

# **Annual Report 2015**



# ACT Alliance

## NUMBERS AND VALUES

Achieving success through coordinated humanitarian, development and advocacy work

working in over

# 100

countries

working together for  
**SUSTAINABLE  
CHANGE** we are rooted in the  
**COMMUNITIES**  
we serve

# actalliance

working to the highest international codes and standards

**2%**  
global member  
organisations

**US\$2.5<sup>bn</sup>**  
global combined  
expenditure in 2015

**US\$42.5<sup>m</sup>**  
spent on emergency  
appeals in 2015

**140**  
member organisations  
in 2015

**22%**  
member organisations  
in global north

**76%**  
member organisations  
in global south

**FIGHTING  
POVERTY  
AND  
INJUSTICE**

# Accountability Capacity Trust

Our success in advocacy, development and humanitarian work is based on our rootedness in local communities.

Our global network of church-based organisations affords us a unique level of respect in many communities. This is because our long-standing presence and linkages to the most vulnerable people has built up a legitimacy and trust to enable sufficient service delivery and facilitation of sustainable change.

As part of the local community long before a crisis, our member organisations know from the start what is happening on the ground and what the requirements are of those in need.

As part of the local community long after a crisis, or when it has been forgotten as global attention shifts, our accountability to the community remains ever-strong, because we too live with the responsibility of the consequences.

Our networks extend beyond the alliance membership, actively engaging communities on long-term development and measures for reducing vulnerability to disasters. When disasters strike, we already have strong local capacity and the ability to reach the most vulnerable people, often with the help of motivated volunteers from the communities themselves.

In over 100 countries our member organisations and related churches are at the forefront of service delivery, running schools and universities, hospitals and clinics, facilitating development programmes and initiating humanitarian responses on the ground. We are involved in social movements and in civil society advocacy, accompanying communities in the struggle for full life and dignity.

Our network has the respect of the international donor community for strict adherence to the Code of Conduct for the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement.

ACT Alliance has a zero-tolerance policy for preferential treatment and for proselytization, and we pride ourselves on our track record in this regard.

We work from a rights based perspective with people of all faiths and none, prioritising need





# Message from the GENERAL SECRETARY

In practice ACT Alliance ended 2015 in very much the same way that it began – with the alliance responding to politically-driven conflict emergencies, in this case in the Occupied Palestinian Territories at the beginning of the year and in South Sudan at the end.

In fact nearly half of the 43 emergencies the alliance responded to in 2015 related to conflict and displacement. By the end of the year the UN estimated that around 65 million people were forcibly displaced across the globe.

It is a worrying trend with a significant impact on the global community, challenging margins of tolerance and compassion among people, and requiring robust and united commitment from the international community if we are to reach some equilibrium of peace and stability. The ongoing crisis in Syria alone saw a continued influx of refugees into Jordan, Lebanon, Armenia and Turkey, and over one million refugees attempting the perilous journey across the sea to seek safety in Europe. Therefore, now more than ever, organisations and networks such as ACT Alliance must continue to promote tolerance, demonstrate compassion and stand in solidarity with the millions of people living in desperate circumstances out of their control. To this end ACT has significantly increased its work in the area of humanitarian advocacy this year, actively adding its voice to the UN consultations for the 2016 World Humanitarian Summit and beginning the development of ACT-specific commitments to improving our humanitarian work. The alliance has also undergone a comprehensive assessment of the humanitarian mechanism towards an improved emergency response.

Alongside conflict related emergencies, 2015 saw ACT responding to 10 weather and climate related disasters as well as a devastating earthquake in Nepal in which 8,600 people lost their lives and which resulted in widespread destruction that will require years of support towards restoration and recovery.

Our advocacy work moved took ambitious steps forward this year, with a first ever mobilisation of the global alliance around an ACT NOW for Climate Justice campaign which through partnership with peer organisations resulted in a petition of 1.8 million signatures presented to the UN at its December climate

negotiations in Paris (COP21). In addition, ACT joined 40 faith-based organisations from across the globe in a first multi-faith and World Bank facilitated 'Moral and Spiritual Imperative' to create an action plan focused on the role of faith-based organisations in ending poverty by 2030. The alliance also saw a number of processes it has long been actively engaged in come into being this year, such as the new Disaster Risk Reduction Framework at the World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction in Sendai, the Addis Ababa Action Agenda at the UN Financing for Development summit, and the adoption of the Sustainable Development Goals.

This has also been an important year in the structure of the alliance. The global ACT secretariat successfully completed its 18-month decentralisation process and the ACT secretariat now has presences in six regions – Amman Jordan, Bangkok Thailand, Geneva Switzerland, Nairobi Kenya, New York USA and San Salvador El Salvador. In addition 2015 saw further strengthening of ACT's advocacy work and presence towards the European Union with the integration of APRODEV into the alliance, becoming ACT Alliance EU. Through these changes the ACT secretariat aims to increasingly support the collaboration of ACT members and the life of the alliance in the ACT forums.

The success of the alliance is dependent on the commitment and ongoing support of its members and partners. I thank all of you, therefore, for an unfailing commitment to the value of this network, and for the work members are undertaking on the ground towards a world free of injustice, inequality and poverty.



**John Nduna**  
General Secretary  
ACT Alliance

Image above: John Nduna



# ACT Alliance in 2015

**Image:** Early in the morning, boys run amid the tents in the Zaatari Refugee Camp, located near Mafraq, Jordan.  
ACT/Paul Jeffrey

## January

ACT kicks off the year with an appeal to reduce vulnerability and ease the burden of people affected in Syria, Jordan and Lebanon

ACT members in Latin America and the Caribbean hold a training workshop on implementing the Istanbul Principles and development effectiveness

The ACT Now For Climate Justice campaign builds momentum after its launch in October 2014

ACT responds with support to Gaza and the West Bank in light of renewed conflict

From January 2015 EU advocacy organisation APRODEV becomes part of the ACT Alliance, now known as ACT Alliance EU

ACT responds with emergency assistance to refugees who had fled eastern Ukraine to Russia

## February

ACT joins Faith-Based Organisations and the World Bank President Dr Jim Yong Kim in a dialogue on ending extreme poverty by 2030 and enhancing collaboration

ACT provides emergency assistance to refugees from South Sudan arriving in Kenya

Members in the Middle East hold joint HAP/Core Humanitarian Standard trainings in Lebanon and Turkey to help improve humanitarian accountability systems

ACT members in the Middle East engage with the online World Humanitarian Summit consultation for the Middle East and North Africa

ACT Alliance continues to engage in climate advocacy and lobby work during the first UN climate change negotiation for 2015 in Geneva

ACT provides assistance in Chad to improve the livelihoods of CAR and Sudanese refugees and returnees, and host communities

A new Community of Practice on Religion and Development is formed

## March

ACT's DRR Community of Practice and the ACT General Secretary attend the World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction in Sendai and ACT drafts a message for the event signed by Faith-Based Organisations (FBOs) on the role of FBOs in the new DRR framework

ACT Alliance joins 40 FBOs in signing a collaboration with the World Bank 'Moral and Spiritual Imperative' to end poverty

ACT provides emergency assistance to refugees from eastern Ukraine in Russia and Ukraine as a result of armed conflict in Ukraine

ACT continues to respond to the Ebola situation in Sierra Leone, focusing on sensitisation and prevention

ACT members attend the 59<sup>th</sup> session of the Commission on the Status of Women to review the 20 years of operation of the Beijing Platform for Action

ACT extends its appeal to assist displaced populations and their host communities in northern Iraq

ACT responds to a category five tropical storm hitting the Pacific islands of Vanuatu, devastating thousands of people who needed to be placed in temporary shelters

The ACT Climate Academy, a series of primarily online capacity building initiatives on climate change science, policy, politics and advocacy kicks off

ACT responds with emergency assistance to people impacted by cyclones and floods in Madagascar

ACT Alliance facilitates dialogue among negotiators from Africa, the Least Developed Countries (LDCs) group and the Small Island States (AOSIS) on climate policy processes

## May

ACT approves a Child Safeguarding Policy for the alliance

ACT's new humanitarian policy is approved following an extensive review of the emergency mechanism, and roll out begins

ACT continues providing rehabilitation relief for communities hit by Typhoon Haiyan in the Philippines in late 2013

## April

ACT responds to a major earthquake of 7.8 on the Richter scale in Nepal causing 8,600 deaths and widespread destruction and displacement of people

Members continue engaging on the SDGs at the third session of the intergovernmental negotiations on the post-2015/SDGs

ACT provides emergency assistance to support and protect war-affected vulnerable communities in the Central African Republic

## June

ACT launches its 2014 annual report

Members on the ground carry out a post-Ebola recovery programme in Liberia

ACT responds with emergency assistance in Tanzania as high numbers of refugees arrive from Burundi following political instability in the country

ACT continues to engage on climate justice following UNFCCC negotiations in Bonn, Germany, and holding a side event together with the governments of Switzerland and the Gambia on balancing the elements in the upcoming Paris climate agreement

ACT offers emergency assistance in Djibouti in response to an influx of refugees from Yemen

Following political unrest in the Democratic Republic of Congo, ACT provides emergency assistance to refugees entering Uganda

## July

ACT takes part in the third UN Conference on Financing for Development in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, resulting in the Addis Ababa Action Agenda

ACT continues to engage in the Religion and Sustainable Development meetings at the World Bank in Washington DC and in New York

The alliance facilitates the first and second Civil Society Platform for Development Effectiveness (CPDE) training for Faith-Based Organisations in Addis Ababa with 45 participants from 35 countries

The alliance was invited by the Vatican and the Pontifical Council for Justice and Peace to a high level event on the Pope's Encyclical 'Laudato Si'

ACT endorses the CAFOD-led initiative "Charter for Change", which discusses the key role that local and national actors play in humanitarian response

## August

ACT responds to flooding in Myanmar, Pakistan and north and north-eastern India

The alliance launches its new website on World Humanitarian Day

ACT officially opens its first regional office in Amman, Jordan

ACT facilitates a training on development effectiveness principles for 35 participants in the Middle East and north Africa region

ACT members continue to provide emergency relief focusing on improving access to health in Gaza and the West Bank

Members in Africa kick start their three-month ACT NOW for Climate Justice cycling campaign through nine countries to mobilise communities and bring their voices to the global arena



## September

**ACT continues its decentralisation, launching its regional office in Bangkok, Thailand**

ACT brings a delegation to the 70<sup>th</sup> session of the UN General Assembly in September for the historical moment of the adoption of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), and hosts and participates in a number of side-events, consultations and strategy sessions with partners

**ACT plays a key role in the FBO and World Bank facilitated "Moral Imperative", which looks at developing an action plan to help end extreme poverty by 2030**

