



Climate Stewards



**ANNUAL REPORT
2022**

After two very uncertain years, 2022 felt to us like the beginning of a “new normal”. Organisations we have been working with for some time are finding new hybrid ways of operating that involve more working from home and less overseas travel. More and more faith groups, charities and individuals are using our online tools and consultancy advice to calculate their carbon footprint.

Meanwhile, we are seeing a growing awareness of climate change and the desire to become carbon neutral. This is leading to increased demand for the high quality, robust and transparent carbon offsets which our partner projects generate.

Thank you for your part in building a better future for people and planet!



Caroline

Caroline Pomeroy
Climate Stewards Director



OUT AND ABOUT

We were delighted to get out and about again this year! The Climate Stewards staff team delivered talks, workshops, webinars and sermons and spoke on podcasts and national radio. We ran a highly successful stand at Greenbelt Festival, partnered with OMF International and the London Institute for Contemporary Christianity at the inaugural Work and Go conference, and spoke at the OMF mission partners’ conference.

In January, we launched the “Climate Talk” blog, with contributions from staff, trustees, partners and friends of Climate Stewards. Our Carbon Fast for Lent provided resources, challenges and prayers to help people reduce their carbon footprint and attracted many new followers.

You can find links to our podcasts and articles on the [Resources](#) page of the website.

MEASURE

Our online carbon calculator for individuals continues to be widely praised for its ease of use and comprehensive coverage. In 2022 it was used to calculate over 2,000 footprints.

360°CARBON

2022 saw significant developments to 360°carbon, our carbon footprint calculator for small organisations. Based on feedback from our users, we updated the interface to make things clearer and simpler. By the end of the year 360°carbon was in use by 1,478 churches, 23 synagogues, 136 businesses and 129 charities.

In May we also launched 360°carbon for use by churches, non-profits and small businesses in the USA, and in November the Dutch version went live. Tailoring the calculator to the location means that we can use appropriate factors for the carbon intensity of grid electricity, the units in which people measure things, and the language.

In June, working with our friends at EcoSynagogue, we launched a new stream within 360°carbon for



synagogues, allowing the Jewish community to access a carbon footprint tool tailored to their needs.

We do not charge people to use our carbon footprint calculators. We see this as part of the “education and advocacy” element of our charitable objectives; the fact that many people choose to offset their footprint helps to cover the cost of providing these online tools.

CARBON FOOTPRINT AUDITS

For many organisations, commissioning an audit is the first step towards understanding how their own activities contribute to climate change. During 2022 we carried out audits for executive search business Saxton Bampfylde, and Christian charities United Society Partners in the Gospel and BMS World Mission.

We’ve been working with Bible Society since 2016, helping them measure and offset their carbon footprint. Their 2021-22 Annual Report features Climate Stewards’ work and explains why they think this is important.

“The interfaith collaboration was wonderful. The benefits in identifying and measuring our carbon footprint in such a straightforward way is a gift for our registered EcoSynagogues who are striving to make a difference in their worship spaces.”

Andrea Passe, Project Manager
EcoSynagogue

ECO SYNAGOGUE

“At Bible Society we know that we are called to care for God’s creation. Climate Stewards has helped us every step along the way in measuring and understanding our carbon footprint. We’ve reduced our footprint during this time, and through its projects we’ve offset what we can’t eliminate.”

