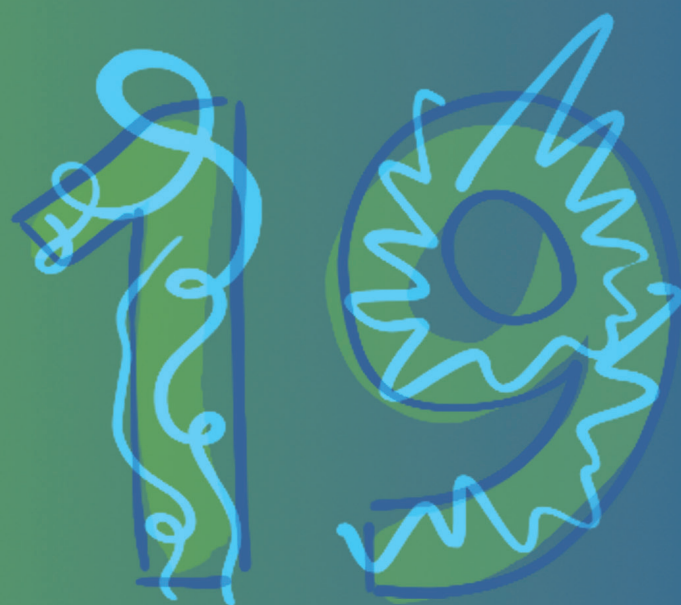




Ashinaga Association in the UK
Annual Report



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MESSAGE FROM
OUR FOUNDER

In 1962 my mother was killed in a traffic collision. This terrible accident led me to start Ashinaga, a charity that has now supported over 110,000 orphaned students with their education, as well as pushing for educational reform in Japan. Our work centres on orphans helping orphans, on people helping people. We facilitate those who can offer something to support those who would not otherwise be able to realise their potential. Our work is almost entirely funded by individuals, like you and me. We collect small amounts of money from a lot of people, with each donation coming from the heart. Our values as a charity reflect this and we focus on helping young people to find their *kokorozashi*, their heart's mission, and to gain the skills to undertake this work and affect positive change in the world.

I have been delighted to see the progress that Ashinaga Association in the UK has made in their first two years. I am proud to be able to say that our scholars in the UK have a 100 per cent pass rate. This is of course down to the scholars' hard work and application, but I think it also reflects on the excellent support that the UK office provides. I am also very pleased with the other progress the office has made, including with universities, supporters, and companies. To our scholars, I am proud to see the first of you graduate next year and I am excited to see how you choose to contribute to the development of sub-Saharan Africa.

When people ask me about Ashinaga I tell them that we are not a normal charity, we are a movement. It is with an open heart that I invite you, the reader, to join this movement.



Yoshiomi Tamai

Our work transforms the lives and opportunities of young African scholars and will, through their decisions and actions, positively impact on the development of sub-Saharan Africa. This report provides an overview of our achievements over the past 12 months, our plans for the next 12 months, and our financial statements.

2018-2019, the second year of our organisation, has been a very positive year. Our focus this year was on making our work more efficient, ensuring that the charitable donations that form our income are used as impactfully as possible. The bulk of this work has occurred behind the scenes and includes the development of a comprehensive monitoring, evaluation, and learning system.

My personal highlight this year was our *tsudo*, our leadership camp. In my role I don't get to work with our scholars day to day and I was amazed to see the development they had made over the past year. At the heart of our work is the idea of our scholars defining what development their community, country, or region needs and designing the best way to achieve this change. This approach, of empowering African youth to become leaders and enact the change they see as necessary, differs from some other 'top-down' constructions of development.

Echoing Mr Tamai's words, I am proud of the UK team and the support that we offer our scholars. It is a source of great pride that we have never had a scholar fail an academic year or withdraw from the program. The UK team has grown to five staff and now supports 22 scholars from 14 countries. We receive fantastic support from many actors, including Ambassador Tsuruoka and his staff in the Japanese Embassy, the University of Bristol, University of Edinburgh, and University of Portsmouth, and our *Kenjin-Tatsujin*, the advisory board members. Having developed a very solid foundation to our work, of student support and of evaluation of the impact of our work, we are now well positioned to start fundraising. We hope that you will join our work and help our scholars realise the change they envisage for their futures and for Africa's future.



Michael Rivera King

MESSAGE FROM OUR DIRECTOR



A woman with long dark hair, wearing a bright yellow turtleneck sweater, is shown in profile, looking towards a whiteboard. A white halo of short lines surrounds her head, and several white wavy lines emanate from the whiteboard area. In the foreground, a desk holds a laptop, papers, and a blue box labeled 'IKON K50'.

“

Now I am transformed.
I feel confident that I can have
a real impact on improving
politics and the social situation
in my country.”

GAEILLE

My journey with Ashinaga started in 2014 when I got an offer to take part in a summer camp in Uganda. After a few months of preparation, I was accepted by the School of Oriental and African Studies in London to study Politics and International Relations.

Ashinaga has given me financial, academic and emotional support to help me start to achieve my *kokorozashi* (my hearts' ambition), which is to take part in the improvement of politics in Gabon and to help people in rural areas to be listened to and to access better life conditions.

English is not my first language, so at the beginning, I thought that my low English level would be a disadvantage, but I received great support from the Ashinaga staff and also from my teachers at SOAS. At the Ashinaga UK office, we have the support of our Student Relations Team who provide guidance and advice to make sure we do not feel alone or excluded in our learning environment. The support we get from Ashinaga is more than I had expected; they are more than mentors, they are a family that always motivates and encourages scholars.