Humanitarian advocacy becomes more central to ACT's humanitarian response with increased ACT interaction with ICVA, IASC and SCHR working groups, as well as relationship building with UN agencies

## October

**ACT provides emergency support in response to food insecurity in Malawi**

ACT continues engaging in the World Humanitarian Summit processes at the Global Consultations in Geneva and takes part in a side-event panel discussion on financing of local and national organisations and FBOs as first responders to emergencies

**ACT continues its decentralisation, launching its regional office in San Salvador, El Salvador**

ACT's Community of Practice on Migration and Development participates in the annual meeting of the Global Forum on Migration and Development in Istanbul, Turkey, focusing on legal channels for migration to ensure refugee protection and access of migrants to decent work in destination countries

**ACT facilitates a training on the Istanbul Principles in San Salvador with members from the LAC region, staff from the UN and the Central American Integration System, and broader civil society**

ACT successfully engages in the UN climate negotiations in October in Bonn where it leads the creation of the climate justice Faith Leaders' Statement, which is handed over to UNFCCC Executive Secretary Christiana Figueres, signed by 147 faith leaders from different religions across the world

**At the Bonn climate negotiations ACT organises an informal dinner for 20 key governments to discuss the politically critical issue of Loss and Damage**

## November

ACT provides emergency assistance to flood affected families in Sindh and Punjab, and to earthquake affected families in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province in Pakistan

**The Africa cycling climate campaign that started in Mozambique in August reaches its final destination, Nairobi, culminating in a week of climate action including a climate justice walk, a rally and a faith leaders' climate summit**

In Paris ACT leads a massive inter-faith gathering pre-COP21 where hundreds of religious leaders and communities participate to present petitions of over 1.8 million signatures calling for climate justice. The same petitions are delivered to French President François Hollande by ACT Alliance and its partners

**ACT completes its decentralisation with the launch of its regional office in Nairobi, Kenya**

## December

ACT brings nearly 100 delegates to the UN climate negotiations in Paris for last minute lobbying, campaigning and demonstrations to ensure a most ambitious climate agreement from the meeting

**ACT responds with emergency support to people affected by flooding in India**

ACT engages with UN human rights processes towards the fourth UN business and human rights forum in Geneva, with a delegation of over 20 participants from all over the world, which provides the opportunity for sharing experiences from communities in Africa, Asia and Latin America

**ACT ends the year responding with emergency support to the protracted conflict crisis in South Sudan**



# ACT Alliance STRUCTURES

## GENERAL ASSEMBLY

- Meets every four years
- Representatives from each ACT Alliance member

## GOVERNING BOARD

### MEMBERSHIP AND NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE

### FINANCE COMMITTEE

### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

### ADVISORY GROUPS

#### ADVOCACY

**Chairs:** Thorsten Göbel and Joycia Thorat  
**Contact:** isaiah.toroitch@actalliance.org

#### CLIMATE ADVOCACY (until end 2015)

**Chairs:** Mattias Söderberg and Benson Ileri  
**Contact:** vitumbiko.chinoko@actalliance.org

#### COMMUNICATION, MEDIA AND BRAND

**Chair:** Simon Chambers  
**Contact:** estelle.marais@actalliance.org

#### COMPLAINTS HANDLING

**Contact:** sarah.kambarami@actalliance.org

#### DEVELOPMENT POLICY AND PRACTICE

**Chairs:** Saara Vuorenola Barnes and Junior Sibanda  
**Contact:** daniel.pieper@actalliance.org

#### FUNDRAISING

**Chair:** Karen Janjua  
**Contact:** nick.clarke@actalliance.org

#### HUMANITARIAN POLICY AND PRACTICE

**Chairs:** Takeshi Komino and Michael Mosselmans  
**Contact:** nick.clarke@actalliance.org

#### QUALITY AND ACCOUNTABILITY

**Chair:** Anugrah Abraham  
**Contact:** sarah.kambarami@actalliance.org

### ACT ALLIANCE SECRETARIAT

#### Regional offices

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 www.actalliance.eu

### NATIONAL AND REGIONAL FORUMS

Angola  
 Argentina  
 Armenia  
 Asia-Pacific  
 Bangladesh  
 Bolivia  
 Brazil  
 Burkina Faso  
 Burundi  
 Cambodia  
 Caribbean  
 Central America  
 Central Asia  
 Chile  
 Colombia  
 Costa Rica  
 Cuba  
 Dominican Republic  
 DRC  
 El Salvador  
 Ethiopia  
 Europe  
 Ghana  
 Guatemala  
 Haiti  
 Honduras  
 India  
 Indonesia  
 Iraq  
 Jordan, Syria and Lebanon  
 Kenya  
 Liberia  
 Madagascar  
 Malawi  
 Mali  
 Mozambique  
 Myanmar  
 Nepal  
 Nicaragua  
 Nigeria  
 North America  
 Pacific (PANZ)  
 Pakistan  
 Palestine  
 Peru  
 Philippines  
 Sierra Leone  
 Somalia  
 South America  
 South Sudan  
 Southern Africa  
 Sri Lanka  
 Tanzania  
 Thailand  
 Uganda  
 Vietnam  
 West Africa  
 Zambia  
 Zimbabwe

#### DISABILITY INCLUSIVE DEVELOPMENT COP

**Contact:** Felomain Nassar  
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#### DISASTER RISK REDUCTION (DRR) AND ADAPTATION TO CLIMATE CHANGE COP

**Contact:** James Munpa  
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#### GENDER EQUALITY AND JUSTICE COP

**Contact:** Carlos Rauda  
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#### HUMAN RIGHTS IN DEVELOPMENT COP

**Contact:** Gezehegn Gebrehana  
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#### MIGRATION AND DEVELOPMENT COP

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#### PSYCHOSOCIAL COP

**Contact:** Rosa Maria Matamoros  
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#### RELIGION AND DEVELOPMENT COP

**Contact:** Daniel Pieper  
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#### SAFETY AND SECURITY COP

**Contact:** James Davis  
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#### PROTECTION COP

**Contact:** Anoop Sukumaran  
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#### YOUTH PARTICIPATION COP

**Contact:** Arnold Ambundo  
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### ACT ALLIANCE EU Independent organisation

**Image above:** Kathia Amy, a 17-year old in Grand-Goave, Haiti, continues living in a tent one year after the January 2010 earthquake that ravaged parts of the Caribbean nation. She is pictured here in class at the College Les Freres Milord, a school that was rebuilt after the quake by members of the ACT Alliance, which has also provided a variety of services to residents of the homeless camp surrounding the school.

ACT/Paul Jeffery





## GOVERNING BOARD

**Moderator Sushant Agarwal**  
Church's Auxiliary for  
Social Action, CASA, India

**Vice Moderator Donna Derr**  
Church World Service, CWS, US

**Maria Immonen**  
Lutheran World Federation,  
Switzerland

**Isabel Apawo Phiri**  
World Council of Churches,  
Switzerland

**Sibongile Baker**  
Lutheran Development Service,  
Zimbabwe

**Susie Ibutu**  
National Council of Churches  
of Kenya

**Leonard Tegwende Kinda**  
Association des Eglises  
Evangéliques du Burkina Faso

**Arshinta Soemarsono**  
YAKKUM, Indonesia

**Victor Hsu**  
Presbyterian Church in Taiwan

**Karen Nazaryan**  
Armenian Catholicosate  
of Etchmiadzin, Armenia

**Wim Hart**  
ICCO Cooperation,  
The Netherlands

**Birgitte Qvist-Sorensen**  
DanChurchAid, Denmark

**Paul Valentin**  
Christian Aid, UK and Ireland

**Dámaris Albuquerque Espinoza**  
Council of Evangelical  
Churches, Nicaragua

**Elina Ceballos Villalón**  
Consejo de Iglesias de Cuba

**Angelique Van Zeeland**  
Fundação Luterana de Diaconia,  
Brazil

**Ramzi Ibrahim Zananiri**  
Department on Service to  
Palestine Refugees/  
The Middle East Council  
of Churches

**Ida Kaastra Mutoigo**  
World Renew, US

**Rob Floyd**  
Uniting Church in Australia,  
Uniting World Relief and  
Development Unit

**Carl Stecker**  
Evangelical Lutheran Church of  
America, US. Until end 2015

## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

**Moderator Sushant Agarwal**  
Church's Auxiliary for  
Social Action, CASA, India

**Vice Moderator Donna Derr**  
Church World Service, CWS, US

**Wim Hart**  
ICCO and Kerk in Actie,  
The Netherlands

**Maria Immonen**  
Lutheran World Federation,  
Switzerland

**Leonard Tegwende Kinda**  
Association des Eglises  
Evangéliques du Burkina Faso

**Paul Valentin**  
Christian Aid, UK and Ireland

**Dámaris Albuquerque Espinoza**  
Council of Evangelical  
Churches, Nicaragua

## MEMBERSHIP AND NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE

**Chair Cornelia Füllkrug-Weitzel**  
Bread for the World – Protestant  
Development Service, Germany

**Joyanta Adhikari**  
Christian Commission for  
Development in Bangladesh

**Melton Luhanga**  
Churches Action in Relief and  
Development, Malawi

**Humberto Shikiya**  
Central Regional Ecumenical  
Advisory and Service,  
Argentina

**Elsa Tesfay**  
The Primate's World Relief and  
Development Fund, Canada

**Above, from left to right:**  
Elina Ceballos Villalón, Wim Hart,  
Angelique Van Zeeland, Maria Immonen,  
Dámaris Albuquerque Espinoza,  
Karen Nazaryan, Sushant Agarwal,  
Paul Valentin, Donna Derr, John Nduna  
(ACT Alliance General Secretary),  
Susie Ibutu, Carl Stecker,  
Arshinta Soemarsono, Rob Floyd,  
Sibongile Baker, Leonard Tegwende Kinda,  
Victor Hsu, Isabel Apawo Phiri

