

THE GLOBAL COVID-19 CRISIS: WHAT'S HAPPENING NOW

The coronavirus crisis stands at the six-month mark in many parts of the world, and heads towards an uncertain future. Yet your courage and compassion continue to come through. Below, a glimpse of the love and gratitude being sent your way right now, from all of us here, and from people receiving urgently needed help including...



Ali, respected Somali elder

The Seanachai of Somalia: Aid for the people, protective gear for our staff, a chance to keep tradition alive

In the poorest region of one of the poorest countries, you are helping rush urgent aid, food, medicines, and healthcare (plus protective gear!) – and helping keep alive a priceless oral tradition.



Daw Ndu Roi Shan (l) and Daw HpauChyang Kaw (r), in Myanmar

Myanmar's Displaced People: Soap, hand-washing stations, educational posters, and awareness sessions

Media called Myanmar's camps "Covid-19 tinderboxes." Thanks to you the people there are safer because they have the knowledge and a way to wash the virus from their hands.



1,500 Families in Ituri, DRC: Fleece blankets, hygiene kits, solar LED lamps, mosquito nets, and more

With your help an Irish Aid truck set forth for Ituri Province, Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), carrying 40 tonnes of aid for 1,500 families who are displaced by violence, and vulnerable.



Leah (l) and Teresa (r), in Kenya

Mothers and Fathers in Kangemi: Urgently needed rations to help parents feed their families

For mothers and fathers in Kenya's Kangemi slum who lost their livelihoods during Covid, emergency food rations you help provide are keeping children from going hungry.

DIFFERENT, EFFECTIVE, SUSTAINED BY YOU: WHY TRÓCAIRE'S LOCAL PARTNERSHIP MODEL WORKS

Every country is different: No boilerplate solutions or quick fixes

Begins at the local level: Trócaire staff work in-country beside local partners

In it for the long haul: To support self-reliance, not dependence

In it for the planet: Sustainable solutions build a better, fairer future for all

Sees hidden suffering: Human trauma hurts, and mental health support matters too

A voice for everyone: We don't presume to have every answer, all are respected

Thank you for helping us to do things differently to build a better, more just world... including during this COVID-19 crisis. Your love and compassion know no borders. ♥

www.trocaire.org

A FINAL WORD: THANK YOU FOR HAVING YOUR SAY!



Thank you to everyone who chose to take part in our first-ever Supporter Survey. We

asked your thoughts on everything from sustainable livelihoods like the perma-gardens helping people

in Uganda's refugee camps, to the reasons why you like to give. You responded with a care and attention and a generosity of spirit for which we are eternally thankful – you will help to shape the future of Trócaire. Many of you also chose to give which is such an added blessing right now!

If you've not yet posted back your 2020 Trócaire Supporter Survey, you are still welcome to do so. And if you haven't received a survey but you'd like to, please call Trócaire Maynooth on **1850 408 408** or Belfast **0800 9121 200**. Or email to donorservices@trocaire.org. We'll be delighted to post one out to you! ♥

THANK YOU!



Photo: Sarah Fretwell/Trócaire

"Love is the beauty of the soul."
— St. Augustine

Yaka and baby Rosa in the perma-garden you helped make possible for her in Palabek Refugee camp in Uganda. Yaka is a refugee who fled from South Sudan's brutal civil war. Thank you so much for your help and your love.

Trócaire

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Trócaire is the overseas development agency of the Catholic Church in Ireland. We work with partners in over 20 countries in the developing world to empower communities to improve their lives, meet their basic needs and ensure their human dignity. In Ireland, we raise awareness about the root causes of poverty and injustice, and advocate for change. ROI Charity Regulatory Authority No. 20204642 CHY22508 Company Number 661147 | NI Charity Commission No: NIC 103321 | Revenue Number (HMRC) XR10341 | Company Number NI021482

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Angela (40), with baby Helen in Honduras
Photo: Giulia Vuillermoz/Trócaire

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Thank you!

Trócaire YOUR LOVE IN ACTION

News on how Trócaire supporters like you are conquering fear worldwide

Summer 2020



With love and thanks to you, for every victory...

Patricia and Evelyn Get Back Their Land!

Photo: Trócaire

Palestine's Patch of Good Earth, page 2
Blessings from Zimbabwe, page 4



PLUS: Thank You for Covid Relief!, page 5
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HOW PATRICIA AND EVELYN GOT BACK THEIR LAND: A LENT BOX VICTORY

When you read that your love and generosity change lives with every coin you place in your Lent Box, today let that news fill your heart, forever true. For today a little girl and her loving mother in Uganda have their land back, because of you...

She is taller than you remember her from your 2019 Lent Box, this little 8-year-old girl with the proud eyes. Her mother, too, has changed: from a face that held heart-crushing loss and desperation, to an expression of relief, quiet resolve, and a tentative hope for tomorrow. Patricia and Evelyn have their land back.

It is a direct result of your donations to help fund our legal work that Evelyn's case for the

right to her land was upheld. SIX acres have been returned to her! And this widow and mother in Uganda, who endured a violent and ugly land dispute at the hands of her late husband's family, is

"I was stranded and did not know where to start from," Evelyn said.

delighted. "I am happy because I know myself and my children will use it to grow food."

Her days of fear and fire

Once there was only fear and despair in Evelyn's voice. Her husband died suddenly, and bit by bit his family began stealing the land out from under her. One family member set fire to her home. Left with only a quarter of an acre – not enough to feed her

From the Lent Box to the future: Patricia (8), standing proudly beside her mother Evelyn on the six acres of land in Uganda that is again, legally, theirs. Thank you for making this victory real! Photo: Trócaire

children – she hit rock bottom. "I was stranded and did not know where to start from," Evelyn said.

