

CIC 34

Community Interest Company Report

For official use
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*Please
complete in
typescript, or
in bold black
capitals.*

Company Name in
full

**IDEMS INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY INTEREST
COMPANY**

Company Number

11137433

Year Ending

31 JANUARY 2020

(The date format is required in full)

Please ensure the company name is consistent with the company name entered on the accounts.

This template illustrates what the Regulator of Community Interest Companies considers to be best practice for completing a simplified community interest company report. All such reports must be delivered in accordance with section 34 of the Companies (Audit, Investigations and Community Enterprise) Act 2004 and contain the information required by Part 7 of the Community Interest Company Regulations 2005. For further guidance see chapter 8 of the Regulator's guidance notes and the alternate example provided for a more complex company with more detailed notes.

(N.B. A Filing Fee of £15 is payable on this document. Please enclose a cheque or postal order payable to Companies House)

PART 1 - GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF THE COMPANY'S ACTIVITIES AND IMPACT

In the space provided below, please insert a general account of the company's activities in the financial year to which the report relates, including a description of how they have benefited the community.

The company has carried out a wide range of projects and activities this year related to development, education and the mathematical sciences. During the financial year ending 31 January 2020 the companies activities have benefited the community in the follow way:

We are supporting initiatives across Africa in agroecology and agriculture. In Kenya, we have supported the establishment of an Agroecology Hub aiming to support local organisations to develop the necessary structures that could enable them to support the wider farming community across East Africa through the use of effective agroecological approaches. During this year, a number of research activities and training have been carried out with and for local organisations and farmers organisations to support better understanding and use of agroecological practices. We have also continued to provide research methods supports to agriculture research projects in West Africa. These projects are improving access to local, sustainable, nutritious food through collaborative research and knowledge-sharing with smallholder famers, research institutions and development organisations. They have an overarching aim to explore solutions for sustainable, local food systems to improve the lives of people in some of the poorest parts of the world. We support these projects in all aspects of research methods (statistics and data).

We have continued our work supporting climate and climate change research and making it easier to access and use climate data and information. These activities include running workshops with EUMETSAT on the use of free satellite data for climate monitoring, supporting the development Climsoft: a free, climate database management software for use by national meteorological services around the world, developing free tools to analyse climatic data (R-Instat). This year, we have also supported the University of Reading in their PICSA project in Mozambique and Ghana. PICSA makes use of historical climate data, forecasts, and farmers' knowledge of what works in their own context, with participatory planning methods to help farmers make informed decisions about their agricultural practices. IDEMS supports PICSA, particularly on the climatic data component, by working with local partners, often the national meteorological services, to analyse historical daily climatic data to provide the local climate information. Our variety of climate projects aim to improve understanding of climate and climate change among researchers, government organisations, farmers and others with the aim of supporting more informed decision making in adapting and tackling changes in climate.

We have carried out activities to improve mathematical science education in Africa. Our biggest activity in this area has been developing electronic assessment tools for university mathematics courses in East Africa. Starting at Maseno University, Kenya, we have supported lecturers to develop high quality electronic assessment for their mathematics courses which enable students to receive high quality support and feedback in large class sizes. All our resources are developed as open educational resources and can be used by other universities at no cost. We support the development of R-Instat, a free statistics software, which is used to improve statistics teaching in higher education in Kenya by making courses more practical and relevant for students. For the second year we co-taught a statistical problem solving course to MSc students in Cameroon (AIMS).

We have supported the charity Supporting African Mathematics Initiatives (SAMI) by: supporting the planning of 'maths camps' that provide an inspiring, enjoyable mathematics experience to secondary school students across Africa and helping to run the maths camp in

Ethiopia, donating a portion of our profits from the previous year to SAMI, attending SAMI's annual general meeting.

A full list of the company's projects are provided in the Directors' Report section of the full accounts.

(Please continue on separate continuation sheet if necessary.)

PART 2 – CONSULTATION WITH STAKEHOLDERS – Please indicate who the company’s stakeholders are; how the stakeholders have been consulted and what action, if any, has the company taken in response to feedback from its consultations? If there has been no consultation, this should be made clear.

We have continued to actively engaged with selected stakeholders from our community.

IDEMS has continued to support and engage with the UK charity SAMI and the Kenyan NGO AMI. IDEMS staff attended SAMI’s annual general meeting and discussions helped us better understand how the company could support them in improving mathematics education across Africa. We were involved in the planning of maths camps in Africa and supported the running of the maths camp in Ethiopia. Discussions last year with SAMI highlighted that their major challenge in sustaining and expanding their education activities in Africa is having a steady income stream. This year we followed through on our commitment to donate £9,000 from our first year surplus to SAMI to support its education activities and its financial support to AMI. This year, funding continues to be a major challenge for SAMI and IDEMS intends to continue its financial support for SAMI going forward.

IDEMS has continued to involve AMI in its activities and projects and provides support in mentoring its young team of interns. IDEMS staff spent substantial time in Kenya working directly with the AMI team on joint projects and continuing to support the professional development of the AMI interns. This not only supports the individual interns, but also the activities they carry out for AMI, working with schools and teachers across Kenya and developing free software for teaching and learning in schools and universities. This aligns with the company’s commitment to local capacity building. Towards the end of the year, IDEMS supported some of the staff from AMI in setting up a new organisation, INNODEMS, to complement the activities of AMI and to provide sustainable employment opportunities for those involved with AMI. Some of those involved in AMI will become employees of INNODEMS, others will stay more closely aligned with AMI, but both organisations will work together closely, and IDEMS will continue to provide support to both organisations.

