



CASAGUA (SCIO)

SC053750

**ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS
FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025**

www.casagua.org/en

info@casagua.org

CASAGUA (SCIO)
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT
For the Period ended 31 December 2025

The trustees have pleasure in presenting their report together with the accounts and the independent examiner's report for the period ended 31 December 2025.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Charity Name

Casagua (SCIO)

Charity Number

SC053750

Registered Address

Reservoir House, Gladhouse, Gorebridge. Midlothian

Trustees

Gari Donn appointed 30th October 2024

Filipa Naldinho Lopes appointed 30th October 2024, reappointed 30/10/2025

Silvia Verdino appointed 30th October 2024

Co-Founders and Co-Directors:

Catriona Spaven-Donn

Jorge Morales

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Constitution

The Charity is a Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation (a SCIO). It was registered on 30 October 2024. It has a single tier structure and as such the trustees are the members of the charity.

Trustees

Trustees are elected at the annual general meeting. There must be a minimum of three and a maximum of ten trustees. One third of the board must retire annually. This can be chosen randomly, but trustees appointed during year must stand at AGM These trustees may be re-elected.

Vision: Our vision is of a community that lives in harmony with nature, inspired by the Mayan cosmovision and engaged in social and environmental action.

Mission: We create educational and agroecological learning opportunities to promote happy and creative childhoods in the Maya Ixil Region of Guatemala.

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OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

The organisational objectives are:

- to advance education by providing extra-curricular environmental, arts & play-based programmes for 5-18-year-olds, increasing holistic educational engagement and environmental connection for children and young people from the Maya Ixil Region of Guatemala and other under-resourced rural communities
- to advance health, relieve poverty and protect the environment through agroecological initiatives that strengthen local food security, food sovereignty, self-sufficiency and soil health, thereby promoting healthy, ecological and sustainable futures for rural indigenous communities in Guatemala
- to promote gender equality and cultural diversity through the provision of educational programmes that empower and foster respect for girls, women and indigenous communities
- to advance the arts, heritage, culture and science through interdisciplinary and arts-based educational programmes that promote ancestral wisdom and Mayan indigenous identity, as well as provide opportunities to learn about and celebrate global cultural diversity
- to advance community development through the provision of health, wellbeing and education opportunities in rural Guatemala while also advancing global citizenship and knowledge exchange

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

Casagua grew to serving 6 children with weekly workshops in our first month of operation, to finishing the year with **43 regular participants**. The children involved ranged from ages **3-14-years-old** and most attend the local primary school in one of the town's most marginalised neighbourhoods. We offered **over 100 workshops** over the course of the year focused on nature connection and the creative arts, providing interactive and practical opportunities for children to learn about **biodiversity, pollination, the hydrological cycle, organic growing and soil health**, among many other environmental themes.

We welcomed **27 volunteers** who supported our weekly workshops with music, dance, art and theatre. They joined us from Italy, Portugal, the UK, Colombia, Argentina, Ireland, Spain, France and Guatemala. In February, we coordinated a cinema tour of the national *Pantalla Itinerante*, a project which takes film to Guatemala's most remote communities. We put on a **film screening at Casagua to 50 children** and reached a further **120 children in two other screenings** organised by Casagua at a children's library in nearby Chajul and at a community centre in a remote village where the entire primary school came out to watch animated shorts, play instruments and learn songs in different indigenous languages. The tour also involved another film screening for indigenous women training to become solar engineers with Barefoot

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OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES (CONT'D)

College Latin America. The film and discussion revolved around a girl defying gender norms, a theme we integrated throughout our workshops over the course of the year, not least in our **International Day of the Girl workshop** in October, focusing on the rights of girls, boys and all children to play, explore, travel, sing, be in nature and have access to food and shelter.

In March, **we joined municipal celebrations of the Day of Water** and were interviewed by the office of the mayor for local television and social media. Casagua participants aged between 8-12-years-old shared their thoughts in Spanish and their indigenous language, Maya Ixil, on the importance of protecting and looking after the rivers and waterways.

In July, we welcomed a whole new workshop cohort from the local primary school, **doubling our Casagua participation**. By September, we won our first two micro-grants to support the construction of a second greenhouse and our outdoor environmental activities more broadly, helping us to plant **15+ different varieties of organic vegetables** with our two workshop groups.

In September, our two co-directors trained in **syntropic agriculture techniques** at a 3-day course in Guatemala City with one of the world's most renowned experts in this regenerative agriculture methodology from Brazil. Later that month, Catriona, one half of Casagua's leadership, led a **map-making and geography workshop in a local primary school in Nebaj**. We intend to expand our in-school offering, building more partnerships and relationships with schools in the region and encouraging the take-up of environmental pedagogies and practical methodologies to engage students in their learning through more creative and hands-on approaches.

Catriona offered an **Intro to Fundraising workshop at Casagua** for five Ixil community development organisations, helping to strengthen local leadership and organisational development in the civil society sector in Nebaj. We continued collaborating locally in November, taking **9 Casagua participants to a week-long art course** on the Mayan calendar system at Nebaj's *Casa de Cultura*.

