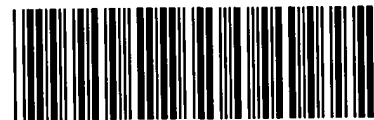


Annual Report

Year Ending 30 June 2019



WEDNESDAY



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#81

COMPANIES HOUSE



**Children of
the Mekong**

22 Lavender Hill, London, SW11 5RN, UK

Tel: 020 3674 1953

Email: info@childrenofthemekong.org

Charity Registration: 1116375

Our impact in Southeast Asia



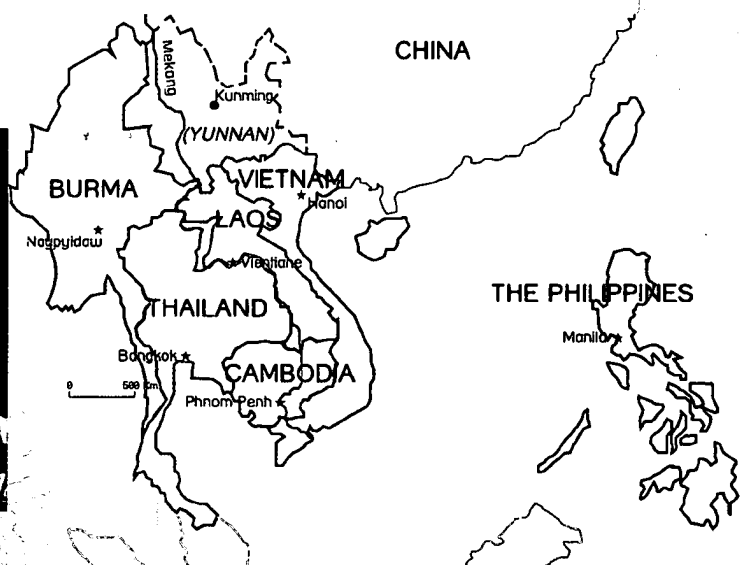
Samrong education centre, Cambodia – 175 children attending complementary courses and 75 of them living in the centre. Main impact: 100% pass rate baccalaureate (national level 63%).

Centre for children with disabilities in Bhairahawa, Nepal – 45 children and young adult with mental health disabilities are attending the centre and benefiting from adapted education and care.



Preschool in Phnom Penh, Cambodia – 42 children getting access to preschool education (including school bus and lunch).

Primary school for children of Preah Ang Kiev, Cambodia – 40 children the first year and up to 75 every year will benefit from this new school.



168
sponsored children in
7 countries

What happened in London

September 2018

Children of the Mekong ran the first digital **"Back to School"** campaign, where an empty classroom was presented and people were invited to sponsor a child. Every time a child was sponsored, they were added to the classroom picture.



Children of the Mekong partnered with Librairie Lapage in South Kensington to raise awareness and funds.

We are honoured to be one of the charity partners of BNP Paribas in the UK. They organised the Ultimate Treadmill Challenge in their headquarters in London, and our fantastic supporters raised nearly £2,000 for Children of the Mekong. We also welcomed 41 volunteers from the bank during the year, as part of their "What's My Impact" programme, where employees are encouraged to volunteer two days a year with their partner charities.

October 2018

On the International Day for the Eradication of Poverty, we screened the interview of Chhengtay Toeur, Children of the Mekong scholar in London in 2017, produced by Riffi Khan and Sunflower Production in a boutique hotel in Central London.



October to December 2018

LONDON SCHOLARSHIP

Education can break the cycle of poverty. But young adults are often tempted to forsake education in favour of fast cash, especially in difficult circumstances. Our scholarship programme aims to inspire them to pursue education despite the obstacles. The flagship scholarship programme was started in 2017 thanks to the generous sponsorship of Credit Agricole (CA-CIB). It offers a life-changing experience for two outstanding graduates who show great leadership potential. They get a chance to come to London for 3 months to improve their English language skills, engage in job shadowing opportunities, get exposure to international commerce, build confidence, improve their life skills and meet friends from all over the world.

