

GORTA

The Freedom from Hunger Council of Ireland

Reports and Financial Statements

for the year ended

31 December 2009

GORTA – THE FREEDOM FROM HUNGER COUNCIL OF IRELAND

**REPORTS AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2009**

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GORTA – THE FREEDOM FROM HUNGER COUNCIL OF IRELAND

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATION

TRUSTEES	Mr. Andy Cole (Chairman) Mr. Brian Kehoe (Vice Chairman) Prof. Denis I. F. Lucey Mr. Kevin Higgins Dr. David O'Connor Mr. Liam Fitzgerald Ms. Deirdre Fox
SECRETARY	Brian Hanratty
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER	Brian Hanratty
REGISTERED OFFICE	12 Herbert Street Dublin 2
SOLICITOR	Gallagher Shatter & Co. 4 Upper Ely Place Dublin 2
PRINCIPAL BANKERS	Bank of Ireland Head Office Branch Lower Baggot Street Dublin 2 Permanent TSB 2-4 Upper Baggot Street Dublin 4 Anglo Irish Bank Corporation Limited Stephen Court 18/21 St. Stephen's Green Dublin 2 ACC Bank Charlemont Place Dublin 2 Ulster Bank Corporate Markets College Green Business Centre P. O. Box 145 33 College Green Dublin 2
AUDITOR	Deloitte & Touche Chartered Accountants and Registered Auditors Deloitte & Touche House Earlsfort Terrace Dublin 2
COMPANY NUMBER	28228
CHARITY NUMBER	CHY 5678

GORTA – THE FREEDOM FROM HUNGER COUNCIL OF IRELAND

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2009

The Trustees present their annual report and financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2009.

Vision

Gorta's vision is a world where there is no hunger or poverty and where the poorest communities have the means to create more prosperous futures for themselves and their children.

Mission

Through its work, Gorta aims at empowering communities to eradicate hunger and poverty, with particular emphasis on food and water security, contributing to people's unrestricted access to secure and environmentally sustainable livelihoods.

Our mission is:

To promote best practices in the area of sustainable long-term development in communities, especially in Sub-Saharan Africa;

To be a catalyst for the creation, safeguarding and transfer of best practice in food and water security; and

To be a facilitator in channelling goodwill, resources and expertise to communities most in need.

In so doing, Gorta will develop and promote models of pragmatic and effective best practice to be shared with those individuals and groups with whom we work in a spirit of partnership.

Values

Gorta will ensure that all our decisions, actions, and stakeholder interactions conform to the organisation's moral and professional principles. These principles are the foundation for the organisation's culture and values.

Ethical	Businesslike
Donor Focussed	Caring
Partnership	Innovative
Inspiring	Advocates

Charter

How we will achieve our Mission

Gorta – The Freedom from Hunger Council of Ireland (Gorta) is an independent, international development NGO and the Irish partner of the Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO). We are a not for profit organisation working to the highest professional, business and ethical standards.

Our intention is to contribute meaningfully to the eradication of the causes of hunger and poverty in the world. We are not an emergency relief organisation.

Our approach to long term development is holistic, multi-disciplinary and creative. We encourage integrated solutions recognising the inter-dependent relationship that exists between food and water security, health, education and social enterprise.

Sustainable Development

We support both small projects and large programmes, whichever is most appropriate to the challenge faced. We seek to leverage small projects into larger programmes to maximize the extent of their positive impacts. We are respectful of the culture, needs and wishes of the communities we work with and proactively seek out their views.

GORTA – THE FREEDOM FROM HUNGER COUNCIL OF IRELAND

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2009

Sustainable Development (continued)

We are committed to the principle of empowering communities and helping them help themselves, rather than simply providing funds. Put into practice this means communities making a contribution of some kind themselves. It may be in terms of labour, equipment, money, passing on help and advice to other projects, or other 'in kind' contributions. Only in the most exceptional cases will Gorta fund 100% of a project or programme.

Where appropriate Gorta will work with local communities to set up businesses to help meet the needs of the programme.

Our primary targets are the poorest, most disadvantaged communities in sub Saharan Africa. Our priority partner countries are Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania, Malawi and Zambia.

Gorta has full time, professional development workers, appropriately resourced, on the ground, representing each of our target countries. We identify local partners and provide training and support to help them develop.

In addition, Gorta will also supports a limited number of projects in South Africa, Rwanda, The Gambia and India. We will also support other potential partners in other countries on an exceptional basis in response to a request from other Irish or UK connections, other NGO's, or where there is an opportunity to learn from or develop best practice that can be transferred elsewhere.

We proactively support specialist academic institutions in priority countries focusing on agriculture, horticulture, hydrology and agro forestry to assist communities to tackle the challenges they face.

We have a role in education and advocacy on behalf of communities needing long-term development. Whilst we are 'apolitical' we will be their voice.

Donor Partnerships

We act responsibly in regard to our donors' funds. We keep our costs to the minimum consistent with our need to be effective, ensuring the maximum amount can be used where it matters most. We are committed to being in communication with our donors, keeping them informed as to how their contribution is being used effectively.

Wherever practical, and consistent with the responsible use of our donors' resources, Gorta will work with local community resources, skills and knowledge.

We see ourselves as facilitators, providing opportunities for communities, businesses, workplace and social groups, families and individuals to make a contribution to the fight against hunger and drought especially in Sub-Saharan Africa.

We recognise that we can't achieve our vision on our own. It can only be achieved through developing and working in long term partnership with local and national government, local communities, other 'expert' organisations, businesses and individuals etc who have complementary skills to our own. Meaningful partnership is central to our approach.

We raise funds through a wide range of sources and will never become overly dependent upon just one source. We look to new technology as a way of cost efficient communication with our donors.

