

**Empowering people with the tools that  
create livelihoods and transform lives**





# The Impact

**Our tools go to a wide variety of community groups and skills training centres.** All of them are attempting to improve their communities by offering training opportunities to those who they identify as the most vulnerable.

We support any group that offers training to vulnerable people who are not able to make a start in society, and who can benefit from the opportunities that tools and training provide.

Our tools are used to train people from various backgrounds. As you can see from the images below, the majority of our tools are sent to women's empowerment groups, young people/school drop out groups, and orphan groups. This is simply because individuals in these groups are the most vulnerable in the countries that we send to.

We hope that the charts below give you an idea of the impact that your support has enabled.

In total, we have sent to 282 women's groups, 241 school drop out groups, 80 vulnerable people groups, 44 schools, 66 community development groups, 23 agriculture groups, 201 orphans groups, 109 men's groups, 16 street children groups, 51 disabled people groups, 37 HIV/AIDS groups, 8 sex-workers' groups, 13 elderly people groups, 22 ex-offender groups, 8 refugees groups, and 5 environmental issues groups. These groups all form part of projects run by a total of 454 charitable organisations.

As a result, one of the most popular tools that we send is a sewing machine. In an average year, we send over 3,000 sewing machines to Africa.

However, we don't limit our assistance to organisations that serve these demographics.

**2022 has certainly been a year with many achievements for TWAM.** We managed to open our new Rugby Refurbishment Centre, which will allow us to double the number of tools that we send and more than double the number of lives transformed.

We have also seen our costs rising, particularly towards the end of the year.

**We added Malawi and Tanzania to our supported countries,** ensuring that even more people living in extreme poverty across Africa will have access to the tools that will give them the key to a more stable and secure future.

Shipping companies have drastically increased their costs, and taxes have begun to be imposed on all goods that we send to Zambia, which is our most supported country (9 containers this year).

**Our team has continued to grow,** as new volunteers have joined us, both in the new Rugby centre and across the country. We recruited a new Refurbishment Centre Apprentice to help our manager in the new refurbishment centre.

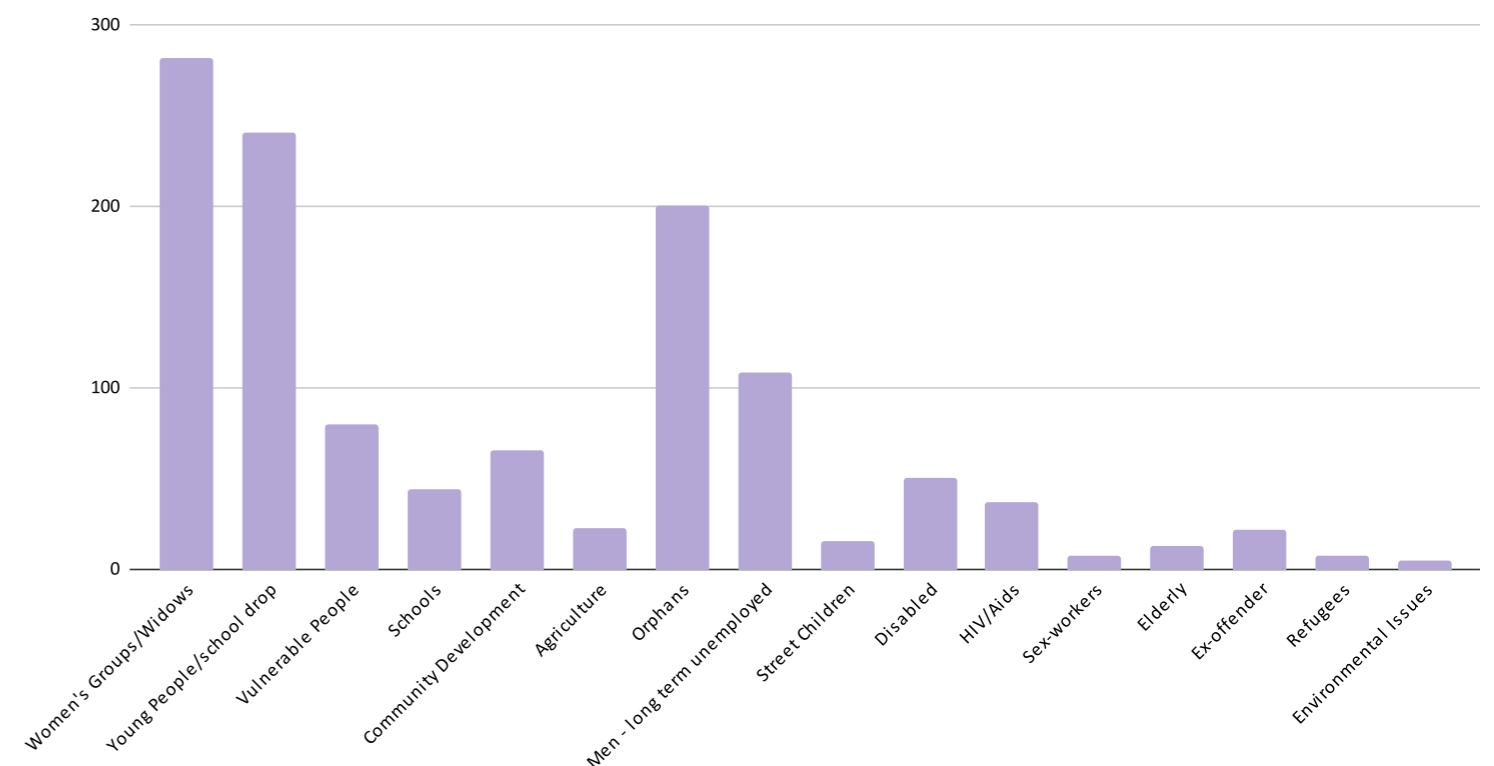
Our CEO, Mike Griffin, has written to the president of Zambia to address these concerns, but we have to carry on with the assumption that we will need to bear these costs.