In Fall 2018, we were very pleased to welcome Virort and Cheang, freshly graduated from Royal Agriculture University and Royal Institute of Technology in Phnom Penh respectively. You can watch their testimonies in the following videos on our website:

www.childrenofthemekong.org/london-scholarship



What happened in London (continued)

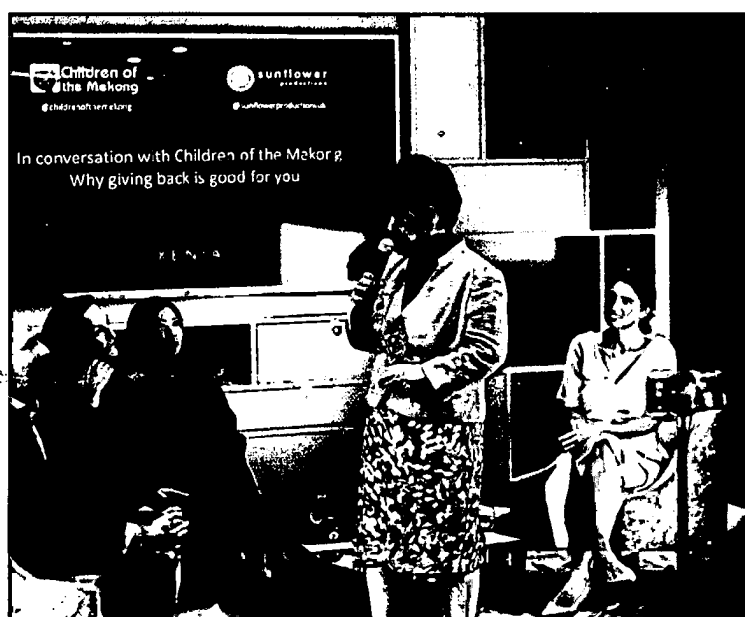
December 2018

First digital marketing campaign to raise awareness on our child sponsorship programmes and find new sponsors! Outdoor campaign space was generously provided by 8outdoor thanks to our pro bono digital marketing adviser, Lara Izlan.



June 2019

Within the frame of the **Small Charity Week**, where Children of the Mekong run a successful digital campaign, we had the chance to partner a second time with Riffi Khan and Sunflower Productions to organise the screening of Kosal Toeurn's testimonial. Her worshipful, the Mayor of Wandsworth, **Cllr Mrs Jane Cooper and her consort Mr. Cooper** graced our event with their presence. The setting was generously provided by Hotel Xenia Autograph Collection London.



Charity Shop

The charity shop has been running well. It provides office space not only for Children of the Mekong but also for another charity partner Green Shoots Foundation. It also contributes to the funding of our education projects in South-east Asia. The shop is run all year long by an intermittently changing team of international student volunteers who contribute tremendously to the development of the charity. The volunteers get a chance to improve their own professional skills such as sales and marketing, organisation skills, customer service skills, social media skills as well as their English skills and confidence levels.