One of the most important parts of the AAI is the leadership programme. Ashinaga helps us to enter into the professional world through activities such as internship programmes. This has helped me to develop my English, my professional skills and my academic performance. In 2017, I did an internship in Gabon in a metal company. My tasks included developing contracts and taking part in conferences with foreign investors. It was a great experience for me and it was valuable to put my English skills into practice, as well as what I have learned during my studies.

Being far from my home country and my family was hard at the beginning. Now I believe that it was necessary to live in another environment and adapt to another culture to fulfil my dreams of contributing to Africa. I feel at home in the UK even though there are many challenges. I am having an amazing time at SOAS, developing new skills and working hard. In addition to that, I have learned to be open minded and more communicative with people from different backgrounds. This has helped in my Student Ambassador role at SOAS.

I feel more mature, more knowledgeable and like I have gained valuable experience that will help me achieve my goals. When I came to London, I was unable to do things by myself and I was scared of facing issues. Now I am transformed. I feel confident that I can have a real impact on improving politics and the social situation in my country.

I am really grateful and honoured to be a part of the Ashinaga Africa Initiative, which is helping me to become a leader.

Gaelle Bongotha



Introducing our Directors

Noriko Tominaga-Carpentier

Noriko Carpentier-Tominaga joined the Board of Directors of Ashinaga Association in the UK in February 2017. Noriko is also a board member of the Ashinaga Foundation. Based in Paris, Noriko works to strengthen French-Japanese economic relationships as Delegrue Generale of the Comite d'Echanges Franco-Japonais. Working with companies seeking broader and deeper connections, Noriko cares about the interests of each of them and tries to offer a variety of activities to facilitate them developing their business. Noriko's current focus for Ashinaga is to support the development of professional opportunities for alumni to enable them to contribute to African development.

Yoshiomi Tamai

Yoshiomi Tamai joined the Board of Directors of Ashinaga Association in the UK in February 2017. Yoshiomi Tamai is the founder and president of the Ashinaga Foundation. After losing his mother in a traffic accident over fifty years ago, he became passionate about working to support the educational and emotional needs of orphans who lost their parents in traffic accidents. He founded an organisation, Ashinaga, that gave scholarships to these orphans before extending the support to all children who have lost one or both parents. Tamai's work has been recognized with numerous awards, including the Global Fundraising award and, most recently, the Goto Shinpei award.

Yukie Seki

Yukie Seki has been on the Board of Ashinaga Association in the UK since February 2017. Yukie is also a member of the board of the Ashinaga Foundation, where she has responsibility for international activities. Yukie works as the director of Ashinaga Africa Initiative. Before joining Ashinaga, Yukie worked at Hewlett Packard as the Business Manager and Corporate Director.

Eric Thomas

Sir Eric Thomas joined the Board of Directors of Ashinaga Association in the UK in February 2018. Sir Eric was Vice-Chancellor of the University of Bristol from 2001 to 2015, and President of Universities UK, the body that represents all UK universities, from 2011 to 2013. His childhood was in the North-East of England and he qualified as a medical doctor in 1976 from the University of Newcastle upon Tyne. He trained as a gynaecologist and was Professor of Obstetrics and Gynaecology at the University of Southampton from 1991 to 2001. He was Dean of Medicine there from 1995 to 2000. He currently has a number of charitable trustee roles in the UK.

Michael Rivera King

Dr Michael Rivera King joined the Board of Directors of Ashinaga Association in the UK in February 2017. Michael completed his doctorate in Social Policy at the University of Oxford, writing on alternative care and social work in Japan. Prior to this, Michael set up a volunteer organisation, Smile Kids Japan, to promote local, sustainable volunteering at child welfare institutions, and raised \$900,000 for children affected by the 2011 Tohoku earthquake and tsunami. Michael has also worked closely with Human Rights Watch, the Nippon Foundation, and the Japanese government to reform alternative care in Japan, including advising on the 2016 revisions to the Child Welfare Act.

Objectives and Activities

Purpose as set out in governing document.

The charity's objects ("Objects") are specifically restricted to the following:

- a) advancing the education of Orphans¹ anywhere in the world but, in particular, in sub-Saharan Africa (or any part thereof) including (but without limitation) by:
 - i. providing scholarships, grants and loans to Orphans to meet expenses associated with education (including course fees, travel and maintenance and subsistence expenses);
 - ii. providing educational and professional guidance and mentoring, emotional and moral support to Orphans;
- b) supporting community and economic development in sub-Saharan Africa (or any part thereof) by supporting and facilitating orphans' education with a view to:
 - i. developing their leadership skills and capacity;
 - ii. fostering enthusiasm and tolerance, individual and community self-confidence, and engendering respect for individuality, difference and the importance of teamwork; and
- iii. using their education and skills to the benefit of their communities (whether national, regional or local) within sub-Saharan Africa;
- c) the prevention or relief of poverty or financial hardship in sub-Saharan Africa (or any part thereof) by providing or assisting in the provision of education and training; and
- d) such other exclusively charitable purposes as the directors may from time to time think fit.

Nothing in the articles shall authorise an application of the property of the charity for purposes which are not charitable in accordance with section 7 of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and/or section 2 of the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008.

¹"Orphans" means a young adult (and, if the directors think fit and so determine, a child who is under 18 years of age) who has a parent who has died or who is reasonably believed to be long-term missing



Ashinaga and the Ashinaga Africa Initiative

Ashinaga Association in the UK works closely with the Ashinaga Foundation, Japan, and Ashinaga offices in Uganda, Senegal, the United States of America, France, and Brazil on the 'Ashinaga Africa Initiative'. The Ashinaga Africa Initiative (AAI) is an academic leadership programme launched in 2014. Our mission is:

To contribute to sub-Saharan Africa's expanding role in global development through access to international higher education. AAI Scholars are orphaned students who are committed to returning home, or to the region of Sub-Saharan Africa, to initiate change, innovation, and development.