Kate Andrews, Chief Financial Officer
Bible Society



REDUCE

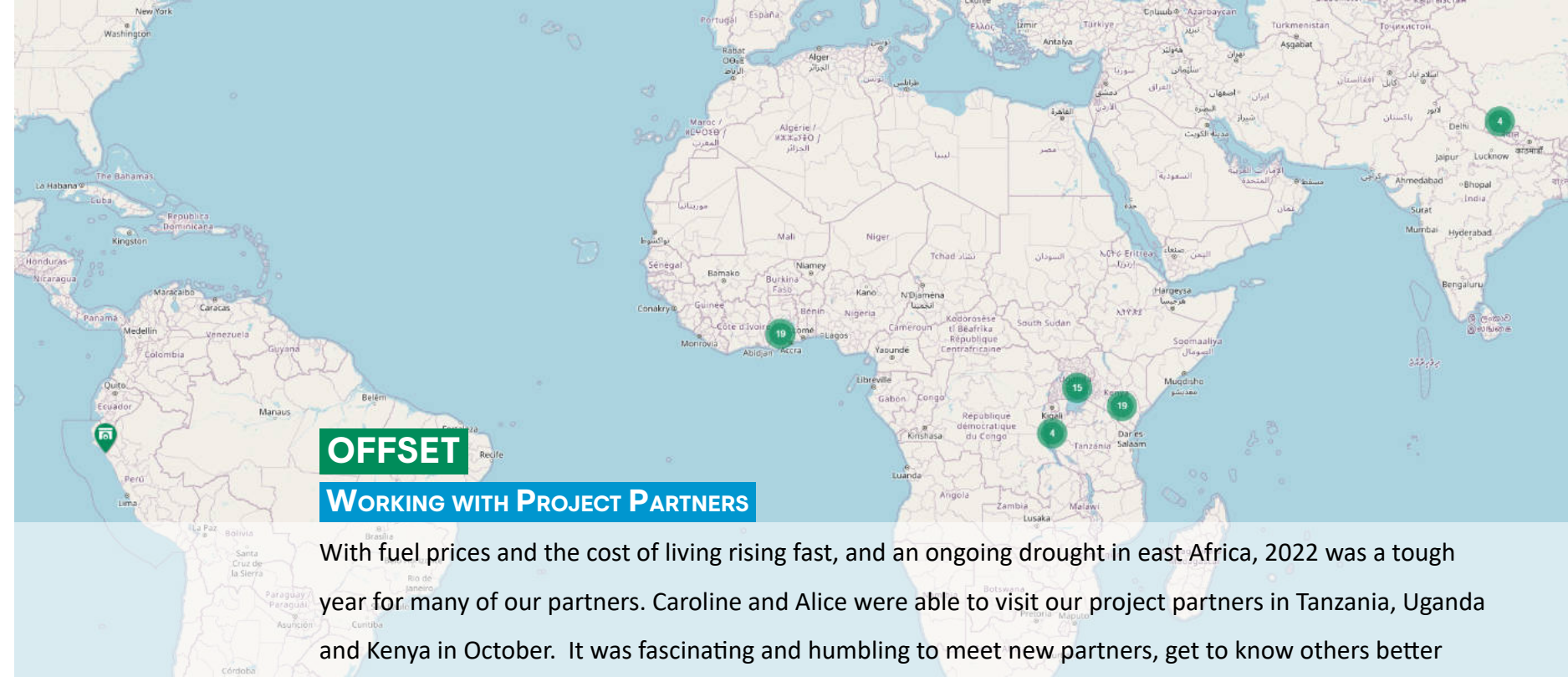
With expertise in all areas of climate change and carbon accounting, we are well placed to support organisations throughout their journey to become carbon neutral. This often starts by raising awareness and knowledge of the issues around climate change and sustainability and getting buy-in from key stakeholders.

For example, in September, we ran two workshops for the regional directors of the Mission to Seafarers on the causes and impacts of climate change, and issues to consider as they start work on measuring and reducing their carbon footprint.

In [an interview](#) for Global Connections, Laura Lee Lovering, Creation Care Co-ordinator at BMS World Mission, explained how they are working towards being carbon neutral. Once Climate Stewards had carried out a carbon footprint audit, BMS had a baseline from which to measure reductions. They are now working on raising awareness about creation care theology and practical actions across staff and partners, taking steps to reduce emissions and developing their own offsetting projects using the Climate Stewards Seal of Approval licence.

“Thanks very much for your sessions yesterday which were really excellent. I thoroughly enjoyed them and learned a lot. The content was so relevant and just the right depth so I have had excellent feedback from our team...”

Tomilayo Toluhi, Chief Operating Officer
The Mission to Seafarers



With fuel prices and the cost of living rising fast, and an ongoing drought in east Africa, 2022 was a tough year for many of our partners. Caroline and Alice were able to visit our project partners in Tanzania, Uganda and Kenya in October. It was fascinating and humbling to meet new partners, get to know others better and to understand more about the successes and challenges of their work. Every one of our partners described how climate change is causing unpredictable rainfall and drought, leaving many families facing malnourishment and hunger.