We celebrated one year of Casagua in December 2025 with a **3-day series of workshops led by a professional painter and arts educator from Italy**. The celebration culminated in collectively painting a **15-metre mural** on one of the Casagua garden walls, representing the Four Elements and ancestral Mayan stories. **43 children participated in the mural painting**.

Looking ahead to 2026, we are excited to continue reaching more children and young people with artistic and creative opportunities to explore nature, increase environmental awareness and better understand our local and global community. We aim to **grow our children's library**, currently with **more than 70 books**, as well as continue to offer extra-curricular workshops that complement and add to the **natural and social science school curriculum**. We will welcome more volunteers, more children and more families to engage in our activities and have no doubt that 2026 will bring more adventures, explorations and learning opportunities for our Casagua community!

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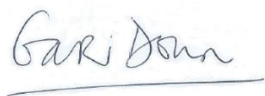
FINANCIAL REVIEW

The charity generated net income of £1,238 in the period. The balance on restricted funds at 31 December 2025 was £nil and on unrestricted funds at 31 December 2025 was £1,238

RESERVES POLICY

Funds generated during a financial period which are not needed for project costs are held in non-exotic currency in the Casagua charity bank account. The trustees have agreed to implement a policy that Casagua should hold at least 10% of its income as reserves. We held a higher percentage than this at the end of our first period so as to save for project expansion and increased costs in the second year of charity operation in 2026.

Approved by the board of trustees on 9th September 2026 and signed on its behalf by:

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Gari Donn". The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned above a horizontal line.

Gari Donn
Trustee

CASAGUA (SCIO)
Period ended 31 December 2025
INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

I report on the accounts of the charity for the period ended 31 December 2025 set out on pages 9 to 16.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the terms of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006. The charity trustees consider that the audit requirement of Regulation 10 (1) (d) of the Accounts Regulations does not apply. It is my responsibility to examine the accounts as required under section 44 (1) (c) of the Act and to state whether matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's statement

My examination is carried out in accordance with Regulation 11 of the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeks explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the accounts

Independent examiner's statement

In the course of my examination, no matter has come to my attention.

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:
 - to keep accounting records in accordance with Section 44 (1) (a) of the 2005 Act and Regulation 4 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations: and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with Regulation 9 of the 2006 Accounts Regulationshave not been met; or
2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Anne G Robertson

September 9, 2026

Anne G Robertson CA

8 Reilly Gardens

High Bonnybridge

FK4 2BB

CASAGUA (SCIO)**14 months ended 31 December 2025****RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT**

	Notes	Unrest Fund £	Rest Fund £	Total £
Receipts				
Grants	4	150	610	760
Donations		1,478	-	1,478
		1,628	610	2,238
Payments				
Payments relating directly to charitable activities	5	390	610	1,000
		-	-	-
		390	610	1,000
Surplus for the period		1,238	-	1,238

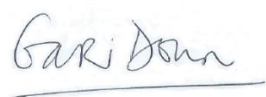
STATEMENT OF BALANCES**Bank balance**

Surplus for the period	1,238	-	1,238
	1,238	-	1,238
As at 31 December 2025	1,238	-	1,238

The notes on page 7 to 8 form part of these accounts

Signed on behalf of all the trustees on 9th September 2026

by



Gari Donn

Trustee

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NOTES TO ACCOUNTS

1. Basis of Accounting

The accounts have been prepared under the Receipts and Payments basis in accordance with the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended).

2. Nature and purpose of funds

Unrestricted funds are those that may be used at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the objects of the charity. The trustees maintain a single unrestricted fund for the day to day running of the charity.

Restricted funds may only be used for specific purposes. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for a specific purpose.

3. Trustees

No trustee received any money during the period. All expenses paid to trustees were reimbursement of payments made on behalf of Casagua.

4. Grants received

	Unrestricted	Restricted Funds	Total
	£	£	£
The Pollination Project	-	360	360
SEAD	-	250	250
Better Funding	150	-	150
	150	610	760

Grants

The **Pollination Project** invests microgrants in frontline changemakers with the goal of uplifting communities and creating a more sustainable, peaceful and compassionate world. The \$500 (£360) grant from Pollination Project was granted to Casagua's Arts and Agroecology programmes, supporting the weekly children's workshops with increased garden tools and artistic and educational resources, including paintbrushes, paint and books. The **Scottish Education and Action for Development (SEAD)** fund supports community-based movement for positive social change, with a focus on social and climate justice. This £250 grant was awarded for the construction materials of a second greenhouse and the environmental education activities that it will enable.

Better Funding is a Guatemalan-British funding network promoting trust-based grant-making and equitable philanthropy. The £150 unrestricted grant was to support staff costs and programme activities at Casagua.

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NOTES TO ACCOUNTS

5. Cost of Charitable activities

	£	£	£
Educational Materials	-	151	151
Garden Materials	-	459	459
Staff costs	390	-	390
	390	610	1,000