Ashinaga provides each selected AAI Scholar with academic and financial support to study abroad, as well as our leadership program, support, and career guidance. After graduation, scholars return to sub-Saharan Africa, empowered to turn their vision into reality. Each year, Ashinaga aims to select one AAI Scholar from each country in sub-Saharan Africa.

The first stage of this program is the recruitment and selection of candidates. This is conducted by Ashinaga Uganda and Ashinaga Senegal with guidance from the Ashinaga Foundation.

Selected candidates then complete a year-long program in Senegal, for francophone scholars, or Uganda, for lusophone and anglophone scholars. This centres around a six-month study camp, focused on academic development and university relations, and a two-month prep camp, focused on socio-cultural preparation. Both camps also focus on leadership development.

Ashinaga Association in the UK

The UK office first meets the candidates during study camp. Here we help determine which candidates will go to which country for university, and which universities the candidates selected to study in the UK will apply to.

Our work in earnest begins when the scholars arrive in the UK. We provide scholars with the financial support required to graduate university. This covers their accommodation, living costs, and additional funding for conferences, internships, and other opportunities for personal and professional growth.

As well as supporting our scholars to access education, we support them during their education. This covers socio-emotional support, professional and personal development, and academic guidance. This begins when the scholars first arrive in the UK, with a three-day orientation in which staff and senior scholars cover the fundamentals of life at a UK university.

During their studies, all our scholars will complete an internship in sub-Saharan Africa and an 'Ashinaga Proposal'. The Ashinaga Proposal sees the scholar identify an issue in their community, country, or region, and lay out a well-researched, structured proposal on how to address it. In addition to helping scholars develop a network and new skills, these two activities ensure a close bond with Africa is maintained.

We also host an annual *tsudoi* (camp), focused on leadership development. This three-day camp also aims at the development of a strong cohort mentality, facilitating peer support. To date in the UK, we have never had a scholar fail to gain entrance to university or fail an academic year and no scholar has left the program.

In order to do this work well, we divide our activities into four strands: Student Relations, University Relations, External Relations, and Administration. We have also developed a Monitoring, Evaluation, and Learning program that tracks the impact of our work during the program and of our scholars once they have graduated.

The main activities for Student Relations are described above. We have two staff members whose primary task is to support our scholars. This work is the heart of what we do, to develop young African leaders who will determine the development needs of their continent as well as the skills to develop innovative means of addressing them.

The main activities for University Relations are centred on creating and maintaining partnerships with universities. We are delighted to have three scholars accepted for undergraduate programs at the University

of Edinburgh on full scholarships. In addition to existing joint tuition scholarships with the University of Bristol and the University of Portsmouth, we are worked closely with UCL, Royal Holloway, and UCLan on possible agreements to commence next year. This work aims to ensure the sustainability of the program.

In addition to reducing the cost of education to Ashinaga, we work with universities to help them understand the context our scholars are coming from. Some universities have offered other services, including Kings College London, which hosted our leadership camp for free. We are grateful to the support from all the universities where we have scholars.

Our External Relations work has two aims. The first is to build awareness of our work. This is primarily in the UK, though we are also building awareness of our work amongst other organisations working in education in sub-Saharan Africa. In particular we would like to thank the HALI (High Achieving Low Income) Access Network for their ongoing support.

The second aim of our external relations work is the development of a professional network in order to help our scholars find internships and, after graduation, employment opportunities. This will, once we have completed our charity registration, also be a base for our fundraising activities. This will be vital in ensuring the long-term sustainability of our work.

The fourth strand of our activities is the administrative work required to keep this operation working as efficiently and smoothly as possible. This year we have focused on making these systems more streamlined, to reduce costs and ensure that as much time as possible is spent on scholars and program development.

Finally, we have launched a comprehensive Monitoring, Evaluation, and Learning (MEL) system to track the impact of our work so that we can refine it and ensure it is being delivered as cost-effectively as possible. This tracks the impact of both our program on the scholars and of our scholars on sub-Saharan Africa after graduation.

As outlined above, all of this work is aimed at contributing to sub-Saharan Africa's expanding role in global development. Our final goal is not the scholars' education, but that through education and training our scholars will be equipped to initiate change, innovation, and development in sub-Saharan Africa. As such, it is ultimately not us who defines the aim of this work, but the scholars, who have a deeper knowledge of the challenges their communities, countries, and regions face. This 'pay it forward' philosophy empowers our scholars to initiate change on their own terms. We believe that this grass-roots, bottom-up vision

of development is a different, complimentary, and urgently needed approach to the way many NGOs and governments approach development today.

Confirmation that purposes are for the public benefit, having had regard to Charity Commission guidance on this

Ashinaga Association in the UK submitted our charity registration application during this financial year. This status was granted on the 6th of June 2019 (Registered charity number 1183750). Despite not being a charity in the 2018/2019 fiscal year, the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit has been referred to when reviewing the organisation's aims and when planning future activities and the Directors are satisfied that the work carried out by the charity complies with the public benefit requirements set out by the Commission.

Activities, projects, services in the period

Our activities during this period have centred on developing our scholar programming, including updating our leadership framework, and making work processes more efficient. We have submitted our charity registration application and established a sophisticated monitoring, evaluation, and learning program, which means that we will be well positioned to start fundraising in 2019-2020. Ultimately, we want to be meeting all costs of Ashinaga Association in the UK from a diverse range of income streams within five years, as well as ensuring that our scholars are given the best possible support to maximise their potential.

The major event of this year was our *tsudo*, our leadership camp. This was a great success, with scholar feedback even more positive than the previous year. We were also delighted to be given the opportunity to introduce our work to Vice-Chancellors across the UK and at conferences.