**Not present in image:**  
Birgitte Qvist-Sorensen,  
Ramzi Ibrahim Zananiri,  
Ida Kaastra Mutoigo



# ACT Alliance MEMBERS

## AFRICA

**Angola** Angolan Council of Christian Churches (ACCC/CICA)

**Angola** Igreja Evangélica Reformada de Angola (IERA)

**Burkina Faso** Association of Reformed Evangelical Churches of Burkina Faso (AEERB)

**Burundi** National Council of Churches of Burundi (CNEB)

**Burundi** The Province of the Anglican Church of Burundi (EEB)

**Cameroon** Eglise Fraternelle Luthérienne du Cameroun (EFLC)

**DRC** Evangelical Lutheran Church in Congo (ELCCo)

**DRC** Ecumenical Office for Development Support (BOAD)

**DRC** Centre Oecuménique pour la Promotion du Monde Rural (COPROMOR)

**DRC** Eglise du Christ au Congo Bureau National (ECC)

**Ethiopia** Ethiopian Evangelical Church Mekane Yesus (EECMY)

**Ethiopia** Ethiopian Orthodox Church – Development and Inter-Church Aid Commission (EOC-DICAC)

**Ghana** Presbyterian Church in Ghana (PCG)

**Kenya** National Council of Churches of Kenya (NCCK)

**Kenya** Anglican Development Services Kenya (ADK)

**Kenya** Fellowship of Christian Councils and Churches in the Great Lakes and Horn of Africa (FECCLAHA)

**Kenya** Presbyterian Church of East Africa (PCEA)

**Lesotho** Christian Council of Lesotho (CCL)

**Liberia** Lutheran Church in Liberia (LCL)

**Liberia** Lutheran Development Service, Liberia (LDS-Liberia)

**Madagascar** Eglise de Jésus-Christ à Madagascar – Dépt pour le Développement (FJKM)

**Madagascar** Malagasy Lutheran Church (MLC)

**Malawi** Evangelical Lutheran Development Service (ELDS)

**Malawi** CCAP Blantyre Synod Health and Development Commission

**Malawi** Churches Action in Relief and Development (CARD)

**Malawi** Malawi Council of Churches

**Mozambique** Comité Ecuménico para o Desenvolvimento Social (CEDES)

**Mozambique** Christian Council of Mozambique (CCM)

**Nigeria** Christian Council of Nigeria (CCN)

**Sierra Leone** Council of Churches in S.L. (CCSL)

**Senegal** Eglise Luthérienne du Sénégal (ELS)

**South Africa** Economic Justice Network of FOCCISA, Southern Africa

**South Africa** Evangelical Lutheran Church in Southern Africa (ELCSA)

**South Sudan** Presbyterian Relief and Development Agency (PRDA)

**Tanzania** Evangelical Lutheran Church in Tanzania (ELCT)

**Tanzania** Tanganyika Christian Refugee Service (TCRS)

**Uganda** Church of Uganda (CoU)

**Uganda** Uganda Joint Christian Council (UJCC)

**Uganda** Rural Action Based Organisation (RACOBABO)

**Zambia** Council of Churches in Zambia (CCZ)

**Zambia** United Church of Zambia (UCZ)

**Zimbabwe** Lutheran Development Service in Zimbabwe (LDS-Zimbabwe)

**Zimbabwe** Christian Care (CC)

**Zimbabwe** Zimbabwe Council of Churches (ZCC)

## GLOBAL

The Lutheran World Federation (LWF)

ECLOF International

World Association for Christian Communication (WACC)

## ASIA

**Bangladesh** Christian Commission for Development in Bangladesh (CCDB)

**Bangladesh** KOINONIA

**Bangladesh** Rangpur Dinajpur Rural Service (RDRS)

**Bangladesh** Social Health and Education Development (SHED)

**Cambodia** Life With Dignity (LWD)

**China** Amity Foundation (AF)

**India** Christian Agency for Rural Development (CARD)

**India** United Evangelical Lutheran Churches in India (UELCI)

**India** Church's Auxiliary for Social Action (CASA)

**India** Synodical Board of Social Services, Church of North India (SBSS-CNI)

**India** Lutheran World Service India Trust (LWSIT)

**Indonesia** Centre for Disaster Risk Management and Community Development Studies (CDRMCDs)

**Indonesia** Indonesian Christian Association for Health Services (ICAHS/PELKESI)

**Indonesia** YAKKUM (including YEU)

**Japan** National Christian Council in Japan (NCCJ)

**Korea** Presbyterian Church in the Republic of Korea (PROK)

**Image above:** A man carries a bag of food and other relief supplies following a distribution to survivors of Typhoon Haiyan in the Philippines.

ACT/Paul Jeffrey

**Pakistan** Community World Service Asia

**Philippines** National Council of Churches in the Philippines (NCCP)

**Sri Lanka** National Christian Council of Sri Lanka (NCCSL)

**Taiwan** Presbyterian Church of Taiwan (PCT)

## AUSTRALASIA

**New Zealand** Christian World Service (CWS)

**Australia** Act for Peace

**Australia** Australian Lutheran World Service (ALWS)

**Australia** Anglican Overseas Aid – Australia

**Australia** UnitingWorld: Relief and Development Unit

## EUROPE

**Armenia** Armenia Inter-Church Charitable Round Table Foundation (ARTF)

**Austria** Diakonie

**Belgium** Solidarité Protestante (SP)

**Czech Republic** Diaconia of the Evangelical Church of Czech Brethren (ECCB)

**Denmark** DanChurchAid (DCA)

**Finland** Finn Church Aid (FCA)

**Germany** Diakonie Katastrophenhilfe (DKH)

**Germany** Bread for the World – Protestant Development Service (BdW)

**Hungary** Hungarian Interchurch Aid (HIA)

**Iceland** Icelandic Church Aid (ICA)

**Norway** Norwegian Church Aid (NCA)

**Romania** Ecumenical Association of Churches in Romani (AIDRom)

**Russia** Russian Orthodox Church – Department for External Church Relations (ROC)

**Serbia** Philanthropy – The Chartable Fund of the Serbian Orthodox Church

**Sweden** Church of Sweden, International Mission and Diaconia (CoS)

**Sweden** Diakonia Sweden

**Switzerland** Bread for All (BFA)

**Switzerland** Swiss Interchurch Aid (HEKS)

**The Netherlands** ICCO Cooperation

**The Netherlands** Kerk in Actie

**UK and Ireland** Christian Aid (CA)

## LATIN AMERICA AND CARIBBEAN

**Argentina** Fundacion Hora de Obrar (FHdO)

**Brazil** Coordenadoria Ecumênica de Serviço (CESE)

**Brazil** Diaconia

**Brazil** Fundação Luterana de Diaconia (FLD)

**Brazil** KOINONIA

**Bolivia** Asociación Boliviana Uniendo Manos por la Vida (RED UMAVIDA)

**Bolivia** Iglesia Evangélica Metodista en Bolivia (IEMB)

**Chile** Centro Ecuménico Diego de Medellin (CEDM)

**Chile** Educación Popular en Salud (EPES)

**Colombia** Iglesia Evangélica Luterana de Colombia (IELCO)

**Colombia** Presbyterian Church of Colombia (IPC)

**Costa Rica** Iglesia Luterana Costarricense (ILC)

**Cuba** Council of Churches of Cuba (CCC)

**Dominican Republic** Servicio Social de Iglesias Dominicanas (SSID)

**El Salvador** Asociación Cristiana de Educación y Desarrollo (ALFALIT)

**El Salvador** Salvadorian Lutheran Synod (SLS)

**Guatemala** Asociación Conferencia de Iglesias Evangélicas de Guatemala (CIEDEG)

**Guatemala** Consejo Ecuménico Cristiano de Guatemala (CECG)

**Guatemala** Centro Evangélico de Estudios pastorales en Centro América (Cedepca)

**Haiti** Service Chrétien d’Haïti (SCH)

**Haiti** Mission Sociale des Eglises Haïtiennes (MISSEH)

**Honduras** Comisión de Acción Social Menonita (CASM)

**Nicaragua** Accion Medica Cristiana (AMC)

**Nicaragua** Association for Social Development of the Moravian Church (ADSIM)

**Nicaragua** Centro Intereclesial de Estudios Teológicos y Sociales (CIEETS)

**Nicaragua** Council of Evangelical Churches (CEPAD)

**Nicaragua** Iglesia Luterana de Nicaragua (ILN)

**Peru** Diaconia Peru

**Regional (L.A.)** Consejo Latinoamericano de Iglesias (CLAI)

**Regional (L.A.)** Centro Regional Ecuménico de Asesoría y Servicio (CREAS)

## MIDDLE EAST

**Egypt** Bishopric of Public, Ecumenical and Social Services of the Coptic Orthodox Church (BLESS/COC)

**Lebanon** Middle East Council of Churches (MECC)

**OpT** The East Jerusalem YMCA

**OpT** The Evangelical Lutheran Church in Jordan and the Holy Land (ELCJHL)

**Regional (M.E)** Department of Service to Palestinian Refugees of the Middle East Council of Churches (DSPR-MECC)

## NORTH AMERICA

**Canada** United Church of Canada: Justice, Global and Ecumenical Relations Unit (UCC)

**Canada** Presbyterian World Service and Development (PWSD)

**Canada** Primates World Relief and Development Fund (PWRDF)

**Canada** World Renew (WR)

**Canada** Canadian Lutheran World Relief (CLWR)

**USA** Baptist World Aid (USA)

**USA** Church World Service (CWS)

**USA** Evangelical Lutheran Church of America (ELCA)

**USA** International Orthodox Christian Charities (IOCC)

**USA** Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA)

**USA** United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) USA

**USA** Lutheran World Relief (LWR)

## OBSERVERS

**Australia** Anglican Board of Mission (ABM)

**Global** Anglican Alliance

**Global** Mission EineWelt

**Global** World Student Christian Federation (WSCF)

**Global** Vereinte Evangelische Mission (United Evangelical Mission)

**Finland** Finnish Evangelical Lutheran Mission (FELM)

**Regional (Europe)** Conference of European Churches (CEC)



# Emergencies in AFRICA

Total spend on emergencies in Africa in 2015

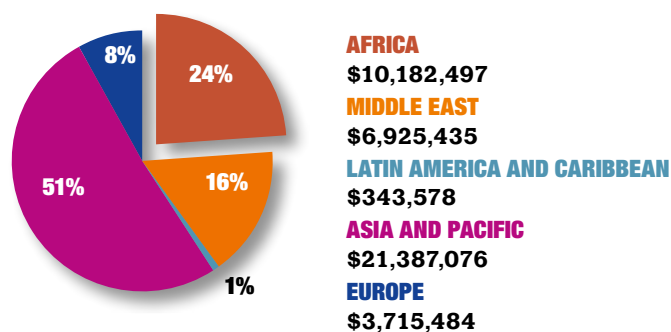
## \$10,182,497

including \$188,738 through Rapid Response Fund (RRF)

