

# 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

(31/12/22)

*(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)**

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## **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.

IDEMS' approach to achieving impact, which shapes the activities we carry out, is the application of development, education and the mathematical sciences. Through this approach, we contribute to improved professional and academic outcomes and the strengthening of education systems, especially in difficult environments.

Our work this year broadly falls into four main areas - agroecology, social development, climate and education - and the benefits we have created for our community this year is set out against these areas below.

### **Agroecology (West Africa)**

- In West Africa, we have worked for a number of years to build research capability among rural farmers, and support their coming together into Farmer Research Networks (FRN) to assert ownership and create value from the data they collectively produce. In September we worked with stakeholders to develop a draft 'AE App' to support smallholder farmers by providing reliable and relevant information on how to improve their farming and dietary practices - from maintaining soil health to understanding nutritional values of different food stuffs. The AE App team are now working closely with the AE Hub in Kenya to adapt it to their needs.
- To provide more hands-on research methods support in West Africa, we are investing in developing a locally-based team. Following a successful trial internship in 2021, we have a Burkina Faso based team member who in 2022 grew into the role and became greatly appreciated by agroecology researchers in the region. These experiences have also opened up new opportunities to him, including leading classes on the practical aspects of linear regression modelling at l'Université Thomas Sankara in autumn 2022. The successful outcomes of this first round of internships has led us to repeat the process in Niger and we have identified six candidates for internships to start in 2023, with a view both to recruit a new team member and to provide training opportunities in the region.

### **Agroecology (Agroecology Hub (AE Hub) in East Africa)**

- Our agroecology work in East Africa centres on the Manor House Agricultural Centre (MHAC) in Kenya and, as in West Africa, works to support collaborative innovations in regenerative farming using traditional and modern technologies. This year we started work on a database to collate digital data with historic paper records. We aim to develop an accessible dashboard and apps which can be used by MHAC students and staff from across the different departments. We are also applying ideas from the AE database to some of our research method support in West Africa.

- In 2022, the AE Hub developed an FRN on income generation which is working with thirteen farmer groups in Kenya and Tanzania on developing and marketing value-added products. This FRN is in addition to the existing Soils FRN, which includes more than two hundred farmers and enables contextual research into soil health management, and to other FRN trials concerning biofertilizers and lablab, which will be extended in 2023.

## Climate

- Climsoft is an open source Climate Data Management System (CDMS) we are funded to develop by the UK Met Office. Our approach is to mentor developers in Kenya to enable them to contribute to the development of Climsoft. This is driven by our belief in developing talent in Africa and our commitment to ensuring that Climsoft remains primarily a product used in Africa. This year we used this mentoring method to support installation and training for several countries in the global south.
- The OpenCDMS Project is a community of collaborators who are working together to address Earth system data management needs of developing and developed countries by setting and implementing global data management standards and good practices. In 2022, we worked on the OpenCDMS Accelerator. This was a six month project that aimed to deliver the initial version of the OpenCDMS software. The version 1.0 release was also referred to as the Minimal Viable Product (MVP). The accelerator project focussed on recreating capabilities found in existing CDMSs and used web-based API-driven solutions using modern technologies that are compliant with WMO (World Meteorological Organisation) standards and agreed good practices. In April, we successfully completed the project and demonstrated a working architectural solution.
- To complement our work on Climsoft and OpenCDMS, we also delivered a range of R-Instat training (funded by the WMO) in Africa and South-east Asia to enhance the skills of national met offices in data analysis and management.
- The aim of PICSA (Participatory Integrated Climate Services for Agriculture) is to enable farmers to adapt with the changing climate and make use of their resources more effectively. The project has two main parts: climate data analysis and agricultural consultancy. IDEMS is in charge of the data analysis where the University of Reading is responsible for the agricultural consultancy. In 2022, we supported the implementation of PICSA in India by helping prepare the climatic analysis remotely through Zoom. We were also able to run hybrid training courses for national meteorological services in Zambia, Zimbabwe and Tajikistan on the analysis of historical climatic data. This included training on data management and data analysis using R-Instat.
- In 2022, IDEMS began a one-year contract to give R-Instat training for Caribbean Institute for Meteorology & Hydrology (CIMH) staff and selected NMHS (National Meteorology and Hydrology Services) staff, and share research on historical climate data for the Caribbean. In December, we delivered face-to-face training on R-Instat to staff members from the Caribbean Met services, including Jamaica, Barbados, Trinidad and Guyana. The training was in collaboration with the University of Reading PICSA team.

