The Egmont US Foundation

Annual Report
2025

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01

OUR MISSION

The Egmont US Foundation backs the very best local leaders working to transform the lives of children and women impacted by HIV and poverty in east and southern Africa. We do this by working closely with the Egmont Trust in the UK which has a similar mission.

THE EGMONT MODEL.

LOCAL LEADERS. LOCAL SOLUTIONS. LASTING IMPACT.

Egmont invests in the power of local people to drive permanent change.

In 2025, The Egmont US Foundation, alongside the Egmont Trust in the UK, backed a portfolio of 44 grassroots organizations across six sub-Saharan African countries — helping to tackle the devastating effects of HIV and poverty on women and children.

These are communities with no safety net, where local organizations are often the only line of defense.

Egmont is not just addressing need. It is also seizing opportunity.

Thousands of small local organizations struggle to access funding. We focus on investment opportunities in that chronically underfunded space: small scale, high impact, local organizations that are often under the radar of mainstream donors.

This distinct approach carries risk but also enormous potential. Which is why we've built an effective model designed to manage both.

1. Giving 100%

100% of every donation goes directly to The Egmont Portfolio of grassroots projects.

All of Egmont's operating costs are funded separately by a generous group of private backers. This enables impact on the ground to be maximized and multiplies donor value.

2. A local-first approach

Egmont doesn't design projects. We invest in local leaders – our Egmont Partners.

Those closest to the challenges of HIV and poverty know best how to generate impact at low cost. This bottom-up local approach is a means to create permanent change – not dependencies.

3. A portfolio approach

A portfolio approach is the most effective way to both manage risk and optimize impact.

The Egmont Portfolio applies financial services disciplines such as diversification, risk management, rebalancing and reinvestment to optimize returns.

4. Development track record

Egmont's on-the-ground team have decades of experience in the field and a deep knowledge of the region and sector.

Egmont's comparative advantage is the ability to select the very best grassroots leaders and high-impact organizations from the crowded marketplace.

5. Financial mindset

Egmont is focused on returns, basing funding decisions on evidence and results, and the application of strict financial discipline.

Egmont's own operating model avoids bureaucracy and similarly backs entrepreneurial local leaders with low resource, high impact, cost efficient responses that have the potential to scale up over time.

6. Bottom-up, not top-down

Egmont Partners' responses are shaped by the reality on the ground.

Egmont is not prescriptive. There are many different ways that local people respond, reflecting what they know to be most relevant to their locality. Any approach that is locally impactful represents a funding opportunity.

7. Adding value

Egmont is focused on exchanging best practice and creating opportunities.

From generous supporters to local Egmont Partners, staff members, volunteers and the families that are part of the projects. All are sources of value addition and Egmont works to capitalize on the know-how of all its connections.

A DIFFERENT APPROACH TO PHILANTHROPIC RISK, RETURN AND IMPACT.

2025 SUMMARY DATA

The Egmont Portfolio

The Egmont Portfolio is a carefully selected and managed collection of grassroots organizations across six countries in east and southern Africa, led by local leaders who know best what works in their communities and can deliver cost-effective interventions that improve the lives of children, women and families affected by HIV and poverty.

In 2025, The Egmont US Foundation - alongside The Egmont Trust in the UK - supported 44 grassroots organizations across the portfolio, enabling them to continue their projects and deliver permanent change in their communities.

	2025		2024	
	$	#	$	#
Income				
The Egmont US Foundation[1]	160,405		96,392	
The Egmont Trust (UK)	2,759,733		2,411,543	
The Egmont Portfolio[2]				
Project grants[3]	1,571,809	42	1,404,384	42
Tactical response grants	265,224	24	9,836	2
Partner development grants	34,164	23	30,469	22
Total grants committed	1,871,196	89	1,444,689	66
Egmont Partners supported[4]		44		48
Egmont Partners active at year-end		38		43
People reached		87,038		87,348

1. The Egmont US Foundation is an independent grant-making body registered in the USA with 501(c)(3) status. In 2024, The Egmont US Foundation made a grant of $120,000 to The Egmont Trust in the UK to be directed towards five projects and The Egmont Portfolio. In 2025, The Egmont US Foundation made grants totaling £155,705 to The Egmont Trust in the UK to be directed towards The Egmont Portfolio.

2. UK income figures and expenditure on The Egmont Portfolio is recorded in GBP and converted to USD using a rate of 1.25.

3. See page 18 for an explanation of Egmont grant types.

4. Some Egmont Partner projects have funding committed in the year prior to implementation.

REFLECTIONS

2025 marks ten years since the founding of The Egmont US Foundation. A time of reflection and renewed urgency.

The Egmont US Foundation and its sister charity in the UK, The Egmont Trust, were established to address the funding needs of those grassroots, community-led organizations that tackle the chronic impacts of HIV and poverty on women, children, and families in six countries in sub-Saharan Africa. Our founders drew on their deep experience in overseas aid development and financial services to create a distinctive model that avoids top-down prescription but instead backs local leaders who provide bottom-up solutions to their community problems. These leaders identify what works and then with Egmont's help they are able to scale it.

Jumping forward to the present day, Egmont is not only succeeding, but its grassroots, bottom-up development approach is even more relevant.

This year alone, the lives of over 87,000 children, women, and men, in some of the world's poorest communities, have been directly impacted through the work of 44 Egmont Partners; inspiring local organizations backed by The Egmont US Foundation and The Egmont Trust in the UK.

This impact is thanks not only to the dedication of Egmont's Partners but also to the generosity of Egmont's international network of donors.

I am pleased to report growth in our income with a funding increase of over 20% in dollar terms. This reflects not only the steadfast commitment of so many of our donors but also a number of new donors to Egmont. Thanks to all of you.

Demand for our support is ever increasing. Applications to become an Egmont Partner increased three-fold during the year. This highlights the scale of the unmet need and the validity of our goal to increase the funding and scale of our work.

The global aid landscape changed significantly over the last year with the scaling back of USAID programs and wider reductions in many bilateral aid programs. Support for HIV suffered in particular. Egmont responded by undertaking a review of the problems faced by across the portfolio and targeted additional support where it was most needed. A large number of additional grants were made, demonstrating our agility to respond quickly, but we were also guided by our financial discipline. These events underlined the fragility of many of these large bilateral programs. They also highlighted the consistency and reliability of Egmont.

So, as Egmont continues to grow, our work is clear. The need is there. We have a proven model to effectively address many of the needs. We want to increase the scale of our work and deepen our support of these vital grassroots responses.

To all our donors and supporters, the Egmont team and, above all, our Partners: thank you.

Robert Chartener
President

on behalf of the Board
The Egmont US Foundation

DIRECTORS

Tom Barry

Tom joined The Egmont US Foundation in 2024, bringing with him over thirty years' experience in for-profit and not-for profit entities in Africa. He is Founder & Chair of Zephyr Management and Director for several not-for-profit entities in Africa including Technoserve and Accion.

William Bristowe

William joined the Board in 2024. He is Co-Head Access (North America) at Redburn Atlantic/Rothschild & Co. and based in New York. A long-time supporter of Egmont, he has hosted Egmont's Annual Reception in New York since 2018.

Robert Chartener OBE

Robert joined Egmont as President in 2015. He is Chairman of Human Touch LLC and during his career he has served in a variety of operating, financial, and investment roles in the US and overseas. He currently serves on several non-profit boards including The Hotchkiss School and Cardigan Mountain School.

Jeremy Evans

Jeremy set up The Egmont Trust in the UK with his wife Clare in 2005. In 2015, he joined Robert Chartener on the Board of the Egmont US Foundation. He previously co-founded Redburn in the UK, where he was Senior Partner.

Robert Jaffee

Robert joined the Board in 2024. He has over three decades' experience of capital markets and is currently Macro Specialist at Absolute Strategy Research and Principal at the Erwin Road Group. He has previously held positions at Merrill Lynch and Redburn Atlantic/Rothschild & Co.

DONOR PERSPECTIVE

Stuart Powers is the Chief Investment Officer at Hengistbury Partners, a global equities fund in London which he founded in 2011. Stuart has been a supporter of Egmont for many years.

What do you look for when deciding where to put your charitable investments?

Firstly, I look at the charity's objectives. I want to support charities that improve people's lives, particularly people in the world who are experiencing extreme hardship and daily struggles that my family and I never really have to encounter.

Secondly, I look at how the charity is run and how effective it is; how efficiently it deploys its funds. And, of course, do I trust the people who are running it?

Why invest in Africa?

It's important to invest in Africa, particularly sub-Saharan Africa. There, in some of the poorest countries in the world, the devastating impact of HIV & AIDS has left millions of children orphaned. The vulnerability and hardships experienced, particularly by women and children, is completely in contrast to the experiences of my own family. It's an obvious place to invest if you want to improve people's lives.

Additionally, in Africa, even a small amount of money can have a huge impact. Donations go very far when spent effectively.

What motivates you to support Egmont?

Initially, what attracted me to Egmont was the cost efficiency of the model. With Egmont's lean structure in the UK and the funds being deployed by local partners on the ground, money really does go a long way. However, over the years, I have come to see that it's not just the cost-efficiency but how effective the model is.

When you meet Egmont Partners, you really appreciate how impressive they are. These are founder-led organizations. These people are just incredibly smart. They show passion, huge resilience, and a pragmatism in how they set about improving the lives of people in their local community. And, because they're in the local community, they really understand what the people need and what specific solutions to the problems there are.