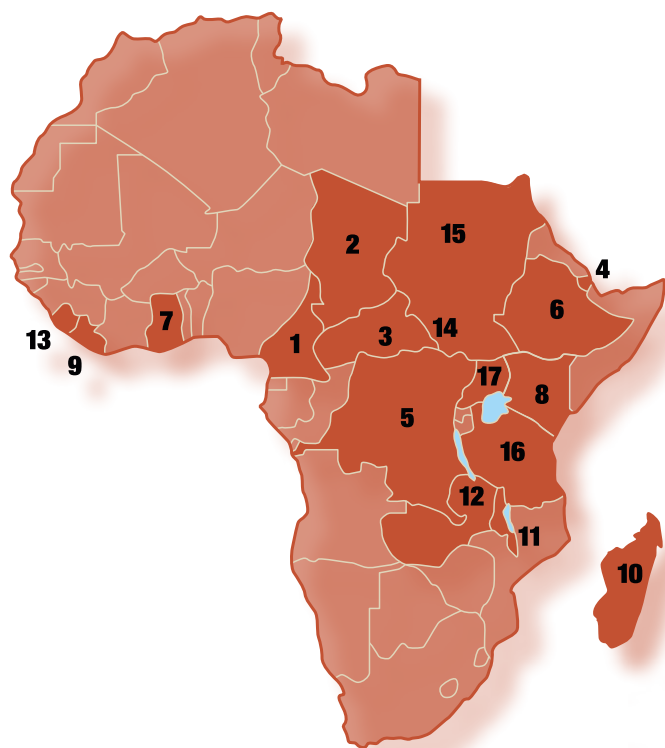
### Emergency type



### Spending in Africa compared to the rest of the world



### 17 emergency responses in 16 countries



- CAMEROON RRF payment** \$69,990 Refugee assistance
- CHAD** \$178,590 Assistance to improve the resilience and livelihood of CAR and Sudanese refugees and returnees, and host communities
- CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC** \$1,152,007 Support and protection of war affected vulnerable communities
- DJIBOUTI** \$191,138 Response to influx of refugees from Yemen
- DRC** \$150,638 Response to Burundian refugee influx in DRC
- ETHIOPIA** \$330,391 Assistance to asylum seekers and refugees from South Sudan
- GHANA RRF payment** \$60,000 Flood response
- KENYA** \$55,820 Response to South Sudan refugee arrivals
- LIBERIA** \$490,573 Post-Ebola Recovery Program
- MADAGASCAR** \$133,105 Response to cyclones and floods
- MALAWI** \$77,888 Flooding response and food security
- MALAWI RRF payment** \$58,748 Flood response
- SIERRA LEONE** \$549,976 Ebola sensitisation and prevention
- SOUTH SUDAN** \$184,036 Protracted conflict crisis
- SUDAN** \$5,443,538 ACT/ Caritas Darfur programme
- TANZANIA** \$785,710 Response to Burundian Refugee influx
- UGANDA** \$270,349 Adjumani refugees initiative for self-reliance and empowerment

Image above: A young man leaves his village to safety crossing the flooded Mkondezi River in Malawi.

ACT/DCA/Francis Botha

# A faith-based response to Ebola

The Ebola outbreak in West Africa first began in 2014 and raged on into 2015. Over 11,000 people are reported to have died in the epidemic, almost all of them in three west-African countries: Liberia, Sierra Leone and Guinea.

Building on the strength of its membership to operate through church networks at a village level, mobilise volunteers, reach people even in remote areas and be trusted by villagers, ACT Alliance took the strategic decision in 2015 to leave treatment centres to the medical experts. The alliance focused on educating communities to prevent the spread of Ebola and helped to reintegrate survivors back into their communities at a time when many people faced psychological trauma and the stigma associated with the disease.

## Promoting disease prevention

As communities and families were quarantined to help stop the spread of the virus, their livelihoods were severely affected with farming activities disrupted and limited resources to other income generation. ACT responded with emergency food distribution in 49 communities and specifically to Ebola survivors.

At the same time alliance members worked on raising awareness of how the virus was being transmitted, training people on prevention of transmission, safe treatment of infected people and safe burial practices, reaching even the most remote areas.

## Working with survivors towards community reintegration

While Ebola killed many people, some survived, and the challenges these survivors faced reintegrating into their communities were significant, due to stigma and the psychological trauma of having lost family members, having been evicted from their houses or if their houses remained, them having been disinfected so that nothing had survived. Focusing on areas of greatest need, ACT worked to provide psychosocial counselling and trauma healing for affected people and assist with community reintegration, and worked with 600 farmers – most of them virus survivors – on improved food production, providing tools, seeds and training.

Over 3,000 children were made orphans in the Ebola crisis. Therefore, beyond day-to-day survival concerns, education had been interrupted for many young survivors and the alliance recognised that re-establishing this was a big part of returning to normality. Working with the Ministry of Education and others, ACT helped rehabilitate 23 school structures, including their wells and hand pumps, and provided health services through the schools.

**“these people come back out of a hospital setting glad to have survived and then they come back to nothing, and actually after-care of the survivors has been poor because all the emphasis has gone into treatment”**

ACT Alliance member working with Ebola survivors





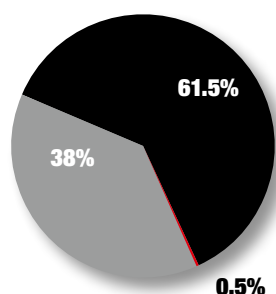
# Emergencies in **ASIA AND PACIFIC**

Total spend on emergencies in Asia and Pacific in 2015

## \$21,387,076

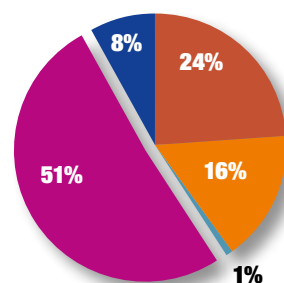
including \$267,409 through Rapid Response Fund (RRF)

Emergency type



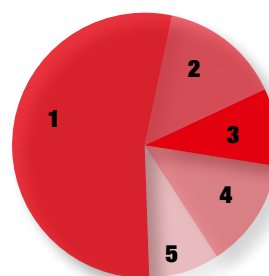
**EXTREME WEATHER EVENTS**  
**EARTHQUAKES**  
**CONFLICT AND DISPLACEMENT**

Spending in Asia and Pacific compared to the rest of the world



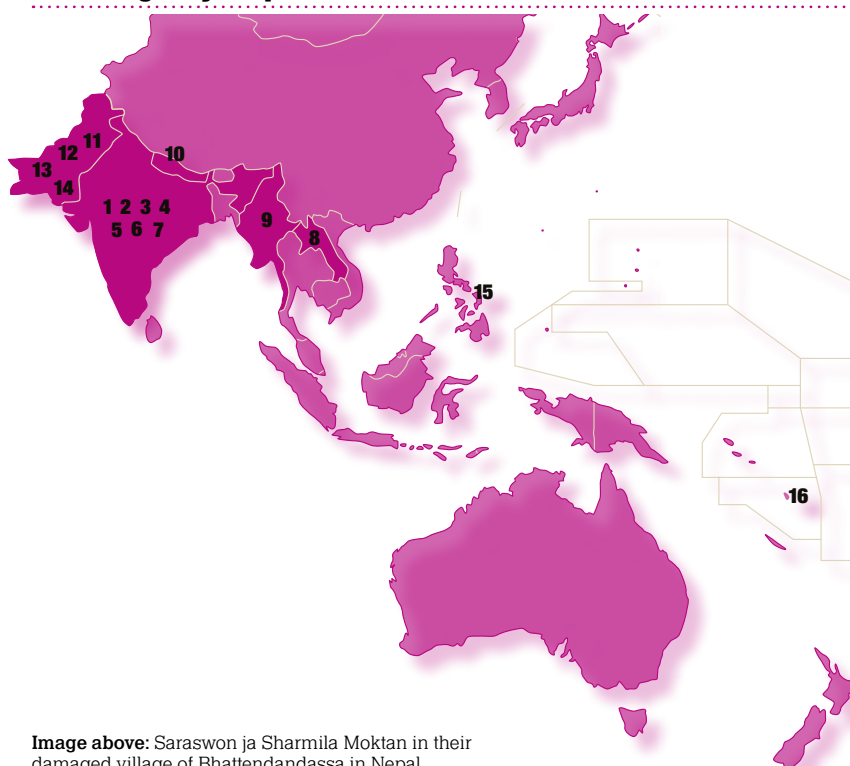
**ASIA AND PACIFIC** \$21,387,076  
**EUROPE** \$3,715,484  
**AFRICA** \$10,182,497  
**MIDDLE EAST** \$6,925,435  
**LATIN AMERICA AND CARIBBEAN** \$343,578

In 2015 ACT members provided



**1 SHELTER** for over 12,252 families  
**2 FOOD** for over 16,681 families  
**3 NON-FOOD ITEMS** for over 10,960 families  
**4 WASH AND HYGIENE** for over 67,976 people  
**5 RECOVERY AND RESTORATION OF LIVELIHOODS** for over 18,285 people

16 emergency responses in seven countries



- 1 INDIA** \$48,975 Flooding in north eastern India
- 2 INDIA** \$35,511 Flooding in Tamil Nadu
- 3 INDIA RRF payment** \$29,399 Violence in Assam
- 4 INDIA RRF payment** \$29,363 Violence in Assam
- 5 INDIA RRF payment** \$29,467 Violence in Assam
- 6 INDIA RRF payment** \$29,454 Floods in Tamil Nadu
- 7 INDIA RRF payment** \$30,000 Floods in Tamil Nadu
- 8 LAO PDR RRF payment** \$59,728 Floods in Luangnamtha Province
- 9 MYANMAR** \$668,820 Flood emergency response
- 10 NEPAL** \$13,129,043 Earthquake response
- 11 PAKISTAN** \$56,276 Assistance to earthquake-affected, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Province
- 12 PAKISTAN** \$150,399 Assistance to the flood-affected families in Sindh and Punjab
- 13 PAKISTAN RRF payment** \$59,998 Floods in Tamil Nadu
- 14 PAKISTAN** \$157,260 Assistance to flood-affected families in Sindh
- 15 THE PHILIPPINES** \$5,883,174 Typhoon Haiyan – rehabilitation
- 16 VANUATU** \$990,209 Cyclone Pam emergency response

Image above: Sarawon ja Sharmila Moktan in their damaged village of Bhattendandassa in Nepal.

ACT/FCA/Aniti Helin



# An organised community is more resilient

## Emergency Preparedness

The ACT Alliance humanitarian mechanism prioritises Emergency Preparedness Response Plans (EPRPs) as the cornerstone of the ACT emergency response, and in 2015 eight of the 14 national and regional forums of ACT members in Asia had either already developed or were in the process of developing their EPRPs.

The EPRPs enable analysis of the local and regional contexts and risks pre-emergencies, and define the coordination mechanisms that ACT national and regional forums will use in the event of an emergency to enable faster response time, particularly in sudden onset situations such as natural disasters where response time makes a huge difference as emergencies happen.