**We managed to send the equivalent of 17 standard containers.** We sent 11 standard 20ft containers and three 40ft High Cube containers which have over double the capacity of a standard container. These were filled with a total of over 12,000 tool kits.

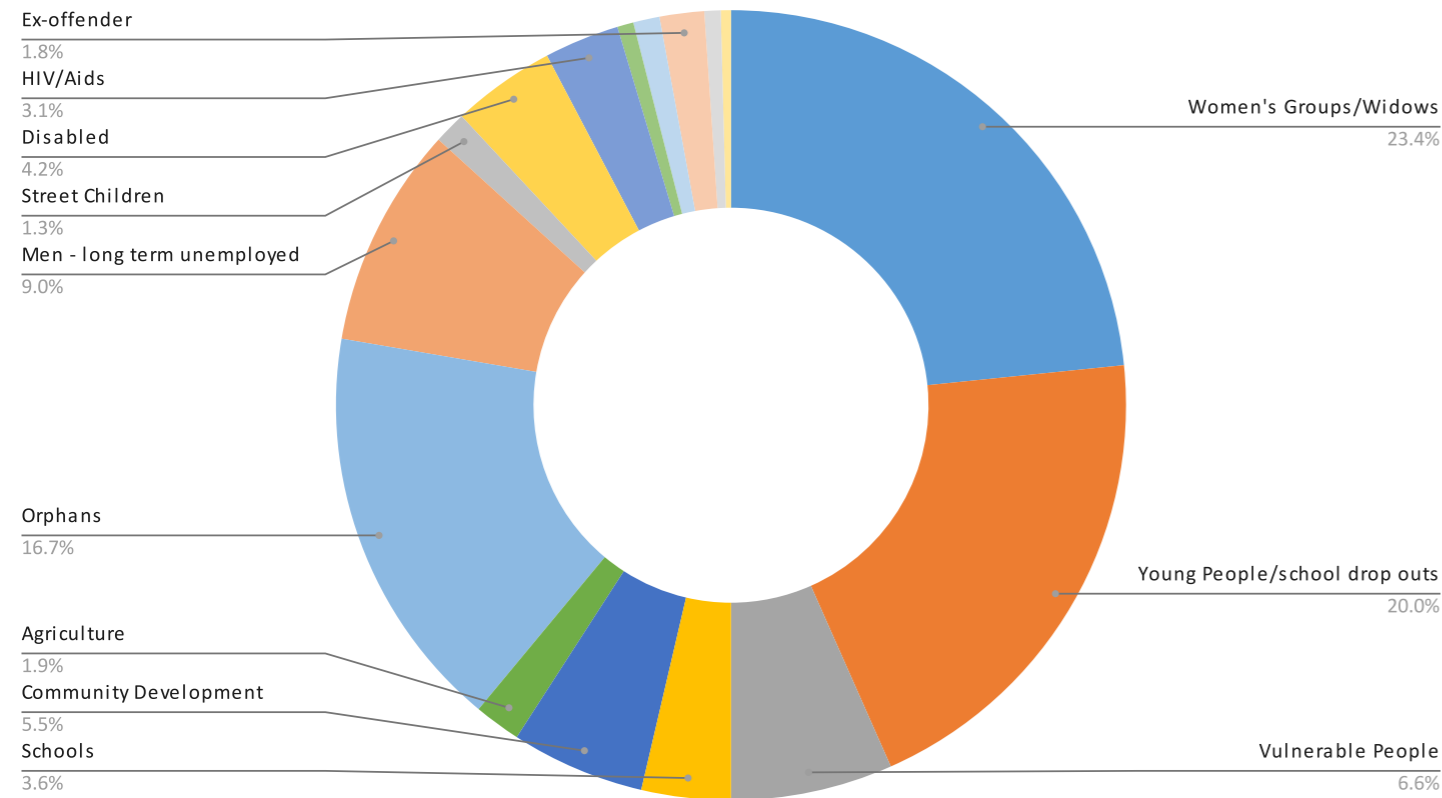
The support that we have received this year has been absolutely essential to the continued success of our work, and we hope to be able to collaborate further in the future.

