Expenditure)

This is stated after charging:

Results (stated after charging)

Depreciation	108,140	64,510
Auditor's remuneration	12,726	15,802

21. Staff Costs

Salaries	1,338,327	1,237,875
Employers PRSI	134,978	129,202
Pension Costs	119,005	102,361
	1,592,310	1,469,438

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

Management	6	6
Finance & Administration	4	4
Learning & Development	4	4
Fundraising & Communications	2	2
Project Funding	7	7
Safeguarding	1	1
	24	24

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

€60,000 - €70,000	3	2
€70,000 - €80,000	2	3
€80,000 - €90,000	0	0
€90,000 - €99,999	1	1

The annual remuneration of the key management personnel amounts to €525,315 (2024: €516,428) including pension benefits, of which €117,072 (2024 : €116,975) related to the Chief Executive Officer.

During the year, no Director received any remuneration	€Nil	(2024 - €Nil)
During the year, no Director received any benefits in kind	€Nil	(2024 - €Nil)
Directors were reimbursed for vouched expenses.	€Nil	(2024 - €Nil)

22. Tangible Fixed Assets

	Fixtures and Fittings (€)	Office Equipment (€)	Computer Equipment and Software (€)	Total (€)
Cost or Valuation				
at 1 January 2025	20,525	16,859	650,900	688,284
Additions	0	3,056	93,872	96,928
Disposals	0	0	0	0
As at 31 Dec 2025	20,525	19,915	744,772	785,212
Depreciation				
at 1 January 2025	20,433	16,859	445,853	483,145
Charge to Support Costs	53	519	10,226	10,798
Charged to Non-Support Costs	0	0	97,342	97,342
Disposals	0	0	0	0
As at 31 Dec 2025	20,486	17,378	553,421	591,285
Net Book Amounts				
As at 31 Dec 2025	39	2,537	191,351	193,927
As at 31 Dec 2024	92	0	205,047	205,139

23. Debtors

Due within one year

	2025 (€)	2024 (€)
Prepayments and accrued income	67,548	83,971

24. Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year

	2025 (€)	2024 (€)
Amounts due to member organisations	2,225,671	3,880,011
Trade Creditors	32,443	28,062
Other Creditors (Visa Cards)	1,210	1,681
PAYE / PRSI	36,836	33,627
Pensions	0	0
Deferred Income (see below)	0	0
Accruals	120,914	93,186
Irish Aid	0	0
Total 2025	2,417,074	4,036,567
Deferred Income		
Deferred income at 1 January 2025	0	13,620
Resources deferred during the year	0	0
Amounts released from previous years	0	(13,620)
Deferred income at 31 December 2025	0	0

25. Statement of Funds

	Balance at 1 January 2025 (€)	Income (€)	Expenditure (€)	Transfers in/ out (€)	Balance at 31 December 2025 (€)
Statement of Funds - current year					
Contingency Fund	1,048,938	0	0	33,223	1,082,161
Fixed Asset Fund	205,139	0	0	(11,212)	193,927
Member Contingency Fund	320,000	0	0	0	320,000
Fundraising Investment Fund	481,850	254,397	0	0	736,247
	2,055,927	254,397	0	22,011	2,332,335
General funds	525,331	1,035,593	(978,728)	(72,449)	509,747
Total Unrestricted Funds	2,581,258	1,289,990	(978,728)	(50,438)	2,842,082
Restricted funds	195,451	14,903,566	(14,960,531)	50,438	188,924
Total of Funds	2,776,709	16,193,556	(15,939,259)	0	3,031,006
Summary of Funds - current year					
Unrestricted Funds	2,581,258	1,289,990	(978,728)	(50,438)	2,842,082
Restricted Funds	195,451	14,903,566	(14,960,531)	50,438	188,924
	2,776,709	16,193,556	(15,939,259)	0	3,031,006

	Balance at 1 January 2024 (€)	Income (€)	Expenditure (€)	Transfers in/ out (€)	Balance at 31 December 2024 (€)
Statement of Funds - prior year					
Contingency Fund	893,798	0	0	155,140	1,048,938
Fixed Asset Fund	119,982	0	0	85,157	205,139
Member Contingency Fund	285,375	34,625	0	0	320,000
Fundraising Investment Fund	255,275	226,575	0	0	481,850
	1,554,430	261,200	0	240,297	2,055,927
General funds	857,153	1,006,872	(885,396)	(453,297)	525,331
Total Unrestricted Funds	2,411,583	1,268,072	(885,396)	(213,000)	2,581,258
Restricted funds	180,753	14,953,747	(15,152,049)	213,000	195,451
Total of Funds	2,592,336	16,221,819	(16,037,445)	0	2,776,709
Summary of Funds - prior year					
Unrestricted Funds	2,411,583	1,268,072	(885,396)	(213,000)	2,581,258
Restricted Funds	180,753	14,953,747	(15,152,049)	213,000	195,451
	2,592,336	16,221,819	(16,037,445)	0	2,776,709

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 2025 the financial statements showed total reserves of €3,031,006 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 2025 these are funds set aside for the specific purposes of:

- Winding Down Fund 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.
- Fixed Asset Fund set aside to cover the investment in fixed assets representing the net book value of fixed assets at the balance sheet date.
- Member Contingency Fund established to provide for any significant unexpected expenses to a maximum of €320,000 is funded by the members contributions.
- Fundraising Investment Fund established to provide resources to secure new donors to diversify our income stream.