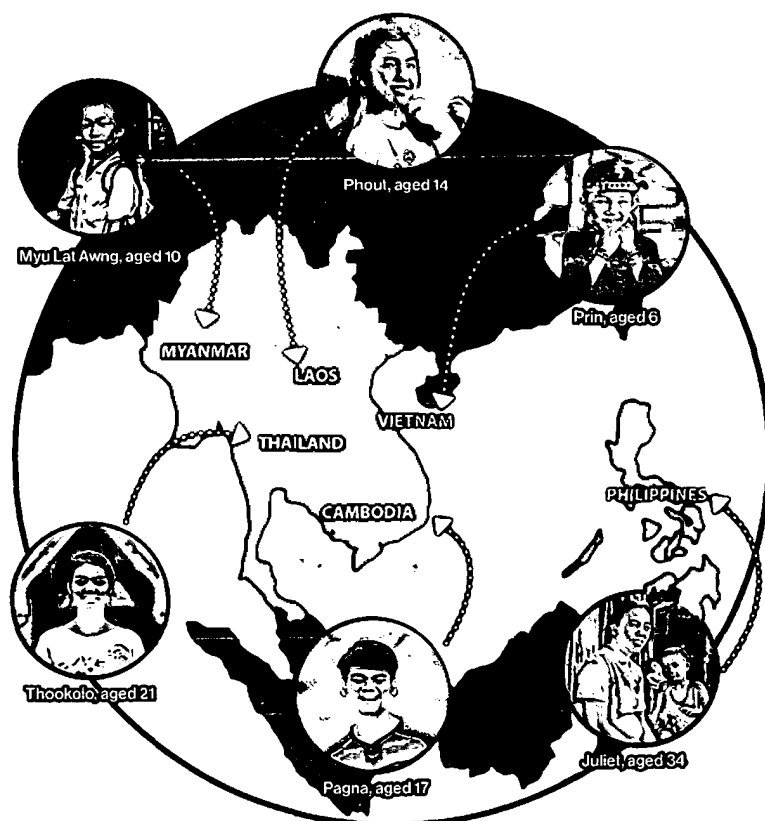
When I Grow Up – film premiere

Children of the Mekong celebrated its 60th anniversary with the film *When I Grow Up*, which marked our rich history of service for the last 60 years in South East Asia. *WHEN I GROW UP* is the extraordinary adventure of 6 children in 6 different countries of Southeast Asia and is meant to raise awareness of the daily lives and dreams of these children and the privilege that is education.

The premiere was organised by a team of 6 volunteers lead by our Trustee Camille Burgerhout. The team achieved extraordinary success as 300 people filled the Prince Charles Cinema in Central London.

The screening of the film was followed by a Q&A with the award-nominated director Jill Coulon, and our Trustees Julia Goh and Laure Lagrange.

Following the event, 13 new sponsors joined the big family of Children of the Mekong.



What's Next

In the coming year, we have ambitious plans to develop our sponsorship programmes and corporate partnerships. Indeed, we are convinced that our education programmes are life-changing for the children and young adults we work with in Southeast Asia. Our main areas of focus are:

- 1) Organise more screenings of When I Grow Up in schools, companies and public spaces in order to raise awareness of how education is a gift we often take for granted in the western world.
- 2) Develop our digital presence with several campaigns a year, including the Back To School, the Small Charity Week in June and Give Meaning To Your Gifts at Christmas.
- 3) Launch an ambassador programme, asking our child sponsors to help us finding new sponsors among their friends and family

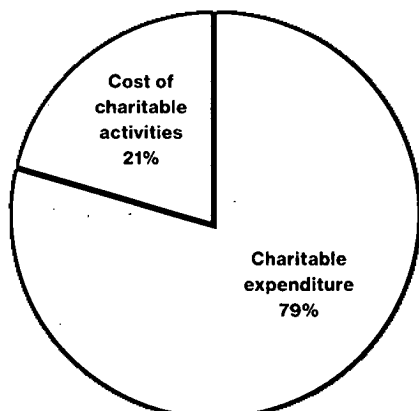
We hope you will join the journey with our dynamic team!



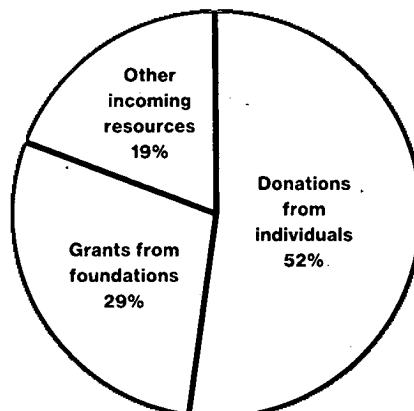
Financial report

Year ended
30th June 2019

CHARITABLE EXPENDITURE



INCOMING RESOURCES



Trustees' report

Including directors' report
For the year ended 30th June 2019

Reference and administrative details

Charity number	1116375
Company number	05860929
Principal Office	Children of the Mekong, 22 Lavender Hill, London SW11 5RN
Bankers	HSBC, 8 Canada Square, London, E14 5HQ
Independent Examiner	Charles William and Siddiqui, Park View, 183-189 The Vale, London W3 7RW

Directors and Trustees: The Directors of the charitable company (the "Charity") are its trustees for the purpose of Charity Law and throughout this report are collectively referred to as the Trustees.