**James Noble**  
Fundraising and Communications Officer

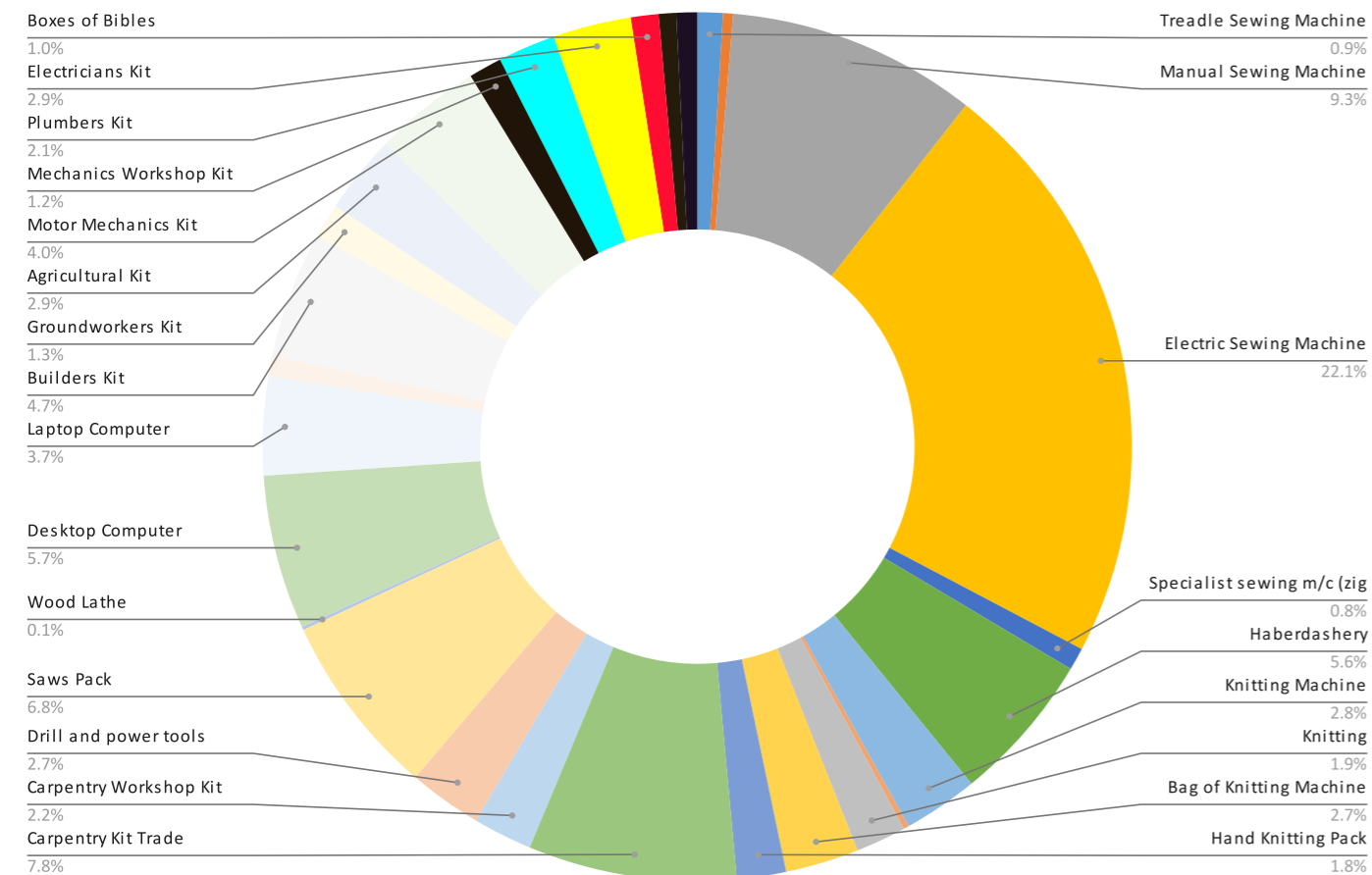
