

NIGERIA

HOPE AMID HUNGER

HART partner, the Diocese of Jos, has worked tirelessly to help conflict-affected communities in northern and central Nigeria. Since August, they have assisted displaced families to return home and restart farming.

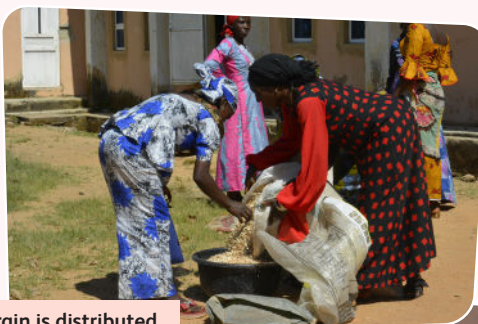
With funding secured from the **Aall Foundation**, the Diocese's current project restores hope through the provision of emergency relief and sustainable agricultural assistance, enabling people to earn an income and regain self-sufficiency. So far, funds have provided grain to households in seven villages.

Despite ongoing security challenges, including frequent indiscriminate attacks and killings, the Diocese of Jos has so far distributed 120 farming hoes, 30 grinding machines and 24 irrigation water pumps. Their project has also seen roofing sheets distributed across several villages, which will be used to repair the roofs of homes that have been burnt by Fulani militia.

"This irrigation pump will help me start life again. I lost everything when they shot everyone and set

my house on fire. I did not get to take anything. Now, with this irrigation pump, I can focus on my farm. This will help take my mind off the tragedy." – **Angwan Zangam, the Village Head whose wife and children were executed in their home by the Fulani militia**

"With this grinding machine, I can now feed my daughters and pay their school fees from what I make." – **Rose Matthew, the widow of a Pastor who was targeted and killed by the Fulani militia**



Grain is distributed among households



Reverend Canon Hassan John, smiles at the granddaughter of a Village Committee Member during the grain distribution process

"The provision of food, and knowledge that they can return to their burnt homes and rebuild them again, having received roofing sheets, is life-changing after the tragedy. They have not received any help from the Government or from any other organisation apart from HART. These villages, without this assistance, may perpetually go from one settlement to another begging for food. This community assistance is very significant for so many families."

– HART partner,
Reverend Canon
Hassan John





Gegham (front left) and other soldiers receive occupational therapy at the Rehabilitation Centre

MAJOR GEGHAM GRIGORYAN'S ROAD TO RECOVERY

"Major Gegham is one of those patients whose kindness immediately catches people's attention. During the recent war, Gegham was injured in a variety of ways, leaving him with limited physical ability and speech difficulties. For ten years, he lived and worked at the Shushi Rescue Service. After he was injured in the war, he lost both his health and his home, before eventually settling in Stepanakert with his young family. Despite his speech difficulties, there is not a single question that he cannot answer with his hands or face gestures, it is only his plans for the future that he leaves unanswered. Today, our whole team is working on Gegham's recovery, and we hope that he, like all of our patients, will be able to build a new future after receiving the treatment that he needs." –

Vardan Tadevosyan, Founder and Director of the Lady Cox Rehabilitation Centre



A young patient celebrates her birthday at the Centre

THANK YOU TO OUR GENEROUS SUPPORTERS

Last winter, we were overjoyed to raise more than **£71,000** for the Lady Cox Disability Rehabilitation Centre during our Christmas appeal. Since February, your generous funds have supported:

- Monthly home visits to 150 patients
- Vital salary support for the Centre's disability therapists, nurses and doctors
- Patient daily meals
- Weekly social events for child patients
- Medical supplies

Currently, Vardan Tadevosyan (Centre Founder and Director), is most concerned about losing his valuable staff following the war in September 2020. Since receiving specialist, long-term training at the Centre, Vardan's staff are now in high demand from international organisations in Armenia who are able to pay a larger salary. To replace any loss of staff would involve considerable training time from Vardan and a subsequent drop in the services that the Centre is able to provide. Following our emergency appeal, Vardan has been able to supplement the minimum wage funding received from the Nagorno Karabakh Government and reward his staffs' ongoing commitment and loyalty.

Since the war, demand on the Centre's services has greatly increased due to an influx of more than 200 injured soldiers. As a result, the Centre's running costs have increased and HART's ongoing commitment to support one third of running costs has never been so crucial. A big thank you from Vardan, his staff and patients for your generous support.

"I would like to take this chance to say thank you to HART, the HART team and HART supporters for their continued support. Not just the financial support but the moral support as well." – **Vardan Tadevosyan, Founder and Director of the Lady Cox Disability Rehabilitation Centre**



Nurse Lusine Galstyan visits a patient in his home

CHRISTMAS EMERGENCY APPEAL

Please support HART and our partners this Christmas, as they bring hope and healing to their local communities.

✿ SUDAN

"HART is the only organisation that has attempted to take humanitarian assistance to people living in dire situations in Blue Nile. They ask you to keep them in mind always as they are literally left alone without any other international support."