Our Seal of Approval process is designed to help our partners develop and manage robust, sustainable and transparent community-based carbon mitigation projects, funded by carbon offsetting. Project budgets last for between five and 15 years, with emphasis on training and ongoing support for beneficiaries to ensure high success rates. A key part of the process is measuring the “business as usual” – or baseline – situation (for example the amount of firewood a family used to boil drinking water before they had a water filter), as well as regular monitoring of tree growth and fuel savings from technology projects.

This year we expanded the Seal of Approval portfolio to include plastic recycling, based on our work with EcoBrixx in Uganda. Climate Stewards’ analysis showed that for each tonne of recycled plastic an average of two tonnes of CO₂ emissions are avoided.





Measuring tree diameter in the Philippines

We also helped Episcopal Relief & Development to assess carbon stocks from over 90,000 indigenous trees grown by churches in the Philippines.

In a new partnership with Ripple Effect (formerly Send a Cow) and the organic veg box company Riverford, Climate Stewards helped design and advise on the implementation of an innovative tree growing project in Ethiopia. Three thousand smallholder farmers in Wolaita District were provided with training, seedlings and ongoing support to grow 44,000 apple and avocado trees on their land. The project will improve the local environment and provide new sources of income and added nutrition for families, while locking up carbon.

Based on our carbon calculations and risk assessment, we calculate that these trees should sequester at least 27,000 tonnes of CO₂ (which we call “carbos”) within the next 15 years. By funding this project, Riverford can use these carbos to compensate for some of their unavoidable carbon emissions, helping them to be carbon neutral.

SOA LICENCING

As well as using the Seal of Approval to ensure high quality carbon projects supported by Climate Stewards, we are increasingly using our expertise to spread the benefits more widely to others. Working in partnership with others means we can increase the impact of our expertise by helping more high-quality projects get started and attract funding through selling carbon offsets.

In 2022 we worked with BMS World Mission to quantify the carbon mitigation of additional solar panels on remote hospitals in Chad.



The new name for Send a Cow

“Ripple Effect has been working in some of the most-challenged rural communities in Ethiopia since 2006. The climate crisis is the single most significant issue affecting people across rural Africa, where some parts of

Ethiopia have not had rain for four years. The holistic design of this particular project is based on our experience and learning from previous Ripple Effect projects in the area which were mostly focused on improving nutrition and income for rural families. The farming communities involved in this project have received our training to plant and manage the apple and avocado trees and we are working with a local community organisation to monitor and evaluate the tree growth. Our partnership with Climate Stewards will provide an annual audit to calculate the carbon sequestration of the trees.”



Meshark Sikuku, Regional Farm Systems and Sustainability Coordinator
Ripple Effect

OUR PROJECT PARTNERS

TREE GROWING IN GHANA, KENYA, TANZANIA, UGANDA

In 2022 we funded four project partners to work with local churches, schools and communities to plant and nurture 14,046 trees. We calculate that these trees will sequester 6,898 tonnes of CO₂ over the 15-year lifespan of the projects. Between them our partners are planting 22 different species of indigenous trees, the majority of which are permanent. A small percentage will be sustainably harvested for timber (used for construction, electricity poles, furniture etc). Most planting schemes also include fruit trees which provide a new source of income and nutrition.

Every project has been through our rigorous Seal of Approval process which involves detailed questions about land ownership, management regime, soil type and climate, together with a risk buffers analysis looking at risks such as fire, drought, theft, disease, political and social risks. Our forestry carbon estimates are counted in advance (ex ante), so we ensure they are conservative, holding back a

large buffer stock of carbos (tonnes of carbon mitigated) which will not be counted or sold until the end of the project life (usually 15 years).

A Rocha Ghana worked with two community sites and five smallholder farmers on the northern shore of Lake Bosomtwe, central Ghana, to plant 3,860 trees, many on site boundaries and amongst crops in an agroforestry system. Tree species included four native trees which will form new forest canopy, plus mango, avocado and coconut which will produce valuable crops for sale and domestic consumption.

The A Rocha Ghana team worked with the Crop Research Institute to teach farmers how to adapt their farming methods to a changing climate. All five smallholders adopted the practice, and have intercropped their tree seedlings with cowpeas, coconut and maize, where the cowpeas will serve as nutrient source for young tree seedlings.

Monitoring reports from the previous phases of planting show that all trees have either survived or been replanted and are growing well. You can watch a short video about this project [here](#).