Achievements and Performance

Our main achievements in the period

The directors are very happy with the progress made in the past year. The organisation had an ambitious set of objectives for the year. The majority of these were met and those remaining will be completed in 2019-2020. Further, this was completed under our provisional budget for the fiscal year. Taking each strand of our work in turn:



Student Relations

For **Student Relations**, our main objective was that all scholars would pass their foundation course or their undergraduate academic year. Not only did all our scholars achieve this, but many gained very good grades and feedback from professors. Several scholars won academic awards, including discounts on tuition fees based on their performance in their foundation programs. Further, all four scholars who undertook a foundation course gained entry to their first-choice university.

Eight of our scholars undertook internships in Africa in summer 2018, including one at NEPAD (the development agency of the African Union) with the support of the Kenjin-Tatsujin Dr Mayaki. Two scholars completed internships in the UK, five returned to Africa to complete research on their Ashinaga proposal, and one worked at a US summer camp. We were pleased with the number of scholars who found these opportunities independently, a sign that our ethos of empower rather than do is bearing fruition.

In December 2018, we hosted our annual *tsudo* in London. Our scholars travelled from all over the UK to attend this three-day programme of talks, workshops, and scholar-led debate. The theme for this year's *tsudo* was 'What is your impact?' - a question that challenged our scholars to think critically about how they can impact their communities in the future. This was divided into 'Leadership skills for impact', 'Projects for impact', and 'Impacting Africa'. Highlights of the *tsudo* included practical sessions focused on leadership skills, a half-day training workshop on project design delivered by the CEO of an African start-up incubator and a session on career planning in Africa.



University Relations

We have made very significant progress in our work with **University Relations**. Building on our existing agreements with the University of Bristol and the University of Portsmouth, we are delighted to have now secured approximately £585,000 in funding from universities for our scholars. We have also started working with UCL, Royal Holloway, and UCLan on possible joint scholarships. We also worked with universities who provided services to us, for example Kings College London, who kindly hosted our leadership camp free of charge.

In addition to these core tasks, we have created a database of postgraduate scholarship opportunities for scholars from sub-Saharan Africa to maximise our scholars' opportunities after their graduation with us.



Administration

For **Administrative work** our main priorities were charity registration, getting a visa sponsor licence, and completing an external audit of our 2017-2018 year. We submitted our charity registration application in November 2018 and were registered in June 2019. We successfully gained a licence to sponsor staff visas, which meant that our Assistant Director was able to transfer from the Ashinaga Foundation in Japan to our office in June 2018. Finally, we improved our book-keeping system and completed our first external audit. Other work we did includes ensuring GDPR compliance and an external review of our computer security systems.

We hired one staff member as paternity cover and two interns to support our work. We have decided to restructure our office from April 2019. This will shift resources from developing internal systems to focusing on external relations, with a particular focus on partnerships and development.