Benjamin Barnaba, Executive Director of the New Sudan Council of Churches (NSCC)

✿ BURMA

"Shan Women's Action Network (SWAN) is one of the strongest feminist organisations that acts against the dominant practices of the patriarchal society in Burma... our mission would not be able to be implemented without HART's support."

Nang Morn Kaein, former Country Director of SWAN

✿ NAGORNO KARABAKH

"HART is the only charity supporting our ongoing expenses, making our work possible for our patients. HART's flexible funding means that I can use the funds where they are most needed at the time."

Vardan Tadevosyan, Founder & Director of the Lady Cox Disability Rehabilitation Centre

This Christmas, we are seeking to raise **£30,000** for aid and advocacy. Your donation will be used where it is needed most, enabling HART to keep growing whilst responding to our partners' urgent requests for support.

Please consider what you can give and complete the donation form enclosed in this newsletter.

From HART and our partners: *thank you!*

✿ BURMA

SHAN WOMEN'S ACTION NETWORK (SWAN)

On 1 February 2021, the Burmese military seized power in a coup d'état. Nine months on and more than 1,000 civilians have been killed by security forces as the country slides backwards from its path to democracy.

Subsequent fighting between the military and multiple armed ethnic groups saw thousands of people displaced across the country, with many fleeing over borders. As a result, SWAN asked HART for emergency funding to provide urgent humanitarian assistance to families who arrived at the Thai border with nothing. HART responded immediately with funding to support 800 families with items including dried food, oil, lentils, salt, face masks, antibacterial gel and hygiene kits.



A household receives food assistance from SWAN



TBAs are taught how to support a new born baby

2021 WOMEN'S WELLBEING PROGRAMME

Despite the ongoing security threats faced since the military takeover, SWAN's Community Health Workers (CHWs) continued to travel to remote communities throughout the year to provide pre and post-natal care to pregnant women and assist with their childbirth. In addition, CHWs supported the nutrition of local children and trained 21 new traditional birth attendants (TBAs). With HART's support, SWAN was able to ensure that every CHW had COVID-19 protection kits, enabling them to carry out their crucial work safely.

NEW SUDAN COUNCIL OF CHURCHES (NSCC)

Education has been the top priority for our partner, NSCC, since HART first started working in Sudan in 2006. Following decades of aerial bombardment targeting schools during successive Sudanese civil wars, Blue Nile state has a chronic lack of educational infrastructure and trained teachers.

Of the 47 community-established primary schools in Blue Nile state, many are built out of local materials (such as wood and grass) and lack scholastic materials. There is only one qualified professional teacher in the state, who, with HART's support, studied for his qualification in Uganda in 2019.



Teachers in Blue Nile during their training workshop

In 2020, we secured funding from the **Aall Foundation** to assist NSCC with scholastic materials for ten local schools, and the means to deliver a historic teacher training workshop. Following a year-long delay due to COVID-19, NSCC hosted a two-week training programme in June for 47 teachers (one from each primary school in the state) in a variety of topics including classroom management, professional conduct and school discipline.

"This training is the first ever to be organised in the entire Blue Nile region since 2015. We really appreciate this effort and support from HART. The training content has met our expectations and beyond, we didn't know any of the knowledge and skills that we have gained from this training."
– Mr. Augustino, Head Teacher of Yabus Primary School

DIOCESE OF ABYEI

During our visit to Abyei in January 2020, we visited Agok School at the request of our partner, Bishop Michael Deng Bol. We witnessed first-hand the demolished girls' latrines block that had been destroyed by heavy flooding in 2019. We learnt that students were resorting to public urination and the lack of privacy for girls was deterring them from attending school.

In the Spring of 2021, with funding provided by **Global Care**, the Diocese of Abyei was able to rebuild the toilet block and incorporate air vents and toilet covers to enhance their hygiene and sanitation.

"The Headmaster of Agok Primary school has expressed his deep happiness for the great support from HART and Global Care on education development." – Bishop Michael Deng Bol

SOUTH SUDAN



Girls at Agok School pose by their new toilet block



NOTICEboard

HART WELCOMES NEW CEO

After 17 wonderful years as HART's CEO, Baroness Caroline Cox stepped into a new role as Founding President. We are thrilled that the Trustees have appointed Sam Mason, her long-time parliamentary colleague, to succeed her as CEO.



Sam Mason,
HART CEO

"I am honoured to take up this role at such an important time, where our local partners face the twin challenge of COVID-19 and violent conflict. Many remain unreached by major aid organisations and unheard by the international media. Thanks to your continuing generosity and encouragement, HART is able to stand with our partners in their darkest hour as they bring hope and healing to their communities. Thank you!" – Sam Mason, HART CEO

HART Christmas Carol Service

Join us for a festive evening of carols, readings, mulled wine, mince pies and Christmas cheer.