The Secretary is Eugenie Munakarmi Prouvost, also COO, appointed 4th June 2011.

Structure, Governance and Management

The charity is a company limited by guarantee. The trustees, who are also the directors for the purpose of company law, and who served for the period and since 30th June 2017 are:

- **Jean-Marc Debricon** (Chairman) – appointed 28th June 2006,
- **Andreas Povlsen** – appointed 28th June 2006,
- **Julia Goh** – appointed 04th October 2011,
- **Marcus Fedder** – appointed 23rd March 2012,
- **Camille Burgerhout** – appointed 02nd June 2015,
- **Laure Lagrange** – appointed 18th July 2016,
- **Guillaume d'Aboville** – appointed 9th December 2017.

Appointment of Trustees: As set out in the Articles of Association a new Trustee may be appointed by ordinary resolution of the Company. Trustees are elected annually by the members of the Charity attending the annual general meeting ("AGM") and serve for a period of two years. All members are circulated with invitations to nominate Trustees prior to the AGM advising them of the retiring Trustees and requesting nominations for the AGM.

Trustee induction and training: The existing Trustees were made aware of their legal obligations under Charity and Company Law, the content of the Memorandum and Articles of Association, the committee and decision-making processes, the business plan and recent financial performance of the Charity upon incorporation of the company. The existing Trustees advised that all new Trustees should take a course before joining to ensure that they are up to date with the latest regulations.

Organization: The board of Trustees (the "Board"), is currently made up of seven Trustees but can have up to 15 members. It administers the Charity and meets twice a year. Trustees are expected to take active participation in the

running of the Charity and the management of its projects, including networking, fundraising and event organising. On top of chairing the meetings of the Board, the Chairman is also responsible for the finances and administration of the Charity. The Secretary manages the day-to-day operations of the Charity.

None of the trustees has any beneficial interest in the company. All of the trustees are members of the company and guarantee to contribute £10 in the event of a winding up.

Governing Document: Children of the Mekong ('COTM') is a company limited by guarantee, incorporated on 28th June 2006 (formerly known as "The Minerva Tree House"), and governed by its Memorandum and Articles of Association as amended by special resolution dated 23rd August 2006. It is registered as a charity with the Charity Commission. Anyone over the age of 18 can become a member of the Company subject to application to and approval by the Trustees. In the event of the company being dissolved, members are required to contribute an amount not exceeding £10.

Related parties: The Charity is the UK branch and representative of Enfants du Mekong and has defined this relationship and the rights and obligations of each party in a memorandum of understanding dated 21st July 2011.

Risk management: The Trustees have a risk management strategy that comprises: i. Assessing the feasibility of each project and establishing the funding capabilities of COTM ii. Assessing all potential projects in order to avoid safety risk for the Charity, the Trustees or any other parties involved iii. An ongoing review of any major risks to the Charity and a subsequent establishment of systems and procedures to mitigate those risks identified.

Principal Funding Sources: COTM is carrying excess funds brought forward. In the financial year, the principal funding sources were as follows: private and company donations, income from the charity shop, grants from Trusts and Foundations, and proceeds from events. Each donation is confirmed by the donor as unrestricted or restricted and then designated accordingly by the COO for a country of operation or a specific project.

Trustees' report

(continued)

Investment Policy: The funds received are held in currency current accounts at an interest rate negotiated by the Trustees with the Bank. For the avoidance of doubt, given the current volatile markets, the Trustees will not seek higher risk products and will restrict the cash management to term deposits with the Bankers (currently, HSBC Bank plc). Any funds surplus to a designated project will be used for the continued maintenance or further improvement of the project, or allocated to another project at the discretion of the Trustees.

Reserves Policy: A reserve policy has been voted in July 2015 by the Board of Trustees, which designates £30,000 as a contingent fund to cover unexpected conditions or losses in the running of the charity. It would allow COTM to run 6 months without income.

Plans for future periods: The Charity plans continuing the activities outlined above in the forthcoming years subject to satisfactory funding arrangements.

Public benefit statement: The management committee confirm that they have complied with the duty in section 4 of the Charities Act 2006 to have due regard to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit "Charities and Public Benefit".