## Disaster Risk Reduction

In addition to preparing for emergencies, ACT members on the ground are able to integrate Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) into ongoing programming, to either reduce the likelihood of emergencies happening or minimise the humanitarian impact of disasters. Certainly at the global level ACT Alliance has been heavily involved in influencing the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030 adopted by UN member states in March 2015, which seeks to build the resilience of nations and communities to disaster. However, at the local level still much remains to be done. This is where ACT members work hand-in-hand with local communities to reduce risk and foster resilience. Through preparedness ACT members help save lives and reduce the financial burden of disasters.

### How ACT Alliance members on the ground help communities reduce the impacts of disasters

#### Early warning network along 'river of sorrow'

An early warning network has been established to reduce loss of lives and livelihoods due to predictable flooding along the "river of sorrow" – the Kosi River, which stretches across the borders of eastern Nepal and the Indian state of Bihar. ACT members worked with local partners to reduce vulnerability through the formation of village disaster management committees, skill building on preparedness such as rescue and first aid, vulnerability assessments, contingency planning and dissemination of flood early warning messages.

#### Improved agricultural system for rice farmers hampered by low rainfall

To reduce vulnerability of rice farmers experiencing reduced rainfall in the Pathanamthitta District of Kerala, India, an ACT Alliance member promoted a Low Input Good Agricultural Production System (LIGAPS) for farmers, to protect livelihoods and reduce negative impact on the environment. The result saw over 1,600 farmers achieving a 90 percent increase in rice production with a 20 percent reduction in production cost, at the same time lowering the risk to their livelihoods of reduced rainfall.

#### Risk reduction education truck for most vulnerable communities

In Pakistan an ACT member on the ground uses a Mobile Knowledge Resource Centre equipped in a truck, to bring DRR education to the most hard to reach areas and most hazard-prone communities, to help people prepare for natural disasters.

#### Climate field school to combat diverse weather conditions

In Diganjeng, West-Java, Indonesia, a community with the help of an ACT member, academia and other stakeholders came together in an innovative collaboration to create a climate field school, which teaches how to grow rice on bamboo rafts floating on the water when fields are flooded during the rainy season. The innovation emerged from the need to farm throughout diverse weather patterns including very rainy and dry seasons. Furthermore, the 2x5m rafts can be made from bamboo trunks held together with netting within 30 minutes, enabling a continuation of livelihoods.





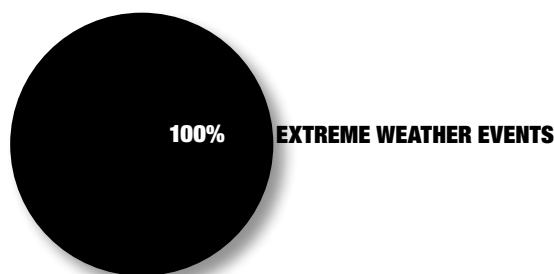
# Emergencies in LATIN AMERICA AND CARIBBEAN

Total spend on emergencies in Latin America and the Caribbean in 2015

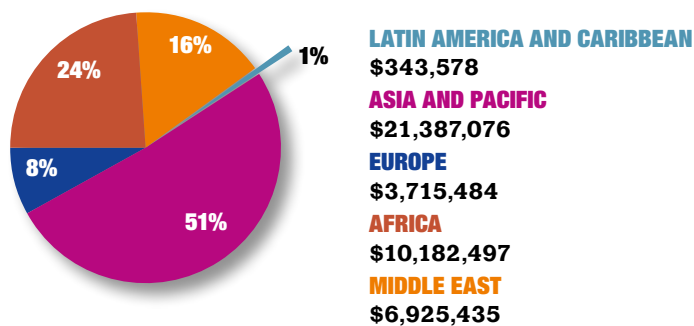
## \$343,578

including \$34,197 through Rapid Response Fund (RRF)

### Emergency type



### Spending in Latin America and the Caribbean compared to the rest of the world



### Emergency responses in two countries

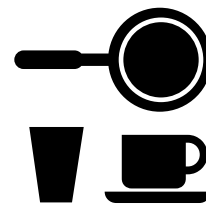


- 1 BRAZIL** RRF payment \$34,197  
Indigenous people suffering from floods in Acre and Amazonas states
- 2 COLOMBIA** \$309,381 Arauca Floods

### In 2015 ACT members provided



FOOD AND NON-FOOD ITEMS  
FOR OVER **858** FAMILIES



**Image above:** Johnny Antesano, a four year old Guaraní indigenous boy in Choroquepio, a small village in the Chaco region of Bolivia, helps his mother, Yela Vilera, in their family garden. They and their neighbours started their gardens with assistance from ACT Alliance, supplementing their corn-based diet with nutritious vegetables and fruits.

ACT/Paul Jeffrey



# Managing risks of disaster

**Many farmers lost their crops when heavy rain in May and June saw rivers break their banks resulting in floods in the north-eastern area of Arauca, Colombia.**

Roads were washed away, houses and public buildings were damaged, drinking water supplies were affected. Farmers in the area lost standing crops, livestock and seed stores. 1,296 households were affected by the overflow of the Arauca, Bojabá, Banadías and Madre Vieja rivers. On top of losing crops of corn, bananas and cocoa, many farmers sank into debt because of the loss of seeds and fertilisers in which they had invested.

## Facilitating recovery

ACT responded with an appeal focusing on food security, risk management, water and sanitation in the hardest hit areas. The alliance used a method of a voucher delivery system for non-food items, which enabled families of up to five people to buy products sufficient for about three months, including toilet paper, laundry soap, body soap, detergent and toothpaste.

In addition, the use of vouchers enabled families to have ownership over their recovery, through saving for other needs such as housing improvements, debt payments, buying products for sustaining animals and other household economic activities.

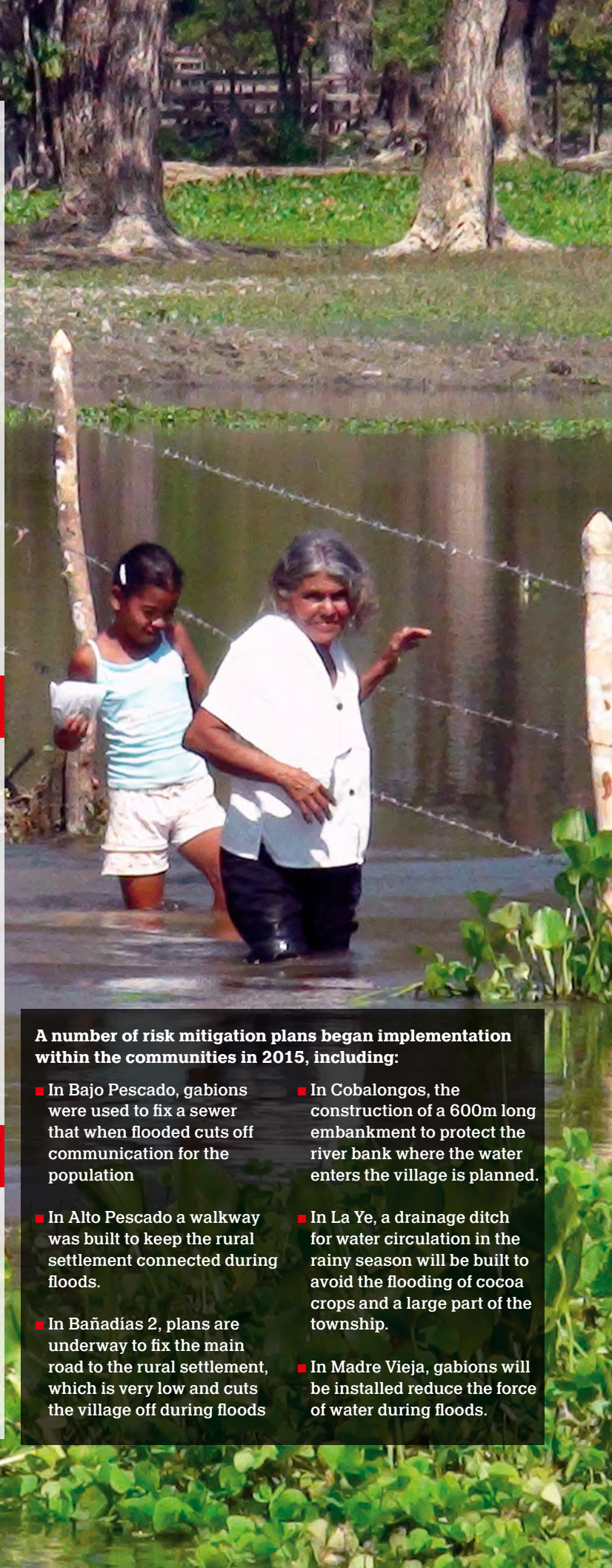
Through the use of livelihood restoration vouchers, families have acquired seeds, agricultural products and tools to recover and strengthen productive activities affected by the floods. Some families have even started new micro-projects, including the breeding of small animals, such as hens.

## Disaster risk management

In addition to immediate lifesaving needs, ACT members helped families prepare for future emergencies by running community meetings in which the risks of the community were identified and risk maps and plans were drawn up based on community perceptions. Although floods occur every year in the region, historically these have been mild and have helped maintain the area's fertility. However, recent flooding has reached unprecedented levels and duration. Farmers live in fear of the next disaster, and are left wondering whether farming in the area can remain a viable option.

### A number of risk mitigation plans began implementation within the communities in 2015, including:

- In Bajo Pescado, gabions were used to fix a sewer that when flooded cuts off communication for the population
- In Cobalongos, the construction of a 600m long embankment to protect the river bank where the water enters the village is planned.
- In Alto Pescado a walkway was built to keep the rural settlement connected during floods.
- In La Ye, a drainage ditch for water circulation in the rainy season will be built to avoid the flooding of cocoa crops and a large part of the township.
- In Bañadías 2, plans are underway to fix the main road to the rural settlement, which is very low and cuts the village off during floods
- In Madre Vieja, gabions will be installed reduce the force of water during floods.





