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■ We are Oxfamers!

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Dear Oxfam friends,

We often talk about being poor and living in poverty. A person can be called poor when they earn an income that does not fully cover all their necessities. However, poverty can also look like powerlessness and voicelessness, and it can be intergenerational.

At Oxfam, we work towards one goal: breaking the vicious cycle of intergenerational poverty. Due to the unequal distribution of social resources, children born in poor families often lack opportunities for upward mobility in society. In Hong Kong, for example, the number of people who are economically inactive and poor rose sharply over the past three years. According to our Hong Kong Poverty Report: Poverty and Employment During the Pandemic published in October last year, the wealth gap has widened during COVID, and the poorest now make over 47 times less than the richest.

Numerous studies have confirmed that poverty has a negative impact on the physical and mental development of children and adolescents. To address intergenerational poverty, we must adopt a holistic approach and mobilise people around the world to make a change. At the policy level, we urge governments to implement pro-poor policies to tackle the root causes of poverty through advocacy and campaigns. In Hong Kong, for example, we advocate for a more reasonable minimum wage as well as a living wage to improve the lives of the working poor.

At the community and individual levels, we support people to lift themselves out of poverty by building community resilience and empowering women. There is a proverb in Ethiopia: Help one woman out of poverty and she will bring four others with her. We work with marginalised women to realise their potential, improve their skills, and build their self-confidence.

To eliminate poverty, we need people like you today, tomorrow and every day!

With warm regards,

Kalina Tsang

Director General



>> ZHANG CHUHAN, A POSITIVE MIGRANT CHILD

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My hometown is Linyi, Shandong. I live in a small flat with my family in Jinan City. It is very crowded, and we have to share a toilet with other people.

My parents sell seafood for a living. They work from 7:00 am to 10:00 pm every day, but they can't make any money. I sometimes come to the store to help them after school. Although I am only 10 years old, I help babysit my younger siblings.

At school, I like Chinese and music class, but I find it hard to learn Math and English. Luckily, in the community centre that Oxfam supports, there are volunteers to help us with our

homework. I also enjoy the activities organised by the centre. I particularly enjoy taking part in the parent-child handicrafts workshop with my mother.

I have also learnt useful things outside of school. For example, I have learnt first aid skills in the Prevention of Burns and Scalds Safety Workshop. A while ago, my younger brother accidentally burnt his hand. I helped him cool the burn by using cold running water. This can reduce pain and swelling. My mother shared this with the social worker at the centre, saying that she was anxious and didn't know what to do at that time, but luckily I was there to help! I feel so proud!

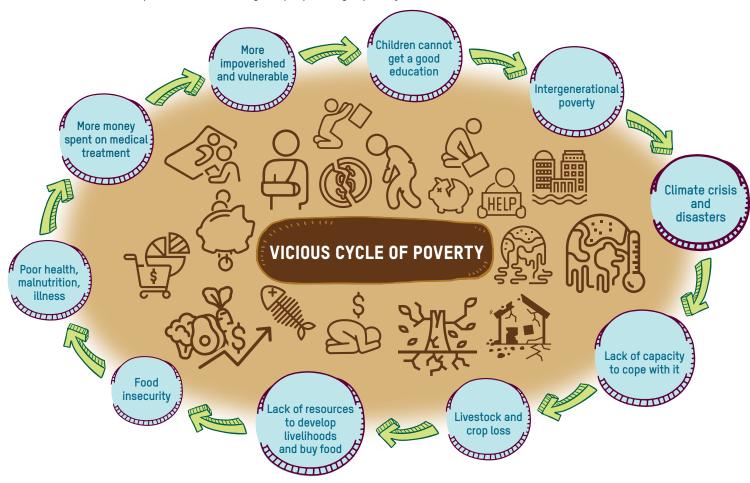


>> WHO IS AT RISK OF POVERTY?

Poverty is not just the lack of money or resources to make ends meet; it can also look like hunger and malnutrition, inadequate access to education and other basic services, social discrimination and exclusion, and the inability to participate in decision-making. Who, then, is at risk of poverty, and how does 0xfam alleviate it?