It's not just the Partners that are super effective. It's the Egmont team and the Egmont model that are super effective as well: offering advice and support; linking up Partners; organizing Partner-led training and; encouraging the sharing of best practice, Egmont creates a network that is greater than the sum of its parts.

Finally, what opportunities do you think lie ahead for Egmont?

The key opportunity now is to grow and support more Partners to improve more people's lives. We all know that there is a huge unmet need for support in Africa. Egmont has never been in a better position to help.

The reputation of Egmont on the ground in Africa is very strong and there's no shortage of opportunity to deploy funds. Egmont's model works and it's proven to work. The opportunity is to do so at a much bigger scale.

STUART POWERS
Chief Investment Officer
Hengistbury Investment Partners

Pictured: A peer-led sexual and reproductive health and HIV awareness raising session for secondary school children, led by The Nasio Trust in Kenya

02

THE EGMONT PORTFOLIO

THE EGMONT PORTFOLIO

PORTFOLIO OVERVIEW

Progress and highlights from The Egmont Portfolio - supported by The Egmont US Foundation and The Egmont Trust in the UK.

2025: A challenging context

The operating environment for Egmont Partners across Kenya, Malawi, Mozambique, Tanzania, Zambia, and Zimbabwe became significantly more challenging in 2025. Communities already facing poverty, weak public services, rapid population growth, and climate vulnerability were further affected by a dramatic deterioration in the external funding environment.

The most significant shock was the restructuring of major USAID programs early in the year. Wider aid reductions from the UK, Germany, and others soon followed, disrupting HIV, health, education, and livelihoods programs. However, the worst-case predictions did not come to pass, helped by local adaptation and funding realignment to core programs. Even so, funding available to grassroots organizations diminished significantly, evidenced by the almost three-fold increase in funding applications Egmont received in 2025.

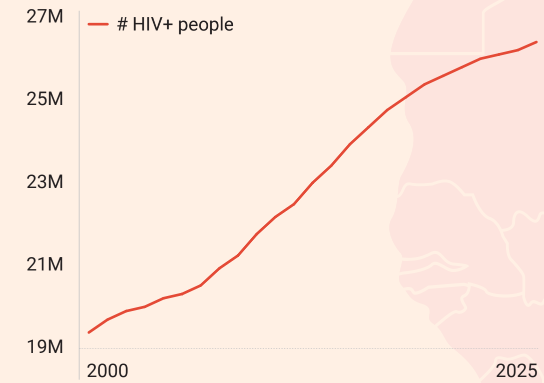
Economic conditions varied across the region, but household strain remained widespread. Malawi faced inflation above 28%, acute foreign exchange shortages, and import constraints affecting fuel and fertilizer.

Mozambique continued to face fiscal stress and tighter financing conditions, while Zimbabwe experienced ongoing currency fragility and high inflation despite some stabilization. Kenya's economy remained relatively stable with GDP growth of 4.8%, although youth unemployment and cost-of-living pressures persisted. Zambia continued its recovery, but drought after-effects and rural poverty remained significant, while Tanzania faced pressure from rapid population growth and stretched social infrastructure.

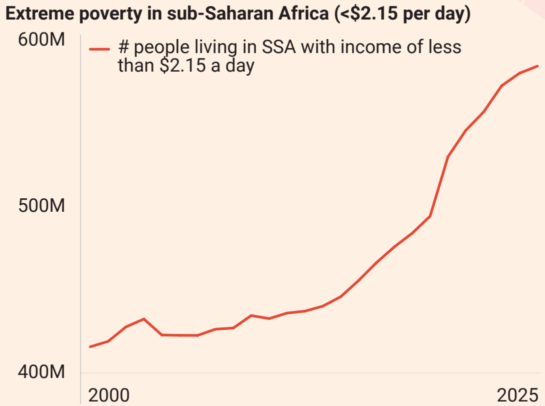
Egmont responded proactively, establishing a Funding Gap Grant Facility for Partners directly or indirectly affected by aid withdrawals. A total of $214,604 was granted to 17 Partners to maintain HIV treatment systems or adapt projects to the new operating environment. A separate Malawi Inflation Response Fund provided targeted support to Partners managing severe local cost pressures.

The year also reinforced the strength of Egmont's model. Local organizations embedded within their communities were often better able than larger systems to adapt and sustain essential services.

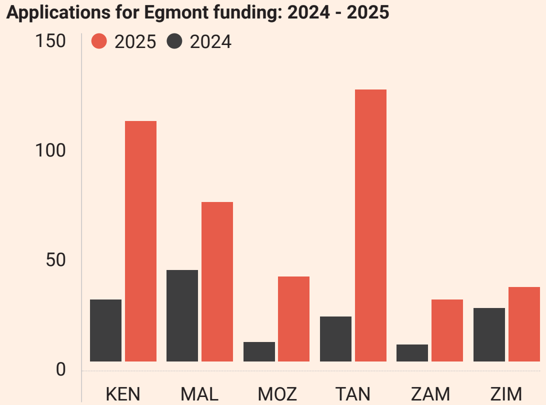
HIV epidemic in sub-Saharan Africa



Extreme poverty in sub-Saharan Africa (<$2.15 per day)



Applications for Egmont funding: 2024 - 2025



Egmont Partners

In 2025, The Egmont Portfolio welcomed five new Egmont Partners, while six organizations left the portfolio upon project completion. Nine Egmont Partners secured increased funding for their projects, due to good performance.

Egmont Partners in 2025

Total supported	As at 1 January	New Egmont Partners	As at 31 December	Notes
44	39	5	38	See 'Portfolio recruitment' below for a breakdown of the new Egmont Partners' success rate in 2025.

Portfolio mix by funding amount (%)

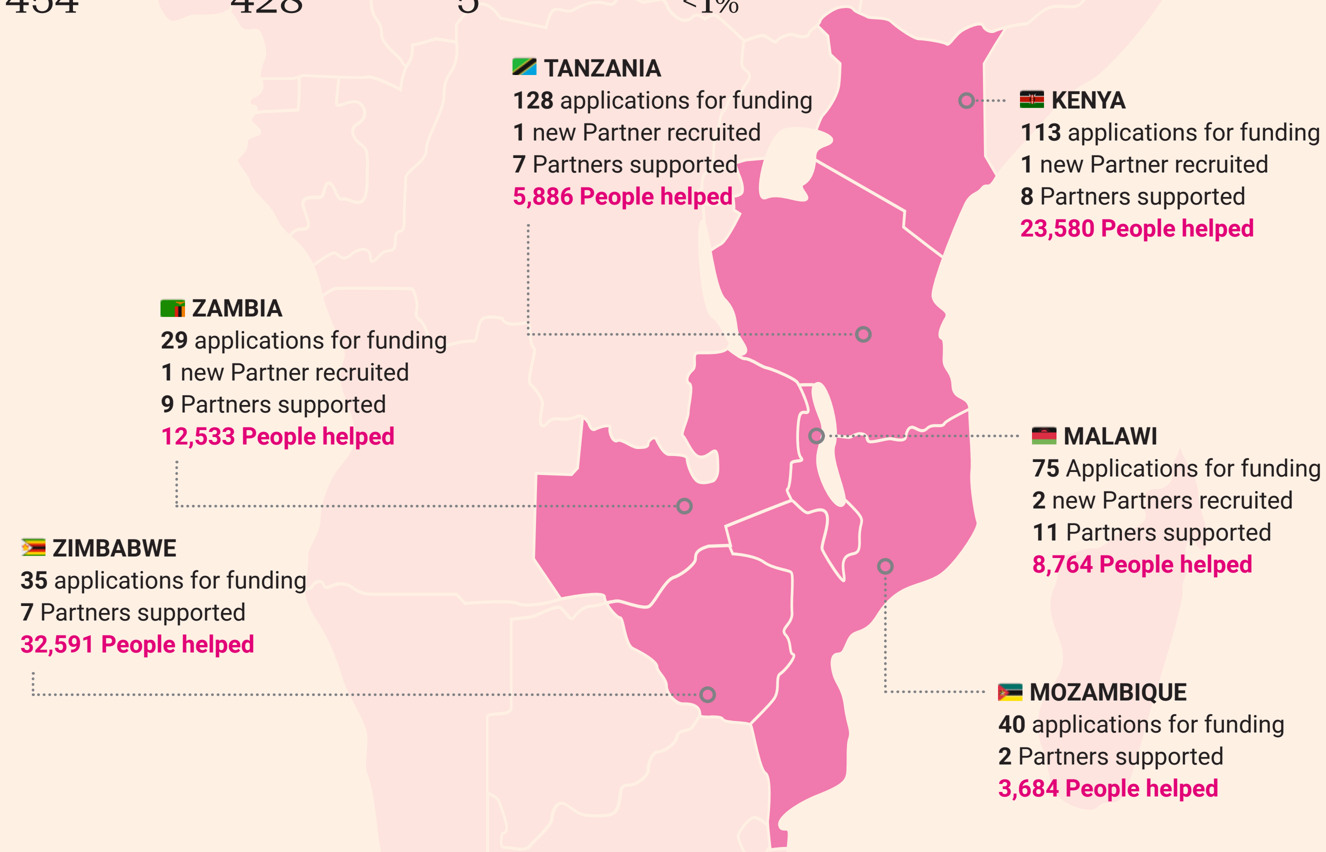
<$20k	$20 - 35k	$35 - 50k	$50 - 100k	Notes
3%	18%	26%	53%	Egmont disburses grants in US$.