Our network of Volunteers across our retail and community fundraising infrastructure has been a source of great strength and resilience over the years. We are committed to maintaining and growing a strong, healthy community organisation including County Infrastructure and the Gorta Council. We believe this keeps us connected to an important and influential constituency

GORTA – THE FREEDOM FROM HUNGER COUNCIL OF IRELAND

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2009

Ethical Behaviour

We are an open organisation, a learning organisation, developing and sharing 'best practice' with our peers and partners. Gorta believes in the importance of education and training.

Gorta will ensure that all our decisions, actions, and stakeholder interactions conform to the organisation's moral and professional principles. These principles are the foundation for the organisation's culture and values.

The principles apply to all individuals involved in the organisation, from employees to members of the board of directors and council, and are communicated and reinforced on a regular basis.

They ensure Gorta's mission and vision are aligned with its ethical principles empowering people to make effective decisions with confidence.

Principal activities

The Company is a registered charity and therefore the report and results are presented in a form which complies with the requirements of the Companies Acts, 1963 to 2009 and although not obliged to comply with the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP), "Accounting and Reporting by Charities", as issued by the Charity Commissioners for England and Wales in October 2005 the Company has implemented its recommendations where relevant in these financial statements. The main activities of the Company are charitable. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out on pages 14 and 15 to the financial statements.

Financial results

Sustained fundraising in recent years, coupled with the recruitment of additional technical staff (both in Africa and Ireland) has enabled Gorta to significantly increase its Programmes activity. In addition, a number of project applications received and assessed in the latter part of 2008 were approved in early 2009, adding further momentum to the year on year growth.

Aside from the significant increase in Programme investment, other costs have been kept substantially in line with previous years.

The current economic environment has seen a reduction both in donations received during the year and in sales at our ten charity shops. A reduction in deposit interest rates, coupled with a planned drawdown on reserves combined to reduce bank interest income. The financial results are outlined on page 16.

Future activities

For the forthcoming year, partnerships and programme activity - particularly in Kenya, Uganda, Zambia, Malawi and Tanzania, selected Priority Countries will continue at the high level achieved in 2009. Gorta will continue its strategy to utilise an element of its reserve which it built up in the previous years over the coming years to meet the demands facing partners in the future.

Objects and policies

Gorta is an international non-governmental, non-political, non-religious organisation created as a charitable legal entity in the Republic of Ireland in 1965. It is an independent charitable organisation constituted as a company limited by guarantee. The Memorandum of Association defines the organisation's 'Objects' as being:

- a) The assistance and advancement of peoples in need in the less developed areas of the world with particular emphasis on the poorest of the poor, those suffering from hunger and those least capable of helping themselves.
- b) Advancing the objectives of the Food & Agricultural Organisation of the United Nations (FAO) in matters of food security and long-term sustainable development.
- c) The empowerment of the local people in developing areas to own their own projects with a view to achieving self-sufficiency.

- d) The doing of all such other lawful things as are incidental to and conducive to the attainment of the foregoing objects.

Objects and policies (continued)

In striving to achieve its objectives, Gorta works on empowering communities to eradicate hunger and poverty with particular emphasis on food and water security – especially in Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania, Malawi and Zambia. In so doing, Gorta focuses on the areas of:

- Food Security
- Water and Sanitation
- Health
- Education
- Livelihoods

Combined, these programmes help create sustainable improvements to the living standards of poor communities especially in parts of sub Saharan Africa. Capacity and capability building efforts remain key in Gorta's work with a view to creating gainful opportunities and prosperous futures for the people of Africa.

Food Security. Food security is not only linked to the availability, production and preparation of food but also to access – physical and economic. Gorta aims to address food security through improving agricultural practices that promote and increase crop production and diversification. Projects are especially targeted at smallholder farmers and pastoralists with an emphasis on farm diversification. Gorta also aims to reduce farmers' vulnerability to the adverse effects of climate change and enable them to adopt improved methods of farming, thus creating sustainable, long term food security. Investing in forest restoration, tree nurseries and protection of biodiversity is becoming more prevalent in Gorta's food security programmes.

Water and Sanitation. Gorta's aim is to provide the communities it supports with well managed water resources that are sustainable and productive and sanitation services that are adequate in terms of quality, sufficiency and long term operation and maintenance. Training of local water users groups is essential to ensure that the operation and maintenance is sustainable and the community have been empowered and gained ownership of the facilities. Access to water helps fulfil basic needs at household level, and allows agriculture and local business to contribute to food security. Gorta recognises the importance of water security as a basic human right and an essential step for development and is working with partners in sub Saharan Africa to develop integrated water management schemes. This approach ensures that communities utilise their available resources to harness rainwater, protect existing water sources, maximize the use of superficial water sources, conduct efficient irrigation practices and contribute to the overall environmental conservation by specifically enhancing the recharge of ground water to conserve the environment and ensure long term water availability and prevent wells from drying up.

Health. Poor health is both a cause and effect of poverty. Gorta addresses health issues by focussing on improving food and water security and also working with partners in the provision of community care. Targeting the prevention of maternal and infant undernourishment is also central to Gorta's programmes. HIV/AIDS is prevalent in Sub Saharan Africa and Gorta has joined with a number of organisations to provide care for HIV/AIDS sufferers and for their families. The promotion of health is a basic right of all individuals and is a prerequisite to achieving adequate living standards and improved potential for self development.

Education. Education is vital to improve the prospects of those experiencing hunger and extreme poverty. Gorta, through the provision of agricultural training and life skills development, works to promote agricultural best practices in order to further improve the food security of households and communities. Gorta has a long-standing history in supporting vocational training, entrepreneurial skills and income generating activities. Gorta recognises the importance of linking farmers, especially

smallholders, with trained extension workers and facilitating the transfer of knowledge with regard to sustainable farming practices. Gorta's overall aim is to strengthen the resources and capabilities of communities to facilitate long-term sustainable development. (Gorta has also supported the provision of Early Childhood Development Centres and other education related projects, often with a focus on food security and nutrition).