This year, we invested substantial time and resources in two events that engaged our mathematical science and education community.

IDEMS supported the “Cross-pollination in mathematics education” workshop in Ghana in May. The workshop brought together mathematics educators from across the African continent to discuss implementation, sustainability, scalability, impact, good practices, and challenges for a range of maths education initiatives. A total of 42 participants from 11 countries attended, some with support from IDEMS. IDEMS attended and facilitated many of the workshop sessions. Participants included the organisers of previous maths camps. This was a valuable experience and opportunity to learn about the successes and challenges in different places and for IDEMS to learn about the kind of support that could be provided. Potential new maths camp organisers from Uganda, Rwanda and Togo were also present and this was an opportunity to learn how we could best support new initiatives in these countries to support mathematics education. IDEMS work on electronic assessment to support university teaching was presented and discussed at the workshop. The overwhelming interest and positive response to this idea led us to prioritising our efforts into this project as it became clear this was something of wide interest across our community.

This feedback informed the support IDEMS provided to the second event. IDEMS supported the workshop titled “Improving 1st year mathematics and statistics university courses using digital technologies” held at Maseno University, Kenya. The aim of the workshop was to bring together university lecturers to share and explore how digital technologies can be used to

tackle the problem of high quality university education under challenging conditions, such as large class sizes and heavy lecturer workloads, with a particular focus on first year courses. The workshop was originally intended to be a small event for Kenyan universities, however, due to the enthusiastic feedback from our community at the previous event, and through other interactions, IDEMS decided to provide additional support to allow international participants to attend, resulting in further participants from universities in Ethiopia, Tanzania, Rwanda, and Uganda. Participants included both “decision makers”, such as heads of departments and schools, and “implementers”, such as lecturers who might implement new ideas in their teaching. Although a variety of digital technologies were discussed and presented in the workshop, electronic assessment was again of the most to participants. Interactions during this workshop led to IDEMS to invest substantial time and resources in the second half of the year into developing further resources and engaging with universities to support their implementation. We also actively prioritised investigating ways to get further funding to support this work.

Finally, this year we have had substantial consultation with agriculture, ecology and farmer-based organisations in East Africa as part of the Agroecology Hub project. IDEMS has supported the establishment of the Agroecology Hub at Manor House this year and has brought together a variety of organisations to participate in its activities. A number of face to face meetings in Kenya took place this year where IDEMS interacted directly with organisations building a community of partners interested in agroecology. This community is looking to work together on using Farmer Research Network approaches to build the scientific knowledge base while engaging farming communities with agroecological practices. This is an area we have experience in and therefore will be supporting the community in using these approaches.

PART 3 – DIRECTORS’ REMUNERATION – if you have provided full details in your accounts you need not reproduce it here. Please clearly identify the information within the accounts and confirm that, “There were no other transactions or arrangements in connection with the remuneration of directors, or compensation for director’s loss of office, which require to be disclosed” (See example with full notes). If no remuneration was received you must state that “no remuneration was received” below.

The aggregate amount of emoluments paid to or receivable by directors in respect of qualifying services was £71,586.

The value of company contributions paid to a pension scheme in respect of directors’ qualifying services was £12,885.

There were no other transactions or arrangements in connection with the remuneration if directors or compensation for director’s loss of office which require to be disclosed.

Full details are provided in the company’s accounts.

PART 4 – TRANSFERS OF ASSETS OTHER THAN FOR FULL CONSIDERATION – Please insert full details of any transfers of assets other than for full consideration e.g. Donations to outside bodies. If this does not apply you must state that “no transfer of assets other than for full consideration has been made” below.

Donations totalling £9,000 were made to the charity Supporting African Maths Initiative, charity number: 1161994.

The charity is an asset-locked body which is specified in the company’s articles of association.

(Please continue on separate continuation sheet if necessary.)

PART 5 – SIGNATORY (Please note this must be a live signature)

(DD/MM/YY)

The original report must be signed by a director or secretary of the company

Signed

Date

Please note that it is a legal requirement for the date format to be provided in full throughout the CIC34 report.

Applications will be rejected if this information is incorrect.

Office held (delete as appropriate) Director/Secretary

You do not have to give any contact information in the box opposite but if you do, it will help the Registrar of Companies to contact you if there is a query on the form. The contact information that you give will be visible to searchers of the public record.

D. Parsons	
15 Warwick Road	
Reading, RG2 &AX	
	Tel
DX Number	DX Exchange

When you have completed and signed the form, please attach it to the accounts and send both forms by post to the Registrar of Companies at:

For companies registered in England and Wales: Companies House, Crown Way, Cardiff, CF14 3UZ
DX 33050 Cardiff

For companies registered in Scotland: Companies House, 4th Floor, Edinburgh Quay 2, 139
Fountainbridge, Edinburgh, EH3 9FF DX 235 Edinburgh or LP – 4 Edinburgh 2

For companies registered in Northern Ireland: Companies House, 2nd Floor, The Linenhall, 32-38
Linenhall Street, Belfast, BT2 8BG

(N.B. Please enclose a cheque for £15 payable to Companies House)