- We also designed a range of online learning materials on climate data analysis for users of EUMETSAT data.

### Social development

- The Global Parenting Initiative (GPI) is a five-year collaboration of universities and local development organisations aiming to provide access to free, evidence-based, playful parenting support to every parent worldwide so that they are equipped with the knowledge and tools to help their children realise their learning potential and to prevent child sexual abuse, exploitation, and family violence.

This year we made significant progress in refining the ParentApp and ParentText components of the programme as well as initial preparations related to the development of WashApp as well as FacilitatorApp. We also helped to identify two PhD students from the African Institute of Mathematical Sciences (AIMS) for work on ‘measurement of playful parenting at scale using machine learning’.

These advances have spurred on further work directly with UNICEF (in Myanmar and Cambodia) and China. We have also reused core App infrastructure to bring Early Family Maths – an American early years programme – to Africa, and provide adolescent sexual and reproductive health interventions in Jamaica.

- iCare: Bringing experience from international development into place-based social impact, Innovations in Community Action for Resilience and Education (iCARE) has emerged from combining an agroecology approach to our work in Italy with the identification of demand from other social enterprises in the UK. In Italy, this has led to the creation of a new social enterprise, iCare Mansue, an ecologically-informed community business revitalising traditional farming knowledge alongside new data-driven techniques. From this initiative we’ve refined and adapted the concept for application elsewhere. In the UK, we took advantage of Social Enterprise Day on 17 November to launch iCare as an introductory offer and we’re currently responding to the initial requests received. These include advice on a collaborative, online workspace and supporting enterprises for refugees in London and minorities in Pakistan.

### Education

- The Alan Turing Institute is the UK’s national institute for data science and artificial intelligence (AI). In July, we were awarded a contract to develop and deliver an online course covering ethical and responsible approaches in designing, building, and deploying AI for social good. The final course is now publicly available via the Turing Institute and is the basis of a number of other educational initiatives for the education and corporate sectors.
- To support maths education in Africa, we supported activities at every level from pre-primary through to PhD, including enabling the development of an Early Family Math app, co-creating a Maths ambassador programme, scaling up formative assessment in undergraduate mathematics and training PhD students in data science in data enabled problem solving.

- In 2022 we started collaborating with Early Family Math (EFM), a US based group that seeks to improve maths education and attitudes for young children during their first 8 years in all families in all communities. With this aim they created content to facilitate parent-child interactions, which can be downloaded from their website.  
We identified a need to make this content accessible through an app, thinking this would appeal to a different and potentially larger audience.  
In July 2022 our INNODEMS partners piloted the EFM App informally. The team recruited families in Kenya and provided weekly suggestions of activities and story books to read. Next year we'll evaluate the trial.
- In July, Maseno University hosted Kenyan and international participants at a one-week program to learn about the use of STACK (an open source learning system for maths and STEM) and to jointly prepare courses to teach in the upcoming semesters. Attending lecturers represented ten Kenyan, one Ethiopian and one Tanzanian university.

*(If applicable, please just state "A social audit report covering these points is attached").*

*(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.

This year remained challenging for much of our community with effects still being felt from the Covid pandemic. We actively engaged with selected stakeholders from our community and made efforts to support them in addressing their relevant issues collaboratively. Our approach is to understand their priorities then work together to build their one capacities to progress these priorities themselves.

A summary of the consultation activities undertaken, the input and feedback we co-produced and collected, and our responses implemented or planned as a result are outlined below in relation to each of the same four areas of work described above, plus an additional section on social impact and organisational development.

