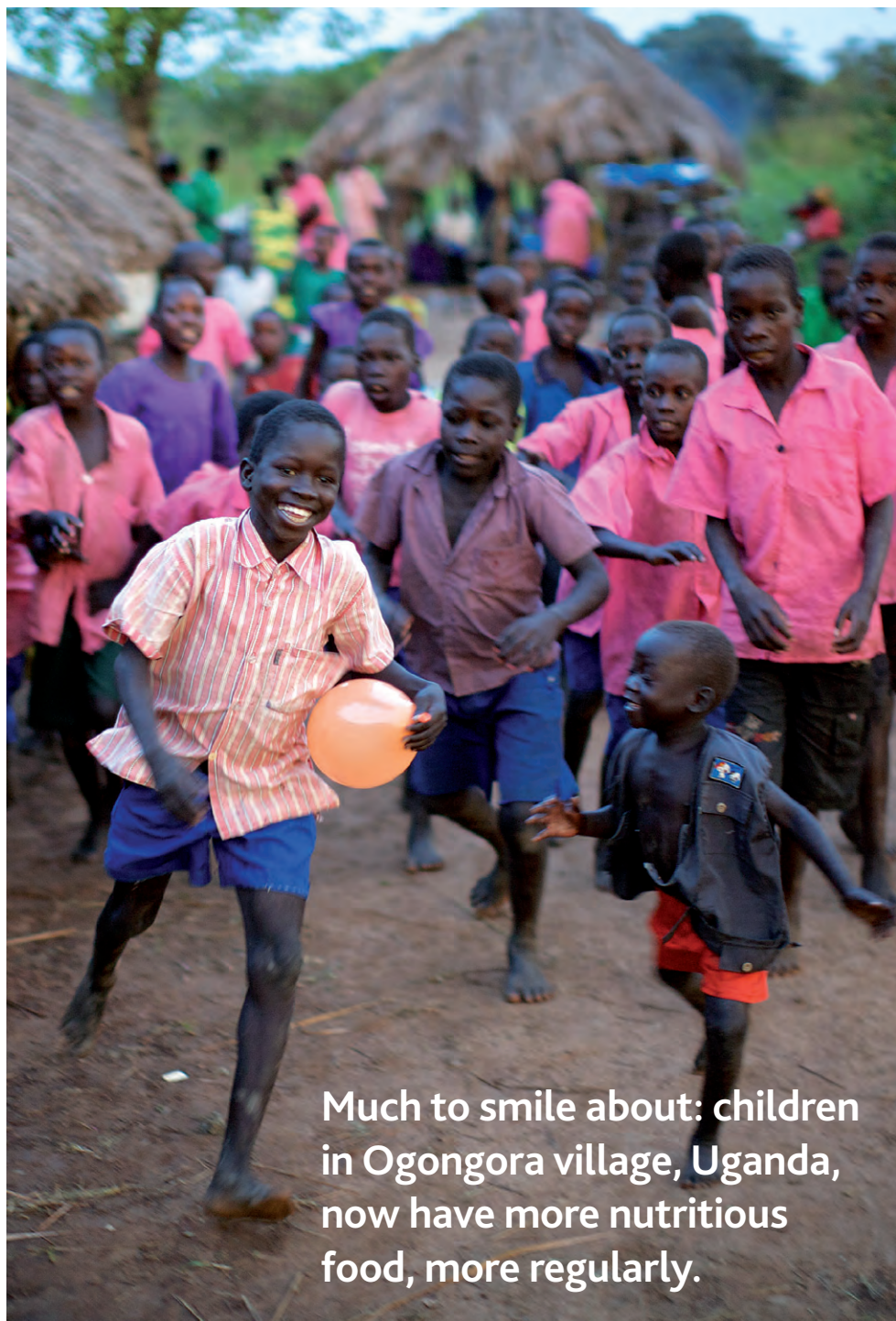


We are church.
In the stand against poverty
every Christian counts.

ORGANISER'S GUIDEBOOK



tearfund



Much to smile about: children in Ogongora village, Uganda, now have more nutritious food, more regularly.

Your quick-start guide to using this resource

We believe and have seen that every Christian counts in the stand against poverty. That's why we'd like you to share this material with your church.

