ANNUAL REPORT
2019
COVER STORY

Pictured on our 2019 Annual Report cover is Hajara Saleh Onah, a mother who used the Emergency Transport Scheme (ETS) provided by our partner Transaid (detailed on pages 12-13) when she gave birth to her daughter. The ETS provides Nigerian women with the fast access to hospital care they need during pregnancy and labour, using a network of specially trained volunteer drivers.
These are exciting times for the Puma Energy Foundation. The strong coherence of our mission (empowering the most vulnerable groups) with our parent company’s vision (energising communities to drive growth and prosperity) opens up new philanthropic opportunities for us. As a corporate foundation, we have the ability to leverage Puma Energy’s knowledge of the different geographies and specific industry expertise to maximise the impact of our action. This allows us to further support our connection with our parent company’s employees around the world with regional programmes funded by the Foundation that raise awareness about local challenges and support our corporate colleagues to be engaged, responsible citizens. That aspiration is currently being realised, with 30 per cent of our resources now dedicated to staff engagement initiatives, compared to less than 20 per cent in 2019. Notable activities have included the Puma Energy Australia offices’ continued support of the Starlight Children’s Foundation, which uses positive psychology principles to brighten the lives of hospitalised children and their families. In Johannesburg, local staff demonstrated great generosity and creativity through the organisation of several fundraising initiatives to support local charities such as The Rhino Orphanage, a charity that rehabilitates rhino calves orphaned by poaching.

Unfortunately, disaster resilience and preparedness also featured high on our priorities list in 2019. While we are not a disaster agency, many of the programmes we support are in parts of the world that are at the sharp end of climate change. As such, their vulnerability to natural disasters is high. In 2019, we directed significant disaster relief resources in the aftermath of Cyclone Idai, which made landfall in Zimbabwe and Malawi causing severe loss of life, destroying vital infrastructure and displacing entire communities. We backed the International Rescue Committee’s emergency response in Zimbabwe and the Swiss Red Cross’s operations in Malawi.

Elsewhere, we supported some truly inspiring projects in 2019, working across 18 countries to effect positive change in our focus areas of Fair and Sustainable Employment, and Clean and Safe Logistics. In particular, in 2019 we concluded a series of strategic collaborations that in recent years helped us further develop and define our focus area of Clean and Safe Logistics. These included a partnership with Amend, an NGO we have supported since 2014, which works to reduce road traffic accidents in sub-Saharan Africa. Additionally, we supported Transaid in the implementation of its Emergency Transport Scheme for pregnant women in Nigeria.

We can also report important results delivered by our Nicaraguan partner APROQUEN, whose work to promote burn prevention among school-aged children and local communities is driving impactful change. This includes over 3,000 children in receipt of burn-prevention training, as well as over 400 adults.

Finally, a new programme delivered by the Swiss Academy for Development and City Mission in Papua New Guinea is opening opportunities for highly vulnerable populations. Last year, our partner delivered vocational and entrepreneurial training to almost 200 women and youth, guiding them on a positive path towards employment.

These stories are just the tip of the iceberg. The programme write-ups in this annual report chronicle more comprehensively the impactful and inspirational work carried out by our partners worldwide. We are proud to be associated with the positive changes that their programmes have spurred.
2019 AT A GLANCE

AFRICA
- Amend
  ROAD SAFETY EDUCATION
- Botswana
- Côte D’ivoire
- Ghana
- Malawi
- Mozambique
- Namibia
- Senegal
- Tanzania
- Zambia

LATIN AMERICA
- APROQUEN
  BURN-PREVENTION PROGRAMME
  Nicaragua
- Global Alliance of NGOs for Road Safety
  ROAD SAFETY AND FIRST AID THROUGH COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT
  Colombia
- Root Capital
  STRENGTHENING COOPERATIVES TO IMPROVE SMALL FARMERS’ LIVELIHOODS
  Guatemala
- Honduras
- Mexico
- Nicaragua

ASIA & OCEANIA
- Swiss Academy for Development and City Mission
  STANDING ON MY OWN FEET
  Papua New Guinea
- Starlight Children’s Foundation
  BRIGHTENING THE LIVES OF SICK CHILDREN AND THEIR FAMILIES
  Australia

KEY FIGURES
- 8 PROGRAMMES
- 2 POST-DISASTER RELIEF OPERATIONS
- 18 COUNTRIES OF PRESENCE
- USD 1M ANNUAL BUDGET
“When the world is crashing down around you and the future is unknown, it is essential to be able to find happiness.”
Rebecca
Mother of a hospitalised child

**STARLIGHT CHILDREN’S FOUNDATION**

Puma Energy Australia has been supporting Starlight Children’s Foundation for five years, helping this worthwhile charity to put some sparkle back in the lives of sick children and young adults. Starlight Children’s Foundation has created unique programmes based on the principles of positive psychology. It delivers these programmes to hospitalised children, providing a complete distraction from the long days of pain, trauma, tests and treatment. Jarrah, a 10-year-old cancer patient from Northern Queensland, found the entertainment programmes provided a sense of normality in the midst of chaos. “I went from being sad, depressed and in pain to being happy and having friends in hospital,” he explains. Jarrah’s mother, Rebecca, found the support invaluable. “When the world is crashing down around you and the future is unknown, it is essential to be able to find happiness. Starlight is that shining light in the face of trauma. A huge heartfelt thanks to all the supporters,” she shared.

