

The Edith M Ellis 1985 Charitable Trust

Practical Tools Initiative

#5WSPPP2FBW submitted on 24 November 2021

1.1 Please summarise what you are seeking from us

We are seeking £5,000.00 to support our project of Sharing Faith Through Community Farming for Women in Pejeh-Bongre Chiefdom, Eastern Sierra Leone.

The project is to develop a Christian women's community farming initiative in three villages in Pejeh-Bongre Chiefdom, Eastern Sierra Leone.

The programme will work with Christian women's fellowships in the three villages by providing climate-resistant crop seeds and agricultural hand tools and Bibles.

1.2 Tell us more about your project, the impact it will have on those it aims to help, and why you consider the proposed approach to be innovative

The project will work with Christian women's fellowships in three villages. These women's fellowships will then bring in other women with whom they will share their faith. The total number of beneficiaries is 450, including children.

Working as a group on a community farm where the women will share their faith. We will provide improved, locally adapted climate-resistant seeds and agricultural tools including hoes. The women will then use these to cultivate the community farm.

The project will deliver a huge public benefit not only to the women but also to their communities at large. After harvesting the crops, the women will share seeds with other local farmers who will then go on and develop their own farming plots.

Before the WFP (World Food Programme) published its research findings on food insecurity in Sierra Leone in May this year, we already had knowledge of the extreme challenges relating to food deprivation issues that communities in Sierra Leone are facing. This knowledge was developed through our work with communities in both rural and urban areas across the country. For example, last year we published a deplorable scene of children as young as two years old scavenging for food in public skips in Freetown.

In rural areas, food insecurity is forcing young people to migrate, leaving older people, physically weak people, and single parents (particularly women) in villages and towns. Nutrition-related health issues are common; they include stunting and kwashiorkor (a disorder that occurs due to malnutrition, which is produced by severe protein deficiency in the diet and which is most common in children).

As a post-war country, resettled communities such as those in Pejeh-Bongre Chiefdom are still reeling from the devastating consequences of the war, which saw farms and plantations vandalised or destroyed. It is against this background that we are organizing this food-growing programme for Christian women's fellowships. The key aim of is to grow seed crops such as rice and sesame and to distribute those seeds to community farmers to help them cultivate their land. The programme also aims to educate local farmers on growing local climate-adapted food crop varieties, and promote Christian education and peace amongst rural women.

In May this year the WFP published its findings (<https://www.wfp.org/publications/state-food-security-sierra-leone-2020-comprehensive-food-security-and-vulnerability>). It was shocking; the key tenet of the finding was that 'Today over 4.7 million people (in Sierra Leone - with a population of 8 million) are food insecure of which 963,217 are severely food insecure and 3,790,029 are moderately food insecure. More than half a million people have been added

to the count of food insecure people over the last five years. Not only are more people food insecure but also the severity of food insecurity is deepening. The number of people facing severe hunger tripled between 2010 and 2020'.

Key Aims

- 1) To share their Christian faith and peace with other women in the community.
- 2) Develop community food-growing and sharing initiatives to combat extreme food-insecurity in the Chiefdom.
- 3) Combat severe malnutrition amongst women and children.
- 4) Provide health and educational support to families through agricultural activities.
- 5) Deliver sustainable development through seed multiplication

1.3 Which grant-giving categories does your project fulfil?

B - Peace-building and conflict resolution

D - Climate change mitigation

E - Work with forced migrants, including internally displaced people

F - Sustainable development

1.3b Peace-building and conflict resolution

The chiefdom is a post-war community where many people, including neighbours, have been badly affected by the ten-year civil war that ended in 2002.

Rehabilitated communities are now living with neighbours who were on opposing sides, and the project aims to bring these people together and help rebuild peace and trust through faith.

1.3d Climate change mitigation

There are challenges relating to climate change - erratic rainfalls and poor crop yield forcing people to migrate to larger towns and cities where they struggle to make a living. This project will deliver climate adapted local crop seeds to the communities and help teach them how to grow the crops, and in the process share their faith.

