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# **Powerpoint Script**

 **SLIDE 1 – LOGO**The annual World Development Appeal of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland offers congregations the opportunity to learn more about and to support the valuable and vital work of sustainable development undertaken by our development partners, Tearfund and Christian Aid.

**SLIDE 2 – TEARFUND**This year a Tearfund project will be front and centre. Focusing on a particular project gives congregations the opportunity to ‘go deep’ in understanding some of the challenges of sustainable development in a particular location and to see how the partner agency, working with communities there, is seeking to address them.

**SLIDE 3 – GLOBAL DISCIPLES**The World Development Appeal also seeks to provide a breadth of understanding of what good sustainable development practices look like and the challenges they can encounter ‘on the ground’. It enables congregations to ‘go wide’ in their understanding of sustainable development by presenting an informed picture of practices that seek to build, within communities, the capacity for a shared vision of the future that is not dictated by context, culture, or circumstances. Practices that enable communities to discover, within themselves, the resources and resilience to work towards seeing that vision realised.

**SLIDE 4 – MOZAMBIQUE**The 2019 World Development Appeal invites us to learn about the work being done by Tearfund’s partner, CEDES (The Ecumenical Committee for Social Development), to improve food security in rural areas of Mozambique.

**SLIDE 5 – A BIT ABOUT MOZAMBIQUE**About Mozambique: Mozambique’s geographic location, lying on the tropics and bordered by the Indian Ocean, means that it is very vulnerable to natural disasters such as floods, cyclones, and droughts. The latest was Cyclone Idai in March of this year. This means that food security is a major issue for the Mozambican people.

**SLIDE 6 – MORE ABOUT MOZAMBIQUE**This is a fragile and dangerous place. It is ranked 181st out of 188 countries on the Human Development Index. A tenuous peace holds between government and opposition forces in the country. 80% of Mozambicans live on less than $2 a day. Over 50% don’t have access to clean water. And 2.1 million people don’t have sufficient access to food.

**SLIDE 7 – HARD CONDITIONS**In the rural communities of Mozambique eking out a living by subsistence farming in semi-arid conditions with limited water resources is no easy task.

**SLIDE 8 – INHASSORO**Yet with the help of Tearfund and their partner CEDES, communities like the community in Inhassoro, Inhambane province, are discovering that they can sow seeds of hope for a more secure and sustainable future.

**SLIDE 9 – LEARNING TOGETHER**CEDES trains facilitators to deliver ‘Umoja’ training sessions. ‘Umoja’ is a Swahili word meaning ‘togetherness’ and through the ‘Umoja’ process members of the community, including importantly members of the local church, come together for Bible study. Through their engagement with God’s word and the stories of how God is at work in His world, members of the community are enabled to focus on identifying and using the resources they have at their disposal to lead and control their own development.

**SLIDE 10 – ‘DOING A NEW THING’**In Inhassoro, CEDES has helped the local community to move away from traditional ‘slash and burn’ farming methods used over large areas of land. Instead, the community is encouraged to form co-operatives and one large plot of land is broken down into smaller beds for each person. When the co-operative meets together, they carry out a Bible study and alongside this CEDES staff train the people in conservation farming techniques.

**SLIDE 11 – ‘MAKING A WAY IN THE DESERT’**Despite the sandy ground and the scarcity of water conservation agriculture techniques have enabled the community to grow food outside of the traditional growing season, producing higher yields and better-quality crops.

**SLIDE 12 – SEED BEDS…**When implementing conservation farming techniques, or ‘farming God’s way’, the land is not ploughed as this is costly and has a negative impact on the natural soil structure. Instead, the natural soil structure is maintained so that it absorbs water better and farmers dig basins or beds, using a hoe, to plant their seeds.

**SLIDE 13 - … AND A BLANKET!**The seeds are then kept covered in ‘God’s blanket’ – a natural mulch made from last year’s plant debris or peanut leaves which are naturally high in zinc. This mulch helps maintain water content in the soil and reduces soil erosion.

**SLIDE 14 – A MEASURED APPROACH**Crops are planted with precise spacings to give them the best chance of survival. They are fed using natural organic fertilisers and crop rotation ensures that the land stays healthy and reduces the incidence of pests without the need for harmful chemicals.

**SLIDE 15 – CAREFULLY NURTURED**The crops are weeded regularly whilst they are still small saving time and energy in the long run.

**SLIDE 16 – WELL WATERED**Watering the growing plants is hugely important in the semi-arid climate of Inhassoro. Farmers are encouraged to water their crops twice a day, whether the rains come or not. They use water from hand dug wells on their plot of land.

**SLIDE 17 – ‘FORGET THE FORMER THINGS’**The principles of conservation agriculture are radically different from the western techniques which farmers in Mozambique have been using for generations. The resources needed are simple and available and ‘farming God’s way’ is ecologically friendly and benefits the farmers.

**SLIDE 18 – PEOPLE PROVIDED FOR**When conservation agriculture principles are applied well, crop yields increase and keep improving over the years. This means that whole families who are trained in this method and follow the principles of conservation farming well are released from the cycle of poverty and can survive the challenges of climate change.

**SLIDE 19 – RELATIONSHIPS RENEWED**
But the transformation wrought by ‘farming God’s way’ doesn’t end there. As CEDES works with households and they come along to Bible studies at church and become part of a farming co-operative, relationships are changed – within families, between families and the church, between the church and the community.

**SLIDE 20 – ONE’S OWN FRONT DOOR**CEDES also encourages people to participate in savings and loans groups or SHGs (Self Help Groups) using the surplus income generated from their produce plots. This enables families to improve their living conditions and even to educate their children. Small businesses are also created within the neighbourhood meaning that people can buy the things they need locally, thus supporting a local economy and assisting further community development.

**SLIDE 21 – THE TIMES THEY ARE A-CHANGIN’**These are immense changes in the life of a community where people were frequently food poor in the hungry months between April and August and often perceived themselves to be vulnerable to their circumstances rather than seeing themselves as those with the capacity and resilience to overcome them.

**SLIDE 22 – A TIME TO DANCE**The 2019 World Development Appeal invites us to share the joy of the community in Inhassoro as they reap the harvest of ‘farming God’s way’… and not only from their fields. It invites us to hear their thankfulness for Word and work which have given them ideas, inspired their vision and grown their confidence for the future.

**SLIDE 23 – A TIME TO LOVE**As global disciples we are invited, through the World Development Appeal, to share God’s heart for His world and demonstrate God’s love through our practical and prayerful support, declaring the good news that our God is a redeeming and restoring God; that “Those who go out weeping, bearing the seed for sowing, shall come home with shouts of joy, carrying their sheaves.” (Psalm 126:6)

**SLIDE 24 – A TIME TO SOW SEEDS OF HOPE**Your support of the 2019 World Development Appeal will enable organisations like CEDES and others to engage with some of the world’s poorest people, implementing good sustainable development practices and seeding the hope of a more secure future, where communities work together to enjoy the fruits of the resources and resilience within them. Learn, pray, and give through the resources provided by World Development or online at [www.presbyterianireland.org/world-development](http://www.presbyterianireland.org/world-development).