1. SMALLHOLDER FARMERS AND PASTORALISTS AFFECTED BY CLIMATE CHANGE

Climate change is more than an environmental issue; it threatens the lives and livelihoods of poor communities. If we are to eliminate poverty, we must address the impacts of climate change on people living in poverty.





DID YOU KNOW



Bangladesh is extremely vulnerable to the impacts of climate change due to its geography (many rivers and low-lying land), high population density, high levels of poverty, and its dependence on climate-sensitive sectors, particularly agriculture and fisheries.

Rahela catching fish for her family in flooded water. They had nothing to eat after a cyclone hit their village in Gabura Bangladesh.

2. MARGINALISED WOMEN

Gender inequality denies women their voices and makes women more likely than men to live in poverty. The COVID-19 pandemic has also exacerbated the 'feminisation of poverty', meaning they are not simply more likely to live in poverty, but the poverty they experience is generally more severe.

DID YOU KNOW



- Globally, 700 million fewer women are in paid work than men, and they earn 24 per cent less than men.
- 75 per cent of women in developing regions are in the informal economy where they are less likely to have employment contracts, legal rights or social protection, and are often not paid enough to escape poverty.

Zambia: Bernadette Nandala (left) bakes traditional Zambian African Polony, a cake made from groundnuts and chikanda, to sell in the community and earn a profit. Her mother helps look after her baby.



Photo: Ko Chung Ming

3. MARGINALISED CHILDREN

This includes left-behind and migrant children in mainland China; children living in subdivided flats and ethnic minority children in Hong Kong.

The more people are at the bottom of society, the fewer resources they have, the fewer educational opportunities they have, the lower the chance of upward mobility, and the harder it is to break the cycle of poverty.

DID YOU KNOW



In Hong Kong, many low-income families live in subdivided flats where there is limited space for cooking. They are generally more concerned about filling their stomachs than having a balanced diet. As a result, they are prone to health problems that eventually lead to 'health inequality', which affects their children's physical and mental health.

4. THE WORKING POOR

The term 'working poor' refers to people who have a job but can barely make ends meet. In Hong Kong, working poverty has become a serious issue. Causes include the low minimum wage, the fragmented job market, and insufficient social protection for day labourers.

DID YOU KNOW



From February to April 2022, more than 140,000 people in Hong Kong were underemployed and the unemployment rate hit a 17-year high due to the fifth wave of COVID.



>> CREATING LASTING CHANGE IN HONG

Oxfam works to build a fairer society in Hong Kong. We believe that an affluent city like Hong Kong should guarantee a decent life for all citizens. We have been active in Hong Kong since the 1970s and set up a domestic programme team in 1996.

Through the years, we have focused on a variety of issues, from gender equity and the rights of ethnic minorities, to working and elderly poverty. By supporting local organisations, we serve and empower people in need, and advocate for policy changes – like the development of bazaars so women living in poverty have other livelihood

options, and encouraging employers to pay a living wage – to improve society at large.

During the height of the pandemic, when many lost their jobs and food was expensive, we distributed nutritious meal kits designed and recommended by a dietitian to low-income families that have children. We also taught parents how to prepare healthy meals for their children on a budget. Over 70 per cent of children saw significant improvements in their nutritional intake, and more than half of the children saw improvements in their digestive health and picky eating habits.



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Released the 'Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) survey of Hang Seng Index Constituent Companies' and urged the private sector to enhance its ESG standards and integrate CSR into its policies and operations.















Published a number of research reports urging the government to take immediate action to help the poor and unemployed.

Introduced the first Pay-for-Success project in Hong Kong to offer ethnic minority kindergarten students Chinese enrichment classes and launched an online platform to make the teaching resources publicly available.



KONG

To address intergenerational poverty some ethnic minorities face, we are supporting ethnic minority children to learn Chinese through our 'Start from the Beginning – Chinese Supporting Scheme for Non-Chinese Speaking Students in Kindergarten' project. This is the first Pay-for-Success (PFS) project in Hong Kong and also the world's first PFS project that focuses on language education for ethnic minority children. This PFS project was also awarded the 'Outstanding Social Service Awards' by the Hong Kong Council of Social Service. Through the 2021 Best Practice Awards in Social Welfare, the project was recognised for its outstanding performance in the social service sector.