1.3e Work with forced migrants, including internally displaced people

Many of the people we will be working with were internally displaced by the civil war. Many are also victims of the Ebola epidemic that caused considerable disruption to community regeneration. Many have now returned.

We will be bringing all these people together in a shared effort to help deal with, perhaps the most pressing challenge of food-insecurity.

1.4 Which country is the project based in?

Sierra Leone (SL)

1.5 Will the project continue after initial funding has ended?

Yes

1.5b Please give details of how you plan to continue after initial funding has ended

The women will continue to share seeds from their farms with other women and communities in their chiefdom. We will continue to work with them to help achieve this, especially where we bring in good crop seeds to start the initial project.

1.6 How will the project be monitored and evaluated?

We have our field officer who is responsible for the region where the project will be taking place. We will be providing all monitoring and evaluation activities and then report back to you on progress. We will also be the fund holders to help ensure accountability.

2.1 Expenditure

EXPENDITURE ITEM	AMOUNT	NOTES
Improved, locally adapted climate-resistant seeds	£1,700	Purchase of climate adapted local seeds.
Food for work	£1,500	provide food for the working women when they go to they are working on the farm.
Harvesting and distribution of seeds	£800	harvesting of crops and teh distribution of seeds.
Tools	£950	These are hand tools such as hoes and cutlasses
labour	£1,050	To cover labour cost where heavy manual labour in involved - for example brushing and ploughing
TOTALS	£6,000	

2.2 Income

INCOME SOURCE	TARGET AMOUNT	AMOUNT RAISED	NOTES
Practical Tools Initiative	£1,000	£1,000	Practical Tools Initiative will contribute£1000towards the project.
The Edith M Ellis 1985 Charitable Trust	£5,000	£0	We are hoping that the Trustees will be able to support us to help deliver the project.
TOTALS	£6,000	£1,000	

2.3 What is the total amount (in £ sterling) your organisation is requesting from The Edith M Ellis Trust?

£5,000

2.4 Has your organisation made an application to The Edith M Ellis Trust before?

Yes

2.4b Please provide the date of the previous application

in 2015 we submitted application to support a Shipment of a 40ft Container of Medical Equipment to Nixon Memorial Hospital, Eastern Sierra Leone

2.4c Was this previous application successful?

No

2.5 Please state your organisation's annual turnover (in £ sterling)

£177,093

2.6 Do you wish to upload your audited accounts or financial statement?

Yes

2.6b Upload File

<https://theedithmellischaritabletrust.org/assets/uploads/2021/11/2020-2021-Annual-Report.pdf>

2.7 Please tell us where payment should be made if your application is successful

Practical Tools Initiative

21568413
16-58-10

3.1 Your name

James Fallah-Williams

3.2 Your contact telephone number

+441329829121/+447990395982

3.3 Your position within the organisation

Programme Director

3.4 Your email address

james@practicaltoolsinitiative.org

3.5 Organisation name

Practical Tools Initiative

3.6 Please state the status of your organisation

UK Charity (registered in England & Wales - 1152292)

3.7 Please summarise what your organisation does

Practical Tools Initiative is a UK-registered charity ((1152292) in England & Wales). We work towards the prevention or relief of poverty or financial hardship anywhere in the world. We do this by providing or assisting in the provision of education, training, water and sanitation, food security, healthcare projects and all the necessary support designed to enable individuals to generate a sustainable income and be self-sufficient.

3.8 UK correspondence address for organisation

Practical Tools Initiative
C/O Fareham Community Church
18 Russell Place
FAREHAM
PO16 7FH

3.9 UK telephone number

01329829121/07990395982

3.10 UK charity number (if applicable)

1152292

3.11 Year established

8 years

3.12 Website (if applicable)

<https://www.practicaltoolsinitiative.org>

3.13 Social media accounts (if applicable)

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4.1 How did you hear about The Edith M Ellis Trust?

theedithmellischaritabletrust.org

Previous application to The Edith M Ellis Trust