26. Analysis of Net Assets between Funds

Analysis of net assets between funds - current year

	Restricted funds 2025 (€)	Unrestricted funds 2025 (€)	Total funds 2025 (€)
Tangible fixed assets	0	193,927	193,927
Current assets	2,414,595	2,839,558	5,254,153
Creditors due within one year	(2,225,671)	(191,403)	(2,417,074)
Total 2025	188,924	2,842,082	3,031,006

Analysis of net assets between funds - prior year

	Restricted funds 2024 (€)	Unrestricted funds 2024 (€)	Total funds 2024 (€)
Tangible fixed assets	0	205,139	205,139
Current assets	4,075,462	2,532,674	6,608,137
Creditors due within one year	(3,880,011)	(156,555)	(4,036,566)
Total 2024	195,451	2,581,259	2,776,709

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

	2025 (€)	2024 (€)
Net Income / (Expenditure) for the year (as per Statement of Financial Activities)	254,297	184,373
Adjustment for:		
Depreciation charges	108,140	64,509
Decrease / (Increase) in Debtors	16,423	(43,250)
Increase / (Decrease) in Creditors	(1,619,494)	(2,184,928)
Net cash provided/(absorbed) by operating activities	(1,240,634)	(1,979,295)

28. Analysis of Cash and Cash equivalents

	2025 (€)	2024 (€)
Cash at Bank and In Hand	5,186,605	6,524,166
	5,186,605	6,524,166

29. Analysis of change in net debt

	At 1 January 2025 (€)	Cash Flow (€)	At 31 December 2025 (€)
Cash at Bank and In Hand	6,524,166	(1,337,561)	5,186,605
Total 2025	6,524,166	(1,337,561)	5,186,605
Total 2024	8,653,129	(2,128,963)	6,524,166

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

There are no capital commitments outstanding at the end of the year.

32. Contingent Liability

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 €119,005 (2024 - €102,361)

34. Taxation

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

35. Future Commitments

a – Operating Lease Commitments

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

	2025 (€)	2024 (€)
Not later than 1 year	62,500	62,500
Later than 1 year and not later than 5 years	15,625	78,125
	78,125	140,625

b – Multi-Annual Project Commitments

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.

36. Related Party Transactions

In 2025, 3 of the 12 directors (2024 - 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 2025 was €950,589 (2024 - €1,127,835)

No other related party transactions took place during the year ended 31 December 2025.

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 13 May 2026.

Misean Cara Member Organisations 2025

Augustinian Fathers	Little Sisters of the Assumption	Sisters of Charity of Our Lady of the Incarnate Word
Capuchin Order	Marist Brothers	Sisters of Our Lady of Sion
Carmelites (OCD)	Marist Fathers	Sisters of Our Lady of the Apostles
Church Mission Society Ireland	Marist Sisters	Sisters of Saint Clare
Cistercians	Medical Missionaries of Mary	Sisters of Saint Joseph of Chambery
Congregation of the Holy Spirit (Spiritans)	Mill Hill Missionaries	Sisters of Saint Joseph of Cluny
Congregation of the Passion	Missionaries of Africa	Sisters of Saint Louis
Congregation of the Most Holy Redeemer (Redemptorists)	Missionaries of the Sacred Heart	Sisters of the Cross and Passion
Congregation of the Sisters of Mercy	Missionary Oblates of Mary Immaculate	Sisters of the Holy Cross
Daughters of Charity of Saint Vincent de Paul	Missionary Sisters of Saint Columban (International)	Sisters of the Infant Jesus
Daughters of Mary and Joseph	Missionary Sisters of the Assumption	Sisters of the Sacred Hearts of Jesus and Mary (Chigwell)
Daughters of the Holy Spirit	Missionary Sisters of the Holy Rosary	Society of African Missions
De La Salle Brothers	Missionary Sisters Servants of the Holy Spirit	Society of the Divine Saviour
Edmund Rice Development	Missionary Society of Saint Columban (Columban Fathers)	Society of the Divine Word
Faithful Companions of Jesus	Notre Dame des Missions	Society of the Sacred Heart
Franciscan Brothers	Order of Carmelites	The Congregation of Dominican Sisters
Franciscan Missionaries of Mary	Patrician Brothers	The Congregation of the Mission (Vincentian Fathers)
Franciscan Missionaries of Saint Joseph	Poor Servants of the Mother of God	Viatres Christi
Franciscan Missionaries of the Divine Motherhood	Presbyterian Church in Ireland	
Franciscan Missionary Sisters for Africa	Presentation Brothers	
Franciscan Missionary Union	Presentation Sisters of the Blessed Virgin Mary	
Franciscan Sisters of the Immaculate Conception	Religious of Jesus and Mary	
Good Shepherd Sisters	Religious of the Sacred Heart of Mary	
Holy Faith Sisters	Religious Sisters of Charity (RSC)	
Holy Family Sisters of Bordeaux	Rosminian Fathers	
Institute of the Blessed Virgin Mary (Loreto)	Saint Patrick's Missionary Society	
Irish Jesuits International	Salesians of Don Bosco Ireland	
Irish Ursuline Union	Salesian Sisters	
La Sainte Union	Servites	
Little Company of Mary		





misean cara
Mission Support from Ireland

Cover Photo

On 16 October 2025, students from the Salaga and Kpandai districts of northern Ghana took part in an International Day of the Girl advocacy rally in Kpandai. Organised by the Presentation Brothers in partnership with the Catholic Education Unit, the rally brought together students from 12 schools to advocate for girls' right to quality education, child safeguarding, and an end to harmful practices such as child marriage. At the end of the rally, students presented a petition to the District Director of Education calling for stronger support for girls' education and shared their message with a national television audience who covered the event.

Photo: Jenny Ackermann

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