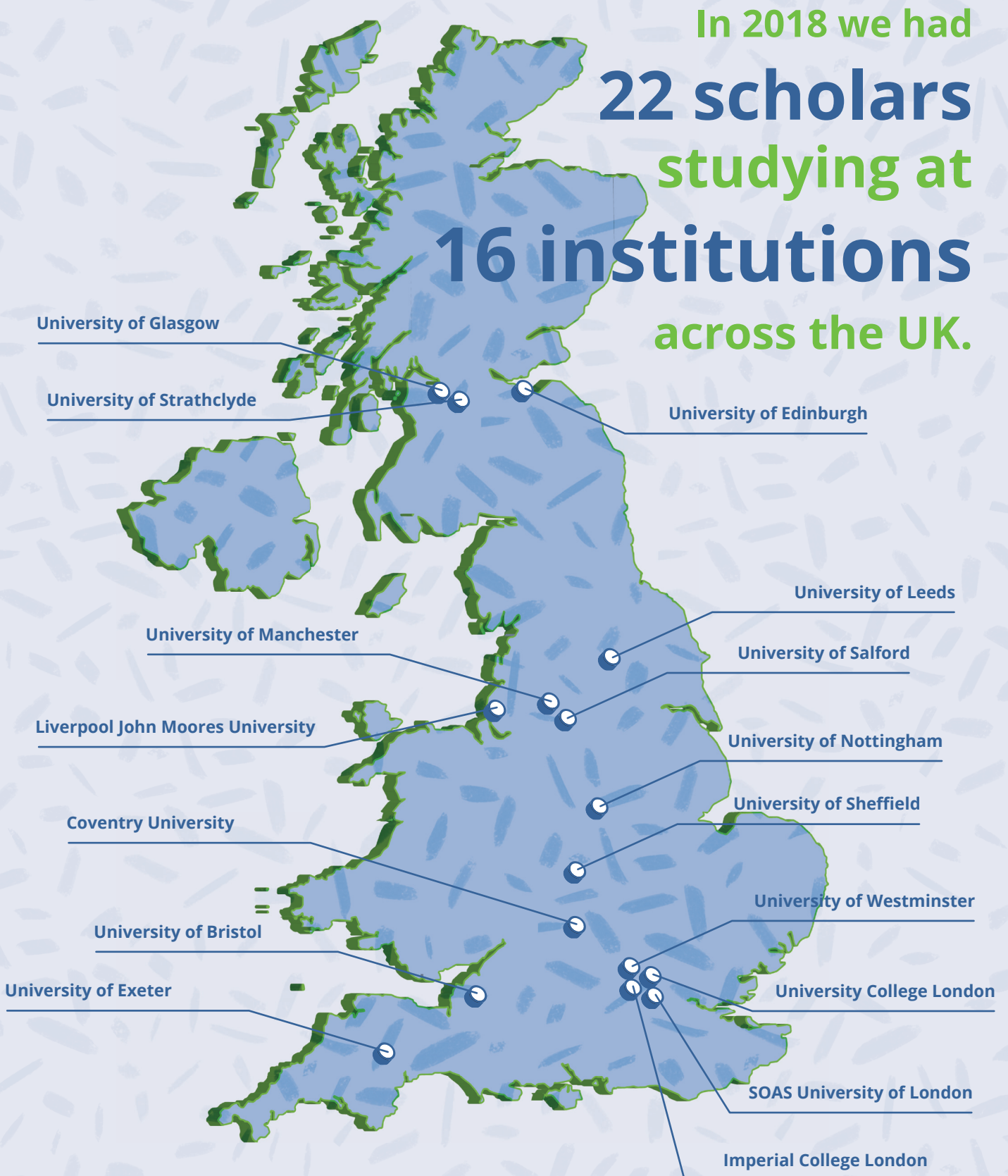


External Relations

For **External Relations**, our focus this year has been developing relationships with companies which could provide internships to our scholars, particularly those which could offer opportunities in Africa. This saw us meet with international organisations, such as the International Planned Parenthood Federation, as well as local NGOs and companies. We are also grateful to the Japanese embassy for their continued support of our work.

A highlight of the year was attending the annual HALI (High Achieving Low Income) network conference, this year held in Kenya. This network has 55 members, including 37 charities working in Africa on international access to education. The majority of the charities cannot provide funding for undergraduate so work closely with us on our scholar recruitment. The conference also discussed advocacy work for our demographic of scholars.

Partner Institutions



Impact on beneficiaries

Our Monitoring, Evaluation, and Learning system assesses both the impact of our work with scholars and the impact of our scholars on sub-Saharan Africa after graduation. Our first scholars will graduate in the summer of 2019, so this review focuses on the impact of our work with scholars.

Our proudest achievement is that to date none of our scholars have ever failed an academic year. This is made even more impressive when you consider that 86 per cent of our scholars are enrolled at one of the top 500 universities in the world.² Overall, 45 per cent of our scholars achieved a first, 35 per cent a 2:1 and the remaining 20 per cent a 2:2. These achievements reflect both the hard work and potential of our scholars and the excellent support provided to them by the student relations team. Furthermore, all scholars coming to the UK in September 2019 received offers from at least one of their target universities or foundation providers, a fact that highlights the quality of our recruitment process.

It is worth noting here that our scholars are among the least represented demographic in UK higher education, both in terms of nationality and their personal backgrounds. There are, for example, only 15 students in UK Higher Education from Benin, two of whom are here on our program. Similarly, we support two of the 20 students from Lesotho, one of the 15 students from Gabon, and one of the 25 students from Burundi. We are very proud to be supporting the only student in UK Higher Education from the Central African Republic,³ who will start in September 2019. On top of the diversity that comes from their nationality, our scholars come from the most underrepresented communities from within these countries. All of our scholars have overcome significant challenges to get to this position and all are determined to make the most of the opportunities being on our program presents. Not only do universities value the diversity that this brings to their learning environment, these scholars are both motivated and well-positioned to return to Africa and contribute to the development of their region.

Another of the indicators we consider is the wellbeing of our scholars. We have focused this year on raising awareness of and decreasing the stigmatisation around mental health. We invited two doctors to deliver a session in our Tsudoi on mental health, which was very warmly received by our scholars and has contributed to a few of them undertaking counselling. Given the background of our scholars we are delighted that more of them are engaging with the support systems that are available to them – one scholar described this process as part of their ‘holistic growth as a person’.

Other indicators we look at cover the scholar’s proactiveness, professional skills development, and leadership, as well as engagement with sub-Saharan Africa and desire to ‘pay it forward’. We saw great progression in all these areas this year, with the internships and Ashinaga Proposal central to this development. While the objective of the Ashinaga Proposal is to get to the stage where scholars can ‘pitch’ their idea, we are delighted that several scholars have or are on the cusp of actually launching their projects. These cover a diverse range of fields, including using affordable technology to increase access to science educational materials in rural Ethiopia, a peer-support group for burn victims in Mauritius, and increasing awareness in government of the challenges children with disabilities face in accessing education in Namibia.

²https://www.timeshighereducation.com/world-university-rankings/2019/world-ranking#/page/0/length/25/sort_by/rank/sort_order/asc/cols/stats

³<https://www.hesa.ac.uk/data-and-analysis/students/table-11>



Our Plans

Following our registration as a charity in June 2019, our focus for 2019-2020 is shifting from improving internal practice and developing student support systems to external relations and fundraising.



Create a business-plan track for the Ashinaga Proposal

Reduce the cost of a new placement into university



Reduce the amount of time spent on admin and bookkeeping



Expand our External Relations to be self sufficient within five years

For **Student Relations** we are aiming to better integrate our programming with the work done in Uganda or Senegal before scholars come to the UK, to ensure we have a holistic five-year program from recruitment to graduation. Within this we are going to create a 'business-plan' track for the Ashinaga Proposal, so that scholars have two options of how to submit their work to us, based on the content of their Proposal. Our other three goals for the year are: ensuring all relevant staff receive mental health training; creating opportunities for Japanese students supported by the Ashinaga Foundation to volunteer in the UK; and improve our programming, with a particular focus on the leadership camp.

Within **University Relations** we are aiming to significantly reduce the average cost of a new placement into university. We aim to achieve this through a combination of increasing the number of universities we have joint scholarships with and being more selective in placing our scholars. We will also explore the possibility of applying for joint funding with universities for grants and other significant funding sources.