We have also continued to raise public awareness about the importance of empowerment and partnership in the fight against poverty, and invited members of the public to join our mission through various activities. For example, last October on the International Day for the Eradication of Poverty, we launched the 'Together Empower!' campaign and invited eight of OHK's partner organisations to sell their handicrafts, environmentally friendly products, educational resources and such at our Rethink Poverty • Empowerment Market in Central Market. The campaign brought together people from all walks of life to fight poverty together!



Released the 'Impacts of extreme heat on street cleaners' and the 'Impacts of extreme weather on subdivided flat residents' research reports, and urged the government and employers to help the poorest adapt to climate change. The Leisure and Cultural Services Department accepted our proposal to include a clause on the protection of street cleaners in their tender documents for new outsourced cleaning services.







Continued to urge
the government to invest
more resources in elderly care
in Hong Kong. The 2023-24
Government Budget responded
to our call to regularise
the Pilot Scheme on
Community Care Service Voucher
for the Elderly.







Released the
'Hong Kong Poverty Report:
Poverty and Employment During
the Pandemic', and
called on the government
to review the minimum wage,
and both the government
and employers that are
able to pay employees
a living wage.

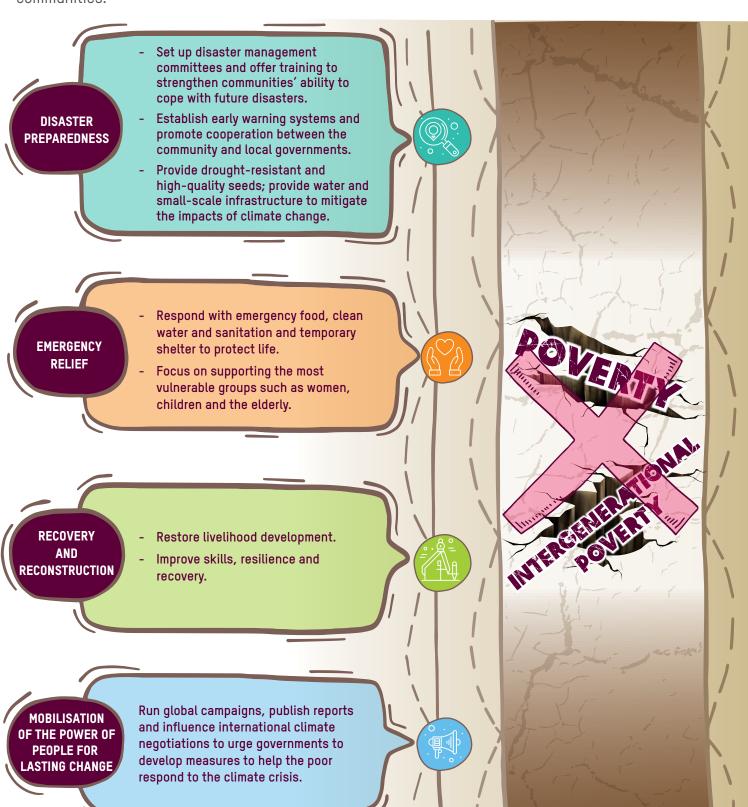




BUILDING RESILIENCE>> WITH SMALLHOLDER FARMERS_

HOW DOES OXFAM HELP BREAK THE VICIOUS CYCLE OF POVERTY AND LOSS BEFORE / DURING / AFTER DISASTERS?

People living in poverty are disproportionally affected by the negative impacts of climate change and disasters. To beat poverty, we must address the negative impacts of climate change on poor communities.



HOW DOES EMPOWERING >> WOMEN HELP END POVERTY?__

One of the most fundamental ways to break the vicious cycle of intergenerational poverty is to empower women and girls, because when you empower a girl, you empower a nation. Oxfam's development work across the globe aims to empower women to gain independence and make their voices heard in their nation, communities and homes.