Climate Stewards funded A Rocha Ghana to work with local university students supporting environment clubs in six schools around the lake shore. This initiative aims to educate young people in this sensitive catchment area about climate change and other environmental issues and how their choices can have a positive impact. Throughout the year, students took part in sessions in their own schools, and in December they came together for a day of quizzes, environmental activities and fun.



In April, our Ugandan partner **Enable Busoga** planted 4,230 trees. These included seven indigenous species and were planted at six Anglican church and school sites. They faced many challenges including lack of water and termite attacks and experienced high losses, so some replanting was necessary. In collaboration with Enable Busoga we have now established a system of more frequent support and monitoring, aimed at ensuring surviving and replanted trees all thrive.



Watersheds Ecosystem Conservation (WEC) helps churches in Kitui, south-eastern Kenya to plant indigenous trees on their land. 2022 was a challenging year, with intermittent rains and rising costs of fuel and seedlings. We supported WEC to work with another four churches to plant 2,200 trees (of seven species), and to work with existing churches and schools to care for – and where necessary replant – their young trees. Despite losing some trees to drought, our carbon stocks are secure as the losses have been absorbed in the project risk buffer.

Kathithu Good News Church delayed planting their trees until better rains arrived in November. Church members of all ages worked with the WEC team to plant the seedlings and were trained in the importance of regular watering and protection of the young trees.

Our partner **Mboni ya Vijana Group** in north-western Tanzania also faced challenges due to drought. Here there is usually one long rainy season from November to May, but in 2022 this petered out in the spring and was late to arrive in the autumn. Climate Stewards funded two more boreholes and pumps which will provide water for the young trees as well as drinking water for the schools. In December, members of the schools' environment clubs helped to plant 3,756 trees. They also made tree guards to protect them from grazing animals and took responsibility for watering.



CLEAN COOKSTOVES IN NEPAL AND PERU

Our partner, **RIDS Nepal**, works in remote, mountainous communities in north-western Nepal. In each village they introduce a life-changing group of appropriate technologies – latrines, smokeless metal stoves, LED lights (using either solar PV or Pico-Hydro) and clean water.

Based on the data from baseline and monitoring surveys carried out at the beginning of the project, we confirmed that switching to an improved fuel-efficient stove will see a family using an average of 59% less firewood. Each stove will save 6.5 tonnes of carbon emissions per year over a project lifespan of 10 years. In 2022 Climate Stewards funded another 73 stoves in the Talphi District. Over 10 years these will avoid 4,739 tonnes of CO₂ emissions, while reducing deforestation, saving time and improving health.



Dharma Sarki is 61 and lives in the remote mountain village of Talphi in Northern Nepal with her four children. They used to cook on an open fire with no chimney which would consume a lot of wood and produce harmful smoke, affecting their eyes and lungs.

“I used to spend several hours collecting and carrying 50 kg of firewood on my back every day. Now I go once a week and carry much smaller firewood loads. This is a huge time saver for me. We are so happy with this new stove in our home.”

A Rocha Peru continues to monitor the use of 20 clean cookstoves installed in 2020 in the dry forest area around Pacasamayo in northern Peru. Monitoring data on the amount of firewood used before and after the installation of a stove confirms that households are using approximately 44% less wood, thus reducing pressure on these protected forests. Families report that the stoves keep things warm, maintain temperature better, cook quicker, reduce smoke in the home so that their eyes don't hurt, and importantly use less wood.



Pilar Campos García with her cookstove.

Climate Stewards in numbers

25 different tree species
18,423 beneficiaries
7 project partners
53,605 tonnes of CO₂ offset
735 water filters
488 cookstoves & fireless cookers
growing 43,598 trees

BIOSAND FILTERS AND FIRELESS COOKERS IN UGANDA

A Rocha Uganda helps families to build, maintain and use biosand water filters in Kampala. In 2022 Climate Stewards funded another 150 filters; each filter saves just under a tonne of CO₂ emissions per year as families no longer need to boil their water to make it safe to drink. Aniek ten Berge spent three weeks with the A Rocha Uganda team carrying out research into the challenges of keeping filters in use over the long term. 90% of randomly-selected households were using their filters correctly and seeing the benefits in terms of savings in money and time, and improved health. As a result of this research we have supported A Rocha Uganda to invest in more support for

“buddies” so that they can troubleshoot any issues quickly and maximise the benefits of the filters.