# Emergencies in THE MIDDLE EAST

Total spend on emergencies in the Middle East in 2015

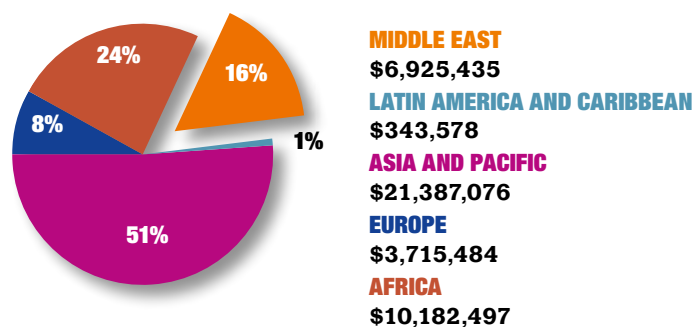
## \$6,925,435

including \$60,000 through Rapid Response Fund (RRF)

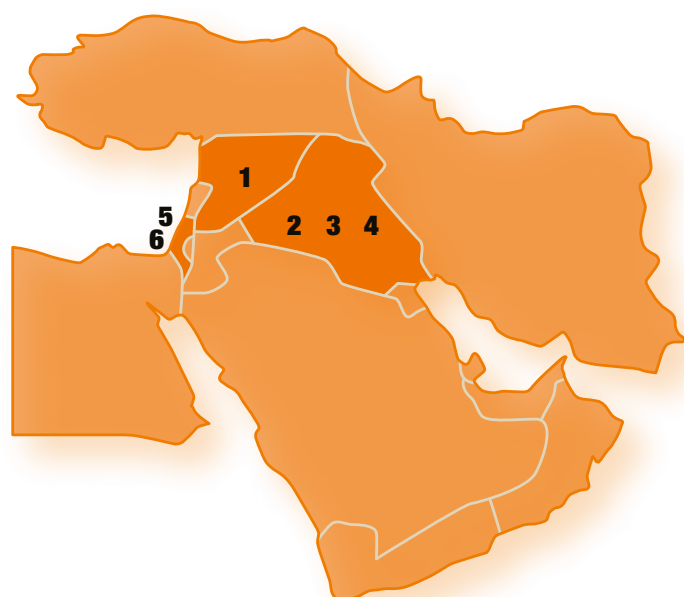
### Emergency type



### Spending in the Middle East compared to the rest of the world



### Six emergency responses in three countries



- 1 SYRIA \$4,387,098**  
Humanitarian response
- 2 IRAQ \$1,140,640**  
Support to displaced people and their hosts
- 3 IRAQ \$950,860**  
Survival assistance for displaced populations and their host communities in the north
- 4 IRAQ RRF payment \$60,000**  
Support to displaced people and their hosts
- 5 OCCUPIED PALESTINIAN TERRITORIES \$99,924**  
Gaza and West Bank Post War Crises
- 6 OCCUPIED PALESTINIAN TERRITORIES \$286,913**  
Support to Gaza and the West Bank

**Image above:** Fadia, who escaped fighting in Aleppo, Syria, washes clothes in front of her family's shelter in the Aamer al Sanad refugee settlement in Kab Elias, a town in Lebanon's Bekaa Valley which has filled with Syrian refugees.

ACT/Paul Jeffrey



# Towards peacebuilding and rehabilitation

With the protracted crisis in Syria in its fifth year, 2015 saw ongoing violence and increased involvement of international actors in the fighting, resulting in more death, more injuries, and more displacement. The fighting has led to an increase in the number of besieged areas and blocked roads, negatively impacting the living conditions of millions of people. By the end of 2015, the UN estimated that 6.6 million people were internally displaced and 13.5 million were in need of humanitarian assistance. A further 4.7 million Syrian refugees had been registered in neighbouring Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, Turkey and north Africa. And in response to unpredictable and underfunded humanitarian assistance in the region, hundreds of thousands fled to Europe. With no political solution in sight for Syria, conditions for those in need of humanitarian assistance remain grim. ACT Alliance members have been on the ground in Jordan, Syria and Lebanon providing humanitarian relief since the beginning of the crisis, and continue to provide lifesaving relief, psychosocial care and desperately needed rehabilitation assistance to the millions of people in need.

## TOWARDS PEACEBUILDING

- In Jordan psychosocial well-being workshops were held for women, and children's forums for ages eight to 14 were conducted. A Peace Oasis program is underway providing psychosocial support and undertaking peacebuilding activities with youth and children

## TOWARDS REHABILITATION

- In Syria Cash-for-Work (CfW) activities are underway in a project to rehabilitate three shelters in Al-Hassakeh, a centre for children with special needs and the children's department in Al-Sweida National Hospital, as well as a fresh water distribution programme benefiting hundreds of people
- In Jordan training workshops were held for men and women on civic education, life skills, starting own businesses, and the promotion of girls' education. An under school rehabilitation program is underway with three out of seven schools in the Irbid governorate rehabilitated in 2015
- In Lebanon ACT members are carrying out formal and informal education programs for hundreds of students, as well as vocational training activities such as hair dressing and beautification for women, barber courses, sewing and computer courses



# Emergencies in EUROPE

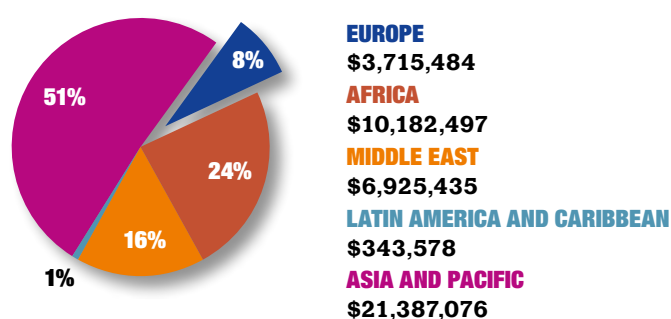
Total spend on emergencies in Europe in 2015

## \$3,715,484

### Emergency type



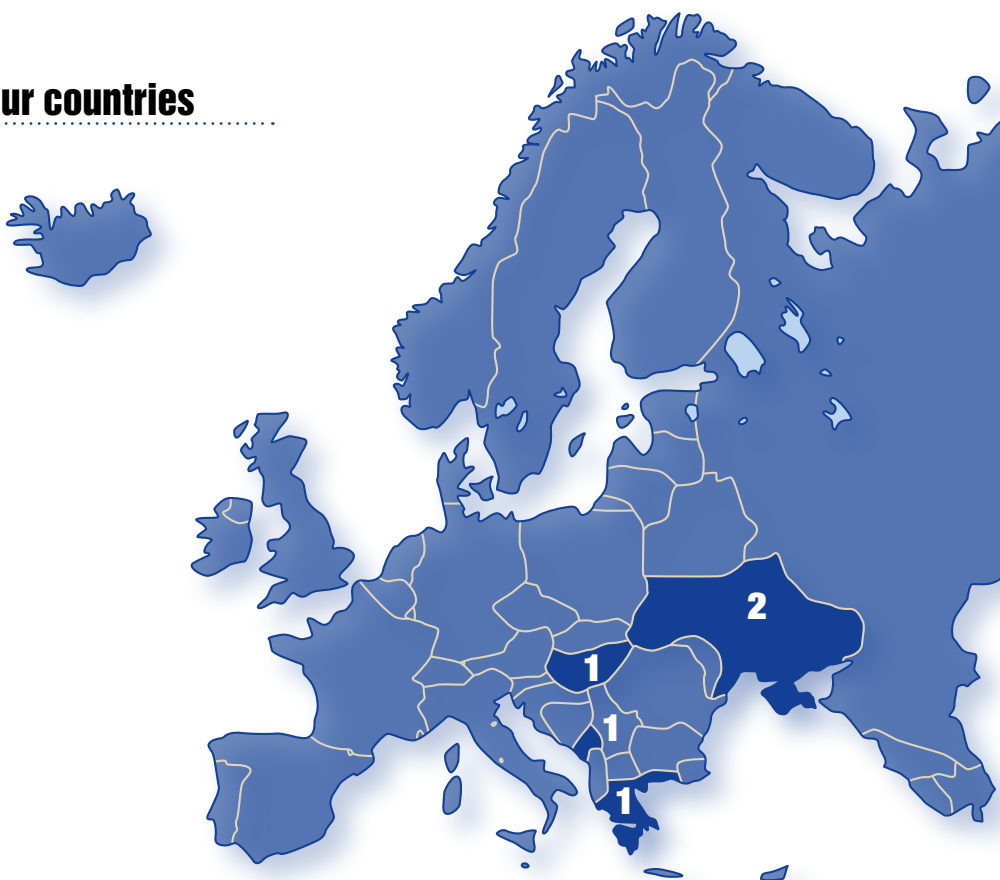
### Spending in Europe compared to the rest of the world



### Emergency responses in four countries

1 **EUROPE** \$2,706,310

2 **UKRAINE** \$1,009,174





# Accompanying displaced people

In response to the refugee and migrant crisis in south-eastern Europe, ACT Alliance undertook its first joint funding appeal for the region, bringing together its members in Serbia, Hungary and Greece to jointly implement a coordinated humanitarian response after more than one million people crossed the Mediterranean Sea in search of protection from war, conflict and deteriorating living conditions.



The joint funding appeal launched in September 2015 raised over US\$2.5m by the end of the year enabling members on the ground to provide food packages and non-food items such as hygiene kits, blankets and clothes, shower and toilet containers, psychosocial support as well as shelter support such as bunk beds and mattresses to over 160,000 refugees and migrants.

## **The refugee situation in the region presents a unique and challenging humanitarian crisis**

Within Greece, the rootedness of ACT Alliance member relationships has enabled an ability to tap into the constellation of different responding actors such as volunteer groups, national and international humanitarian NGOs, and has enabled a certain flexibility to react to the volatile situation on the ground affecting the movement of refugees. Similarly, Hungary following the closure of both the Serbian-Hungarian borders in September and Croatian-Hungarian borders in October has seen a stop to the influx of

refugees, requiring a rapid shift from immediate humanitarian action to longer term assistance. ACT members already on the ground in Hungary were able to refocus efforts through tapping into local expertise of social workers and other experts with great experience of enabling integration within the national context.

Across the region, however, protection remains a significantly compelling issue. The large number of refugees and migrants that have arrived in Europe has led to a new policy of limiting opportunities for accessing territory along the Balkan route.

As the crisis continues and political shifts see continued changes in the movement and restrictions of refugees, ACT Alliance members who at the local level have long built up trust and reputations with authorities, have expanded their activities beyond immediate humanitarian need to advance a human rights based advocacy agenda. This is directed at the European Union and its member states in order to develop policies and responses which are in compliance with human rights, humanitarian law and standards.





# EFFECTIVE RESPONSE to emergencies

The vision for ACT Alliance in emergencies is to enable an effective ecumenical response that saves lives and maintains dignity.

An effective, quality response is well prepared, timely, coordinated, locally owned and at an appropriate scale to meet need. We strengthen the resilience of affected communities and are accountable to the people affected by crisis. Humanitarian needs define our priorities and the humanitarian principles of humanity, impartiality, neutrality and independence guide our actions. Our coordinated advocacy work – at national, regional and global levels – amplifies local voices from affected populations to help address root causes of injustice and promote the fulfilment of human rights and dignity for all. In 2015 a new ACT Alliance humanitarian policy was approved highlighting four categories of emergencies and is being rolled out across the alliance.