The *We are church* resource is driven by this simple idea: that when Christians and churches stand together, when they enable local churches in poor places to lead their communities out of poverty, transformation happens, community by community.

And it is happening. If you've watched the enclosed films, you'll know. Start your church's journey now. The three steps below offer a fast route into using this resource...

- 1. Read this booklet** – it will take only a few minutes – and watch the films on the enclosed DVD to decide which will best suit your church.
- 2. Consider** – how you might be able to use some or all of these resources in an all-age harvest service (and whether you'll need to order more leaflets for the congregation: see page 15).
- 3. Help to organise** – a harvest fundraiser lunch or supper (see page 8).

Contents

Meet Richard and Rose	4–5
Resources to make your service unforgettable	6–11
An explanation of Church and Community Mobilisation and how it unleashes potential	12–14
How members of your church can journey with one poor community	15
An outline of the <i>We are church</i> films included on the enclosed DVD	16



Meet Richard and Rose

A brief introduction to one lovely

Richard and Rose's story is one that we believe will speak to many people in *your* community. Although they live in rural Uganda, they've faced similar challenges to those faced by many in our society.

'When Richard used to drink,' explains Rose, 'I used to pray for him a lot – even in tears. I believed that one day God would transform him.'

God did. As these films and resources – which have been designed for an all-age audience – show, God has transformed Richard and his family.

'When I went to the church mobilisation meeting [run by Tearfund's partner], they were talking about a cornerstone,' explains Richard. 'They said that it is what keeps the house straight. That is what touched my life. I thought, "What do I need in my life to keep it straight?"'

'I came back and shared it with my wife.'



family



'They were teaching about cornerstones,' he recalls, 'saying that the cornerstone keeps the house straight. Inside I knew I wanted my life to be straight. On Sunday I went to church and was prayed for.'

I decided the next Sunday to go to church, where I received prayer and accepted Jesus to make my life straight. That was in 2009.'

Richard and Rose began attending the Church and Community Mobilisation meetings in their village (turn to page 13 for more on this). These showed them how to transform their *own* situation.

'It led to me opening up a lot of land and cultivating plenty of food. I started with millet – planting six cups of millet, which produced three full bags of millet. I am planning to buy

two oxen when I have grown and sold enough crops.'

Richard's relationship with his wife, his children and his community has also been radically transformed.

Individuals and families in your church can follow Richard and Rose's story – and be part of their village's journey. The enclosed leaflets explain how.



www.tearfund.org/harvest



What's what for your harvest service

A summary of everything we've included – on the DVD and at www.tearfund.org/harvest

Whether it's a five-minute taster or a life-changing hour you're planning, there's something to match your requirement...

We've loaded the enclosed DVD with materials (these can also be found at www.tearfund.org/harvest). If you can't access the internet, or this DVD, we'll be pleased to send you paper copies. Just ask! Our contact details are on the back cover.

For your church

- Prayers – linked to Richard's story, including three prayers designed to be read by children, liturgical prayers and an interactive prayer pod.
- Children's materials (see opposite).
- All-age service sketch and song – exploring what can be achieved when we work together.
- An engaging poster for your church.

For speakers

- Speaker's talk notes on 1 Peter.
- PowerPoint – an image-led presentation featuring Richard, his community and a map of Ogongora.
- A short script for the Church Representative, providing easy-to-use guidance on presenting *We are church* to your people.

For your harvest lunch or supper

- Resources for organising a fundraising meal includes a quiz placemat, a sketch, a song and more (see page 11).

Films included in the pack

Film 1 (5:03): *Our story – A family transformed*

An inspiring all-age film telling the story of Richard's family and their transformation.

Film 2 (5:22): *My testimony – Richard's story up close*

Richard's story told with more of a focus on his own journey and testimony. Also suited to an all-age audience.

Film 3 (5:15): *Church in the community*

The Church and Community Mobilisation Process explained – a film for church leaders.

Film 4 (5:15): *Dan's story (for junior church)*

Meet 12-year-old Dan, one of Richard's neighbours, and his mum, Grace (for the children's materials).

Getting the kids involved

An outline of children's materials – on the DVD and at www.tearfund.org/harvest

For junior church leaders and schools workers, we've developed materials to help show what life is like for a 12-year-old child in Uganda, called Dan.