Portfolio mix by funding amount (# Partners)

<$20k	$20 - 35k	$35 - 50k	$50 - 100k	Notes
4	12	13	15	Egmont Partners enter the portfolio at the lower scale and receive greater funding upon successful results.

Portfolio recruitment

Initial contacts	Investigation & reviews	Successful applicants	Conversion rate	Notes
454	428	5	<1%	Overall conversion rates are typically 1 - 5% per annum.



Grants analysis (2025)

Egmont's grant structure is designed to help Egmont Partners progress: allocating capital in line with performance, maturity and potential, while actively supporting their development over time.

At the core of the model are Project Grants. Each Egmont Partner is supported with at least one Project Grant at a level appropriate to their stage of development. Partners that deliver project results are invited to apply at a higher level upon project completion. See below for more information on each grant level.

Alongside this structured pathway, Egmont deploys Tactical Response Grants to complement and enhance Project Grants. These are flexible and targeted, designed to pro-actively respond to specific opportunities or risks. In 2025, Egmont introduced the Funding Gap and Malawi Inflation Response Grants in reaction to the closure of USAID and soaring inflation experienced in Malawi.

Partner Development Grants are available to Egmont Partners to learn from one another, spread best practice and allow for the cross-fertilization of ideas across the portfolio.

Grants committed (2025)

Grant type	# grants	$ committed[1]	YOY $ (%)	YOY # (%)	Grant amount
Project					
Entry Level	6	99,563	-51	-45	Up to $20k for 1 year
Core	21	679,721	19	24	Up to $70k for 2 years
Enhanced Core	9	435,296	47	50	Up to $150k for 3 years
Strategic	4	291,269	-6	0	Up to $300k for 3 years
Pilot	2	65,960	236	100	Flexible
Total	**42**	**1,571,809**	**14**	**0**	
Tactical Response					
Funding Gap	17	233,265	-	-	Flexible
Malawi Inflation	7	31,959	-	-	Flexible
Partner Development					
Peer-to-Peer Learning	19	23,833	8	6	~ $1,300
Country Partner Meetings	4	10,331	24	0	~ $2,500
Total # grants[1]	**89**	**1,871,196**	**30**	**35**	

1. $ amounts committed have been calculated from GBP using a conversion rate of 1.25

Significant increase in portfolio activity

Grant expenditure increased by 30% in 2025 to $1.87m (2024: $1.44m), while the number of grants awarded increased by 35% to 89 (2024: 66).

Grant making capacity is determined by a combination of prior-year income and any prior-year project underspend. Income growth in 2024 (+12% year-on-year) strengthened this capacity. However, grant expenditure is not driven by available funding; it is driven by the quality, impact potential and strategic fit of projects identified through Egmont's rigorous selection process. Where grant making capacity exceeds the availability of fundable opportunities, capital is retained and carried forward to future years.

A significant and unanticipated development in 2025 was the closure of USAID and wider reductions in international development funding by several donor governments. This represented a major dislocation event across the sector, requiring a detailed review of the portfolio and high levels of engagement with Partners to assess both direct and indirect impacts.

Through Egmont's Tactical Response Grant program, additional support was provided to Egmont Partners whose operations, beneficiaries or local ecosystems were affected by these funding shocks.

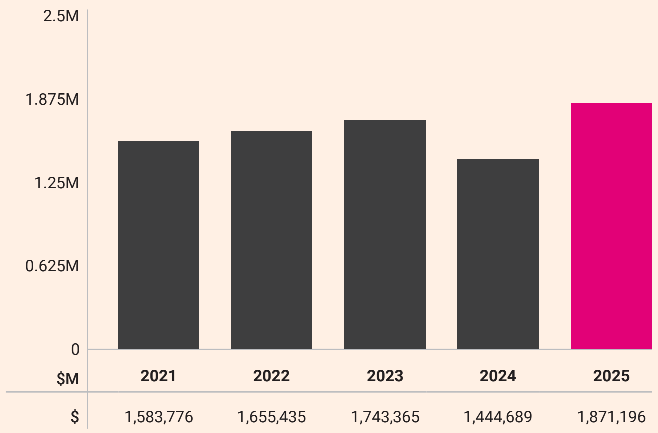
In Malawi, high inflation and sustained foreign exchange pressures materially reduced the real value of grant funding. To protect program delivery and beneficiary outcomes, Egmont introduced the Malawi Inflation Response Fund, providing supplementary grants to affected Partners and preserving the integrity and impact of projects already underway.

Change in portfolio mix

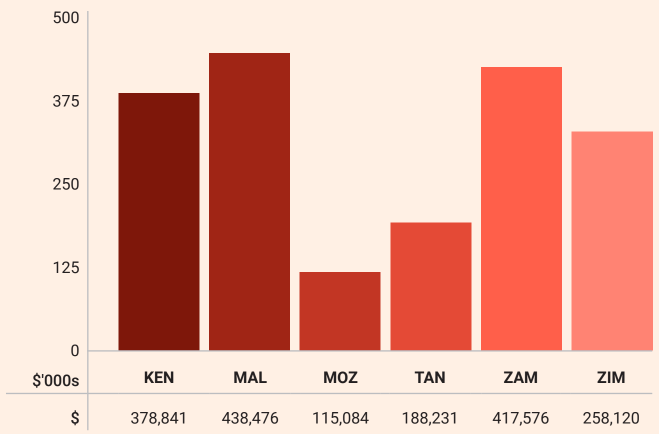
In total 89 grants[1] were committed in the year, an increase of 35% by number and 30% by value. Of these, 42 were Project Grants ranging from Entry Level at $20,000 to Strategic at $100,000 (flat year-on-year but with significant mix shift); 17 were Tactical Response Grants in response to USAID/ other development cuts; 7 grants were in response to Malawi inflation; 23 Partner Developments Grants were awarded (22 prior year).

Whilst total grant expenditure growth of 30% was in line with budget capacity, growth in Project Grants spend was lower at 12% year-on-year. There were two main reasons: absorption of Program team capacity by the new Tactical

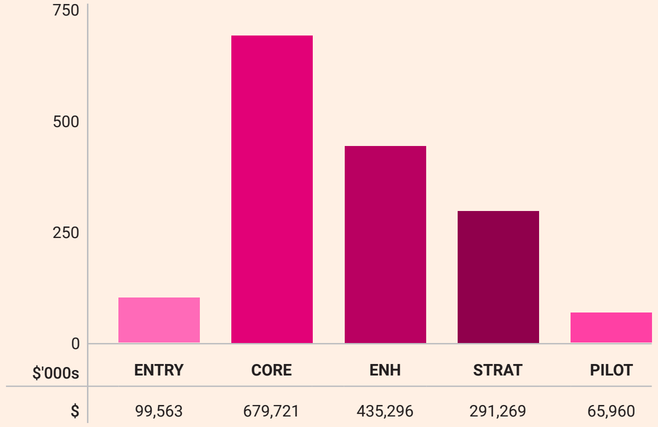
The Egmont Portfolio: expenditure (2021 - 2025)[1]



Expenditure by country (2025)[2]



Project grant expenditure by type (2025)



1. Total grants committed includes expenditure on Country Partner Meetings.
2. Excludes Country Partner Meetings costs.

Response Grants Program, which led to deferrals of new potential Partners into 2026; and higher than anticipated partner 'churn' from the portfolio. These were offset by an increase in average Project Grant commitments from Partner upgrades.

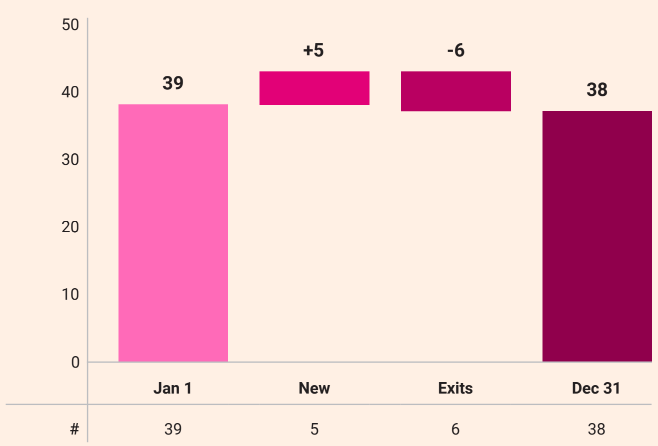
A core premise of the portfolio model is that Egmont Partners in receipt of Entry Level Grants ($20,000 for one year) scale up their activities in subsequent years based on evidence of sustained delivery and impact.

In 2024, there were two Core, two Enhanced Core and two Strategic Grant upgrades. During 2025, six Egmont Partners were upgraded to receive Core Grants ($35,000 per year.): **Child Life Mozambique**, **Uzima Centre** in Tanzania, **Keepers' Zambia Foundation**, **Foundation for Community Livelihood and Development** in Malawi, **Friends for Child Development** in Zimbabwe, and **Primrose Health Organization** in Zambia. Three Partners were upgraded from Core to Enhanced Core ($50,000 per year.): **The Nasio Trust** and **Community Fight Against HIV & GBV**, both in Kenya; and **Agri Impact** in Malawi. The net effect of the upgrades comprised 21.5% of the total 2025 grant budget.