GORTA – THE FREEDOM FROM HUNGER COUNCIL OF IRELAND

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2009

Livelihoods. Within livelihoods, Gorta's emphasis is on income generation, income security and enterprise promotion. Income security greatly reduces peoples' vulnerability to food shortages, poor health and poverty. Gorta supports skills training for income-generating activity, especially among womens' groups, and provides access to the necessary credit. Wherever possible, Gorta works with smallholder farmers to promote farming as a business, assisting in providing better produce storage, processing and marketing. Gorta's focus is on creating opportunities for gainful employment that enhance prosperity and well-being at household and community level.

Partnerships

Gorta works with a network of local partner groups with objects similar to its own in the countries in which it operates. In addition, 2009 saw the commencement of new partnership arrangements, informed by the recommendations of the Government of Ireland's Hunger Task Force, on which Gorta was represented. This collaboration commenced in Gorta's five priority countries during 2009 when an initial sum of €2.4 million was allocated to such activities which are designed to maximise synergy and impact in the field.

Grant making process

Each proposal is reviewed by the responsible manager/officer. If it is in line with Gorta's strategy, it is sent to the Programmes Committee for review. Where the Programmes Committee recommends a programme the proposal is then sent to the Board for approval.

Organisational structure

The charity was previously solely based in Ireland but Gorta UK, a company limited by guarantee and a registered charity was incorporated in the UK on 6th September 2004.

To achieve its objectives, the charity raises funds in Ireland through a network of charity shops, which sell second hand goods donated by the public. Further details of these activities are set out in note 1 to the financial statements. Gorta also has a network of voluntary local community groups in a number of counties that raise money through fundraising events. Gorta's head office raises money directly for the organisation by organising fundraising events, promoting continuous giving and seeking subscriptions and donations from the general public. It also obtains funds from bequests.

The Board of directors who meet approximately seven times annually retains overall responsibility for the strategic development of the charity in close liaison with the executive team.

Brian Hanratty, Chief Executive, managed the operation of the charity with delegated divisional responsibility to the following:

Finance and Administration: Jennifer Coyne
Marketing and Communications: Adrienne Dunne
Programmes: Isabella Rea

GORTA – THE FREEDOM FROM HUNGER COUNCIL OF IRELAND

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2009

Trustees and Corporate Governance

The Trustees in office during the period and at the date of this report are set out on page 2. New Trustees are elected by the Council of Gorta and each serve for a period of three years. They can be re-elected or replaced by newly elected Trustees from the Council of Gorta.

The Trustees believe that committing to a high level of Corporate Governance is essential to achieving the optimal standard of operation of the Company's Activities. To accomplish this the Board has a Competent Executive team. There is clear division of responsibility at the company with the Board retaining control of major decisions, with the Chief Executive responsible for devising strategy and policy within the authority delegated to him by the Board.

The Board is responsible for providing leadership, setting strategy and ensuring control. The Company has a clear and detailed process for reporting management information to the Board. The Board is provided with regular information, which includes key performance and risk indicators for all aspects of the organisation. The Board meets regularly as required and met nine times during 2009.

The Directors recognise their overall responsibility for Gorta's systems of internal control and for reviewing its effectiveness. They have delegated responsibility for the implementation of this system to the Executive Team. This system includes financial controls, which enable the Board to meet its responsibilities for the integrity and accuracy of the Company's accounting records.

Sub-committees established for good governance including but not confined to Board members are:

Audit and Finance Committee

The function of the audit committee is to review internal financial controls, treasury and risk management processes. It liaises with external auditors and reports directly to the Board. It also monitors and reviews the financial performance of the Company. It provides an independent review of the annual budgets, monthly management and financial accounts and makes recommendations to the Board where relevant.

Programmes Committee

This Committee is charged with considering key decisions relating to the support of overseas programmes and partners.

The Board has created a procedure of compliance which addresses the Board's wider responsibility to maintain, review and report on all internal controls, including financial, operational and compliance risk management.

Environment

As part of Gorta's Vision we strive to achieve environmental justice for all. Gorta's programmes embrace the UN Millennium Development Goals which challenge all of us to respond to tackle poverty, hunger, disease, lack of shelter and exclusion – while promoting gender equality, healthcare, education, environmental sustainability and economic opportunity.

We proactively support specialist educational institutions in priority countries focusing on agriculture, horticulture, hydrology and agro forestry to produce graduates equipped to tackle the challenges their communities face.

Gorta has a proactive approach to conducting our business in a manner that protects the environment. Gorta is compliant with relevant environmental legislation.

GORTA – THE FREEDOM FROM HUNGER COUNCIL OF IRELAND

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2009

Statement of Public Benefit

Gorta supports programmes that are concentrated in the most needy areas and are aimed at benefiting the poorest of the poor with emphasis on food security, nutrition, empowerment of women and improving the health of children to ensure growth and development

Dividends and retention

The Company is precluded by its Memorandum of Association from paying dividends either as part of normal operations or on a distribution of its assets in the event of a winding-up.

Health and safety

Gorta reviewed its Health and Safety Systems in 2009 and began the updating and implementation of its Safety Statement and Fire Register.

The Safety Statement, in accordance with Section 20 of the Safety, Health and Welfare at Work Act 2005, outlines the policy of Gorta in relation to the management of health, safety and welfare.

Gorta is committed to managing and conducting its work activities in such a way as to ensure, so far as is reasonably practicable, the safety, health and welfare at work of its employees, including fixed term employees and temporary employees and other individuals at the place of work (not being its employees).