Fireless cookers are large, padded wicker baskets which function like a slow cooker. A Rocha Uganda trains people to make and use them to save time, money and carbon emissions. In 2020, when movement was restricted due to the pandemic, Climate Stewards funded A Rocha Uganda to provide 60 water filters and fireless cookers to the same households. In 2022, monitoring showed overall savings of 36% in emissions between the “business as usual” scenario and the project scenario.



Sakina lives in a northern suburb of Kampala. She heard about biosand water filters from Rose, one of the “buddies” who Climate Stewards funds to help their neighbours manage and use their water filters efficiently and support them if they have problems.

Sakina says: “I was excited to learn how the BSF works and how much charcoal it would save by filtering instead of boiling water. I make passion fruit juice to sell at the market, and now I save 5,000 shillings (about £1.12) a day because I don’t have to buy charcoal for boiling. Before, my passion fruit juice would sometimes have a smoky flavour from the fire, but with the BSF this never happens - my customers are very happy! I love my BSF and have trained all my children (except the youngest two) how to use it.”



Twelve-year-old Hufuswah helps with the cooking when her mother, Fatimah, is out at meetings or tending to the family vegetable plot. Hufuswah brings the food to the boil, then puts it in the fireless cooker to continue cooking for a few hours. This fireless cooker saves on charcoal costs and reduces smoke pollution in the home.

THE FUTURE

We are working to attract more income, grants and investment to scale up our work so that Climate Stewards can help many more people and organisations in the UK and beyond to measure, reduce and offset their carbon footprint.

By partnering with like-minded organisations, we want to use the Seal of Approval to establish more high-quality, robust and transparent community-based carbon projects bringing multiple benefits to people and places.

We will shortly be launching a forum on 360°carbon so that people from faith groups, small businesses and charities can support each other on their carbon neutral journeys.

We’re working with A Rocha Aotearoa NZ to launch 360°carbon in New Zealand in early 2023 and hoping to make it available in French later in 2023.

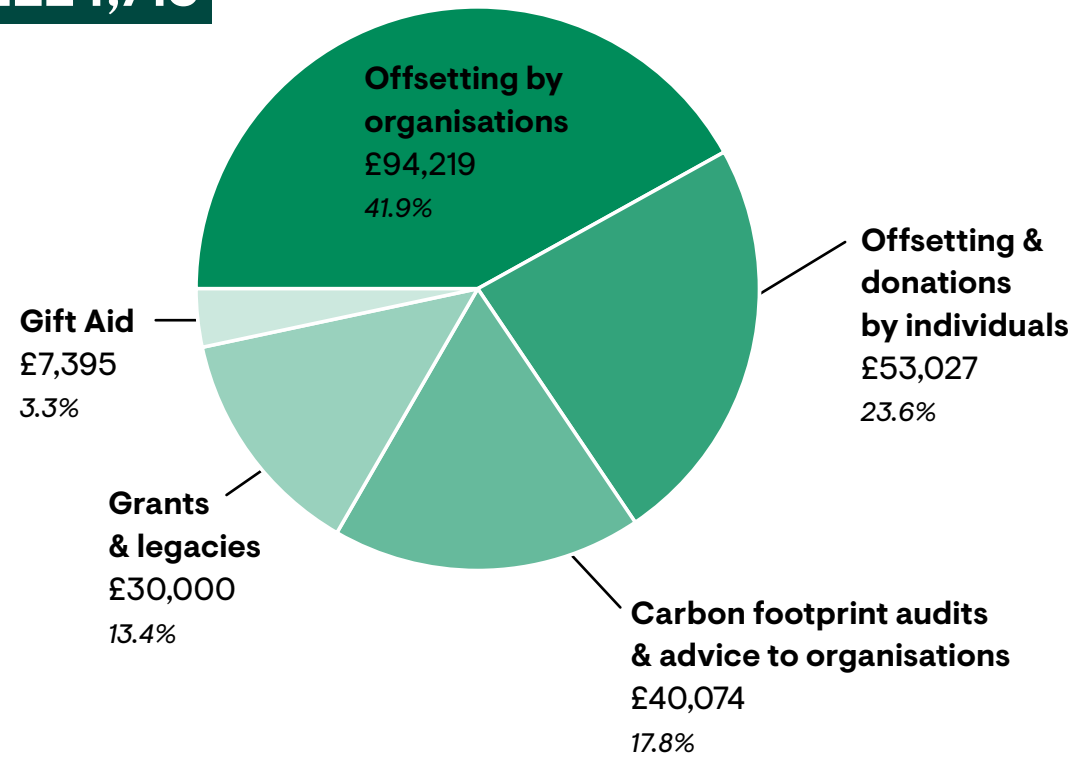
FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Our draft 2022 accounts show that income was 19% up on 2021, thanks in part to an un-budgeted grant and a generous legacy, but also reflecting rises in individual offsetting donations, and more carbon footprint audits and offsetting from organisations.