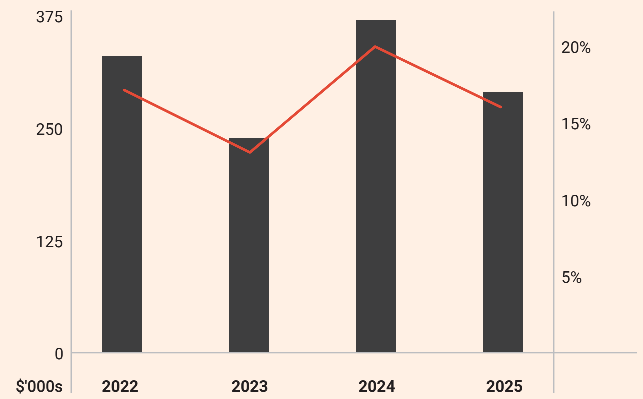
Acquisition of new Egmont Partners was below expectations for the reasons set out above, despite a dramatic increase in demand - leading to significant deferrals into 2026.

Five new Egmont Partners joined the portfolio in 2025: **Teen Seed** in Kenya, **Women's Hope for Change** and **Young Farmers Incubator** in Malawi, **Malengo Development Foundation** in Tanzania, and **Kabangwe Creative Initiative Association** in Zambia. In 2026 to date, a total of ten new Egmont Partners have joined the portfolio at the date of publication.

Portfolio movements: new partners and exits (2025)



Churn: grant value & % of portfolio (2022 - 2025)



The other driver of changes in grant expenditure is organizations exiting The Egmont Portfolio (called 'churn'). Factors leading to churn range from positive outcomes: 'graduation' where partners source a step change in funding elsewhere, or successful completion of a project with no repeat activity to fund; to negative outcomes including poor performance, loss of momentum, governance and finance concerns, or mission creep.

Churn is an inherent characteristic of Egmont's portfolio approach to risk and return and is anticipated in planning and budgeting. In 2025, six Partners exited the portfolio. Whilst this is in line with the long term Partner churn ratio of 16%, it was higher than anticipated.

In terms of detail:

- One Egmont Partner in Kenya graduated, successfully completing a relatively short partnership cycle.
- One Egmont in Malawi failed to improve governance and control systems.
- Two Egmont Partners submitted proposals with a new area of focus, that was not appropriate for Egmont funding.
- An Egmont Partner in Zimbabwe did not implement their first project in line with their proposal.
- A long term Egmont Partner was unable to develop a credible next stage plan, despite impressive historic results in providing young women with livelihood opportunities and training.

Portfolio performance

Egmont's bottom-up model avoids common size and externally driven KPIs to measure performance. The multiplicity of local models that Egmont backs require tailored solutions that cannot be captured in 'one size fits all' impact and performance metrics.

Egmont's approach to measuring performance is bilateral and bottom-up. In their proposals, each Egmont Partner clearly outlines the impact that is expected and how it will be measured and then reported through the annual and impact reports. A key task in the project approval stage is for the partners to convince us of the validity of these indicators and the activities that will be undertaken to that end.

Egmont firmly believes that partner performance would be negatively impacted by imposition of common sized, top-down impact measurement. We are currently working with the portfolio to improve the consistency and quality of the impact information captured.

Alongside this impact material, Egmont manages the portfolio using a proprietary tool, the Portfolio Performance Tracker (PPT). The PPT is a multi-factor tool that tracks progress on both hard and judgmental metrics using a 5 - 1 (1 is best, see 'Notes' in table below) scoring system. Inputs include impact data, sustainability of results and approach, organizational development, leadership, Financial Controls Review outcomes, compliance with contractual obligations and feedback on visits by Egmont staff. PPT performance is one of three major organization-wide KPIs.

The number of Egmont Partners achieving a 'satisfactory' rating or above (3 - 1) increased to 38 in 2025 (2024: 36). The average Portfolio Performance Tracker score improved marginally from 2.5 to 2.4, reflecting an overall strengthening of portfolio quality.

Performance movements during the year were mixed, with eight Egmont Partners improving their scores and eleven declining. However, aggregate performance also benefited from portfolio churn, including the exit of seven lower-performing organizations that had each scored '4' in 2024 (one exiting the portfolio in 2024, six in 2025). The result was a modest improvement in average portfolio performance despite a challenging operating environment.

The PPT remains a central component of Egmont's portfolio management approach. It provides a consistent framework for assessing organizational and project performance, enabling resources to be allocated where they are most likely to generate value. PPT scores inform decisions on grant renewals, progression to higher funding tiers, capacity-building support and, where appropriate, exit from the portfolio.

Performance management is not solely focused on selection and capital allocation. Organizations whose scores fall below expectations receive targeted support to address weaknesses and strengthen capability. This combination of disciplined assessment, active development of Egmont Partners and selective portfolio management helps improve overall portfolio quality and maximize long-term donor value.

PPT: 2024 - 2025 scores distribution

PPT Score	2024	2025	Notes
1	8	8	Exemplary, strong candidate for scale up through Egmont's grant levels
2	14	8	Performing well
3	14	22	Performing satisfactorily
4	7	1	Some concerns
5	0	0	Immediate and serious concerns
New	0	4	New partners are not scored until Project Progress Reports are received
Mean	2.5	2.4	Lower is better
Mode	2/3	3	Equal mode distribution in 2024

Cost-efficiency of impact

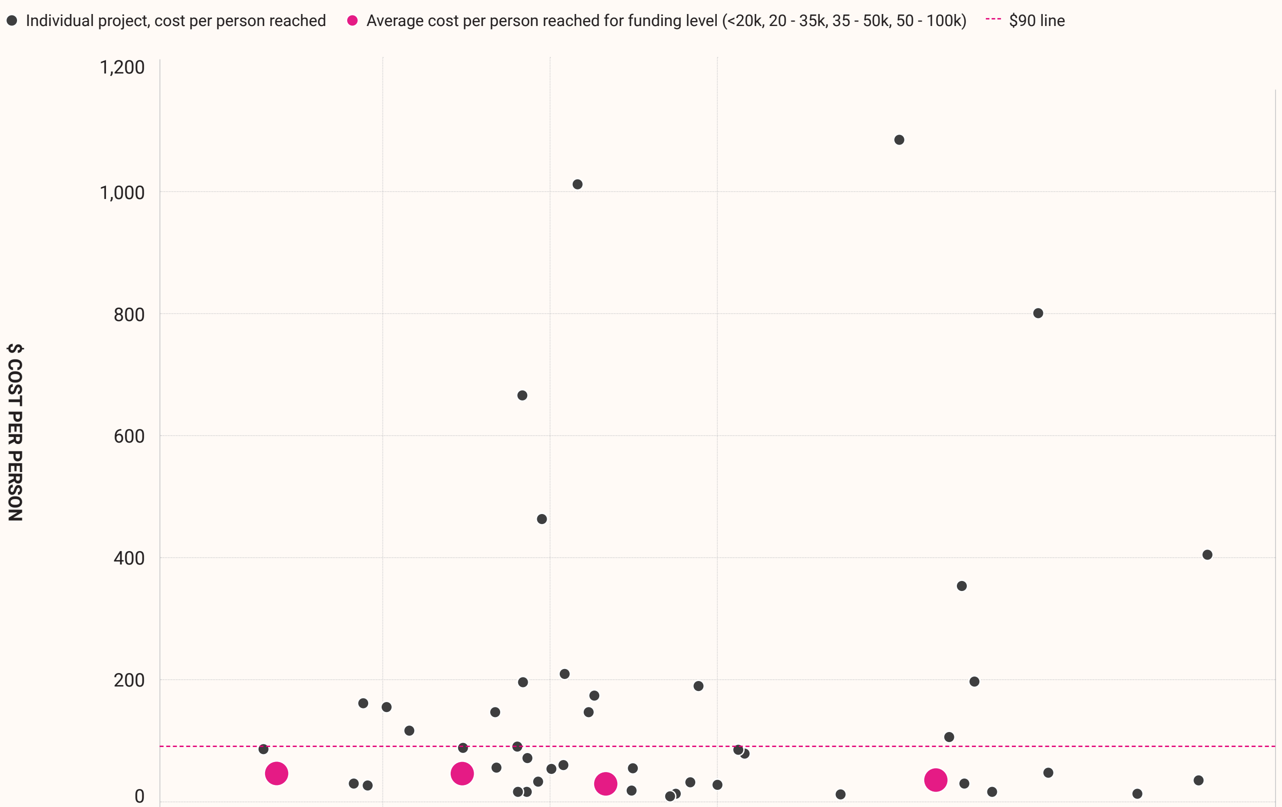
An important feature of Egmont's model is cost efficiency. First, 100% of Egmont's operating costs are covered by Trustees and Patrons – the allocation model is zero cost to donors. Second, the nature, design and locality of the small scale organizations that Egmont supports enables impact to be achieved at very low cost. Project Grants typically operate a 10% expense ratio, or as negotiated with Egmont's Program team.

In 2025, 60% of Egmont Partners (26 out of 42) operated at an average cost per beneficiary of $90 or below (see dashed line in graph below).

The wide diversity of activities supported means that this average hides a substantial range of cost per beneficiary figures, e.g. between projects supporting individual education and skill training and those working with larger groups.