Approved by the management committee on 12/07/2019 and signed on their behalf by Jean-Marc Debricon, Chair of Children of Mekong.

Surplus reserved at the end of the year amount £30,000.

The present report and accounts are for the year that ended 30 June 2019.

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 1 to the accounts and comply with the charity's governing document, the Companies Act 2006 and "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)" (as amended for accounting periods commencing from 1 January 2016).

Objectives and activities

The charity's objects are improving access and quality of education for poor children in Southeast Asia through education programmes. More information on pages 1 to 5 of this report. The trustees have paid due regard to guidance issued by the Charity Commission in deciding what activities the charity should undertake.

Achievements and performance

Financial review

The charity has assessed the major risks to which the charity is exposed and is satisfied that systems are in place to mitigate exposure to the major risks.

The report was approved by the Board of Trustees.

Dated: 12/07/2019

Trustees' responsibilities in relation to the financial statements

Company law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year that give a true and fair view of the state of the affairs of the charitable company as at the balance sheet date and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including income and expenditure, for the financial year. In preparing those financial statements, the management committee should follow best practice and:

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to assume that the company will continue on that basis; and
- State whether applicable accounting standards and statements of recommended practice have been followed subject to any departures disclosed and explained in the financial statement.

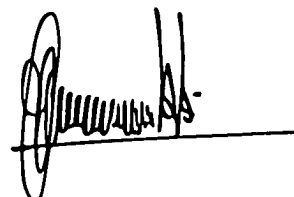
The Trustees are responsible for maintaining proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006 (the "Act"). The Trustees are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The members of the charitable company are listed on page 6. They guarantee to contribute an amount not exceeding 10 in the event of winding up. The total number of such guarantee at 30th June 2019 was 7.

Approved by the Directors on 12th July 2019 and signed by:

Name: JEAN-MARC DEBRICON

Title: Chairman



Statement of financial activities

Income and Expenditure

		Unrestricted Funds 2018/19 £	Restricted Funds 2018/19 £	Total Funds 2018/19 £	Total Funds 2017/18 £
Incoming Resources	<i>Notes</i>				
Voluntary Income	6	35,080	108,750	143,829	123,368
Other Incoming Resources	7	34,363	0	34,363	33,826
Investment Income	8	53	0	53	30
Total incoming Resources		69,496	108,750	178,246	157,225
Resources Expended					
Costs of Raising Funds	9	-34,350	0	-34,350	-28,662
Expenditure on Charitable Activities	10	-64,640	-82,894	-147,534	-118,302
Total Resources Expended		-98,990	-82,894	-181,884	-146,964
Net Incoming/Outgoing resources					
Net income/(expenditure) for the year		-29,494	25,856	-3,638	10,261
Transfers between funds – current year		0	0	0	0
Net movements in funds		-29,494	25,856	-3,638	10,261
Reconciliation of Funds					
Total funds brought forward		40,760	26,724	67,483	57,218
Adjustment for FX Gain/loss		0	0	0	0
Total Funds Carried Forward	<i>11</i>	11,265	52,580	63,845	67,480

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.
All incoming resources and resources expended derive from continuing activities.

Balance sheet

	2018/19 £	2017/18 £
Current assets		
Cash at bank and in hand	63,845	67,480
Net assets	63,845	67,480
The funds of the charity		
Unrestricted income funds	11,265	26,723
Restricted income funds	52,580	40,757
Total charity funds	63,845	67,480

The notes on pages 10 to 13 form part of these accounts.

The company is entitled to the exemption from the audit requirement contained in section 477 of the Companies Act 2006, for the year ended 30th June 2019. No member of the company has deposited a notice, pursuant to section 476, requiring an audit of these accounts.

The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for ensuring that the company keeps accounting records which comply with section 386 of the Act and for preparing accounts which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company as at the end of the financial year and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the financial year in accordance with the requirements of sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to accounts, so far as applicable to the company.

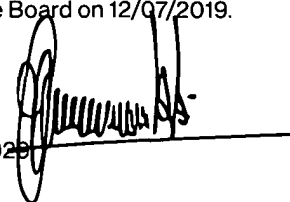
These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the special provisions relating to small companies within Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006.