The main area of growth next year will be in **External Relations**, particularly with regard to partnerships and development. We will recruit a staff member (with part of their role focusing on this) in September and have a coherent partnerships and development strategy by the end of the fiscal year. We will also continue to develop our network for internships, job-opportunities in Africa post-graduation, and other student support – for example professional development courses and postgraduate scholarships. We are driven to ensure the sustainability of the UK office and plan to generate all of our own funding within five years.

Within **Office and Administration** our focus is on making our processes more efficient to reduce the amount of time spent on administration and book-keeping. We will also ensure ongoing compliance with GDPR and the further development of risk-management strategies.

Structure, Governance and Management

Our governing document

Ashinaga Association in the UK is registered as a private company, limited by guarantee. Our governing document is our Articles of Association. This document is available from Companies House.

How our organisation is constituted

Ashinaga Association in the UK works closely with the Ashinaga Foundation, based in Japan, and the Ashinaga offices in Uganda, Senegal, France, America, and Brazil. The Ashinaga Foundation has provided seed-funding for these offices, including our own, to undertake their work and to establish a self-sustaining model over time. Yoshiomi Tamai, a UK board member, is the founder of the Ashinaga Foundation. Noriko Tominaga-Carpentier and Yukie Seki are also member of both the UK and Japanese boards. Sir Eric Thomas is a member of the UK board and a member of the Kenjin-Tatsujin advisory board.

Ashinaga is also a member of the HALI (High Achieving Low Income) Access Network. The HALI Access Network is an association of non-profit organisations in Africa that work with high-achieving, low-income (HALI) students to access international higher education opportunities. HALI strives to level the playing field in international education to increase inclusion, access and scholarship support for remarkable students who only lack finances to make their educational dreams come true. HALI believes in the power of education to change communities, and in the impact our students have on college and university campuses.

Methods for recruiting and appointing new directors, including any constitutional provisions

The directors of the company will be up to five people, of which up to two will be appointed by the Ashinaga Foundation with the remainder appointed by the existing directors. The Board regularly reviews the skills present within its members, and where any gaps are, and works with the Ashinaga Foundation to ensure the effectiveness of the makeup of the Board. Full details of the Appointment process may be found in our Articles of Association

Financial Review

As noted above, the organisation made considerable progress this year. This was achieved while ensuring we stayed under our provisional budget. Overall, expectations have been exceeded and the directors are very satisfied with the progress made.

A deficit was expected for the initial period of operations in the UK and will be eliminated over time by a combination of support from the Ashinaga Foundation and other external funding.

A budget for 2019-20 has been agreed with the Ashinaga Foundation, who will support our activities on an ongoing basis. This support includes a commitment to provide the financial support the organisation needs for at least 12 months, from the date of sign off of these financial statements. Given that charity registration was completed in June 2019, the 2019-2020 Annual Report will include a reserves policy.

Statement of directors' responsibilities

The directors are responsible for preparing the Directors' Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and regulations. Company law requires the directors to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under that law the directors have elected to prepare the financial statements in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (United Kingdom Accounting Standards and applicable law). Under company law the directors must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company and of the profit or loss of the company for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the directors are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently
- make judgements and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements
- prepare the financial statements on a going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the company will continue in business.

The directors are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and

explain the company's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Notes

Going forward Ashinaga Association in the UK will be preparing accounts to comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Companies Act 2006, the Memorandum and Articles of Association, and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015) as updated by Bulletin 1 (2016).

Ashinaga Foundation also confirmed that amounts due to it of £1,089,852 would be converted into an unrestricted donation, effective as of 15 August 2019.

This report has been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies entitled to the small companies exemption.

The Directors' Report is signed on behalf of the Board



Dr Michael Rivera King

Director

28th November 2019

Financial Statements

The directors present their financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2019.

Directors

The directors who held office during the year and up to the date of signature of the financial statements were as follows:

Ms N Carpentier-Tominaga
Mr Y Tamai
Ms Y Seki
Dr M Rivera King
Sir E Thomas

This report has been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies entitled to the small companies exemption.

On behalf of the board

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'M. King', is written over a faint, light blue circular stamp. The stamp contains the text 'ASHINAGA' at the top and 'UK' at the bottom, with a central emblem.

Dr M Rivera King
Director

Date: 28th November 2019

Accountants' Report to the Board of Directors on The Preparation of the Unaudited Statutory Financial Statements of Ashinaga Association in the UK for the year ended 31 March 2019

In order to assist you to fulfil your duties under the Companies Act 2006, we have prepared for your approval the financial statements of Ashinaga Association in the UK for the year ended 31 March 2019 which comprise the Income and Expenditure Account, the Balance Sheet and the related notes from the company's accounting records and from information and explanations you have given us.

As a practising member firm of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales (ICAEW), we are subject to its ethical and other professional requirements which are detailed at <http://www.icaew.com/en/members/regulations-standards-and-guidance>.

This report is made solely to the Board of Directors of Ashinaga Association in the UK, as a body, in accordance with the terms of our engagement letter dated 18 July 2019. Our work has been undertaken solely to prepare for your approval the financial statements of Ashinaga Association in the UK and state those matters that we have agreed to state to the Board of Directors of Ashinaga Association in the UK, as a body, in this report in accordance with ICAEW Technical Release 07/16 AAF. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than Ashinaga Association in the UK and its Board of Directors as a body, for our work or for this report.

It is your duty to ensure that Ashinaga Association in the UK has kept adequate accounting records and to prepare statutory financial statements that give a true and fair view of the assets, liabilities, financial position and deficit of Ashinaga Association in the UK. You consider that Ashinaga Association in the UK is exempt from the statutory audit requirement for the year.