Where land rights mean life

Every day around the world women like Evelyn are denied

their rights to their land. They, and their beloved children, suffer. That's why your support for this work is so vital. Because now Evelyn's family can again grow food. She is also being helped to start a small business.

With a shelter for two cows that will provide milk for her family plus a bit extra, Evelyn will have milk to sell for necessities like school fees, soap, and salt. It's a lasting Lent Box victory that truly embodies your love in action. Thank you! ♥

Afterword: In early July, 977 cases of COVID-19 were reported in Uganda with the true count thought to be far higher. So far, Patricia and Evelyn's village is safe. But please know your generosity is helping us to monitor the situation, and rush aid if and when it's needed. If you've not yet returned your Lent Box, you are still and always welcome to count what's inside and give the total safely and securely online on [trocaire.org/donate](https://www.trocaire.org/donate).



OH, FOR A PATCH OF GOOD EARTH IN PALESTINE!

Two peaceful Palestinian farmers have you to thank for an 18-year-long journey to getting back their patch of good earth on the often violently contested West Bank. To hear Salim and Muhammad Sabah's story is to know what your steadfast support for legal defence fees means to people who are oppressed and intimidated around the world...



The Occupied Palestinian Territories (OPT), in yellow, where thanks to you Trócaire has worked since 2002.

Picture being intimidated by soldiers in armoured cars as you try to work your own patch of land to feed the ones you love. Sometimes that land is simply seized to build settlements that are illegal under international law. They leave you with nothing. For Palestinian farmers like Salim and Muhammad Sabah on the West Bank, this is reality.

The stolen lands near Bethlehem

The hardscrabble landscape of the West Bank doesn't look like much to the untrained eye. With its OPT (Occupied Palestinian Territories) sister Gaza, though, the West Bank is one of the most violently contested places in the world. COVID-19 has not lessened that. And for nearly two decades in these hills south of Bethlehem, farmers Salim and Muhammad

were harassed and denied access to agricultural lands their family owned because the Israeli settlement of Ma'aleh Rehavem had illegally established there.

Commitment for the long haul

You know from stories like Patricia and Evelyn's (see above) that "land grabs" are not uncommon where those with power dehumanise and abuse everyday people for profit and politics. Through your steady support for Trócaire, your generosity and sense of justice work to change that. In the case of the Sabahs, a successful legal outcome did not come easily. But this year, despite the worry of the pandemic, your love

prevailed: just months ago, Salim and Muhammad Sabah entered their family lands for the first time in eighteen years. Thank you for giving. Thank you for caring. Thank you for staying. ♥

LEARN MORE about the Justice & Human Rights work you support through Trócaire on www.trocaire.org/whatwedo/humanrights. Thank you again for all you do.



Muhammad (58), left, and Salim (67), right, raise their hands to you in gratitude and solidarity for helping them get back the right to enter their family lands. Photo: Garry Walsh/Trócaire

A BLESSINGS TRINITY FROM ZIMBABWE, FOR YOU

Landlocked Zimbabwe seems forever between worlds: grinding poverty and natural beauty, majestic waterfalls and deadly drought. Since the 1970s, your kindness has stayed beside the people here – this year through a horrible pandemic, widespread hunger, and locust infestations...



SARAH: A Tipperary Woman's Resolve

She hails from a farm in Tipperary. But for the last four years as Trócaire Zimbabwe director Sarah McCann has worked to help the children, women, and men of southeast Africa. Your support has been there in an incredible way. Still on the ground just weeks before coronavirus hit, she told us, "People were fetching water from an open source which was very unclean. They'd no other choice. **Two years ago, donors supported boreholes** that reach clean water deep in the ground, and we're installing solar panels to run them. The gratitude has been so tangible. People were just saying, 'thank you, thank you, thank you so much.' Thanking Trócaire and our local partner, and all the staff here." The emergency food packets have been massive as well. "What struck me was the elderly, very vulnerable older people who came – who hadn't anyone left. And the huge gratitude, the integrity of everyone in the face of it all."



EKHATHI: The Answer to His Prayers

Ekhati Mthimkulu is a 73-year-old widower who lives alone in his little home in Southern Zimbabwe since his wife passed away. He is also a pensioner with no pension. **Before the Trócaire-supported drought relief you help to protect**, Ekhati struggled to survive on maize from his garden plus small assistance from his local Church. "What is most painful," he tells you, "is that there is no explanation whatsoever as to why I am not getting my supposed pension." After his more than 30 years of work for the government, a devastating drought, torrential rains, and now, a pandemic, the blow hits hard. So Ekhati gladly makes the 7km journey on foot to the Trócaire food distribution centre. He calls it an answered prayer – answered thanks to you.

All photos this page are thanks to Phumla B Maduma/Trócaire, local project manager in Zimbabwe. Thank you Phumla for your tireless work and your endless compassion and humanity.



EMERENDZIANA: One Mighty Widow's Mite

Emerendziana Dzingirayi is 66 years old. Like Ekhati, she lost her spouse. But Emerendziana is not alone. She shares her home with three orphan children she has lovingly taken in. The family fights to get by on next to nothing. Another harvest has been gutted by climate change, this in an area where people often eat only one meal in a day. **You feel the emotion in her voice as she tells you**, "When you are a widow looking after orphans, life is very difficult. This food will be enough for my family. I really appreciate it because I had no idea where I was going to get our next meal." Then – nearly 9,000 kilometers away, but connected always by your love – Emerendziana gently lifts her lifegiving cargo for the long walk home to the children who wait for her.

Thank you, for your enduring support for the people of Zimbabwe. ♥