



# AMBASSADORS FOOTBALL

MINISTRY REPORT 2013



**AMBASSADORS**  
FOOTBALL

# GLOBAL STATISTICS

 STAFF  
**100**

 PARTICIPANTS  
**15300**

 CHURCHES  
**270**

 IMPACTED  
**59000**

## MESSAGE FROM DAVID OAKLEY

Dear Friend of Ambassadors, Team Member

Thank you so much for being part of our team and helping us to be used by God to bring about change in the lives of vulnerable children, adults and communities all over the world. I hope that you are both excited and encouraged as you read on about the impact of the 2013 global 'Football Faith Future' outreach of Ambassadors ... for example:

- The transformation in Steven, a 14 year old boy from London who once used to bully children but now he is volunteering to help others
- The growth of the work in Asia as 679 coaches have been trained and are impacting thousands of young people every week
- Holistic programmes that help some of the poorest of the poor in places such as Haiti

The growth of the work to countries as far away as Mongolia. The oldest established work of Ambassadors was started 24 years ago here in Britain and so we are thrilled that God is using British workers and churches to help in the ongoing Ambassadors outreach to over 25 countries. There are over 200 nations yet to be reached therefore there is still a great task ahead.

We are so grateful to God for you and your role in helping us reach the nations through your praying, giving and serving. God bless you and thank you for being part of the Ambassadors team.



**David Oakley**  
Ambassadors Football  
British Director and CEO.





# STRATEGIC PROGRAMS

Ambassadors Football works through six strategic programs. Here are some examples of how lives are impacted by what we do:

## CAMPS

A church that we partner with in Adelaide has welcomed new families to the church every year after soccer camp. In 2013 a family requested a scholarship for camp to assist in sending their two children. The partner church met this request and the family attended the awards ceremony at the church site, where they met and spoke with the church staff.

When we attended the church on Sunday morning

it was such a blessing to see the whole family back for the Sunday service. The father then met with the senior minister in the weeks following the camp to investigate Christianity further. The family continued to attend the partner church. In 2014 we will see a more comprehensive coaching program in Europe and the USA where coaches will be trained for one week before helping with camps around the continents.

## TRECS

TREC stands for Training, Resourcing, and Equipping Churches/Coaches. "I have never heard that you can combine bible teaching and football training on the field of play before". These were the words of a local pastor who attended a course in

Africa in 2013. The 300 people we trained in 2013 impact more than 7000 children every week. We continue to develop and multiply our ministry through investing in training in this way.



## CLUBS/ACADEMIES

Steven was 14 years old when he started playing for the Frampton Park Baptist Church football team, located in Hackney, one of London's poorest boroughs. He came along because he was keen to play football and most of his friends from school were involved. He always wanted to be tougher than the rest and tried to bully some of the other players on the team. The coaches tried to develop a positive relationship with him but he

often instigated any negative behaviour. Through the football club he started to attend church on Sundays regularly and his attitude changed dramatically. Gradually he began to get more involved, bringing along his mum, sister and brother. In 2013, together with friends on the football team, he took a massive step of faith by being baptised. This summer Steven travelled to Africa with other youth from the church for a mission trip and is currently studying at college. He is a true witness as to how football ministry has the power to transform lives. We hope to work alongside more churches to help them impact young and old through football in this way.

## ASSOCIATIONS

We have had the chance to train over 700 Christian coaches in South East Asia for the past few years. These people impact thousands of children weekly through their soccer clubs and schools.

Our association programme maintains links with these coaches – ensuring they have access to resources and a



community of other coaches that they can learn from. In 2014 we hope to extend this association programme around the globe – keeping out graduates from our training courses connected with one another and our International Training Team.

## Read on to catch a glimpse of what is happening around the world...

### USA

The Summer Soccer Experience had a great impact across the USA. After a week's training, coaches from 15 countries from around the world impacted almost 1500 kids in summer camps across the nation. In addition to the doors the camps open for the churches locally, the coaches return envisioned and trained to begin new ministries in their countries.

### HAITI

Families in two rural communities started the "Give a Kid a Kid" Project – receiving a pregnant goat to provide essential nutrition in one of the world's poorest nations. Pastors provide support for families identified through our football programs around the country.



### GREAT BRITAIN

Fathers Football won an award from the mayor of London and Olympics 2012 CEO Seb Coe for innovation and community transformation. Eight churches are involved with us in bringing together dads from 13 schools to play and talk from all the ethnic communities in the UK capital.

### EUROPE

The first European Coaching Tour took place. 12 coaches went through a weekend training course and then put it into practice at camps in the Czech Republic, Holland, Ireland and Great Britain.

### NORTH AFRICA

In November a TREC training course took place in North Africa. From the 45 delegates, nine women found the training especially useful. We hope to return to build on this foundation.

### AUSTRALIA

Easter camps saw more attend than ever, with church fields overflowing with young people who normally would not go through their front door. Record numbers of children attended Easter soccer schools.



## COMMUNITY PROGRAMMES

Haiti is one of the world's poorest nations. Ambassadors Football works with local pastors linked to our football teams, training them in rearing goats.

A family linked to the Football Club then receives a

pregnant goat, which in turn can give milk, a new goat to the family and other goats to be given back into the programme. "Give a kid a kid" wants to continue to make a long-term impact in every community around the country.

## TOURS

Ambassadors Ireland took a tour to Guinea Bissau in West Africa. Over 2500 heard player testimonies at their matches. They conducted a week-long camp for about 80 children in Canchungo with 17 of the boys committing their lives to Jesus.

They were invited to meet the President of the country in a televised event. The meeting was an amazing honour where they shared and prayed with him. Team members were also touched through the devotional times together and

challenged to move out of their comfort zones in service for the Lord.

"The tour was an unforgettable experience from start to finish. It brought me closer to God and it was a privilege to spread His word. It was my first Ambassadors' tour but definitely not my last. Gareth Brown, Guinea Bissau tour".



## FOOTBALL • FAITH • FUTURE

These three principles are at the heart of Ambassadors Football GB's work.

### FOOTBALL

Since 1990 Ambassadors Football GB has been at the forefront of making the most of the global language of football.

About years ago Jake\* and his family were inspired to move continents and start a new work in

### FAITH

Keiran attended a Football Camp training course that Ambassadors hosted in 2011. This year he was asked to oversee his own church's camp in South Wales.

"I was inspired and encouraged to use my abilities to serve God through Ambassadors and the course I attended."

South East Asia. This work has seen national staff working alongside foreigners coaching in academies and taking training courses for local staff working alongside foreigners coaching in academies and taking training courses for local church members. In 2013 two local staff completed a high level Asian Football Federation coaching qualification and more than 700 people across the nation have completed our level one courses.

### FUTURE

With more than half the world's population under the age of 20, there is a great need to invest in youth. We look forward to encouraging more young people like Keiran to develop into leaders and coaches around the world and put their faith into action - through football - investing in the future.

\*name changed for security reasons





**AMBASSADORS**  
F O O T B A L L

**CONTACT**

[mbateman@ambassadorsfootball.org](mailto:mbateman@ambassadorsfootball.org)  
[www.ambassadorsfootball.org/gb](http://www.ambassadorsfootball.org/gb)

Ambassadors Football Great Britain  
Claremont House, St Georges Road, Bolton BL1 3BY