Alongside its hospital and hospice entertainment programmes, the charity grants tailor-made wishes that often allow the child to escape the medical setting for a few hours. James is the father of Paige, who has leukaemia. Paige’s wish to meet a real-life mermaid was granted by Starlight Children’s Foundation, who arranged for her to visit a pool where a mermaid performer was waiting to entertain her and her sister. “Starlight helped Paige to create new positive memories to replace all the unhappy memories of treatment and the hospital,” James says.

Puma Energy Australia organised several fundraising events and activities in 2019 including barbecues, a comedy bingo night in Darwin and a Trivia Extravaganza night in Brisbane. The annual ‘Starlight Week’ was another success, where all Puma Energy retail sites were decorated in the Starlight colours of purple and yellow, and fundraising initiatives were organised throughout the week.

**KEY 2019 ACHIEVEMENTS**

- **316,000 AUD** raised (collected through Puma Energy’s contribution, Puma Energy Foundation’s grant and matching funds)
- **4,198** children had their hospital experience brightened
FAIR AND SUSTAINABLE EMPLOYMENT: A SNAPSHOT OF OUR PROGRAMMES

In Nicaragua, accidental burns are the second most common cause of death by accident. The majority of victims are children – most under the age of five – often coming from low-income families who cannot afford the expensive and specialised medical treatments required for burn injuries. In 2017, supported by the Puma Energy Foundation, APROQUEN launched a burn-prevention programme aimed at tackling a primary cause of burns incidents: lack of understanding of risk factors and misconceptions on first-aid measures.

The three-year initiative includes burn-prevention training for schoolteachers, community leaders and children. Notably, participants then act as ambassadors for the programme by organising further training and sharing their learnings with the wider community. In 2019, the APROQUEN programme gained valuable national and regional attention when it was invited to the Latin American Federation of Burns Congress (FELAQ) to present the preliminary results of the programme. Another important highlight was the involvement of 12 Puma Energy volunteers in the programme. They received training in burn prevention and assisted APROQUEN’s technical team in providing workshops to parents, teachers, community leaders and children, becoming ambassadors of burn prevention in Nicaragua’s vulnerable communities.

Meanwhile, participating schools in municipalities with the highest incidences of paediatric burns are encouraged by the programme’s potential. Fátima Miranda Martínez, Director of Aguas Amarillas school in the municipality of El Tuma-La Dalia, says: “We would like to express our gratitude to APROQUEN and the Puma Energy Foundation for the valuable support given to us. Our students and the school’s entire staff took part in workshops on burn prevention and first-aid measures. And now we can pass on this knowledge to other teachers, parents, community leaders and children through replica workshops.”

Find out more: https://pumaenergyfoundation.org/web/pef/programmes/aproquen-nicaragua

“Thank you for ensuring our children’s health, especially the most vulnerable. I urge you to continue with this humanitarian and social work in our communities”

Fátima Miranda Martínez
School Director

3,261 children completed capacity-building workshop
435 adults completed capacity-building workshop

APROQUEN NICARAGUA

KINDLING AWARENESS: SAVING LIVES THROUGH BURN-PREVENTION EDUCATION
In Papua New Guinea, non-profit City Mission helps homeless young men who have fallen into crime and substance abuse get back on their feet through rehabilitation support and vocational training. Concurrently, it also offers female victims of domestic violence temporary housing, psychosocial support and the opportunity to build new prospects through entrepreneurship training.

Thanks to a partnership with the Puma Energy Foundation and the Swiss Academy for Development, City Mission has been able to expand and strengthen its existing vocational training offer and introduce a new entrepreneurship programme, providing vital services and opportunities to highly vulnerable populations.

Crucially, our partnership has enabled City Mission to revamp and expand its workshop for trainees, as well as standardise and improve its curricula in five trades: carpentry, electrical wiring, motor mechanics, plumbing and welding. Furthermore, trainers have been supported to introduce new and interactive teaching methodologies, helping to ensure that trainees master their craft and advance on a viable path to employment.

This combination of improved teaching content, structured learning objectives and greater learning opportunities for trainers has transformed the classroom experience. Lera Mina, a plumbing supervisor and graduate of City Mission’s programme, explains: “I have noticed big changes in my classes. I feel happier and more relaxed when I am teaching because I have the right support.”

Meanwhile, Patrick Lilo, a participant of the training programme, applauds the new curriculum’s clarity and accessibility: “I found the content easy to understand. This training is really practical. It addresses key elements of doing business and shows us how to tackle them.”