## Local / national emergencies



### DEFINITION

- Emergency relief or humanitarian response
- Limited sectors
- <150,000 affected
- Local/national capacity to respond

### ACT RESPONSE

- Rapid Response Fund
- Appeal
- Peer monitoring
- Evaluation
- Humanitarian advocacy
- Emergency Preparedness Response Plans

Drought in Malawi has led to chronic food insecurity.

ACT/Paul Jeffrey

## Large-scale/ global emergencies



### DEFINITION

- Humanitarian response
- Multi-sectoral
- High media coverage
- >150,000 people affected
- International response required/expected

### ACT RESPONSE

- Global appeal
- Global coordination
- Humanitarian assessment team
- Joint monitoring and evaluation
- Humanitarian advocacy

Clear up in Dhawa, Nepal in the wake of 2015 earthquake.

ACT/Paul Jeffrey

## Complex emergencies



### DEFINITION

- Multi-sectoral needs
- Fragile social and political institutions
- Access hampered by insecurity
- Humanitarian and emergency relief responses needed by multiple actors

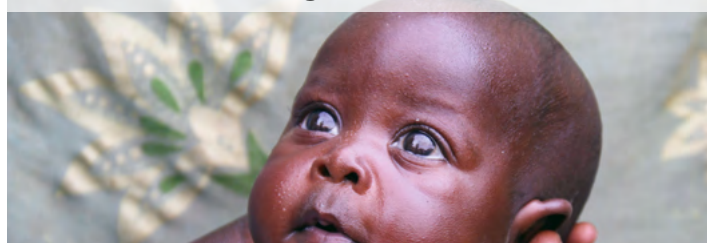
### ACT RESPONSE

- Appeal
- Joint monitoring and evaluation
- Humanitarian advocacy
- Emergency Preparedness Response Plans

A blind girl, part of a group of disabled Haitians who received support from ACT Alliance members.

ACT/Paul Jeffrey

## Protracted emergencies



### DEFINITION

- 'Normalisation' of emergency
- Similar needs/target population for >four years
- 'Forgotten crisis'
- Lack of media attention
- Political will and/or donor fatigue

### ACT RESPONSE

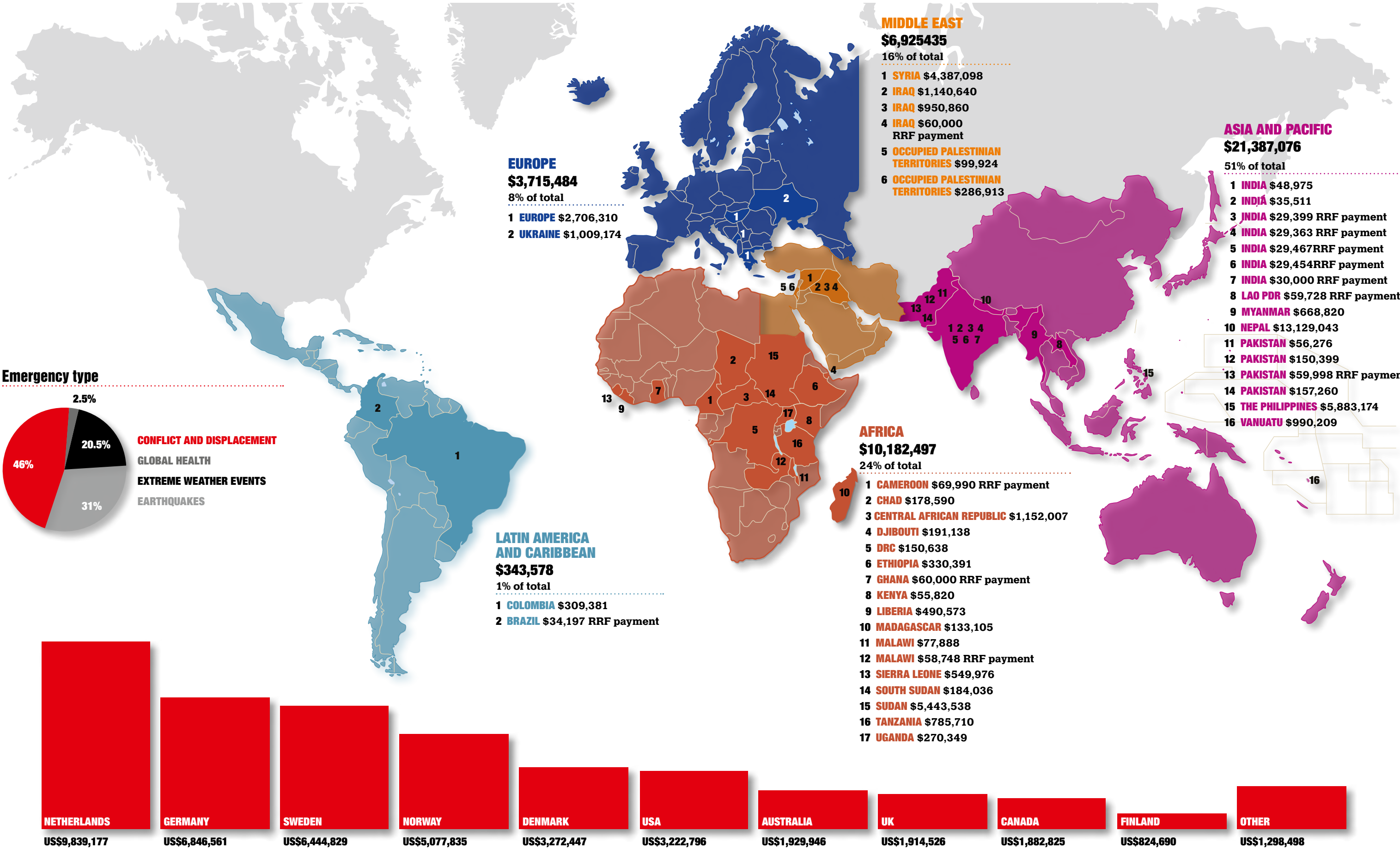
- Humanitarian advocacy
- Emergency Preparedness Response Plans

2014 saw the tenth anniversary of the ACT-Caritas Darfur programme

ACT/Paul Jeffrey

# EMERGENCY RESPONSE FUNDING in 2015

Total spend \$42,554,070





# ACT Alliance's **RAPID RESPONSE FUND**

Enabling timely and effective locally-led responses

As a global alliance, with a presence in more than 100 countries, primarily at the local and national levels, ACT Alliance members are well positioned to respond to local emergencies enabling a rapid response and minimising damaging impacts of disaster. Rooted in faith, the alliance uses community-based front-line responders, even in disasters that do not make international headlines.

**“The RRF was the main tool that enabled us to respond to the Ebola crisis in the early phases of the outbreak”**

**Joseph Binda** ACT member in Liberia

The strength of ACT Alliance is the multitude of different organisations that make up its membership. ACT Alliance has the privileged position of being a network of local, national and international actors committed to partnerships among one another. This commitment enables international and global members of ACT to enhance the capacity of local and national actors, allowing for first phase response in the beginning of a crises or disaster to come directly from the community itself.

The ACT Alliance Rapid Response Fund (RRF), responds to thousands of people around the world each year – people who would not otherwise have assistance in a timely way that responds to urgent, life-saving need.

The RRF is the tool for responding to small and medium level, sudden onset emergencies. For ACT Alliance, emergency response is more than saving lives; it is also a genuine desire to invest in resilience and disaster risk reduction within communities so that populations at risk can prepare and protect themselves.

**“The RRF enables us to respond during the first three months”**

**Arthur Lichenya** ACT member in Malawi

## 12 Rapid Response Fund activations in 2015

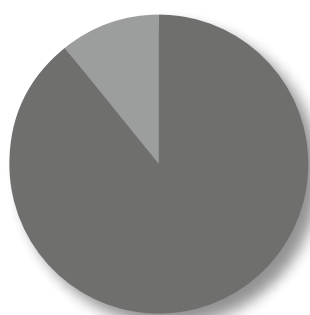




# Audited accounts

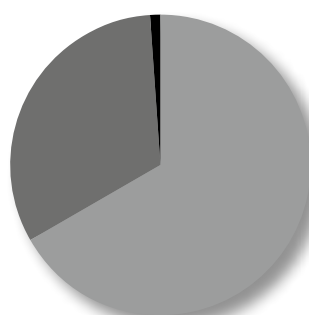
## BALANCE SHEET FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2015

Appendix /Notes	2015 USD	2015 CHF	2014 USD	2014 CHF
<b>ASSETS</b>				
<b>Current assets</b>				
Cash at bank	2,679,865	2,659,766	3,681,324	3,645,247
Short term deposits	2,000,112	1,985,111	2,000,108	1,980,507
Income receivable net	326,140	323,694	621,466	615,376
Staff advances	44,675	44,340	56,450	55,896
Other debtors	91,679	90,992	107,548	106,494
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>5,142,471</b>	<b>5,103,903</b>	<b>6,466,896</b>	<b>6,403,520</b>
<b>LIABILITIES AND OWN FUNDS</b>				
<b>Current liabilities</b>				
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	333,421	330,920	536,241	530,986
Funds received in advance (Unspent earmarked contribution)	23,150	22,976	3,776	3,739
	<b>356,571</b>	<b>353,896</b>	<b>540,017</b>	<b>534,725</b>
<b>Funds in trust</b>				
Appeals funds Appendix III	2,657,234	2,637,305	4,337,932	4,295,420
Appeal Evaluation Fund	26,802	26,601	26,802	26,539
<b>TOTAL FUNDS IN TRUST</b>	<b>2,684,036</b>	<b>2,663,906</b>	<b>4,364,734</b>	<b>4,321,959</b>
<b>Own funds</b>				
<b>General reserve</b> Appendix II / Note 4				
<b>A. Restricted Reserve</b>	1,213,657	1,204,555	1,210,095	1,198,236
<b>B. Designated Unrestricted Reserve (Assembly 2018)</b>	150,000	148,875	–	–
<b>C. Unrestricted Reserve at beginning of year</b>	352,050	348,599	300,453	297,508
Result of operations for the year	386,158	383,262	51,597	51,091
Currency translation adjustment	–	810	–	–
<b>Unrestricted Reserve at end of year</b>	<b>888,208</b>	<b>881,546</b>	<b>352,050</b>	<b>348,599</b>
<b>Total general reserve</b>	<b>2,101,865</b>	<b>2,086,101</b>	<b>1,562,145</b>	<b>1,546,835</b>
<b>Total own funds</b>	<b>2,101,865</b>	<b>2,086,101</b>	<b>1,562,145</b>	<b>1,546,835</b>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES AND OWN FUNDS</b>	<b>5,142,471</b>	<b>5,103,903</b>	<b>6,466,896</b>	<b>6,403,520</b>