In each case the Partner convinces Egmont, at the proposal stage, and through the course of the project, of the effectiveness of the methodology and its cost efficiency against similar initiatives in their sector.

2025 portfolio: Egmont Partner investment / cost per beneficiary ($)



$ funding level	Up to 20,000	Up to 35,000	Up to 50,000	Up to 100,000
# people reached	1,880	10,407	29,735	45,041
$ cost per person	**35.05**	**35.31**	**18.07**	**24.30**

TOTAL PROJECT COST

Adding portfolio value

An important benefit of the portfolio approach is the opportunity for Egmont Partners and Egmont to benefit from best practice transfer and up-skilling. Egmont facilitates this with Peer-to-Peer Learning Grants, and annual Partner Country Meetings. In 2025, nineteen Peer Learning Grants were awarded and four country meetings took place in Kenya, Malawi, Zambia and Zimbabwe. Project site visits by Egmont Trustees and Team took place throughout the year.

As Eugene from **Kabangwe Creative Initiative Association** in Zambia commented:

"The peer learning process offers us, as Egmont Partners, a unique opportunity to learn from one another and share best practices. It strengthens our capacity by helping us improve in areas where we are less experienced. In essence, it is a capacity-building initiative that enables partners to grow together."

This approach to learning from Egmont Partners also helps Egmont to continuously develop as an organization with a bottom-up mindset.

A new initiative currently in trial by a longstanding Egmont Partner, **Life Concern** in Malawi, is a pilot to establish whether a model developed by **Kwa Wazee** in Tanzania related to self-defense and gender equality might be scalable in a different geography and with different leadership. The learning from this exercise could be invaluable in terms of creating scale up opportunities.

Egmont has also introduced a program of virtual roundtables which allows Egmont Partners to share expert information (e.g. on micro-finance or HIV), discuss common concerns (local inflation or climatic conditions) or briefs on specific issues concerning their relationship with Egmont. These achieve powerful interactions at minimal cost. In 2025, three roundtables were held on the following topics:

- The developing HIV & AIDS context and response;
- Micro-finance initiatives;
- Best practice relating to financial controls for grassroots organizations.

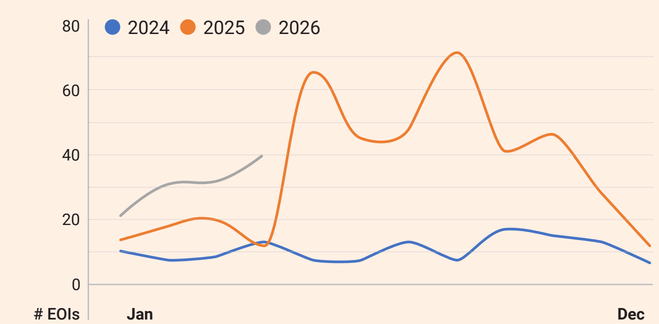
Portfolio sourcing and decision making

The Egmont Portfolio is built through two complementary activities: identifying new grassroots organizations through Entry Level Grants and scaling high-performing Partners through progressively larger grant levels as their capability, impact and sustainability develop.

The sourcing of new Egmont Partners is deliberately selective and shares many characteristics with a venture capital approach. Egmont accepts higher levels of risk at the entry stage in order to identify exceptional locally-led organizations with the potential for significant long term impact. Opportunities are sourced through the networks of the Programs Team, referrals from existing Partners and direct applications through the website.

All applicants submit a standardized Expression of Interest before progressing to due diligence. This enables opportunities to be assessed quickly and consistently while maintaining a high bar for entry; historically only 1 - 5% of applicants secure funding.

Expressions of interest per month (2024 - 2026)



The contraction of traditional development funding during 2025, particularly following USAID closures and wider government aid reductions, led to a substantial increase in organizations seeking support from Egmont. The use of artificial intelligence in applications has also increased, improving presentation but making it more important than ever to assess organizational quality through direct engagement and due diligence.

As a result, the list of organizations under active assessment for project proposal invitation increased from 34 at the end of 2024 to 87 at the end of 2025. Alongside this, the Programs Team provided targeted support to strengthen proposal quality and organizational readiness. By the date of publication, ten new Egmont Partners had joined The Egmont Portfolio during 2026.

IMPACT

03

IMPACT

IMPACT OVERVIEW

Grassroots responses designed and led by local leaders.

The most effective responses come from those most affected, reflecting local needs, knowledge and context. Egmont does not prescribe any one solution; each project, each community, each family and child is unique and effective approaches need to be tailored to achieve impact. As a result, Egmont Partners deliver a diverse range of interventions across economic, educational, health, social and environmental challenges.

To better understand and communicate this breadth of impact, project outcomes are grouped into a number of core impact areas. These areas capture the full reach of work and align closely with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals; giving families the tools, knowledge, and resources to make steady, lasting improvements in their lives and to build sustainable change at community and national levels.

Egmont's impact areas

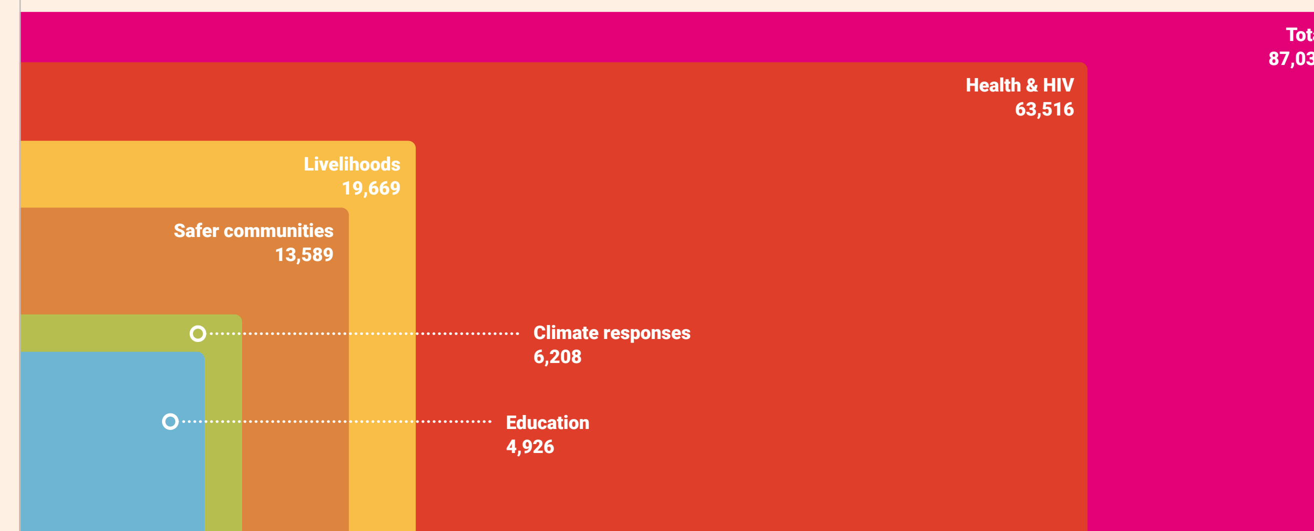
Capturing the diversity of impacts across a grassroots portfolio

IMPACT AREA	DESCRIPTION	UNITED NATIONS SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS
LIVELIHOODS	Helping people to provide for themselves and the children in their care, laying the groundwork for lasting, sustainable change.	1 NO POVERTY; 2 ZERO HUNGER; 8 DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH; 10 REDUCED INEQUALITIES
EDUCATION	Helping children to stay in school is one of the most cost-effective ways to improve their lives, enabling them to secure employment, enter a safe environment and build a better future.	4 QUALITY EDUCATION; 5 GENDER EQUALITY
HEALTH & HIV	Access to healthcare is essential to reduce preventable deaths and empower people - especially those living with HIV - to stay healthy and care for their families.	2 ZERO HUNGER; 3 GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING; 6 CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION
SAFER COMMUNITIES	Tackling the deep rooted and shifting reasons why women and children remain vulnerable to abuse, violence and neglect is key to securing better, safer lives.	5 GENDER EQUALITY; 10 REDUCED INEQUALITIES; 16 PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS
CLIMATE	Helping communities respond with practical, locally led solutions to the impact of climate change, to protect food security and support natural resource conservation.	2 ZERO HUNGER; 13 CLIMATE ACTION; 14 LIFE BELOW WATER; 15 LIFE ON LAND

Total people reached 2025 **87,038**

People reached by impact area

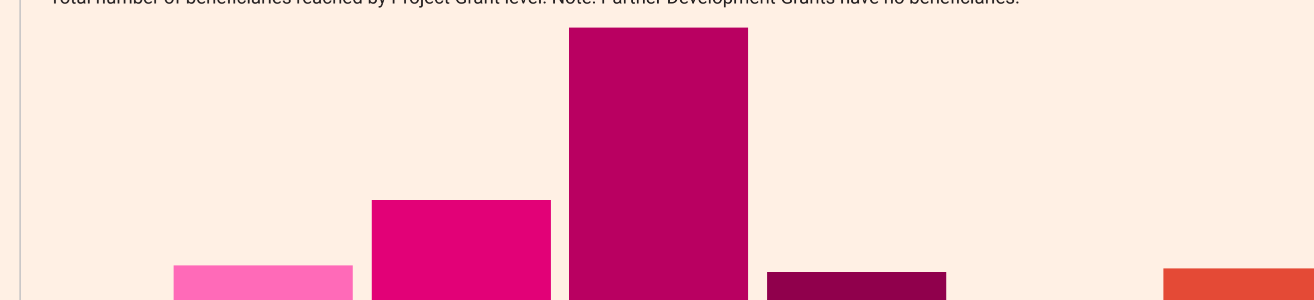
Total number of beneficiaries reached by impact area in 2025. People can be helped in more than one impact area.