## Groups that have received tools



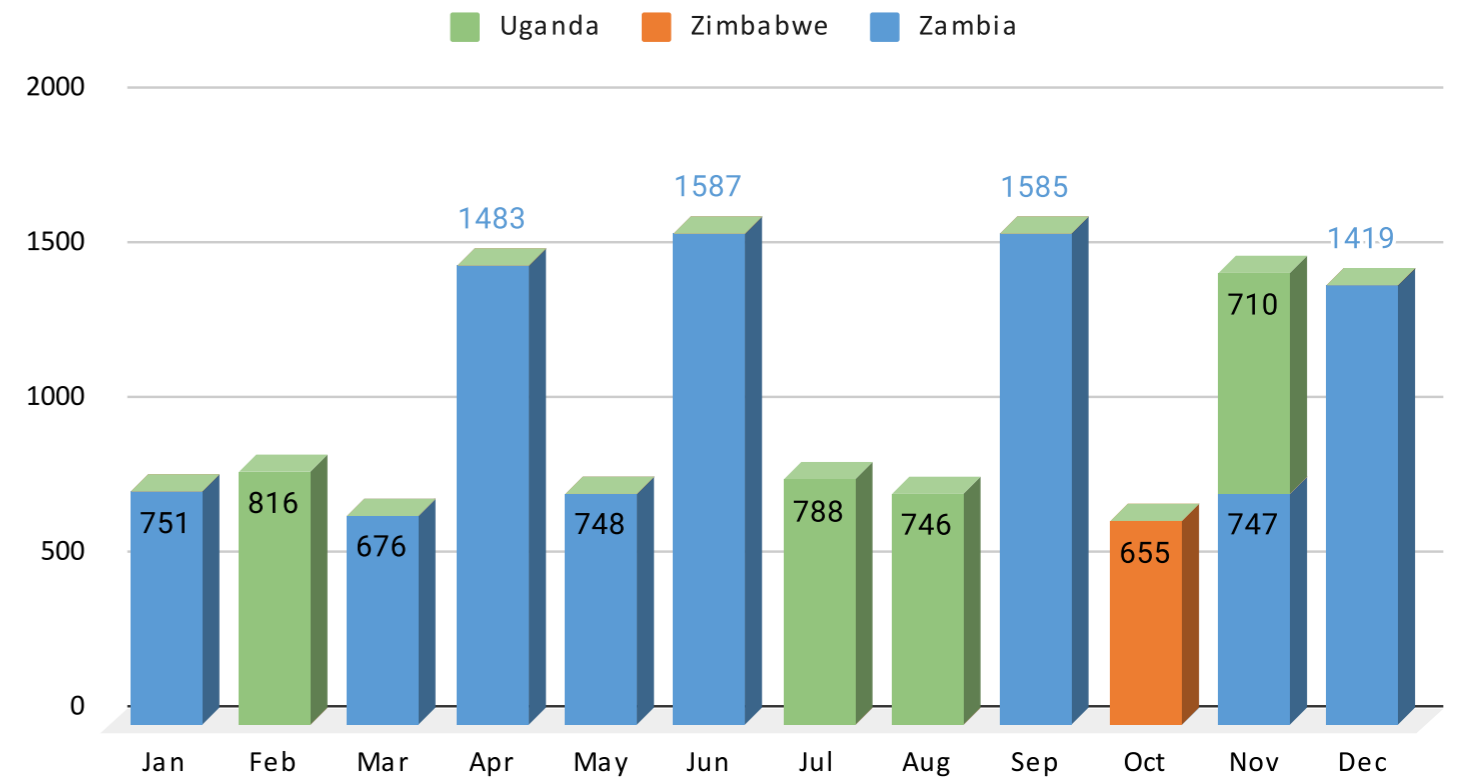
## Proportions of groups receiving tools