Voluntary help and gifts in kind

The Trustees are very grateful to the hundreds of volunteers throughout Ireland who helped the organisation during the year by membership of County Committees, staffing our shops and carrying out various fundraising initiatives, including Church Gate collections on behalf of Gorta during the year. The public have been very generous in providing gifts in kind, particularly donations of items for resale through our network of ten charity shops in Ireland.

Management and staff

We appreciate and acknowledge the committed work of our staff. The ongoing growth of Gorta's work is due to their dedication and commitment.

We are committed to the continuing development of our staff and Gorta allocate resources annually towards a comprehensive training and development programme.

Gorta is an equal opportunities employer and we recognise the need to ensure we have high caliber staff and volunteers to achieve our vision and objectives.

Post Balance Sheet events

There were no significant events affecting the company since the year-end.

Companies (Amendment) Act, 1986

The reporting requirements of the Companies (Amendment) Act, 1986 relating to financial statements do not apply to the Company, as it is a company limited by guarantee not having a share capital.

Books of Account

To ensure that proper books and accounting records are kept in accordance with Section 202 of the Companies Act, 1990, the directors have employed appropriately qualified accounting personnel and have maintained appropriate computerised accounting systems. The books of account are located at the company's office at 12 Herbert Street, Dublin 2.

GORTA – THE FREEDOM FROM HUNGER COUNCIL OF IRELAND

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2009**

Auditors

Deloitte & Touche, Chartered Accountants continue in office in accordance with Section 160(2) of the Companies Act, 1963.

Approved by the trustees and signed on their behalf by:

Signed on behalf of the Board:

Andy Cole
Trustee

Brian Kehoe
Trustee

16 June 2010

GORTA – THE FREEDOM FROM HUNGER COUNCIL OF IRELAND

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES

Irish company law requires the trustees 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 incoming resources of the company for that year. In preparing those financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the company will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper books of account which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the company and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements are prepared in accordance with accounting standards generally accepted in Ireland and comply with Irish statute comprising the Companies Acts, 1963 to 2009. 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.

Signed on behalf of the Board:

Andy Cole
Trustee

Brian Kehoe
Trustee

16 June 2010

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF GORTA – THE FREEDOM FROM HUNGER COUNCIL OF IRELAND

We have audited the financial statements of Gorta – The Freedom from Hunger Council of Ireland for the year ended 31 December 2009 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, the Balance Sheet, the Cash Flow Statement, the Statement of Accounting Policies and the related notes 1 to 23. These financial statements have been prepared under the accounting policies set out in the Statement of Accounting Policies.

This report is made solely to the company's members, as a body, in accordance with Section 193 of the Companies Act, 1990. 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 auditors' 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.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and auditors

The trustees are responsible for preparing the financial statements as set out in the Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities, in accordance with applicable law and accounting standards issued by the Accounting Standards Board and published by The Institute of Chartered Accountants in Ireland (Generally Accepted Accounting Practice in Ireland).

Our responsibility, as independent auditor, is to audit the financial statements in accordance with relevant legal and regulatory requirements and International Standards on Auditing (UK and Ireland).

We report to you our opinion as to whether the financial statements give a true and fair view, in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Practice in Ireland, and are properly prepared in accordance with Irish statute comprising the Companies Acts, 1963 to 2009. We also report to you whether in our opinion proper books of account have been kept by the company and whether the information given in the Report of the Trustees is consistent with the financial statements. In addition, we state whether we have obtained all the information and explanations necessary for the purpose of our audit and whether the company's balance sheet and statement of financial activities are in agreement with the books of account.

We also report to you if, in our opinion, any information specified by law regarding trustees' remuneration and trustees' transactions is not disclosed and, where practicable, include such information in our report.

We read the Report of the Trustees and consider the implications for our report if we become aware of any apparent misstatement within it.

Basis of audit opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK and Ireland) issued by the Auditing Practices Board. An audit includes examination, on a test basis, of evidence relevant to the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. It also includes an assessment of the significant estimates and judgements made by the trustees in the preparation of the financial statements, and of whether the accounting policies are appropriate to the company's circumstances, consistently applied and adequately disclosed.

We planned and performed our audit so as to obtain all the information and explanations which we considered necessary in order to provide us with sufficient evidence to give reasonable assurance that the financial statements are free from material misstatement, whether caused by fraud or other irregularity or error. In forming our opinion, we evaluated the overall adequacy of the presentation of information in the financial statements.

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**INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF
GORTA – THE FREEDOM FROM HUNGER COUNCIL OF IRELAND**

Opinion

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view, in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Practice in Ireland, of the state of affairs of the company as at 31 December 2009 and of the net outgoing resources of the company for the year then ended; and
- have been properly prepared in accordance with the Companies Acts 1963 to 2009.

We have obtained all the information and explanations we considered necessary for the purpose of our audit. In our opinion proper books of account have been kept by the company. The company's balance sheet and its statement of financial activities are in agreement with the books of account.

In our opinion the information given in the Report of the Trustees is consistent with the financial statements.

Deloitte & Touche
Chartered Accountants and Registered Auditors
Dublin

16 June 2010

GORTA – THE FREEDOM FROM HUNGER COUNCIL OF IRELAND

STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTING POLICIES

BASIS OF PREPARATION

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with accounting standards generally accepted in Ireland and Irish statute comprising the Companies Acts 1963 to 2009. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) (Revised 2005) "Accounting and Reporting by Charities". The financial statements are presented in euro (€) under the historical cost convention.