IMPACT AREA	KEN	MAL	MOZ	TAN	ZAM	ZIM	TOTAL
Livelihoods	721	3,685	825	1,175	10,445	2,818	**19,669**
Education	35	1,060	769	1,187	1,569	306	**4,926**
Health & HIV	24,587	4,192	4,900	3,162	3,860	22,815	**63,516**
Safer communities	3,038	648	1,383	5,550	1,523	1,447	**13,589**
Climate responses	3,203	814	73	-	2,117	-	**6,208**

People reached by grant type

Total number of beneficiaries reached by Project Grant level. Note: Partner Development Grants have no beneficiaries.



GRANT TYPE	ENTRY	CORE	ENH. CORE	STRATEGIC	PILOT	TACTICAL
# people	7,500	18,399	47,089	6,358	701	6,990

Our Partners help people build reliable incomes and improve food security: creating the conditions for durable, self-sustaining progress.

Pictured: Women in Zambia with a project worker from Egmont Partner Zambian Rainbow Development Foundation, who are helping to boost smallholder farmers' productivity.

Across the countries where Egmont works, poverty remains widespread, with large parts of the population still living below the international poverty line ($2.15 per day in 2025 [US$ 2021 PPP]). For many households, economic stability begins with consistent access to food and a modest, dependable source of income.

Egmont Partners working in this area provide support for smallholder farming, livestock assets, savings groups, vocational training, and micro-enterprise. These interventions improve nutrition, increase household income, and reduce dependency over time. In uncertain economic conditions, locally led poverty alleviation remains one of the most efficient ways to ensure scarce capital reaches those who need it most.

In 2025, conditions became more challenging. Reductions in international aid, combined with inflationary pressures and currency disruption in countries such as Malawi, placed further strain on already vulnerable families. In response, Egmont provided targeted support to Egmont Partners facing acute cost pressures, helping protect frontline delivery and household resilience.

LIVELIHOODS

Egmont Partners working in this area

37

Portfolio results

3,454

People enrolled into vocational, business or entrepreneurship training programs

3,276

People enrolled into local savings and credit schemes or provided with start-up capital, enabling them to grow their businesses

2,887

Households provided with farming inputs, such as seed, fertilizer and livestock or tools

18,158

People helped to improve their nutrition.

Impact highlights

$38,627

Earned by 212 farmers through harvest aggregation and market linkages, increasing their bargaining power

Agri Impact, Malawi

268%

Average increase in monthly incomes amongst 28 savings group members, from $31 to $115 per member

Primrose Community Health, Zambia

300

Vulnerable households supported across four villages raised their income above the international poverty line

Girl Child Counselling Women Group, Kenya

Esther

Helping young people in western Kenya to up-skill, earn more and move out of absolute poverty; reducing their chances of contracting HIV and helping them to reach their potential.

Esther is fortunate. She was able to finish her secondary education thanks to the support of local well-wishers who hope - as she did - that this would set her up to be able to afford to look after her HIV+ mother and six siblings.

In Kenya, close to half the population[1] lives under the international poverty line (<$3.00 daily income [2021 US$ PPP]). Families struggle to afford the cost of schooling and over 70% of children do not complete upper secondary education. In rural and semi-urban areas - like Matunda where Esther lives - the completion rate is even lower at just 12%[2]. So when Esther was unable to find consistent employment or opportunities that would enable her to meet her needs and care for her mother, she despaired.

"I used to find myself struggling. I was not able to support my mother and family as I had hoped."

Her experience reflects a wider challenge. Kenya has a young and fast growing population, yet many young people face unstable or low paid work. Informal employment is common, but earnings are unpredictable. For those from poorer households, lack of opportunity and training can trap them in low income activity. With few alternatives, some turn to crime or transactional sex to survive, increasing vulnerability to HIV and other long term harms.

Partner
Girl Child Counselling Women Group

Location
Kenya

Total investment
$511,721

Partner since
2015

Projects funded
6

People helped
43,462

Pictured: A group of vocational training program students on the commercial food preparation and bakery course. Trainees undergo a six-month program at the Girl Child Centre in Matunda before being linked to local businesses for practical experience.

Sources: 1. (2026) The World Bank, data. worldbank.org.
2. (2026) UNESCO, UIS, Global Education Monitoring Report.

Egmont Partner Girl Child Counselling Women Group (GCCWG) works with vulnerable young people in Matunda - like Esther - tackling the linked challenges of poverty, unemployment, and HIV risk. A central part of this model is vocational training that equips participants with practical skills and credible routes into employment or self-employment.

After hearing about the program through her mother, Esther enrolled alongside 74 other trainees. She chose GCCWG's six-month course in commercial food preparation and baking.

Training goes beyond technical skills. Upon completing their six-month vocational course, graduates undergo a further month of lessons covering customer care, communication, and record keeping, helping prepare them for formal work or enterprise. Sessions with local government and banking representatives also introduce savings, financial literacy, and business planning, enabling participants to develop proposals and apply for small business loans.

The results have been significant. Members of Esther's cohort have established salons, mobile hairdressing services, and catering businesses, while others have secured jobs with local employers. All are now generating income through their new skills.

Esther secured a permanent position at a hotel restaurant. Today, she earns $141 a month, more than three times her previous income.

"Each month I am able to send KSh. 8,000 [$62] to my mother, to support her and my siblings with food, clothing, and other basic needs. With the remaining income, I am able to take care of my own expenses, including rent and food."

Before joining the program, participants earned an average of just $2.33 a day, and 80% reported relying on high risk survival strategies, including crime and transactional sex. Since completing training, incomes have increased between two- and five-fold, allowing participants to meet their needs through safer and more sustainable means.

The benefits extend beyond the individual trainee. Many, like Esther, now support wider family members. Four in five graduates contribute financially to their households, helping cover siblings' school costs and healthcare expenses for parents or grandparents. This multiplier effect is a key feature of Egmont's investment in projects like this.

With secure work and a stable income, Esther is now planning ahead.

"I am saving KSh. 3,000 [$24] every month, which I hope to use one day to buy a piece of land, and build a house for my mother."

GCCWG invested $224 in Esther's training. She now earns $1,692 a year. That modest investment has materially changed not only her own prospects, but those of her family as well.

Replicated across the full cohort of 75 trainees, an estimated 150 additional family members are already benefiting from participants' higher incomes.

GCCWG is demonstrating how relatively small, practical investments in vocational skills can generate strong social and economic returns — improving incomes, reducing vulnerability, and strengthening the future prospects of entire households.

Egmont Partners help expand access to health and HIV services in under-served communities where public systems remain overstretched.

Pictured: a mobile health clinic in Zimbabwe, supported by Egmont Partner Matabeleland AIDS Council, providing rural, under-served communities with access to HIV testing, treatment and sexual and reproductive healthcare services.

Across Southern and Eastern Africa, child mortality rates remain high, while many families still face limited access to clinics, medicines, and trained healthcare workers. Modern antiretroviral (ARV) treatment has transformed HIV outcomes. With consistent access, people can live long, healthy lives and transmission risk falls dramatically.

But these gains depend on reliable delivery systems. Traditional aid programs have often been effective at funding large-scale systems, but less successful at "last mile delivery" to rural and isolated communities. This is where Egmont's Partners are strongest, operating through trusted local networks already embedded in these areas.

Disruption to funding and supply chains risks reversing hard-won progress. In 2025, these pressures increased following the closure of USAID programs and wider reductions in international aid.

Egmont's response has been targeted and practical. Through local Egmont Partners, we have helped sustain outreach, protect continuity of care, and supported people living with HIV during a period of heightened uncertainty. Locally led models remain the most resilient and cost effective response where larger systems struggle to reach the front line.

HEALTH & HIV

Egmont Partners working in this area

33

Portfolio results

21,962

People linked to health facilities and programs

4,942

HIV+ people who had defaulted on their ARV drugs - or at risk of defaulting - supported with treatment adherence

27,992

People reached with sexual health and HIV prevention information

10,492

People tested for HIV

Impact highlights

95.5%

Children under-5 attending 11 supported clinics in Binga and Lupane Districts, Zimbabwe, correctly diagnosed for pneumonia, diarrhea and malnutrition

Wild4Life, Zimbabwe

7kg

Average weight gain amongst 120 malnourished children

Foundation for Community Development, Malawi

1,128

HIV+ people returned to ARV treatment after defaulting, reducing their infectivity and protecting their long-term health

Girl Child Counselling Women Group, Kenya

Matabeleland AIDS Council

Matabeleland AIDS Council (MAC) brings vital healthcare and HIV services to those who struggle most to reach them.

For many people in Zimbabwe's Matobo District, accessing healthcare still means traveling long distances, often on foot, to the nearest clinic.