The aim of these children's materials is to give the children an insight into life in rural Uganda to see what the church is doing to help, and to understand that, despite poverty, children in developing countries are just the same as they are.

Leader's notes

An ideas sheet, packed with creative and engaging activities.

- Background notes on Dan's story.
- Information about Uganda.
- Prayers.
- Discussion ideas and film ideas, based around film 4 on the DVD.



Children aged 3–5

This worksheet depicts Dan and his best friend running in the sunflower field.

- Space for children to draw or write a prayer for Dan and children in poor communities.



Older children aged 6–10

Twelve-year-old Dan takes us through his day.

- Engaging photos and quotes from Dan about each element of his day, from washing and praying in the morning to sweeping the schoolyard.
- Drawing and writing activities to help children consider similarities and differences between their lives and Dan's.



Primary schools sheet

- Background notes on Dan's story.
- Discussion ideas and film ideas.
- A typical day from 6.30am–8pm.
- Information on the work of Tearfund's partner, whose work is featured in the resources.
- Fundraising ideas.



Enter his throne room

Prayers for your harvest service and events – with liturgical prayers, children’s prayers and prayer pod on the DVD and at www.tearfund.org/harvest

At Tearfund, prayer is where our work begins – and how it continues.

Please join us, as part of a diverse yet united worldwide family of Christians, churches, disaster relief teams and long-term development projects – God’s family praying for and working towards transformation. Together, we are church.

Prayer points to build your church prayers around

These six prayer points, when used together, provide a structure for a prayer time. They may also be used as individual, stand-alone prayer points.

■ **Richard’s family** – Thank God that Richard found Christ through the church-based work of Tearfund’s partner, and that he now testifies, ‘The way I feel the power and presence of God in my life is that he has enabled me to come out of the darkness into light.’ Pray for the immediate challenges facing his family, including the need to replace the leaking thatched roof of their home with a metal sheet roof and to see their crops grow, despite drought and floods, and produce a good harvest.

■ **Ogongora village** – Thank God that in a village named because its people were so thin (Ogongora means ‘thin’), malnutrition is dropping as a direct result of the church’s work. Tearfund’s church mobilisation programme is training people to identify and use the resources they already have – such as land and shared labour – and the knowledge they are gaining – such as when to plant certain crops.

■ **The Ogongora church** – In 2006 around 40 people attended the church. At that time, says Pastor Joseph, ‘People did not respect the church and did not see the value of the church, so they didn’t want it to be here.’ Through the Tearfund-supported Church and Community Mobilisation Process the church has begun reaching into its community. Give thanks that this church now has 320 members and is bringing real transformation – material and spiritual.





■ **Tearfund's partner** – Tearfund works with and supports 13 different partners across Uganda. One of these, the Pentecostal Assemblies of God (PAG), Uganda, has a 15-year vision to mobilise all of its 5,000 churches to transform their communities – as the PAG church in Ogongora is doing. Pray this vision into reality by praying for the work of PAG in poor communities across the country.

■ **Tearfund's vision** – Our ten-year vision is to see 50 million people released from material and spiritual poverty through a worldwide network of 100,000 local churches. What you see in Ogongora is this vision in action. Pray about your church's part in the global church: do you see yourselves as part of a network of like-minded believers, all doing their bit to bring in the kingdom? Pray today for this network and your part in it.

■ **Global poverty and God's global church** – In Uganda just under a third of the 32 million population lives below the poverty line. This is mirrored in poor countries around the world. Poverty requires commitment – from those under its shadow and from people willing to end it. Read Isaiah 41:17 and ask God to burn into your hearts his promise 'not to forsake them', and what that means for us, his church.

On the DVD and online:

Liturgical prayers

We've created two liturgical prayers for use in a time of intercession.

Prayer pod

This creative prayer resource offers your church the opportunity to reflect on the idea that together we are church, and that when we work as one we're able to bring poverty to an end.

Children's prayers

Three prayers designed to be read out by children of different ages as part of an all-age service.

Talk time

An introduction to the *We are church* talk notes, PowerPoint and other resources – on the DVD and at www.tearfund.org/harvest

We've included a range of resources to help you prepare and deliver a *We are church* talk.