INCOMING RESOURCES

- (i) Income from voluntary donations is recognised when received into the premises of the charity or lodged into one of the charity's bank accounts.
- (ii) Proceeds from the sale of donated goods are recognised in the accounts in the period in which they are realised. Volunteer time is not included in the financial statements.
- (iii) Grants from the government and other agencies have been included as income from activities in furtherance of the charity's objects and accounted for on a receivable basis.
- (iv) Legacies are included when the amount is received by the charity or into an executor bank account for distribution to the charity at a near future date.
- (v) Interest income is recognised on a receivable basis.

RECOGNITION OF EXPENDITURE

Expenditure is included when incurred, and includes attributable VAT which cannot be recovered.

Grants payable for development projects are included in the Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) when approved by the Trustees and agreed with the recipient organisation. The value of such grants unpaid at the year end is accrued.

A designated fund is established for expenditure which has been committed to projects, but remains unspent at the year end.

The majority of costs are directly attributable to specific activities. Certain shared staff costs are apportioned to activities in furtherance of the objects of the charity support costs. Other overhead costs are not apportioned and are shown as full administration or fundraising costs.

FUNDRAISING COSTS

These include the salaries and direct fundraising expenditure to promote fundraising, including events.

SUPPORT COSTS

Support costs represent the cost to head office of administering projects. The resources expended on charitable activities have been classified to comply with SORP 2005. Such costs include the direct costs of the charitable activities together with those Support costs (Finance and Administration cost) incurred that enable these activities to be undertaken. These have been allocated across the activities based on headcount.

COSTS OF MANAGING AND ADMINISTERING THE CHARITY

These represent costs incurred running and managing the organisation, including managing and safeguarding the charity's assets, organisational administration and compliance with constitutional and statutory requirements.

GIFTS IN KIND

Items donated for resale are included in shop income when sold and no value is placed on stock at the year end. Any other gifts in kind are deemed non-material so are not included in the accounts.

GORTA – THE FREEDOM FROM HUNGER COUNCIL OF IRELAND

STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

OPERATING LEASES

Rentals applicable to operating leases where substantially all the benefits and risks of ownership remain with the lessor are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA).

CAPITALISATION AND DEPRECIATION OF TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost less accumulated depreciation. Depreciation of fixed assets is provided on cost in equal instalments over the estimated useful lives of the assets. The annual rates of depreciation are as follows:

Shop fittings	20%
Office Equipment	20%
Computer Equipment	33.3%

FUNDS ACCOUNTING

Funds held by the charity are:

Unrestricted general funds - these are funds which can be used in accordance with the charitable objects at the discretion of the Trustees.

Designated funds - these are funds which have been set aside for particular purposes by the Association itself, in furtherance of the Association's charitable objects.

Restricted funds - these are funds that can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

RESERVES POLICY

Gorta has a reserve policy based on foreseeable expenditure and in particular, long-term commitments to projects. In addition, a general reserve is specifically set aside to ensure the operation of the organisation for six months, based on historical running costs.

INVESTMENT POLICY

The Trustees of Gorta are restricted from investing the funds of the charity in long-term investments as all monies held by the charity are deemed to be immediately available for charitable use. All cash balances for planned development work are held in deposit accounts at the highest interest rates available. Appropriate cash balances are also held for the essential purpose of expanding and consolidating the fundraising base.

FOREIGN CURRENCIES

Transactions in foreign currency are recorded at the rate ruling at the date of the transaction. Monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies are translated at the rate of exchange ruling at the balance sheet date. All differences are taken to the Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA).

PENSION SCHEME

The charity operates a defined contribution scheme for employees. The assets of the scheme are held and managed separately from those of the charity by the pension company Bank of Ireland Life. The annual contributions are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) and the costs for the current year are disclosed in Note 17.

GORTA – THE FREEDOM FROM HUNGER COUNCIL OF IRELAND

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2009

	Notes	2009 Restricted Funds €	2009 Unrestricted Funds €	2009 Designated Funds €	2009 Total €	2008 Total €
Incoming resources						
Voluntary Income						
Donations and fundraising income	1	75,424	5,636,800	-	5,712,224	6,434,308
Incoming Resources from Charitable Activities						
Revenue based grants	2	19,709	-	-	19,709	20,517
Activities for generating funds						
Trading Activities Income	3	59,059	910,630	-	969,689	1,055,784
Investment Income	21	-	742,755	-	742,755	988,840
Total incoming resources		154,192	7,290,185	-	7,444,377	8,499,449
Resources expended						
Charitable Activities						
Programmes Costs	7	95,952	5,488,476	2,692,500	8,276,928	3,381,975
Costs of generating funds						
Costs of Generating Trading Income	3	-	866,943	-	866,943	843,963
Costs of Generating Voluntary Income	4	19,709	743,702	-	763,411	849,232
Governance Costs						
Governance Costs	6	-	166,062	-	166,062	203,456
Currency Loss	21	-	37,747	-	37,747	26,726
Total resources expended		115,661	7,302,930	2,692,500	10,111,091	5,305,352
NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS	20	38,531	(12,745)	(2,692,500)	(2,666,714)	3,194,097
Total Funds Brought forward		122,690	12,672,946	3,346,749	16,142,385	12,948,288
Movement between funds		(34,437)	(2,163,465)	2,197,902	-	-
Total Funds Carried Forward		126,784	10,496,736	2,852,151	13,475,671	16,142,385

There are no recognised gains or losses other than the net movement in funds arising from continuing operations for the year.