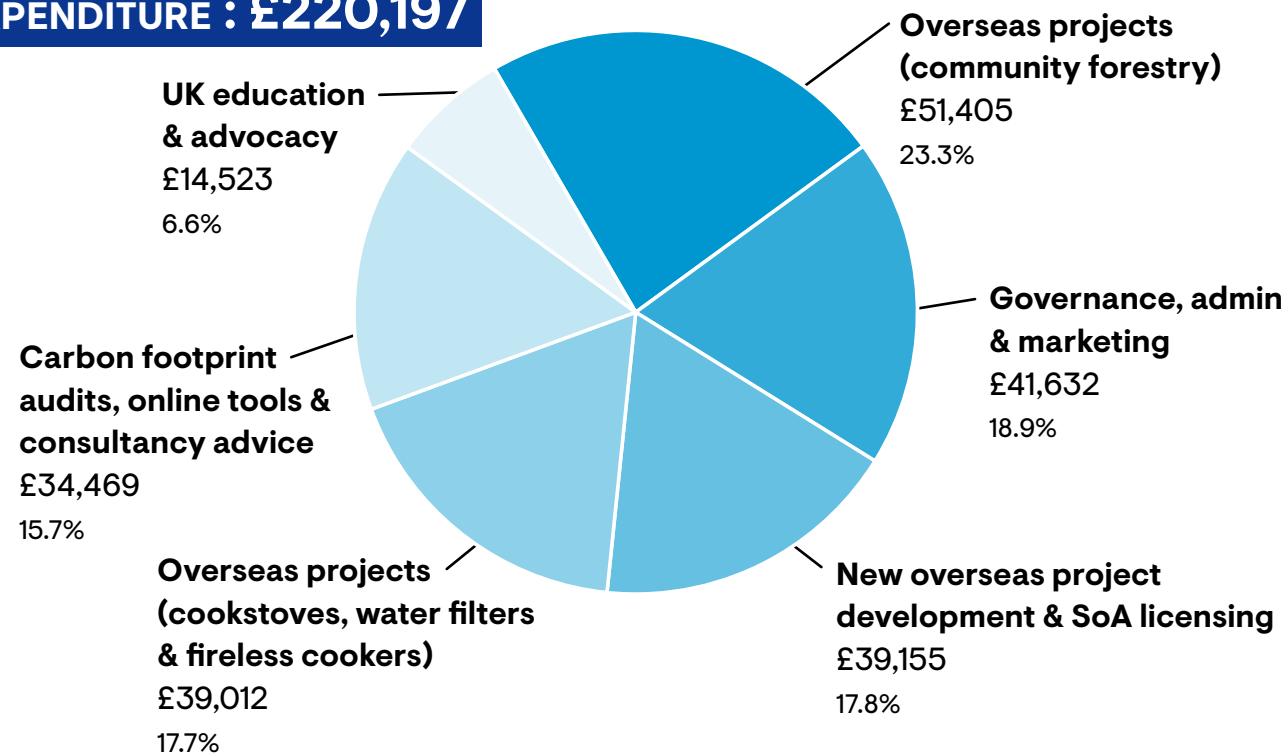
In 2022 we continued to invest in growth in the Climate Stewards in USA and the Netherlands, supporting core costs in order to increase capacity and increase Climate Stewards' impact in those countries.

Full details of our audited accounts for previous years can be found on the [Charity Commission website](#).

INCOME : £224,715

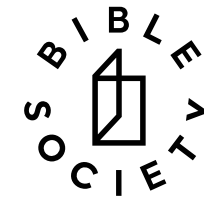


EXPENDITURE : £220,197



Thank you to all our partners, donors and offsetters including...

A ROCHA





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