The district covers more than 7,000 km² yet has only 17 health facilities, a single paved road, and a population of over 106,000. With widespread poverty, even modest transport costs are often too costly. A clinic visit can consume an entire day, time many cannot spare from running a small business, farming, or caring for children and elderly relatives. For older or unwell residents, the journey may simply be impossible. The result is predictable: missed appointments, delayed treatment, and medicines left uncollected.

For people living with HIV, these barriers carry serious consequences. Antiretroviral (ARV) treatment only works when taken consistently. Interrupted access increases the risk of illness, transmission, and avoidable deaths. Food insecurity further compounds the challenge, as poor nutrition can reduce resilience and make treatment adherence harder to sustain. High youth unemployment also increases vulnerability among girls and young women. HIV prevalence in Matobo therefore remains materially above the national average.

Egmont Partner Matabeleland AIDS Council (MAC) is addressing these constraints through mobile health clinics that bring services directly to remote communities. Working with nearby health facilities, MAC deploys qualified nurses to outreach sites every two months, providing consultations, blood pressure and diabetes screening, ART refills, HIV and STI testing, family planning, and wider sexual and reproductive health services. For many residents, travel distances have fallen from more than 10km to around 1km.

The impact has been immediate and practical. Patients who previously postponed care or defaulted from treatment are now able to access services quickly and return to work or family responsibilities the same day. This reduces the hidden economic cost of seeking healthcare. Uptake has risen accordingly: a mobile clinic can see almost as many patients in one day as some fixed facilities see in an entire week.

Following the withdrawal of USAID funding in early 2025, these clinics became even more important. ARV supply chain challenges reduced prescriptions to one month's supply, compared to three-months previously. This required more frequent visits and significantly increased the risk of treatment default for remote patients. At the same time, many outreach services elsewhere were scaled back or stopped altogether.

To help fill this gap, Egmont provided MAC with emergency funding to expand mobile coverage across the district. MAC now operates eight additional clinics each month on a rotational basis, prioritizing hard-to-reach communities without nearby facilities. It is also training 50 local health mobilizers to promote attendance, deliver health information, and support patient follow-up — creating an effective bridge between communities and formal health centres.

In the first four months of the project, 861 people accessed services through the expanded program, including patients at risk of defaulting and those due for viral load testing. Viral suppression rates have been maintained.

This is a clear example of cost effective local delivery. By bringing healthcare closer to communities, MAC is reducing defaults, sustaining treatment adherence, lowering transport burdens, and preventing more expensive downstream health crises. Alongside the emergency expansion, MAC's core Egmont-supported program continues to strengthen longer term health and wellbeing through community dialogue, prevention work, and integrated health and socio-economic support.

Partner
Matabeleland AIDS Council

Location
Zimbabwe

Total investment
$362,539

Partner since
2016

Projects funded
7

People helped
13,138

Pictured: A mobile clinic supported by Matabeleland AIDS Council, increasing access to healthcare services to people living in rural, hard-to-reach communities in southwest Zimbabwe.

Pictured: a group of children who had dropped out of school given a second chance at education by Egmont Partner Chiedza in Harare, Zimbabwe.

Helping children to stay in school is one of the most cost effective investments available for long term economic and social progress.

The returns on investment extend beyond the individual child to families, local labor markets, and wider communities. Sub-Saharan Africa has the world's largest out of school population, and demographic growth continues to increase pressure on already stretched education systems. In many rural areas, barriers such as poverty, hunger, long travel distances, early marriage, and lack of basic school resources continue to drive dropout rates.

Egmont's Partners work at the community level to address these practical constraints: supporting school attendance, reducing dropout rates, and helping vulnerable children remain in education, particularly girls. Their locally rooted models are especially effective in rural and isolated areas that larger systems often struggle to reach.

Education also delivers important secondary benefits. Schools are a platform for learning about hygiene, nutrition, HIV prevention, and reproductive health, while better educational attainment improves future earnings and resilience. Despite a more difficult operating environment in 2025, our Partners remained focused on keeping children in school and protecting long-term opportunity.

EDUCATION

Egmont Partners working in this area

21

Portfolio results

2,579

Children in school or early childhood development centres provided with school meals

1,501

School age children supported into the classroom through provision of school fees, uniforms or other school essentials

2,100

Children under 5 years of age enrolled in local early childhood development centres

1,009

Secondary school girls provided with sanitary pads, enabling them to stay in school and gain an education

Impact highlights

52%

Percentage of eligible children in Ntcheu District, Malawi, now attending Early Childhood Development centres compared to just 8% in 2021

Future 4 All, Malawi

970

Orphaned and vulnerable children supported to stay in school through provision of materials and community income generating projects

Fanisi, Tanzania

70%

Improvement in girls' school attendance during menstruation at seven project schools in Kagera region, thanks to menstrual health training for teachers

Kwa Wazee, Tanzania

Fanisi

Two-thirds of children in Tanzania do not complete their education, often because families cannot afford uniforms or learning materials.

Partner
Fanisi

Location
Tanzania

Total investment
$85,886

Partner since
2023

Projects funded
2

People helped
7,152

Pictured: Sylvester in his classroom at Mnadani Primary School

In rural Sengerema District, Egmont Partner Fanisi is working with vulnerable children, caregivers and communities to remove the barriers that keep children out of school and help them reach their potential.

More than a quarter of Tanzanian children are currently out of school. Poverty, hunger and poor health are root causes and undermine learning for those in class: 32% of children under five are stunted, and 15% of under-17s work to support household income.

Girls face additional risks with educations disrupted by early marriage and teenage pregnancy. Around one third marry before the age of 18, rising to more than half among the poorest households while limited awareness of child rights and weak child protection systems leave many vulnerable to exploitation.

With Egmont support, Fanisi is working with eight schools to increase pupil attendance and attainment. Central to this work are children's clubs where 280 orphans and vulnerable children learn about the importance of education, child protection, and how to set goals for their future. Members also lead peer awareness sessions that have reached 6,680 pupils.

Each club runs a small stationery business, selling discounted exercise books, pens, and pencils. Income helps members buy their own school materials, while profits are also used to support vulnerable classmates outside the clubs. So far, 211 at-risk pupils have received materials or uniforms, enabling them to remain in school.

The impact is evident in the case of Sylvester, a 15-year-old at Mnadani Primary School. He had begun missing lessons because his parents could not afford basic supplies and was losing interest in education.

After attending a student led awareness session and receiving support from the club, he returned to school and later ranked 5th out of 178 pupils in his end of term examinations. Today, he helps encourage other children to stay in school.

"Since I joined the children's club, I have learned how to set goals and work hard to achieve my dreams. I hope this project will light the way for many children, just as it did for me."

Fanisi also works with parents and caregivers. Training in positive parenting, child rights, and child protection has helped create safer home environments. According to the District Social Welfare Officer's annual report, reported use of corporal punishment has fallen from 78% to 6% of households.

To improve household incomes, Fanisi supports parent business groups selling basic goods, alongside savings schemes and access to small loans. Today, 472 parents and caregivers are participating. 71% have expanded existing businesses, 24% have started new ones, and 81% now report being able to provide three meals a day.

These groups also reinvest profits to support vulnerable children. Over the past year, 759 children received essential school materials.

Since November 2024, school drop-out rates have fallen from 67% to 3%, attendance has risen from 67% to 97%, and progression to secondary school has increased from 30% to 75%.

Fanisi's model demonstrates how practical, locally led support can strengthen families, improve child protection, and keep more children in education.

Egmont Partners work to make communities safer for women and children by addressing the underlying drivers of abuse, violence, and neglect.

Pictured: An adolescent girl campaigning with Egmont Partner Kwa Wazee in Tanzania to change attitudes, behaviour and norms towards girls and women.

Poverty, food insecurity, unemployment, weak local institutions, and lack of access to justice all increase household stress and reduce protection. Tackling these root causes is one of the most efficient ways to improve the lives of those most vulnerable and affected.

Across the countries where Egmont operates, these pressures remain significant and were intensified in 2025 by various factors: inflation and foreign exchange shortages in Malawi and Zimbabwe; post-election disruption in Mozambique; and persistent rural poverty following drought in Zambia. When household resilience falls, women and children are often the first to bear the cost through higher exposure to violence, exploitation, and school dropout.

Egmont's Partners respond through practical local models including family support, women's economic empowerment, child protection systems, school retention, and links to healthcare and justice services. Their community presence is especially valuable where formal systems have limited reach.

SAFER COMMUNITIES

Egmont Partners working in this area

24

Portfolio results

10,161
Community members reached with information on the prevention of sexual or gender-based violence

3,583
People reached through prevention of early marriage campaigns and awareness raising activities

4,942
Children reached through community child protection structures and campaigns

1,419
Parents and caregivers trained in positive parenting strategies and child rights

Impact highlights

83%
Reduction in teenage pregnancies at schools with peer-educators providing sexual health sessions

The Nasio Trust, Kenya

20%
Increase in incidences of child neglect cases followed up and resolved across three villages with newly established Child Protection Committees

Kwa Wazee, Tanzania

49%
Successful prosecution of sexual violence cases brought to court by newly established legal clinics in Kisumu

Community Fight Against GBV & HIV, Kenya

Joyce

Lusaka is often the destination for girls across Zambia who have dropped out of school or are fleeing child marriage, abuse, or neglect in search of safety and a chance to rebuild their lives.

Too often, however, they arrive with no support network and few economic options, ending up on the streets where they face heightened risks of trafficking, exploitation, and further violence.