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees on 16 June 2010 and signed on its behalf by:

Andy Cole

Brian Kehoe

Trustee

Trustee

GORTA – THE FREEDOM FROM HUNGER COUNCIL OF IRELAND

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2009

	<i>Notes</i>	2009 €	2008 €
FIXED ASSETS			
Other tangible assets	13	54,897	114,249
CURRENT ASSETS			
Cash in bank and at hand	12	19,733,360	21,234,651
Debtors	14	281,215	99,268
		20,014,575	21,333,919
CREDITORS (Amounts due within one year)			
Creditors, accruals and deferred income	15	(6,331,042)	(3,125,115)
NET CURRENT ASSETS			
		13,683,533	18,208,804
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES			
		13,738,430	18,323,053
Long term liabilities			
Creditors (Amount falling de after one year)	15	(262,759)	(2,180,668)
NET ASSETS			
		13,475,671	16,142,385
RESERVES			
Accumulated funds - restricted	20	126,784	122,690
Accumulated funds - unrestricted	20	10,496,736	12,672,946
Accumulated funds - designated	20	2,852,151	3,346,749
		13,475,671	16,142,385

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees on 16 June 2010 and signed on its behalf by:

Andy Cole
Trustee

Brian Kehoe
Trustee

GORTA – THE FREEDOM FROM HUNGER COUNCIL OF IRELAND

**CASH FLOW STATEMENT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2009**

	<i>Notes</i>	2009 €	2008 €
Net cash inflow from charitable activities	18	(2,240,412)	2,660,070
Capital expenditure and financial investment			
Interest Received	21	742,755	988,840
Payments to acquire tangible fixed assets	13	(3,634)	(25,841)
		<u>739,121</u>	<u>962,999</u>
(Decrease)/Increase in cash		(1,501,291)	3,623,069
Net funds at 1 January 2009		21,234,651	17,611,582
NET FUNDS AT 31 DECEMBER 2009		<u>19,733,360</u>	<u>21,234,651</u>

The accompanying notes form an integral part of this statement.

RECONCILIATION OF MOVEMENT IN FUNDS TO NET CASH INFLOW/(OUTFLOW) FROM FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	2009 €	2008 €
Opening Cash Balance	21,234,651	17,611,582
Movement in Funds in the year	(2,666,714)	3,194,097
Add back Depreciation less Amortisation	62,986	63,726
Less purchase of Fixed Assets	(3,634)	(25,841)
Less Change in Debtors	(181,947)	54,485
Less Change in Creditors- amounts due within one year	3,205,927	925,167
Less Change in Creditors- amounts due over one year	(1,917,909)	(588,565)
Closing Cash Balance	<u>19,733,360</u>	<u>21,234,651</u>

GORTA – THE FREEDOM FROM HUNGER COUNCIL OF IRELAND

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2009**

1. VOLUNTARY INCOME	2009 Restricted Funds €	2009 Unrestricted Funds €	2009 Total Funds €	2008 Total Funds €
Committed giving	9,600	5,051,180	5,060,780	5,705,358
Legacies	44,500	240,151	284,651	236,218
Committee income	21,324	137,960	159,284	115,482
General donations	-	207,509	207,509	377,250
	75,424	5,636,800	5,712,224	6,434,308
	75,424	5,636,800	5,712,224	6,434,308

2. INCOMING RESOURCES FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES	2009 €	2008 €
Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food	19,709	20,517
	19,709	20,517
	19,709	20,517

3. ACTIVITIES FOR GENERATING FUNDS: TRADING INCOME	2009 €	2008 €
Turnover from donated goods	969,689	1,055,784
Less costs:		
Operating expenses	(734,529)	(654,766)
Management expenses	(122,283)	(159,193)
Support costs (note 5)	(10,131)	(30,004)
	(866,943)	(843,963)
Total net trading income	102,746	211,821
	102,746	211,821

Trading income represents income from the sale of donated goods through the charity's shops.

4. COST OF GENERATING VOLUNTARY INCOME

Cost of generating voluntary income represents fundraising costs to raise both Restricted and Unrestricted income, excluding trading sales. Fundraising costs cover all costs incurred in raising funds including staff, campaign and event costs. These costs are 13% (2008: 13%) of funds raised. This is analysed as follows:

	2009 €	2008 €
Salaries and pensions	276,084	114,140
Standing order/direct debit fees	34,349	32,249
Other fundraising expenses	346,606	387,797
Support costs (note 5)	106,372	315,046
	763,411	849,232
	763,411	849,232

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2009 (CONTINUED)

5. BREAKDOWN OF COSTS OF CHARITABLE ACTIVITY

The resources expended on charitable activities have been classified to comply with SORP 2005. Such costs include the direct costs of the charitable activities together with those Support costs (Finance and Administration cost) incurred that enable these activities to be undertaken. These have been allocated across the activities based on headcount. Total support costs for 2009 were 2.5% (2008: 14% including refurbishment costs of €365,408) of total costs.

This presentation format is a requirement of SORP 2005 paragraph 164/165.

These costs totaling €253,267 are reflected in the Statement of Financial Activity as follows:

Headcount and Administration costs traditionally reflected in Support Services have been allocated to the activities based on direct headcount in the Direct Services as follows:

Costs of Generating Voluntary Income 42% (2008: 42%)

Programmes' Costs 54% (2008: 54%)

Costs of Generating Trading Income 4% (2008: 4%)

	Costs of Generating Voluntary Income		Costs of Generating Trading Income	2009	2008
	€	€		€	€
Support Costs Breakdown by Activity					
IT/ Computer	2,955	3,799	281	7,035	7,971
Postage and stationery	2,313	2,974	220	5,507	21,658
Premises	20,399	26,228	1,943	48,570	432,306
Professional fees *	29,479	37,885	2,803	70,167	41,608
Finance, HR and Admin	48,238	62,037	4,599	114,874	185,225
Support expenses	2,988	3,841	285	7,114	61,339
	<u>106,372</u>	<u>136,764</u>	<u>10,131</u>	<u>253,267</u>	<u>750,107</u>

During 2008, Gorta's Head Office received extensive and necessary refurbishment. This was the first major refurbishment in 22 years of leasing the premises and was required in order to fulfill the terms of the lease and to enhance the health and safety features of the building as well as creating a more modern and efficient work environment for staff. These costs totaling €365,408 are included in 2008 supports costs.