The accounts were approved by the Board on 12/07/2019.

Name: JEAN-MARC DEBRICON

Title: Chairman

Company Registration No: 05860925



Notes on the accounts

1) Accounting policies

Charity information

Children of the Mekong is a private company limited by guarantee incorporated in England and Wales. The registered office is 22 Lavender Hill, London SW11 5RN.

1. Accounting convention

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the Companies Act 2006 and "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)" (as amended for accounting periods commencing from 1 January 2016). The charity is a Public Benefit Entity as defined by FRS 102. The accounts are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the charity. Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest £. The accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention, modified to include the revaluation of freehold properties and to include investment properties and certain financial instruments at fair value. The principal accounting policies adopted are set out below.

2. Going concern

At the time of approving the accounts, the trustees have a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Thus the charity continues to adopt

the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the accounts.

3. Charitable funds

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of their charitable objectives unless the funds have been designated for other purposes. Restricted funds are subject to specific conditions by donors as to how they may be used. The purposes and uses of the restricted funds are set out in the notes to the accounts. Endowment funds are subject to specific conditions by donors that the capital must be maintained by the charity.

4. Incoming resources

Income is recognised when the charity is legally entitled to it after any performance conditions have been met, the amounts can be measured reliably, and it is probable that income will be received.

Cash donations are recognised on receipt. Other donations are recognised once the charity has been notified of the donation, unless performance conditions require deferral of the amount. Income tax recoverable in relation to donations received under Gift Aid or deeds of covenant is recognised at the time of the donation.

Legacies are recognised on receipt or otherwise if the charity has been notified of an impending distribution, the amount is known, and receipt is expected. If the amount is not known, the legacy is treated as a contingent asset.

Notes on the accounts (continued)

Turnover is measured at the fair value of the consideration received or receivable and represents amounts receivable for goods and services provided in the normal course of business, net of discounts, VAT and other sales related taxes.

5. Resources expended

Expenditure is recognized on an accrual basis as a liability is incurred. Expenditure includes any VAT that cannot be fully recovered, and is reported as part of the expenditure to which it relates. Governance costs comprise of those costs associated with meeting the constitutional and statutory requirements of the charity and include bank charges and other bank related expenses. Due to projects being abroad, in order to meet the objectives of the charity, funds are received and disbursed in foreign currency, thus incurring bank charges. These have therefore been included under governance costs as it is an integral part of the running of the charity to receive and disburse funds.

6. Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash in hand, deposits held at call with banks, other short-term liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less, and bank overdrafts. Bank overdrafts are shown within borrowings in current liabilities.

Basic financial assets

Basic financial assets, which include debtors and cash and bank balances, are initially measured at transaction price including transaction costs and are subsequently carried at amortised cost using the effective interest method unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the transaction is measured at the present value of the future receipts discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial assets classified as receivable within one year are not amortised.

Basic financial liabilities

Basic financial liabilities, including creditors and bank loans, are initially recognised at transaction price unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the debt instrument is measured at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial liabilities classified as payable within one year are not amortised.

Debt instruments are subsequently carried at amortised cost, using the effective interest rate method.

Trade creditors are obligations to pay for goods or services that have been acquired in the ordinary course of operations from suppliers. Amounts payable are classified

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

Derecognition of financial liabilities

Financial liabilities are derecognised when the charity's contractual obligations expire or are discharged or cancelled.

2) Critical accounting estimates and judgements

In the application of the charity's accounting policies, the charity is required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying amount of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised where the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods where the revision affects both current and future periods.

3) Trustee's Remuneration

None of the trustees (or any persons connected with them) received any remuneration or benefits from the charity during the year. There were no trustees' expenses or related party transactions during the financial year ended 30 June 2019.

4) Employees

There were two employees during the full year.

5) Foreign Currency Translation

Funds are held in one of three currency accounts, depending on origin of the donation: GBP, USD and EURO. USD and EURO funds are eventually converted in GBP before disbursements in GBP are made to EDM. Disbursements can also be made in EURO or USD to EDM. For the purposes of the report and financial statements, USD and EURO funds were reported at the appropriate FX rates as at 30th June 2019.