The key Bible passage for the talk is 1 Peter 2:1-6

Therefore, rid yourselves of all malice and all deceit, hypocrisy, envy, and slander of every kind. Like newborn babies, crave pure spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow up in your salvation, now that you have tasted that the Lord is good.

As you come to him, the living Stone – rejected by humans but chosen by God and precious to him – you also, like living stones, are being built into a spiritual house to be a holy priesthood, offering spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. For in Scripture it says:

**'See, I lay a stone in Zion,
a chosen and precious cornerstone,
and the one who trusts in him
will never be put to shame.'**

The key theme is that Jesus is our cornerstone, and together we are church. One of God's calls is for us – as living stones – to bring material and spiritual transformation to the communities around us.

Speaker's notes – an easy-to-use set of notes providing a simple yet strongly engaging message around the theme of '*we are church*'.

PowerPoint – a set of images of Richard's family, the church and the community of Ogongora village. The PowerPoint can be altered in terms of order of images and number of images, to suit your context.

Short script – ideal for a Tearfund Church Representative. This simple script provides a five-minute talk explaining *We are church*.



Hungry – for change?

Find out what's on the resources menu for your harvest lunch or supper – on the DVD and at www.tearfund.org/harvest

There's nothing like a good harvest lunch – or supper – with your church or small group, to really enter into the spirit of harvest time – to thank God for his provision and remember people in need.

We've created the following resources to help you:

A placemat quiz – engage your diners as they eat with our multiple-choice quiz, with questions on Uganda, poverty and church. A printed example is included with this pack. Answers can be found at www.tearfund.org/harvest

A sketch – a short, thought-provoking drama exploring what can be achieved when we work together.

Films – a choice of three engaging short films (see page 16 for details) telling the story of Richard and how his local church is transforming their rural Ugandan community.

Get-involved leaflets – an inspiring six-page leaflet for every diner, introducing Tearfund and our work with local churches in poor communities – and inviting them to join the journey with one poor community. More of these leaflets can be ordered, for free. Simply call 0845 521 0021.

PowerPoint presentation with images – Powerful images tell the story of Ogongora village, Uganda, and of Richard's family.



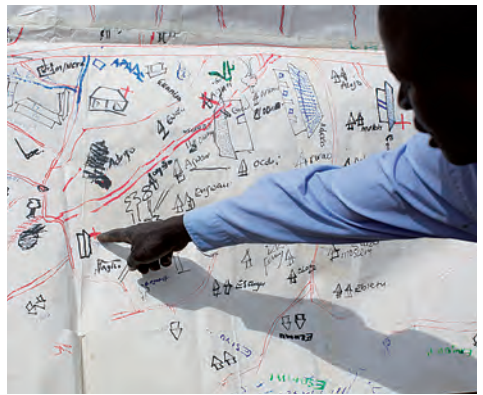
See what we're so excited about

An explanation of *Church and Community Mobilisation* and how it unleashes potential

Church and Community Mobilisation (CCM) describes an approach to community development in poor communities which Tearfund has seen bring real change to some of the poorest places we work in.

It's a process that is built around the local church 'awakening' itself and its community to be able to work their *own* way out of poverty.

In different countries, CCM is outworked through different 'models'. In Uganda, the model used to practically mobilise churches is called PEP – the Participatory Evaluation Process. There are three stages to the PEP Church and Community Mobilisation Process:



Phase 1: Awakening the church

Instead of creating dependency, individuals are shown that they can make a change *themselves*. The church leadership and their congregation begin to see the role of the church as relating to both spiritual and material needs, through Bible studies. A core team is identified and a clear church vision for this integrated ministry is developed. The selected team is trained to help the church identify its needs through Bible studies.

Phase 2: Mobilising the community

The team is equipped to facilitate a process of church and community self-discovery, including detailed information gathering. The community is helped to plan a way forward – working as one with the church. The team is equipped with skills to manage projects which may develop from this phase. A community plan is drawn up.





Phase 3: Project implementation in the community

Working as one, the church and community deliver the community plan. Tearfund does not fund the delivery of this plan. The Church and Community Mobilisation Process teaches the church and its community how to fund it themselves. Our role is to enable, through expertise and funding, this process to develop and become self-sustaining.