*Professional fees Include Legal Fees and Recruitment fees

6. GOVERNANCE COSTS	2009 €	2008 €
Professional fees	15,125	16,403
Staff	150,937	187,053
Grand Total	<u>166,062</u>	<u>203,456</u>

GORTA – THE FREEDOM FROM HUNGER COUNCIL OF IRELAND

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2009 (CONTINUED)**

7. EXPENDITURE ON CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

Expenditure on charitable activities can be analysed as shown below. Many of these programmes achieve results in more than one of these categories, but are analysed for these purposes under the principal category only.

	Overseas offices	Food Security	Water and Sanitation	Health	Education	Liveli- hoods	Management costs	2009 €
Kenya	68,022	-	-	16,569	80,274	882,367	10,545	1,057,777
Malawi	-	187,771	537,197	274,550	163,930	1,236,755	22,002	2,422,205
Tanzania	-	194,726	579,392	-	-	4,544	54,803	833,465
Uganda	13,000	1,650,382	-	18,000	28,481	663,036	10,545	2,383,444
Zambia	-	46,087	24,921	118,669	25,000	252,682	22,002	489,361
India	-	-	-	563,086	-	-	-	563,086
Field Visits and other expenses	56,737	-	-	-	-	-	125,100	181,837
Staff costs and consultancy	99,603	-	-	-	-	-	109,386	208,989
Support Costs (note 5)	-	-	-	-	-	-	136,764	136,764
	<u>237,362</u>	<u>2,078,966</u>	<u>1,141,510</u>	<u>990,874</u>	<u>297,685</u>	<u>3,039,384</u>	<u>491,147</u>	<u>8,276,928</u>

In 2008 Expenditure on charitable activities included Kenya €442k, Malawi €1,398k, Tanzania €119k, Uganda €689k and Gorta non priority countries €87k with partners. An additional €647k was spent on charitable activities through field offices, staff costs and support costs.

8. NET (OUTGOING)/INCOMING RESOURCES

2009
€

2008
€

The net (outgoing)/incoming resources for the year is stated after charging:

Audit fees	15,125	16,403
Depreciation	62,986	63,726
	<u>78,111</u>	<u>80,129</u>

GORTA – THE FREEDOM FROM HUNGER COUNCIL OF IRELAND

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2009 (CONTINUED)

9. RESOURCES EXPENDED	2009	2008
	€	€
Included in resources expended are wages, salaries and pension costs comprising:		
Wages and salaries	1,016,358	936,670
Social welfare costs	108,966	93,588
Pension costs	50,167	34,247
	1,175,491	1,064,505
Employees	2009	2008
	No.	No.
The average number of Irish contracted employees throughout the year was calculated as follows:		
- Operating shops (part-time)	23	20
- Managing shops	2	2
- IT/Operations	2	5
- Administration	4	3
- Fundraising, Marketing and communications	6	3
- Programme support	8	3
	45	36

10. TRUSTEE EXPENSES

Trustees are not remunerated.

11. TAXATION

As a result of the company's charitable status, no charge to corporation tax arises under the provision of Section 207 of the Taxes Consolidation Act 1997.

GORTA – THE FREEDOM FROM HUNGER COUNCIL OF IRELAND

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2009 (CONTINUED)

12. CASH AT BANK AND IN HAND	2009 €	2008 €
Unrestricted	16,754,425	17,765,212
Designated	2,852,151	3,346,749
Restricted	126,784	122,690
	<u>19,733,360</u>	<u>21,234,651</u>

CASH AT BANK AND IN HAND	2009 €	2008 €
Deposit accounts	19,579,218	20,292,130
Current accounts	48,071	846,250
County committee accounts	105,946	96,128
Petty cash	112	130
Prize bonds	13	13
	<u>19,733,360</u>	<u>21,234,651</u>

13. OTHER FIXED ASSETS

	Shop Fittings €	Lease Premiums €	Office furniture and equipment €	Total €
COST				
At beginning of year	225,817	82,651	96,361	404,829
Additions	-	-	3,634	3,634
At end of year	<u>225,817</u>	<u>82,651</u>	<u>99,995</u>	<u>408,463</u>
DEPRECIATION				
At beginning of year	170,844	59,763	59,973	290,580
Charge for year	29,642	13,739	19,605	62,986
At end of year	<u>200,486</u>	<u>73,502</u>	<u>79,578</u>	<u>353,566</u>
NET BOOK VALUE				
At 31 Dec 2009	<u>25,331</u>	<u>9,149</u>	<u>20,417</u>	<u>54,897</u>
At 31 Dec 2008	<u>54,973</u>	<u>22,888</u>	<u>36,388</u>	<u>114,249</u>

GORTA – THE FREEDOM FROM HUNGER COUNCIL OF IRELAND

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2009 (CONTINUED)**

14. DEBTORS	2009	2008
	€	€
Amounts falling due within one year:		
Prepayments and Other debtors	65,781	99,268
Accrued Income	215,434	-
	<u>281,215</u>	<u>99,268</u>
	<u><u>281,215</u></u>	<u><u>99,268</u></u>

15. CREDITORS, ACCRUALS AND DEFERRED INCOME	2009	2008
	€	€
Amounts falling due within one year:		
Suppliers' amounts due at year end	54,846	51,960
Accruals	32,085	76,211
Projects deferred expenditure	4,785,944	1,658,767
Amounts due to connected charity (Note 19)	1,358,619	1,338,177
Pension Liability	3,772	-
Deferred Income	95,776	-
	<u>6,331,042</u>	<u>3,125,115</u>
	<u><u>6,331,042</u></u>	<u><u>3,125,115</u></u>

Creditors: (Amounts falling due after more than one year)	2009	2008
	€	€
Projects deferred expenditure	262,759	2,180,668
	<u>262,759</u>	<u>2,180,668</u>
	<u><u>262,759</u></u>	<u><u>2,180,668</u></u>

16. COMMITMENTS

Annual commitments under non-cancellable operating leases for land and buildings which expire:

- Head office - €101,579. This lease expires in 2022.
- Total for ten shops - €264,340. These leases are held for periods up to 26 years.