We have not been instructed to carry out an audit or a review of the financial statements of Ashinaga Association in the UK. For this reason, we have not verified the accuracy or completeness of the accounting records or information and explanations you have given to us and we do not, therefore, express any opinion on the statutory financial statements.



Moore Kingston Smith LLP

Date: 28th November 2019

Chartered Accountants
The Shipping Building
The Old Vinyl Factory
Blyth Road
Hayes
London
UB3 1HA

Income and Expenditure Account for the year ended 31 March 2019

	2019	2018
	£	£
Income	423	50
Cost of sales	(275,434)	(218,853)
Gross deficit	(275,011)	(218,803)
Administrative expenses	(293,180)	(210,917)
Deficit before taxation	(568,191)	(429,720)
Taxation	-	-
Deficit for the financial year	(568,191)	(429,720)

Balance Sheet

	Notes	£	2019 £	£	2018 £
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	3		2,938		1,213
Current assets					
Debtors	4	70,215		41,893	
Cash at bank and in hand		44,585		62,199	
		114,800		104,092	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	5	1.115,649		535,025	
Net current liabilities			(1,000,849)		(430,933)
Total assets less current liabilities			(997,911)		(429,720)
Reserves					
Income and expenditure account			(997,911)		(429,720)

For the financial year ended 31 March 2019 the company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006.

The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of financial statements.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year in question in accordance with section 476.

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies' regime.

The financial statements were approved by the board of directors and authorised for issue on **28th November 2019** and are signed on its behalf by:



Dr M Rivera King
Director

Company Registration Number: 10634278

Notes to the Financial Statements for the period ended 31st March 2019

1. Accounting policies

Company information

Ashinaga Association in the UK is a private company limited by guarantee incorporated in England and Wales. The registered office is 13-14 Cornwall Terrace, Outer Circle, London, NW1 4QP.

1.1 Accounting convention

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" ("FRS 102") and the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 as applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the company. Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest pound.

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention. The principal accounting policies adopted are set out below.

1.2 Going concern

These financial statements are prepared on the going concern basis. The directors have assessed the company's ability to continue as a going concern and have considered possible events or conditions that might cast significant doubt on the ability of the charitable company to continue as a going concern. The directors have made this assessment for a period of at least one year from the date of the approval of these financial statements and have concluded that there are no material uncertainties about the company's ability to continue as a going concern. The key reason for this assessment is that the Ashinaga Foundation, Japan has confirmed that it will provide the necessary financial support for at least the period mentioned above. It has also converted outstanding loans due to it to donations in August 2019.

1.3 Income and expenditure

Income and expenses are included in the financial statements as they become receivable or due.

Expenses include VAT where applicable as the company cannot reclaim it.

1.4 Tangible fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets are initially measured at cost and subsequently measured at cost or valuation, net of depreciation and any impairment losses.

Depreciation is recognised so as to write off the cost of assets over their useful lives on the following bases:

Fixtures and fittings 5 years straight line

Computers 3 years straight line

The gain or loss arising on the disposal of an asset is determined as the difference between the sale proceeds and the carrying value of the asset, and is credited or charged to surplus or deficit.

1.5 Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and in hand are basic financial assets and include cash in hand, deposits held at call with banks, other short-term liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less, and bank overdrafts. Bank overdrafts are shown within borrowings in current liabilities.

1.6 Financial instruments

The company has elected to apply the provisions of Section 11 'Basic Financial Instruments' and Section 12 'Other Financial Instruments Issues' of FRS 102 to all of its financial instruments.

Financial instruments are recognised in the company's balance sheet when the company becomes party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Financial assets and liabilities are offset, with the net amounts presented in the financial statements, when there is a legally enforceable right to set off the recognised amounts and there is an intention to settle on a net basis or to realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

Basic financial assets

Basic financial assets, which include debtors and cash and bank balances, are initially measured at transaction price including transaction costs and are subsequently carried at amortised cost using the effective interest method unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the transaction is measured at the present value of the future receipts discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial assets classified as receivable within one year are not amortised.

Classification of financial liabilities

Financial liabilities and equity instruments are classified according to the substance of the contractual arrangements entered into. An equity instrument is any contract that evidences a residual interest in the assets of the company after deducting all of its liabilities.

Basic financial liabilities

Basic financial liabilities, including creditors, bank loans, loans from fellow group companies and preference shares that are classified as debt, are initially recognised at transaction price unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the debt instrument is

measured at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial liabilities classified as payable within one year are not amortised.

Debt instruments are subsequently carried at amortised cost, using the effective interest rate method.

Trade creditors are obligations to pay for goods or services that have been acquired in the ordinary course of business from suppliers. Amounts payable are classified as current liabilities if payment is due within one year or less. If not, they are presented as non-current liabilities. Trade creditors are recognised initially at transaction price and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

The company has obtained exemption from the Revenue Commissioners in respect of corporation tax, it being a company not carrying on a business for the purposes of making a profit. DIRT tax is payable on any interest income received in excess of £32.

1.7 Employee benefits

The costs of short-term employee benefits are recognised as a liability and an expense, unless those costs are required to be recognised as part of the cost of stock or fixed assets.

The cost of any unused holiday entitlement is recognised in the period in which the employee's services are received.

Termination benefits are recognised immediately as an expense when the company is demonstrably committed to terminate the employment of an employee or to provide termination benefits.

1.8 Retirement benefits

Payments to defined contribution retirement benefit schemes are charged as an expense as they fall due.

1.9 Leases

Rentals payable under operating leases, including any lease incentives received, are charged to income on a straight line basis over the term of the relevant lease except where another more systematic basis is more representative of the time pattern in which economic benefits from the lease asset are consumed.