Consultation	Feedback	Response
<b>Agroecology</b>		
Through our projects in	Local organisations and	We are facilitating

East and West Africa, we are facilitating dialogue between networks and learning how IDEMS and our partners can support effective research and development.	networks are looking for support to sustain traditional practices and use new methods and technologies to improve their livelihoods in sustainable ways.	increased sharing of methods between networks in East and West Africa and identifying opportunities to introduce resources from the global north to advance African-led development.
<b>Social development</b>		
We are building our relationship with Social Enterprise UK and its members to understand how our expertise and experience gained primarily in the global south can be usefully deployed in the UK.	In the UK social enterprise often focuses on specific geographic communities or particular products/services. Our broader approach, serving other providers rather than end users, can make it harder to find productive fits.	We made contact with the University of Westminster through and collaborated on a series of workshops on gender empowerment within the social enterprise sector. Future work is seeking to apply a gender perspective to social impact.
We work with our sister organisation INNODEMS in Kenya to understand regional priorities in social and economic development.	Gender inclusion and equity in education remains a key priority holding back social development across the region, but promising models are emerging and can be shared to increase impact.	We are investing in a number of initiatives in Kenya, Ethiopia and Rwanda to expand the use of STACK in new competency-based curricula because it disproportionately benefits female learners.
ICARE is our open offer to social enterprises to seek advice and support to help us learn about priority needs we are able to help address.	Challenges and opportunities are incredibly broad. Our focus on open technology and data is increasing relevant directly and indirectly for organisations working towards social, economic and environmental impact.	We have provided advice on a collaborative, online workspace to support a social enterprise for refugees in London and develop employment opportunities for minority communities in Pakistan.
<b>Climate</b>		
We work with AIMS climate internship	Tensions remain between the urgent needs of	In 2022 we hosted three AIMS interns to work on

programme to understand the changing needs of data science and climate related skills for research and development.	national met offices in Africa for effective data recovery and analysis and the skills and resources available to meet these needs.	climate data analysis and develop R-Instat.
<b>Education</b>		
We work closely with the Ministry of Basic & Secondary Education in Gambia to understand how education systems can be strengthened.	The Ministry supports our holistic approach to system change: creating a supportive learning environment, changing students' and families' perceptions of mathematics, providing quality feedback to drive learning.	We are developing a MoU with the MoBSE in Gambia to underpin future development, and pursuing a number of initiatives to resource IDEMS, INNODEMS and GHAIDEMS to contribute to strengthening systems regionally.
We continue to work with Maseno University in Kenya to coordinate regional priorities for STACK's development and deployment.	Developments to date are heading in the right direction and we will setup an African STACK network to coordinate them.	We are developing a Knowledge Transfer Partnership with Edinburgh University to coordinate investment in the future development of STACK in Africa and globally.
<b>Social impact and organisational development</b>		
We continually work with our stakeholders and investors to identify how IDEMS can support them to achieve their own strategic aims which also means IDEMS strengthens its organisational development.	External stakeholders have identified support for the two company directors and strengthening internal systems to ensure sustainable long-term growth.	
We held our second all-team strategic development meeting to bring remote staff together face-to-face to collectively share their experience of delivery	Staff shared a desire to take on more leadership responsibility (within IDEMS' principle of empowerment and local innovation) but a gap in terms of their ability to do	A subgroup of the whole team are working to build stakeholders' capacity to take on leadership responsibility in a safe, supportive framework so this strengthens the

with colleagues.	so.	organisation's efficiency and capability as a whole.
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*(If applicable, please just state "A social audit report covering these points is attached").*

**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 £84,355.60.

The value of company contributions paid to a pension scheme in respect of directors' qualifying services was £15,184.01.

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.

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.

No transfer of assets other than for full consideration has been made.

*(Please continue on separate continuation sheet if necessary.)*

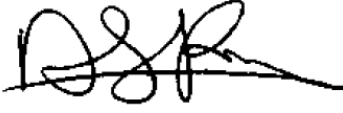


**PART 5 – SIGNATORY (Please note this must be a live signature)**

**(DD/MM/YY)**

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

Signed



Date

26/09/23

**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.

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, 4<sup>th</sup> 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)**