FIVE WAYS TO EMPOWER WOMEN





Enhance women's skills to develop sustainable livelihoods



Fight against domestic violence and gender-based violence



Encourage women to participate in community development



Advocate gender equality by supporting disadvantaged women to gain access to resources and development opportunities



Raise awareness of gender equality through global citizenship education

WHEN CLIMATE CHANGE MEETS WOMEN'S RIGHTS

On the front lines of the climate crisis, Oxfam sees advancing gender equality and reducing disaster risks as inextricably linked. In places where floods, droughts, and powerful storms pose a persistent and growing threat to lives and livelihoods, we are helping women introduce solutions — resilient crops and techniques and rigorous disaster preparedness. We are also helping them build bridges to their local governments to be sure women and other underrepresented groups have a strong voice in planning and priorities.

For example, in Kutiya Kabar, Nepal, women are leading efforts to grow garlic as a cash crop. We supported the women there to set up two savings and empowerment groups and a disaster management committee for the wider community. We have provided them with trainings in everything from practical business skills to disaster

preparedness to the rights of women to how they can interact with government officials.

Thanks to the women's newfound ability to speak their minds and work with their local government, elected officials are now more willing to invest in disaster preparedness, and they have provided the community with a road and electricity. As a result, not only do community members feel safer, but the status of women has improved greatly.

While women are becoming effective and respected activists, husbands are helping out around the house, and the threat of gender-based violence is receding. A women's group member Kaushila said, 'There used to be domestic violence here, but we have made the community violence-free.'

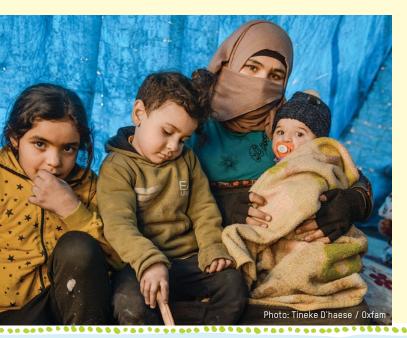


We are as strong as
a strong wall.
No one can defeat us.

- Khima Tamata,
a member of
a woman group
in Nepal.

Hasha Devi (left) and other women celebrate the success of their garlic farming project. Oxfam and our partner provided technical assistance and supported the women's group with training. The women have led efforts to reduce disaster risks and bring essential services to their community.

>> HUMANITARIAN WORK REPORT



TURKIYE AND SYRIA EARTHQUAKE

In the early morning of 6 February 2023, two powerful earthquakes of magnitude 7.8 and 7.5 struck Turkiye and northern Syria. The earthquake was one of the most devastating to hit Turkiye in nearly 100 years. More than one million people are in dire need of humanitarian assistance.

Aziza Ahmed lost her home to the earthquake. She and her children took shelter in an open area and slept in sub-zero temperatures.



EAST AFRICA FOOD CRISIS

Kenya, Somalia, and Ethiopia are facing the driest conditions in 40 years and South Sudan is suffering a fifth consecutive year of severe flooding.

THE SITUATION:



AROUND 30 MILLION people are experiencing acute food insecurity



24 MILLION
people are in dire
need of drinking water



20.2 MILLION
children are experiencing
the threat of severe hunger,
thirst and disease



2 MILLION people have been displaced by drought

UKRAINE CRISIS

One year on since the war started in Ukraine, nearly 18 million people including 6 million displaced persons are still in need of humanitarian aid.

SO FAR, OXFAM HAS REACHED 140,000 PEOPLE WITH:



I am here because I need to be, 'r volunteering for me completes hopes and dreams that are left unfinished.

Berfin Akdeniz, 18, is busily checking relief
 supplies for a local hospital in Turkiye.

Oxfam, together with partner organisations in Turkiye and Syria, is working to reach over 2 million people – 10 per cent of the population affected by the quake – with aid and support so that they can rebuild their lives. For instance, we have been:

- Offering food, shelter, blankets and psychological support to survivors in some of the most affected areas, including Gaziantep, Hatay and Mardin in Turkiye.
- Delivering clean drinking water, installing water tanks, fixing taps and toilets in shelters, delivering hygiene kits, and supporting safety checks to 220 buildings in Syria.