1.10 Foreign exchange

Transactions in currencies other than pounds sterling are recorded at the rates of exchange prevailing at the dates of the transactions. At each reporting end date, monetary assets and liabilities that are denominated in foreign currencies are retranslated at the rates prevailing on the reporting end date. Gains and losses arising on translation

are included in the profit and loss account for the period.

2. Employees

The average monthly number of persons (including directors) employed by the company during the year was 5 (2018 - 3).

3. Tangible fixed assets

	Plant and machinery etc £
Cost	
At 1 April 2018	1,586
Additions	2,925
At 31 March 2019	4,511
Depreciation and Impairment	
At 1 April 2018	373
Depreciation charged in the year	1,200
At 31 March 2019	1,573
Carrying amount	
At 31 March 2019	2,938
At 31 March 2018	1,213

4. Debtors

	2019 £	2018 £
Amounts falling due within one year:	£	£
Other debtors	70,215	41,893

5. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2019 £	2018 £
Trade creditors	10,631	10,684
Other taxation and social security	5,746	-
Other creditors	1,099,272	524,341
	1,115,649	535,025

6. Retirement benefit schemes

	2019 £	2018 £
Defined contribution schemes	£	£
Charge to profit or loss in respect of defined contribution schemes	8,055	255

The company operates a defined contribution pension scheme for all qualifying employees. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the company in an independently administered fund.

The balance outstanding at the year end in respect of defined contribution schemes was £2,099 (2018: £106).

7. Members' liability

The company is limited by guarantee, not having a share capital and consequently the liability of members is limited, subject to an undertaking by each member to contribute to the net assets or liabilities of the company on winding up such amounts as may be required not exceeding £1.

8. Operating lease commitments

Lessee

At the reporting end date the company had outstanding commitments for future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases, as follows:

	2019 £	2018 £
	1,100	1,100

9. Events after the reporting date

Ashinaga Association in the UK registered as a charity on 6th June 2019, registered charity number: 1183750.

Going forward Ashinaga Association in the UK will be preparing accounts to comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Companies Act 2006, the Memorandum and Articles of Association, and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015) as updated by Bulletin 1 (2016).

Ashinaga Foundation also confirmed that amounts due to it of £1,089,852 would be converted into an unrestricted donation, effective as of 15 August 2019.

10. Related party transactions

Ashinaga Foundation (Ashinaga) is a non-for-profit organisation based in Japan, which has ultimate control over the company. Ashinaga's corporation number is 0100-05-028962. Its registered office is Main Office 2-7-5 Sabou Kaikan Hirakawa-cho Chiyoda-ku Tokyo, Japan. At the balance sheet date amounts due to Ashinaga Foundation from the company of £1,089,852 (2018: £505,206) were included within current liabilities.

Ashinaga Association in the UK: Management Information for the year ended 31 March 2019

	2019	2018
Income	£	£
Donations	423	50
Cost of Sales		
Direct costs	(275,434)	(218,853)
Gross deficit	(275,011)	(218,803)
Administrative expenses	(293,180)	(210,917)
Operating deficit	(568,191)	(429,720)

Schedule of Administrative Expenses for the year ended 31 March 2019

	2019 £	2018 £
Administrative expenses		
Wages and salaries	130,869	75,187
Social security costs	8,102	4,931
Staff recruitment costs	2,493	360
Staff training	5,303	2,461
Staff pension costs defined contribution	4,829	114
Directors' remuneration	49,444	48,228
Directors' social security costs	5,660	5,529
Directors' pension costs - defined contribution scheme	3,226	141
Rent re operating leases	13,200	12,532
Property repairs and maintenance	334	117
Insurance	73	-
Computer running costs	645	218
Travelling expenses	3,122	4,067
Legal and professional fees	47,860	36,480
Consultancy fees	9,688	570
Accountancy	2,400	-
Audit fees	-	8,250
Bank charges	257	223
Insurances (not premises)	890	762
Printing and stationery	682	1,726
Telecommunications	1,132	2,806
Entertaining	77	746
Sundry expenses	242	-
Venue hire	1,450	4,659
Depreciation	1,200	373
Profit or loss on foreign exchange	2	437
	293,180	210,917

Reference and Administrative Details

Name:

Ashinaga Association in the UK

Company number:

10634278

Charity registration number:

1183750 (6th June, 2019)

Address and registered office:

13/14 Cornwall Terrace,
Outer Circle
London
NW1 4QP
UK

Directors:

Ms Noriko Tominaga-Carpentier
Mr Yoshiomi Tamai
Ms Yukie Seki
Dr Michael Rivera King
Sir Eric Thomas

Chief Executive Officer:

Dr Michael Rivera King

Bankers:

Barclays Bank
17 St Anns Square
Manchester
M2 7PW

Solicitors:

Lewis Silkin
5 Chancery Lane
London
EC4A 1BL

Accountants:

Sidikies
1 Sun Street
London
EC2A 2EP

Accountants:

Moore Kingston Smith LLP
The Shipping Building
The Old Vinyl Factory
Blyth Road
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London
UB3 1HA



ASHINAGA
UK

Join Us

The Ashinaga Africa Initiative (AAI) is Ashinaga's flagship project in Sub-Saharan Africa. Our mission is to contribute to the region's development by providing students who have lost one or both parents with the education, network, and opportunities necessary to become the next generation of leaders for Africa. Ashinaga invests in students who want to study internationally and then return home to make a positive difference in their country and community.

There are many ways you can support the Ashinaga movement in the UK. Tell your family and friends about Ashinaga's work, connect us with like-minded people or organisations, or make a donation. If you choose to give to our work, no matter the amount — you are investing in the future leaders of Africa.

Contact

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