Notes on the accounts (continued)

6) Voluntary Income

Voluntary Income	Unrestr.	Restr.	Total
Donations from individuals	15,087	77,666	92,753
Gift Aid	571	0	571
Grants from foundations	17,106	33,400	50,506
Total 2018-2019	35,080	108,750	143,829
Total 2017-2018	38,299	85,069	123,368

7) Other Incoming Resources

Other incoming resources	Unrestricted	Restricted
Other Income Resources	34,185	0
Fees received	178	0
Total 2018-2019	34,363	0
Total 2017-2018	33,826	0

8) Investment Income

Investment income	Unrestricted	Restricted
Investment income	0	0
Bank interest	53	0
Total 2018-2019	53	0
Total 2017-2018	30	0

9) Costs of Raising Funds

Costs of Raising Funds	Total
Event expenses	-2,873
Website	-106
Salaries	-20,562
IT & Communications	-881
Utilities	-2,023
Fees Paid	-3,271
Total at 30 June 2019	-29,715
Total at 30 June 2018	-28,662

10) Expenditure on Charitable Activities

	Unrestr.	Restr.	Total
Child sponsorship	0	-29,792	-29,792
Samrong, Cambodia	0	3,588	3,588
Writing workshop, Cambodia	0	-2,582	-2,582
Scholarship London	0	1,322	1,322
Laura Stackler school, Laos	0	-1,115	-1,115
Preschool Centre Merieux, Cambodia	0	-1,350	-1,350
Centre for disabled children, Nepal	0	-2,250	-2,250
School Preah Ank Kiev, Cambodia	0	-10,000	-10,000
Pro bono translation services	-15,000	0	-15,000
Monitoring & Evaluation	-31,941	0	-31,941
Support costs	-20,542	0	-20,542
Governance costs	-1,792	0	-1,792
Total 2018-2019	-69,275	-42,178	-111,453
Total 2017-2018	-53,989	-64,313	-118,302

11) Analysis of net assets between funds

Purpose of Designated Funds:

Miscellaneous funds: These funds have been designated by the Trustees for the undertaking of several projects in Southeast Asia, including children sponsorships.

Philippines funds: These funds have been designated by the Trustees for the undertaking of a development project in the Philippines.

Contingent funds: These funds have been designated by the Trustees to cover unexpected conditions or losses in the running of the charity. It would allow COTM to run 6 months without income.

Analysis of net assets between funds	Current Assets in £
Miscellaneous funds	13,845
Philippines designated fund	20,000
Contingent fund	30,000
Net Assets at 30 June 2019	63,845
Net Assets at 30 June 2018	67,480

Notes on the accounts (continued)

12) Material legacies

Legacy income is only included in incoming resources where the legacy has been received or both the receipt and the amount are known with sufficient certainty. As at 30th June 2019, the Charity had no legacy income.

13) Related Party Transactions

There were no disclosable related party transactions during the year. (2018 – £0)

There are no donations from related parties which are outside the normal course of business and no restricted donations from related parties.

CHILDREN OF THE MEKONG

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE OF CHILDREN OF THE MEKONG

We report on the accounts of the charity for the year ended 30 June 2019, which are set out on pages 10 to 15.

Respective responsibilities of and examiner

The trustee's, who are also the directors of CHILDREN OF THE MEKONG for the purposes of company law, are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

Having satisfied ourselves that the charity is not subject to audit under company law and is eligible for independent examination, it is my responsibility to:

- (i) examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- (ii) to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- (iii) to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's report

Our examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the next statement.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to our attention:

- a. which gives us reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:
 - i) to keep accounting records in accordance with section 386 of the Companies Act 2006; and
 - ii) to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records, comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the Companies Act 2006 and with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities; have not been met or
- b. to which, in our opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Charles William & Siddiqui Ltd
 Charles William & Siddiqui Limited
 183-189 The Vale
 Acton
 London
 W3 7RW
 Dated: 3/2/20