## Proportions of tool kits sent



# Tool Kits Sent



**As shown above, we have been able to send an incredible number of tool kits this year.**

We sent 13 containers from our main Ipswich Refurbishment Centre, and we managed to send 1 container, the very first, from our new Rugby Refurbishment Centre.

Although this totals 14 containers, three of these were 40ft High Cube containers. These have more than double the capacity of a standard 20ft shipping container, and more than double the livelihood-creating potential.

We have started sending these larger containers to Zambia to help us keep up with the high demand. It is also more affordable for us than to send two separate 20ft containers.

**This means that we sent the equivalent of 17 standard 20ft shipping containers, filled with a total of over 12,711 tool kits.**

We were able to send a total of 2,791 sewing machines, 645 carpentry kits, 569 saws packs, 465 haberdashery packs, 231 knitting machines, 152 hand-knitting packs, 183 carpentry workshop kits, 227 drills and power tools, 783 computers, 63 networking kits, 391 builders' kits, 107 groundworkers' kits, 244 agricultural kits, 332 motormechanics' kits, 103 mechanics' workshop kits, 178 plumbers' kits, 242 electricians' kits, 86 boxes of Bibles, 54 welding machines, and 3,646 miscellaneous industrial tools.

**That is a huge number of livelihood-creating tools with the potential to transform entire communities. This was made possible by the support that you have given us throughout 2022.**

If you'd like to read more about the impact of tools, there are many stories on our blog: [twam.uk/stories](https://twam.uk/stories).



## “Once you have a skill in your blood, it won’t come out.”

**Yoram is a welder in the Women of Valour group in Solwezi, Zambia.** The group was started by vulnerable women looking for a way to break free from poverty and gain independence. They believed that the best way to do this would be to offer tailoring and knitting classes to other women who needed the security that these skills provide.

As the group grew, they realised that more people could benefit from their training. Whilst most of their members were vulnerable women, they also saw many young men in desperate situations, often turning to crime to make ends meet. They decided to start offering welding and fabrication training to local young men to give them an alternative to a life of crime.

Yoram heard about this group and was intrigued. He had failed his grade 9 exams, and his family couldn't afford to pay the exam fees again, so he had no choice except to drop out.

However, he didn't let that get him down. As he was growing up, he used to watch his uncle welding and even learnt a bit himself, so he was immediately interested in joining the group. When speaking to Yoram, what stands out is his true positivity and optimism, and his willingness to work as hard as it takes to reach his goals.

**Yoram told us:** "When I had to leave school, I knew that this wasn't the end for me. There is something else I can do. I wanted to learn a skill like welding because I believe that **once you have a skill in your blood, it won't come out. It will be with you forever.**"

It certainly wasn't an easy path for Yoram. His father passed away in 2017, leaving his mother to raise their 9 children alone. His mother lives in a village very far away from Solwezi. Yoram knew that if he wanted to succeed, he needed to leave the village and go to a place with more opportunities.

He made the hard decision to leave his family's village to stay with his grandmother in Solwezi and pursue his dreams of finding a lifelong skill. He started the 3-month course with the Women of Valour, and once he finished, he started working as a welder, earning money to keep the group running and support himself.

He sends a large part of the money that he earns back to his mother to help her and the family survive. **This wouldn't be possible without the TWAM welding machine that the group provided him with.**

Yoram has big dreams for the future, beyond just feeding his own family.

*"I want to have a very large company, working with a lot of people, sharing ideas, and employing people who want to learn how to weld. It doesn't matter if they have failed their education, I will teach them.*

*I didn't learn this skill because I wanted the benefit just for myself. I did it because I want to be able to help others, and they can help me too."*

**Your support helps other young people like Yoram receive the tools and skills that will serve them for a lifetime, giving them opportunities when it seems like they may have none.**