Start: 7pm End: 9.30pm

Date: Thursday 9th December

**Location: St Cyprian's Church,
Glentworth St, Marlyebone, London,
NW1 6AX Nearest Tube: Baker Street**

HART PRIZE FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

Applications for the HART human rights competition are now open! The competition raises awareness of global conflict and poverty.

It is a wonderful opportunity to inspire young people to engage with crucial humanitarian issues that are often absent from the mainstream media. For more information, please visit the HART website.

If you know of any schools that might like to get involved, please contact office@hart-uk.org to arrange for a HART team member to visit and speak at your school.

LEAVE A LEGACY

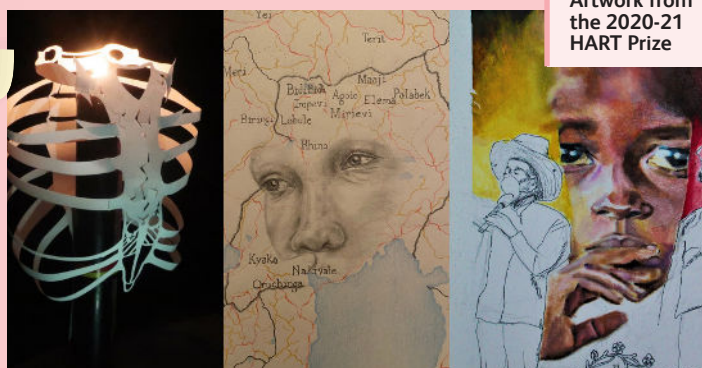
By remembering HART in your Will, you can help us to reach more people in need. As an example of what your legacy can support:

- **£100** can provide a family of eight with food assistance for two months in Sudan
- **£300** can purchase two wheelchairs in Nagorno Karabakh
- **£1,200** can facilitate a five-day training workshop for Traditional Birth Attendants in Burma
- **£2,000** can support 60 households with emergency food relief for one month in South Sudan
- **£5,000** can provide 30 villages with irrigation water pumps in Nigeria

You can be sure that a gift in your Will would transform the lives of people suffering from war, terrorism, oppression and persecution.

To find out more, please visit www.hart-uk.org/donate/gifts-in-wills/ or contact office@hart-uk.org

Artwork from
the 2020-21
HART Prize



SAVE THE DATE



5-6 February 2022

HART annual Day of Action and Prayer

In celebration of Candlemas, please arrange a gathering or event to pray and fundraise for HART's in-country partners.



8 February 2022

**World Day of Prayer against
Human Trafficking**

A day of prayer for victims of human trafficking in honour of Saint Josephine Bakhita, who was kidnapped as a child and sold into slavery in Sudan and Italy.

CATCHING UP WITH CAROLINE



BURMA

Throughout the year, Baroness Cox urged the UK Government to take further action to protect vulnerable communities in Burma, including calling for the introduction of an international arms embargo, and targeted sanctions against perpetrators of violence.

In May, Baroness Cox submitted evidence to the House of Commons Foreign Affairs Committee Inquiry into the crisis in Burma. We were encouraged that some of HART's recommendations were included in the Government's final report. She promoted the recognition of Burma's National Unity Government, comprised of democratically-elected officials who have been forced into hiding since the military coup of February 2021. She also urged the UK Government to facilitate the immediate transfer of humanitarian assistance, including cross-border aid to displaced communities in the ethnic states.



NIGERIA

Baroness Cox continues to speak up for persecuted communities across northern and central Nigeria. In May, citing HART's partners, Baroness Cox submitted evidence to a Parliamentary Inquiry. She highlighted the need for security, food and medical aid in the Middle Belt, where the UK does not currently provide any humanitarian assistance. In July, she responded to a UK Government report on Human Rights and Democracy, which failed to list Nigeria as a priority country, despite daily reports of terrorist violence, mass forced displacement, a rise in abductions for ransom and a general decline in democratic practices.

Following the British Government's decision to cut the UK Overseas Aid budget in July, Baroness Cox urgently wrote to former Foreign Secretary Dominic Raab, explaining in detail how the aid cuts will impact HART's partners.



NAGORNO KARABAKH

Baroness Cox continues to campaign for justice for the people of Nagorno Karabakh. She campaigned for the immediate release of Armenian military and civilian hostages, who remain in captivity in Azerbaijan. She raised urgent concerns about provocative military encroachments by Azerbaijani armed forces into Armenia's sovereign territory. Caroline also urged the UK Government to respond to the rise in anti-Armenian xenophobia, including among Azerbaijani state officials and the media.

In September, Baroness Cox travelled to Yerevan to give a lecture on 'International Religious Freedom and Peace'. She was surprised and humbled to be awarded the Order of Saints Sahak and Mesrop, the highest honour of the Apostolic Church, by His Holiness Catholicos Karekin II for her efforts in advocating for the people of Armenia and Nagorno Karabakh.



His Holiness Karekin II, Supreme Patriarch and Catholicos of All Armenians, presents Baroness Cox with her award in Yerevan, Armenia

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