Egmont Partner Vision of Hope exists to change that trajectory, operating the only shelter exclusively for street-girls in Lusaka. As well as offering immediate protection, Vision of Hope provide a structured pathway to recovery, reintegration, and long term independence. In 2025 alone, 302 girls and young women accessed refuge and support, referred by government departments, police, and international agencies.

"It's a place of safety and hope," says Joyce, who arrived at Vision of Hope at 16 after dropping out of school and with no family to return to.

Vision of Hope first ensures that immediate needs are met: safe accommodation, clothing, washing facilities, nutritious meals, and medical check-ups. Recovery is then supported through individual care plans, trauma counselling, and ongoing healthcare. Residents also participate in daily responsibilities, craft activities, and sewing training, helping restore routine, confidence, and practical readiness for independent life.

It was through sewing training that Joyce began her own path to self-reliance.

"I learned to make all sorts of different products from local fabric. This is when I developed interest in sewing."

Alongside direct care, Vision of Hope strengthens access to justice and wider safeguarding systems. Girls involved in legal cases are supported through court preparation and accompaniment. The organization also runs legal clinics at the shelter and in local schools, increasing awareness of rights and reporting channels.

For one trafficking survivor from the Democratic Republic of the Congo, this support was transformative.

"I have found my voice and confidence to stand for my rights. I now understand where to seek help and also to speak for other girls in similar circumstances."

Prevention is equally important. Vision of Hope supports savings groups in high-risk communities, helping families meet basic needs and reducing the economic pressures that can drive exploitation or force children onto the streets. In 2025, 17 groups were active, with one group collectively saving more than $29,000. Public awareness campaigns through television and radio have also increased reporting of abuse, strengthening earlier intervention.

Reintegration remains a core outcome of the model. In 2025, 114 girls were safely reunited with their families, including 23 trafficking survivors supported with the International Organization for Migration. Each case follows a structured process of family tracing, home assessment, and post-return follow up to reduce the risk of re-victimization. Families are also linked to savings groups and other economic support to address the financial pressures that often underpin abuse.

For one thirteen-year-old survivor, reunification has reopened the future.

"I am so happy to be reunited with my parents. I have gone back to school and dream of becoming a teacher."

Joyce had no family to return to and remained at Vision of Hope for longer-term support. For girls in this position, the organization provides access to school or certified vocational training so they are equipped for independent adulthood. In 2025, Egmont funding supported 16 girls to attend school or undertake accredited skills training.

Recognizing Joyce's talent, Vision of Hope enrolled her in a one year tailoring course. She graduated with strong skills, enabling her to earn an income, leave the shelter, and live independently.

"Because of Vision of Hope, I have a skill, I have an income, I can take care of myself and support my young sister and my son."

Today, Joyce has returned as a sewing trainer, helping new arrivals gain the skills to rebuild their own lives, while continuing to earn additional income from her tailoring work.

"Training the next generation of girls is motivating and satisfying. In the future, I want to improve my skills, set up a designing and tailoring business and employ others."

Joyce's experience reflects the wider value of Vision of Hope's model: from crisis response to independence, from vulnerability to productivity, and from survivor to community asset. Through this integrated approach, Vision of Hope is not only changing individual lives, but strengthening protection systems and contributing to safer communities for girls and women across Lusaka and beyond.

Partner
Vision of Hope

Location
Zambia

Total investment
$422,840

Partner since
2013

Projects funded
7

People helped
9,296

Pictured: two young women at the Vision of Hope centre in Lusaka, where former street-girls can pursue an education or vocational skills, be re-united with family members or build independent lives for themselves.

Our Partners help communities respond to the practical impacts of climate stress that threaten food security, incomes, and household stability.

When harvests fail or prices rise, poverty deepens, migration increases, and women and children are often the first to bear the cost. In 2025, weather volatility, drought after effects, flooding risks, and pressure on water and energy systems continued to affect many of the areas where Egmont works.

Egmont's Partners respond through practical local measures including climate-smart farming, promotion of drought resistant crops, irrigation, soil and water conservation, livestock support, and community savings groups that help households absorb shocks.

This work delivers clear returns: more stable harvests, stronger household incomes, lower food insecurity, and greater resilience to future shocks. Early adaptation at community level is typically more effective and less costly than repeated emergency relief after crises occur.

Pictured: a woman smallholder farmer, supported by Egmont Partner Future 4 All in Malawi, holding up pigeon peas. Pigeon peas are nitrogen-fixing, drought-resistant plants that renew soils and bolster household food security.

CLIMATE RESPONSES

Egmont Partners working in this area

12

Portfolio results

5,476

Reached with information on environmental issues and resilience to climate change

1,607

People trained in climate-smart or regenerative agriculture

458

Households provided with drought resistant crops

660

Households trained in hydroponic irrigation systems and water-retention agriculture

Impact highlights

81%

Project households with income sources diversified from agriculture, improving resilience against climate shocks

Primrose Community Health, Zambia

96%

Of 500 households now able to access vegetables during the dry season, thanks to solar drying preservation techniques

Agri-Impact, Malawi

$406

Average seasonal income among farmers cultivating high value, water efficient and soil enhancing crops such as soya beans, an increase of 87.6%.

Zambian Rainbow Development Foundation, Zambia

Yohane

Millions in Malawi are dependent on rain-fed agriculture. Unpredictable weather patterns have made this way of life precarious.

Agriculture remains the backbone of Malawi's economy, employing more than 75% of the population, largely through smallholder farming. In rural areas, dependence is even greater, with most households relying on rain-fed agriculture and seasonal harvests for both food and income. When rains are poor, delayed, or erratic, the consequences are immediate: lower yields, weaker incomes, and rising food insecurity. Hungry, empty bellies for those most vulnerable: children.

For families already living close to the margin, this creates chronic vulnerability. Climate shocks are becoming more frequent across central and southern Malawi. Yohane, a farmer from the rural outskirts of Lilongwe, describes the challenge:

"We rely on buckets and watering cans. We can hardly irrigate a quarter acre effectively, and our harvests are barely enough to feed our families, let alone sell."

Egmont Partner Agri Impact is helping households like Yohane's adapt to changing climate conditions and transition from subsistence farming to more productive, market-oriented models.

To strengthen food security, farmers receive training and quality seed to establish household gardens producing vegetables, fruit, and legumes throughout the year. In 2025, 176 households created functioning home gardens. Farmers are also trained in post-harvest storage and seed-saving techniques, helping preserve food supplies and prepare for future seasons.

"Having our own seed means we are not afraid of the next season anymore."

With household nutrition more secure, Agri Impact then focuses on income growth. Most farmers traditionally grow maize, which is low-margin and vulnerable to weather shocks. Following training in agribusiness and commercial production, 473 farmers diversified into higher-value crops such as groundnuts, tomatoes, onions, and cabbages.

A revolving seed scheme is helping accelerate this shift. Fifty households each year receive quality groundnut seed, returning 2.5 times the quantity after harvest so it can be redistributed to others. In 2025, eleven participating farmers bulked their harvest and generated $5,993 collectively.

To support year-round production, Agri Impact supplied shared irrigation pumps. Yohane's group expanded production land from half an acre to five acres.

"Now that we have a pump, we have increased cultivation to five acres."

The productivity gains have been substantial. Yohane's group increased annual production from 2 metric tonnes to 35.

Agri Impact also helps farmers aggregate harvests and access larger markets that would be difficult to reach individually. Through organized sales, groups have secured buyers including schools, hotels, hospitals, and traders. In 2025, 212 farmers participated in aggregation and collectively earned $38,627.

For Yohane, the move from maize-only farming to year-round, higher-value production has transformed household income.

"Now I can grow crops all year round. I've earned MWK 4.8 million ($2,741) this year alone: the highest income I've ever made."

That income has enabled him to improve family nutrition, pay school fees, and invest in seed and fertilizer for future seasons.

To build longer-term resilience, Agri Impact also supports village savings groups for farmers excluded from formal banking. Members can save profits or access loans for businesses, farm inputs, or education costs. In 2025, 136 people participated. Together they saved more than $4,800, with three groups opening formal bank accounts.

For the most vulnerable households, livestock can provide an important buffer. Thokozani, a widowed mother of two, struggled to save any money and had no assets to fall back on in the event of crop failure. Through Agri Impact's goat pass-on program, she received training and three goats alongside 59 other household heads.

The goats quickly became productive assets. Using one as collateral, she secured her first savings-group loan of $86 to restock her second-hand clothing business. Within weeks, she had generated $152 in sales. Goat manure also improved the productivity of her home garden, increasing food supply and creating surplus produce to sell.

"I never thought a goat could do this. It helped me borrow money. It helped my garden. It helped my children. It helped me stand again."

Today, she is preparing to pass on the first offspring from her goats to another family.

Through this layered model combining food security, commercial farming, irrigation, savings, livestock, and market access, Agri Impact is showing that with the right knowledge and modest inputs, smallholder farmers can adapt to climate pressure, increase incomes, and build lasting resilience.

Pictured: a farming community group using one of the Agri Impact supplied irrigation pumps at a demonstration plot where they learn modern farming techniques to grow in demand, high-value crops such tomatoes, onions and cabbages.

Partner
Agri Impact

Location
Malawi

Total investment
$167,041

Partner since
2022

Projects funded
5

People helped
600

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