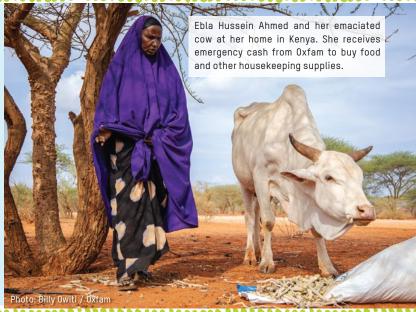
Oxfam has been working with local organisations to provide life-saving and life-sustaining support to more than 720,000 people across the four countries since March 2022. These include:

- Food kits or emergency cash to buy food and other essential items.
- Clean water via water trucks and repairing boreholes.
- Hygiene kits and latrines to ensure access to sanitation.

We are also supporting people facing hunger to develop sustainable livelihoods so that they are equipped with everything they need to become resilient and self-reliant in the long term. We are also urging governments to respond to the immediate crisis with humanitarian assistance.







The local partner organisations
we work with are amazing. I remember
I asked a partner on a Friday, 'Can we
meet on Monday?' They responded,
'Why do we wait until Monday? Let's do
it tomorrow. People are freezing still in
their houses. We need to act quick.'
I would say this is inspirational for us.
And I learnt that if you want to
build civil society, and if you
want to build a partnership, it's the
grassroots initiatives that matters.

— Gordana Vucinic, Oxfam manager for the North and East of Ukraine.





Oxfam has always been grateful for your commitment to support our poverty alleviation work in order to achieve a world without poverty. Leaving a legacy to Oxfam can help make a long-lasting impact that will be felt for generations to come.

LEGACY GIVING: Donate a fixed sum of money, or all or part of your valuable items such as stocks, securities and properties, to Oxfam Hong Kong.

POLICY GIVING: Name Oxfam Hong Kong as a beneficiary of your life insurance policy, and donate all or part of the sum assured.

The information below is provided for your reference should you decide to assign Oxfam Hong Kong as the beneficiary organisation in your will or life policy:

Beneficiary Organisation and Address: Oxfam Hong Kong (17/F, China United Centre, 28 Marble Road, North Point, Hong Kong)

Certificate of Incorporation Number: 215859

REPLY FORM

I would like to include Oxfam Hong Kong in my will,	I would like to donate all / part of the insured amount of my life policy to Oxfam Hong Kong.	
(residue, percentage or specific amount)	The percentage is% (equivalent to about \$).	
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	indicated company, reads viole in in-patiety giving, or gain for infinite details.	

PERSONAL INFORMATION

Name: Mr/Ms/Mrs		Donor number (if applicable):	Donor number (if applicable):
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The personal data collected will be handled confidentially and will be used by Oxfam and its service providers for the purposes of donation administration, receipt issuance and related communications. To connect closely with you and to keep you informed of Oxfam's work against poverty as well as advocacy, development and fundraising progress, Oxfam Hong Kong and its service providers may use your contact information (name, telephone, email and address) for the purpose of communications, fundraising, volunteer recruitment and survey administration. If you would not like to receive such materials or communications, please tick the box.

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BACK WITH AN >>IN-PERSON OXFAM TRAILWAL

After four long years, we finally held Oxfam Trailwalker (OTW) 2022 from 24 to 26 February! Around 400 teams, or roughly 1,600 participants, joined OTW 2022. This year, 1,271 participants, or 88.3 per cent, completed the OTW. The persistence that each team showed is the same persistence that's needed in the fight against poverty. And every step each participant took on the trail is helping us in our efforts to fight poverty, and is improving the lives of people around the world who live in it.

The OTW is one of the largest hiking fundraising events in Hong Kong. In teams of four, participants aimed to complete the 100 km trail, which runs along the

MacLehose Trail and other trails, within 48 hours. All funds raised through the event will go towards OHK's poverty alleviation projects, and disaster relief and advocacy work to improve the lives of people living in poverty in Hong Kong and around the world.

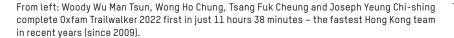
OTW 2023 is currently scheduled for 24 to 26 November 2023.

CLP (+a





OX FAM







This year, over 1,500 volunteers and 15 sponsors supported the event.

JOV (in alphabetical order)

Oxfam Trailwalker 2022

SEIKO

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