Find out more: https://pumaenergyfoundation.org/web/pef/programmes/sad-and-city-mission

WIELDING THE TOOLS FOR YOUTH OPPORTUNITIES

SWISS ACADEMY FOR DEVELOPMENT AND CITY MISSION
PAPUA NEW GUINEA

KEY 2019 ACHIEVEMENTS
4 trainers received national certifications to become official training supervisors
149 young men successfully completed vocational training
23 women successfully completed entrepreneurship training
14 small businesses launched by entrepreneurship programme participants

Find out more: https://pumaenergyfoundation.org/web/pef/programmes/sad-and-city-mission

CLEAN AND SAFE LOGISTICS: A SNAPSHOT OF OUR PROGRAMMES

MAKING HEALTHCARE ACCESSIBLE ON THE ROAD

NORTH STAR ALLIANCE
TANZANIA

KEY 2019 ACHIEVEMENTS
12,914 truck drivers served in Tanzanian clinics
8,974 community members and sex workers served in Tanzanian clinics

North Star Alliance makes healthcare services accessible for underserved people along the Dar Transport Corridor in sub-Saharan Africa. Its target audience includes mobile people such as truck drivers, and people living in remote communities. Both of these groups often struggle to access medical care.

The long distances truck drivers travel mean they can unknowingly accelerate the spread of dangerous diseases including malaria and tuberculosis. The Dar Transport Corridor also has particularly high rates of HIV infections, partly due to truck drivers engaging in unsafe sexual practices with sex workers in different locations.

In response to this issue, North Star Alliance set up Blue Box clinics along the corridor, strategically located at hotspots where truck drivers are likely to stop. The Puma Energy Foundation’s contribution helps maintain six clinics in Tanzania, which provide services such as HIV counselling and testing, information on sexual health, and primary healthcare for malaria and tuberculosis. The clinics do not only serve truck drivers; sex workers and people from the communities living along the transport routes can also access health services there.

Truck driver Mustapha Zakaria attended a Blue Box outreach event. “I got information on the use of condoms and how it would help me to avoid getting HIV and other sexually transmitted diseases. I did use condoms every once in a while, but after I was educated here I knew I had to use condoms every time I had sex,” he explains.

Find out more: https://pumaenergyfoundation.org/web/pef/programmes/roadside-wellness-centres

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The Puma Energy Foundation supported Transaid’s Emergency Transport Scheme (ETS) for expectant mothers, as an urgent response to the high maternal mortality rate in Nigeria.

One barrier to giving birth in a safe medical setting was the practicality of getting there. Many Nigerian women live hours away from a hospital, and many cannot afford to pay for transportation. The ETS was set up to provide free, safe, timely and reliable transport for pregnant women. It relies on volunteer drivers who are specially trained in road safety, traffic rules and regulations, and basic first aid. The volunteers then provide the service of transporting women to health facilities free of charge.

The Puma Energy Foundation helped Transaid expand its ETS system across six local governmental areas in Nasarawa State, Nigeria, significantly increasing the impact of the project on a greater proportion of the total population.

Transaid’s ETS scheme has been designed to be integrated and accepted by local communities by respecting the local culture and social customs, helping pregnant women feel safe and comfortable during the service. Transaid’s long experience in delivering this emergency scheme across African countries has demonstrated that volunteer taxi drivers, although not formally paid, receive widely diffused appreciation from local communities and are hailed as local heroes.

Volunteer taxi drivers are contacted when transport is needed by mobile phone, by sending a family member to the driver’s house or through a community focal person. In most cases, the drivers can get the women to the hospital quickly, efficiently and uneventfully. However, Amina Abdullah Asiz had a more dramatic experience.

When she went into labour, she was picked up by a nearly ETS driver, Bilyaminu Mohammad. He transferred her to a local health centre, and then headed to a general hospital further away when she experienced severe difficulties. Their car was stopped by armed robbers en route to the hospital. Terrified, Amina and Bilyaminu begged the robbers to allow them to continue to the hospital – and they did. But when they arrived at the hospital, the gynaecologist was not there. Bilyaminu didn’t hesitate, jumping into the car once more and finding the doctor at his home.

Amina safely delivered her daughter soon after, and named her after Bilyaminu’s mother as a token of her gratitude to the heroic volunteer. Amina adds that if it were not for ETS drivers and the scheme, she feels that she wouldn’t have survived that night.

Find out more: https://pumaenergyfoundation.org/web/pef/programmes/transaid-nigeria
If you have any questions about the Puma Energy Foundation, or would simply like to talk to us about our work, please email: contact@pumaenergyfoundation.com

WEBSITES OF OUR PARTNERS
APROQUEN, aproquen.org
City Mission, citymission.org
Global Alliance of NGOs for Road Safety, roadsaferogos.org
International Rescue Committee, rescue.org
North Star Alliance, northstar-alliance.org
Swiss Academy for Development, sad.ch
Swiss Red Cross, redcross.ch
Starlight Children’s Foundation, starlight.org.au
Transaid, transaid.org

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Puma Energy Foundation
+41 22 594 6947
1, rue de Jargonnant
1207 Geneva, Switzerland
pumaenergyfoundation.org
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