



Action against poverty

Signpost
International

Vision, Mission & Values

What we do

Inspired by our Christian faith, Signpost International walks alongside disadvantaged communities to see a world free from poverty and its effects, supporting them to be drivers of their own change.

We want whole communities to be able to take action against poverty, to stand on their own, and to realise their full potential.

Our vision

An equitable world where poverty and injustice are eliminated, people thrive, and communities flourish.

Our mission

We model Jesus' example of walking alongside people experiencing poverty and injustice. Through local partnerships we help to empower people to make the most of their resources to address their current challenges and to achieve their full potential within transformed and resilient communities.

Values

We believe in the inherent worth of every human being, and so exist to help all people in need. Our aim is to support people as they strive towards independent lives and fulfilled potential.

In the Bible Jesus tells us that there are two things that are most important: to love God and to love our neighbour (Matthew 22:37-38).

Signpost International works to love and serve our neighbour, but we do so because we love God. We strive towards having that love for God at the centre of everything that we do.



Global Neighbour

A Global Neighbour is a supporter of Signpost International.

Everyone that partners with Signpost International is a Global Neighbour.

A Global Neighbour is someone who shares Signpost International's vision for an equitable world, where poverty and injustice are eliminated, people thrive, and communities flourish.

A Global Neighbour is someone who thinks beyond their immediate surroundings and recognises their impact on the world.

A Global Neighbour is a loving neighbour to those in need by helping to redress the balance in an unjust world through our four strands of work which harness the power of education, and through which all our programmes stem.

Lift up to read about our four strands of work that you as a Global Neighbour are supporting.





You can help

A great way to help enable the essential projects in the communities we work in is to fund raise. You can do anything from running a marathon to organising a dress-down day at work; from skydiving to a sponsored silence; from taking part in the Kilt Walk to organising a bake sale, and everything in-between. You can be as creative as you want and please know that whatever you raise you will be helping Signpost International walk alongside disadvantaged communities to see a world free from poverty and its effects.

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Hunger and Nutrition

We believe no man, woman, or child should suffer hunger and so we aim to eliminate it from the communities that we work in. We aim to not only eradicate hunger, but to also improve nutritional intake to create healthier communities.

Our training programmes and farmer schools aim to enable farmers to become more productive food producers and reduce their post-harvest loss and waste. We train farmers in improved sustainable farming methods and management of their natural resources. We also improve farmers' access to key agricultural inputs such as drought-resistant seeds.

In Uganda only 1 in every 3 children have food to eat during the school day. In a bid to tackle this we have worked alongside local communities in North Eastern Uganda to create school "gardens" to provide daily meals for school children. The gardens also act as a tool for teaching the children improved farming practices as they learn to grow their own produce.

Education is an important aspect of our food security work. To embed knowledge within the communities we help establish farmer schools with demonstration gardens. These are managed by trained Community Agricultural Trainers (CATs) who additionally support local farmer groups and cooperatives. We also deliver initiatives to improve the communities' nutritional knowledge and intake.

Sustainable Livelihoods

Everyone has dreams, but not everyone has the opportunities to realise them. Parents have the desire to look after and provide for their children, but many do not have the means by which to do this. We believe that every individual, especially those who are the most vulnerable, should have the opportunity to be able to earn an income and work to improve their own situation in life.

To enable communities to be drivers of their own change, training and education through local partnerships is offered to increase and diversify their incomes. Training on how to manage home finances is provided as many individuals and families do not know how to budget. Individuals wishing to start their own business can receive training, where they learn to create, develop, and sustain their enterprise. When one person is trained and equipped to start their own business, they are not only able to provide for their family, but they can begin to start saving some of their income. They may even go on to employ people: the positive impact multiplies. To encourage sustainable businesses to grow we facilitate responsible peer lending and microfinance which forms and strengthens enterprise and saving groups.



WASH (Water, Sanitation & Hygiene)

Safe and affordable drinking water is something every man, woman, and child should have access to. We want to help build healthier communities, making sure that both adults and children have the water they need to complete their working day and concentrate in class. We aim to remove all barriers to children's education, including the lack of access to toilet facilities and feminine hygiene solutions. Coupling this with education to reduce the stigma associated with feminine hygiene empowers women and girls, increasing their confidence, dignity, and chances of finishing school.

Currently more than 10% of the global population lack access to safe water. In Tanzania this figure is 50%, representing some 27 million people. In rural areas of the country this increases to 63%, and on the remote islands of Lake Victoria it is more than 90%. Globally waterborne illnesses claim a child's life every 90 seconds. Further, such illnesses negatively impact both the educational attainment and income generating potential of affected communities; severely restricting social and economic development. This is preventable. Alongside our Tanzanian partner we are working with dispersed island communities on Lake Victoria to provide safe water to the most vulnerable and disadvantaged.



Global Citizenship

Global citizenship is all about gaining an understanding of ones' place in the world, taking an active role within your local community, and working with others for a more sustainable and just world for all. We recognise that poverty is a global phenomenon and exists right here on our doorstep in the UK in addition to overseas. Part of our global citizenship strand involves conducting outreach programmes within local schools to educate young people about international development, global inequalities, and poverty here in the UK and around the world. We aim to nurture outwardly thinking youth, active in their local and global community.

In the coming year we hope to launch the Centre for Global Learning. This will be based at our current premises in Whitfield, Dundee, and will be the first of its kind in Scotland. Young people will have the opportunity to receive a specialised learning experience connecting both local and global issues of community development in a unique manner. The Centre for Global Learning will transform the way people think and act by combining educational programmes on global citizenship, with tangible activities that have a positive impact on our local and global community. We want young people to meet their local neighbours and get to know their global ones, while safeguarding the future of our planet.



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