GORTA – THE FREEDOM FROM HUNGER COUNCIL OF IRELAND

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2009 (CONTINUED)**

17. PENSION SCHEME

The company operates employer sponsored, defined contribution pension scheme. During the year, the company made contributions in respect of 9 of its employees. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the company, in externally managed funds.

The pension expense for the year amounted to €48,947 (2008: €34,247).

Balance outstanding at year end €3,277 (2008:€4,788)

18. RECONCILIATION OF NET (OUTGOING)/INCOMING RESOURCES TO NET CASH INFLOW FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES	2009	2008
	€	€
NET (OUTGOING)/INCOMING RESOURCES	(2,666,714)	3,194,097
Depreciation	62,986	63,726
(Increase)/decrease in debtor	(181,947)	54,485
Increase in creditors	1,288,018	336,602
Adjustment for interest received or similar	(742,755)	(988,840)
	<hr/>	<hr/>
NET CASH (OUTFLOW)/INFLOW FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES	(2,240,412)	2,660,070
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>

ANALYSIS OF CHANGES IN CASH BALANCES

	At 1 January	Cashflows	At 31 December
	€	2009	2009
		€	€
Cash at bank and in hand	21,234,651	(1,501,291)	19,733,360
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>

19. LEGAL STATUS OF THE COMPANY

The Company is limited by guarantee and does not have a share capital. Every member of the Company undertakes to contribute to the assets of the Company in the event of the same being wound up while he is a member, or within one year after he ceases to be a member, for payment of the debts and liabilities of the Company contracted before he ceases to be a member and of the costs, charges and expenses of winding up and for the adjustment of the rights of the contributories among themselves, such amount as may be required not exceeding €1.27.

The Company is prohibited by its constitution from distributing any of its reserves by way of a dividend or otherwise to its members.

In accordance with Section 24 of the Companies Act, 1963, the company is exempt from including the word "limited" in its name.

The Company, as a charity, is exempt from the reporting and disclosure requirement of the Companies (Amendment) Act, 1986.

GORTA – THE FREEDOM FROM HUNGER COUNCIL OF IRELAND

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2009 (CONTINUED)**

20. RESTRICTED AND UNRESTRICTED FUNDS

	Designated Funds				Unrestricted Funds	Total
	Restricted Funds	Committed Funds	General Reserves	Fixed Assets		
	€	€	€	€	€	€
Opening balance at 1/01/2009	122,690	2,692,500	540,000	114,249	12,672,946	16,142,385
Surplus for the year	38,531	(2,692,500)	-	-	(12,745)	(2,666,714)
Transfer between funds	(34,437)	2,587,254	(330,000)	(59,352)	(2,163,465)	-
Closing balance at 31/12/2009	126,784	2,587,254	210,000	54,897	10,496,736	13,475,671

The Organisation has projects and commitments approved by the board subsequent to the year end totalling €2,587,254 on behalf of Gorta – The Freedom from Hunger Council of Ireland.

21. FINANCIAL RISK MANAGEMENT

Much of the organisation's costs, particularly overseas costs, are denominated in euro and local currency while most income is received in euro. A strengthening of the Local currency against the euro could have an adverse effect on Gorta's ability to deliver its planned programme of work. These currency risks are monitored on an ongoing basis.

The balance due to Gorta UK is held in Sterling, the impact of the fluctuating exchange rates in 2009 has resulted in a loss of €37,747.

Gorta hold a number of bank accounts deposit in a number of different financial institutions ensuring the security of our funds and also endeavouring to maximise the return available. Gorta earned interest of €742,755 in 2009, (2008: €988,840).

22. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

During the year, the company made and received cash advances to and from Gorta UK, related by virtue of mutual directors. The balance due to Gorta UK at 31 December 2009 was €1,358,619 (2008: €1,338,177).

23. COMPARATIVE AMOUNTS

Comparative amounts have been regrouped, where necessary to conform to the current year's presentation.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

(NOT COVERED BY THE INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT)

APPENDIX A

GORTA SHOP INCOME FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2009

	2009	2008
	€	€
Bandon	118,286	136,669
Carlow	49,965	63,186
Cork City – North Main Street	123,585	124,124
Dublin – Capel Street	78,309	75,342
Dublin – Liffey Street	93,095	114,868
Limerick	85,703	87,029
Macroom	72,576	70,552
Mallow	89,007	98,700
Portlaoise	158,437	177,228
Skibbereen	100,726	108,086
	969,689	1,055,784

APPENDIX B

GORTA COUNTY COMMITTEES' INCOME FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2009

	2009	2008
	€	€
Cavan	1,348	3,095
Donegal	6,000	-
Dublin	50,511	37,646
Galway	4,779	4,806
Kerry	22,779	-
Kildare	4,221	8,179
Kilkenny	2,025	1,082
Laois	29,040	14,420
Louth	11,245	13,178
Mayo	9,716	10,435
Meath	5,059	6,423
Monaghan	2,477	3,789
Offaly	925	4,719
Waterford	761	-
Wexford	5,003	5,536
Wicklow	3,395	2,174
	<u>159,284</u>	<u>115,482</u>