On the enclosed DVD, film 3 (*The church in the community*) introduces this process, while film 1 (*Our story*) and film 2 (*My testimony*) show the impacts of this process.

Identifying potential

Jane Achaloi is the Church Mobilisation Officer for Tearfund partner the Pentecostal Assemblies of God, Uganda.

'The reason we work through the local church is because the local church is mandated to do holistic ministry,' she explains. 'It helps people address their needs in totality – both the physical needs and the spiritual needs.'

Ogongora's Pastor Joseph has this to say about his experience of CCM:

'I thank God for the Church Mobilisation Process, which has enabled the people of Ogongora to begin to identify the potential within themselves. It has helped this community to meet its needs. As a pastor who has seen the benefits, I encourage the whole church worldwide to join their hands together so that we can help communities to go through this process.'

Your part in this...

Jane sees a strong connection between what happens in poor communities and churches like yours. 'Tearfund has enabled the church to understand her biblical mandate in bringing transformation in the community,' she says. 'This transformation is the result of the prayer and the money that Christians are giving to Tearfund.'

Please share the journey of Ogongora with your church and let them be a part of this global church vision.

How your church can get involved

We've included 40 leaflets to help individual church members understand their part in this exciting journey – how they can be church in places of great need. More leaflets can be ordered for free, by calling us on 0845 521 0021.

Our invitation to members of your church is to journey with one poor community – to see for themselves the reality of how a local church can work with its own community, enabling them to work their own way out of poverty.

They'll see the ups and downs. The messy beauty of development as it unfolds.

How it works

The journey starts as your church members choose which community they would like to follow. There is one community on each continent, each an example taken from thousands of local church and community projects on that continent. By supporting, your church member helps to mobilise thousands of local churches across the continent of their choice – thereby helping countless poor communities like Ogongora.



They can choose from Africa, Asia or Latin America.



They make a monthly gift, which is invested in mobilising churches across the continent they've chosen, and turned into something eternal. By which we mean something that touches every part – mind, soul and body.

If they invest in Africa, they'll follow Ogongora village, Uganda. If it's Latin America, they'll journey with Cajamarca community, Peru. And if it's Asia, then they'll journey with Shivnagar community, Nepal.



We'll send everyone who signs up films introducing them to the community they've selected, a welcome pack, and, month by month, regular email updates.

Every three months, they'll also watch a short film update from the community.

Photos from the communities in Peru, Nepal and Uganda.
Photos: Layton Thompson/Tearfund, Ralph Hodgson/Tearfund and Kieran Dodds/Tearfund.

On the enclosed DVD and online you'll find a range of exciting and ready-to-use resources, plus these four short films:

Film 1 (5:03): *Our story – A family transformed*

An inspiring and moving all-age film telling the story of Richard's family. It looks at the God-inspired transformation in their lives, brought about through the work of the local church.

Film 2 (5:22): *My testimony – Richard's story up close.*

Richard's story told with more of a focus on his own journey and testimony. Also suited to an all-age audience.

Film 3 (5:15): *Church in the community*

The Church and Community Mobilisation Process explained.

Particularly suited to church leaders and those interested in understanding how the process works in a community, this short film offers a big-picture view of how a local church begins to engage with, and transform, its community.

Film 4 (5:15): *Dan's story*

Meet 12-year-old Dan, one of Richard's neighbours, and his mum, Grace.

This film forms part of the children's materials and schools' sheet outline.

For PC:

To access the PDF files, insert this DVD into a computer that has a DVD drive. Click on My Computer and you will see the DVD drive called *Harvest film*. Click once to select (do not double click). Then right click to select Explore. You will see a folder called PDF Files. Double click on it to open. Then copy and paste the required files to your computer.

For mac:

Insert this DVD into your Mac DVD drive. Open Adobe Acrobat. Click on File open. Navigate to the DVD drive and click on *Harvest film*.

Since we produced these materials in May 2011, the local church has not stopped working with its community – which is why some of the things in Ogongora will have changed and developed.

**'See, I lay a stone in Zion,
a chosen and precious cornerstone,
and the one who trusts in him
will never be put to shame.'**

1 Peter 2:6

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We are Christians passionate about the local church bringing
justice and transforming lives – overcoming global poverty.

Photos: Kieran Dodds/Tearfund
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