### Total income 2015

- **Appeals income 89%**  
US\$43,418,319
- **Secretariat income 11%**  
US\$5,142,471



### Secretariat income 2015

- **Fees 67.3%**  
(including Income based fees 41%, International coordination 23%, and Membership fees 3%) US\$ (VALUE)
- **Voluntary contribution 32.6%**  
US\$ (VALUE)
- **Other income 0.12%**  
US\$ (VALUE)



## STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2015

		2015	2015	2014	2014
	Appendix /Notes	USD	CHF	USD	CHF
<b>INCOME</b>					
<b>Fees</b>					
Membership fees	Appendix VI	148,177	147,066	148,000	146,550
Income based fees	Appendix VI	2,035,870	2,020,601	2,059,054	2,038,875
International coordination fees	Appendix VI	1,147,075	1,138,472	817,854	809,839
<b>Total fees</b>		<b>3,331,122</b>	<b>3,306,139</b>	<b>3,024,908</b>	<b>2,995,264</b>
<b>Voluntary Contributions</b>					
Voluntary contributions unearmarked	Appendix VII	390,064	387,139	533,760	528,529
Voluntary contributions earmarked to aims	Appendix VII	1,162,243	1,153,526	1,244,260	1,232,066
Support to Faith Based CPDE	Appendix VII	61,812	61,348	49,418	48,934
<b>Total Voluntary Contributions</b>		<b>1,614,119</b>	<b>1,602,013</b>	<b>1,827,438</b>	<b>1,809,529</b>
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>		<b>4,945,241</b>	<b>4,908,152</b>	<b>4,852,346</b>	<b>4,804,793</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>					
Staff costs	Appendix V.2	3,024,329	3,001,646	3,610,750	3,575,365
Office costs	Appendix V.2	509,489	505,668	404,130	400,170
AIM 1 Human Dignity	Appendix V.1	29,357	29,137	27,531	27,261
AIM 2 Community Resilience	Appendix V.1	94,623	93,914	27,755	27,483
AIM 3 Environmental Sustainability	Appendix V.1	147,826	146,718	89,258	88,383
AIM 4 Robust Alliance	Appendix V.1	308,760	306,444	65,802	65,157
AIM 5 Effective and Visible Communication		–	–	106,733	105,687
AIM 6 Strong ACT Alliance		–	–	900,161	891,339
Provision for doubtful debts and write off	Note 3	221,951	220,286	69,113	68,435
Support to Faith Based CPDE		75,233	74,669	–	–
		<b>4,411,568</b>	<b>4,378,482</b>	<b>5,301,233</b>	<b>5,249,280</b>
Interest received		(3,562)	(3,535)	(23,535)	(23,304)
Other income		–	–	(122,366)	(121,167)
Other income 2014 Assembly		–	–	(167,198)	(165,560)
Exchange (Gain)/Loss Restricted Reserve		–	–	109,561	108,488
Exchange (Gain)/Loss Core budget		(2,485)	(2,467)	103,883	102,865
		(6,047)	(6,002)	(99,655)	(98,678)
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE</b>		<b>4,405,521</b>	<b>4,372,480</b>	<b>5,201,578</b>	<b>5,150,602</b>
<b>SURPLUS / (DEFICIT) FOR THE YEAR BEFORE ALLOCATIONS</b>		<b>539,720</b>	<b>535,672</b>	<b>(349,231)</b>	<b>(345,809)</b>
Interest capitalized to restricted reserve	Appendix II	(3,562)	(3,535)	(23,535)	(23,304)
Exchange (Gain) / Loss transferred to restricted Reserve	Appendix II	–	–	109,561	108,488
Allocation (to) / from 2014/2018 Assembly provision		(150,000)	(148,875)	314,802	311,717
<b>SURPLUS / (DEFICIT) FOR THE YEAR AFTER ALLOCATIONS</b>		<b>386,158</b>	<b>383,262</b>	<b>51,597</b>	<b>51,091</b>

# ACT Alliance advocating for CLIMATE JUSTICE

Our mission as a church-based network is to advocate for the rights of the world's most vulnerable people with whom we work every day, and many of whom are already facing the challenges of climate change.



In 2015 members of the alliance brought hundreds of thousands of voices from communities to the global arena through their campaign, **ACT NOW for Climate Justice**, which along with partners resulted in a petition of nearly 1.8 million signatures from communities across the globe. The petition was handed to UNFCCC Executive Secretary Christiana Figueres and French President François Hollande at the start of the COP21 climate negotiations in December 2015.

## ACT Climate Ambassadors

### Netherlands

Reverend Karine Van Broeke, President of the Synod of the PKN

### Scotland

Reverend Sally Foster Fulton, ACT Climate Ambassador

### South Africa

The Most Reverend Thabo Makgoba, Archbishop of Cape Town and Global ACT Climate Ambassador

### United Kingdom

Reverend Nicholas Holtam, Bishop of Salisbury

### United States

Reverend John L. McCullough Church World Service



In Africa ACT members and partners undertook an ambitious three-month journey cycling through nine countries from Mozambique to Kenya, gathering the voices of the communities most affected by climate change to bring to the global arena. The journey culminated in a number of advocacy events in Nairobi, including an African Peoples Climate Summit and an Interfaith Climate Summit.



**"Climate chaos affects our poorest, most vulnerable brothers and sisters first; it hits them hardest; it hits them fastest; and they have least to do with it"**

Reverend Sally Foster Fulton, ACT Climate Ambassador

In Latin America and the Caribbean a youth network consisting of 150 church leaders from six countries were trained on climate change issues. They supported the campaign mobilising communities in churches, universities and in public places, to add their voices to the ACT petition for climate justice. Workshops were run with government officials and civil society about climate justice and loss and damage.



In Europe ACT members joined a pilgrimage for climate justice from Norway in June 2015, mobilising communities along the way and culminating in Paris for the start of the COP21 climate negotiations in December. Along the way the pilgrims walked, cycled, sailed or paddled hundreds of kilometres to bring the voices from the communities to the global stage.

**Image top of page:** Children navigate the water on an inner tube during November 2014 flooding in Meulaboh in Indonesia's Aceh province. ACT/Paul Jeffrey  
**Image right:** An agricultural technician in Honduras, inspects a drought affected corn field which is believed to be an effect of climate change.

ACT/Sean Hawkey





# ACT Alliance's climate justice journey

## CONTINUING TO ADVOCATE FOR CLIMATE JUSTICE

The UN agreement on climate change adopted in December 2015 in Paris is an important milestone in climate change policy and diplomacy. It demonstrates the success of a multilateral process that has lasted several years, was beset by many challenges, and in which ACT Alliance rallied its network to help bring the issue to the world's attention and engage churches and civil society in fighting for climate justice.

It can be argued that without the strong voice of faith-based organisations and civil society, the Paris Agreement may never have contained some of the key components that address the needs and the rights of those mostly affected by climate change. Due to global advocacy, including the voices of the ACT Alliance network, the world community showed commitment to finding a global solution to a global problem and recognising the call for climate justice.

Since 2010 ACT Alliance has advocated, lobbied, campaigned, mobilised and amplified the voices of communities for climate justice. The Paris Agreement is one step in the process towards transformational change, and this change must now happen from the bottom up. To ensure meaningful implementation of the agreement, the alliance is increasingly focusing its advocacy on motivating change agents at all levels, particularly the national level, where in communities across the globe momentum for change is undeniably growing.

## 2015

ACT launches climate academy for advocates

Members successfully lobby to get Central America governments to carry a unified position to COP21

ACT climate campaign builds momentum

ACT is present at UN negotiations in France (COP21)

ACT responds to 10 countries' weather related emergencies

ACT organises an informal discussion for 20 key governments to discuss Loss and Damage at Bonn climate negotiations

## 2014

Faith Based Organisations call for greater recognition of their role in disasters at Asian Ministerial DRR Conference

ACT organises a high-level climate change equity breakfast bringing governments of Gambia, Switzerland, Sweden and Bolivia together in a trust-building dialogue session during the UN Climate Summit in New York

ACT launches its first global campaign, ACT Now for Climate Justice

ACT members join 400,000 people to march for climate justice in New York

ACT participates in 15,000-strong civil society march at COP20 in Lima

ACT responds to 16 countries' weather related emergencies

## 2013

ACT hosts its first high level discussion on climate change equity, bringing together governments, academics and experts

ACT hosts its first high level event in the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction

Members meet with the chair of the Least Developed Countries climate change bloc and lobby delegates at UN talks in Bonn

Members take part in the UN climate negotiations in Poland (COP19)

ACT responds to eight countries' weather related emergencies

## 2012

ACT works closely with the UN International Strategy for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNISDR) to determine the new DRR framework

ACT is admitted to the UN Nairobi work programme on impacts, vulnerability and adaptation to climate change

ACT is well represented at UN climate talks in Doha (COP18)

ACT responds to 11 countries' weather related emergencies

## 2011

In Central America, ACT members advise the official delegations of El Salvador, Nicaragua and Guatemala, successfully influencing the official document of the regional delegation to the UN climate change talks (COP17)

ACT responds to 17 countries' weather related emergencies

## 2010

Climate change is identified as the alliance advocacy priority

ACT is accredited as an observer to the UNFCCC

ACT members unite at the UN climate conference in Cancún to advocate for an ambitious climate deal

Nebert Pasidya Mkandawire, 63, encourages his bean plants on his farm in Dofu, an area in northern Malawi which has been hit hard by drought and hunger. The ACT Alliance is helping residents of this community discover new ways to grow more food, thus achieving food security for their families.

ACT/Paul Jeffrey

actalliance



# ACT ALLIANCE advocating for PRIVATE SECTOR ACCOUNTABILITY

ACT alliance has played a significant role in raising awareness of human rights in communities, particularly in the areas of extractive industries and land rights.

## 2015

**'Alternative Mining Indaba' grows to 350 delegates from across the world**

**ACT together with partners brings speakers from the community to Geneva, Switzerland, to share their experiences of human rights violations by multinational corporations**

**ACT brings community voices to the fourth UN Business and Human Rights Council**

## 2014

**ACT advocacy sees rewards with the adoption of resolution at the UN Human Rights Council for a legally binding human rights instrument on Transnational Corporations and other business enterprises**

**Intergovernmental working group is established to work towards a legally binding human rights instrument on transnational corporations**

**ACT members in southern Africa hold an annual 'Alternative Mining Indaba'**

**ACT members from Southern Africa Regional Forum take part in the UN Business and Human Rights Forum**

## 2013

**ACT makes a submission to UN OHCHR following human rights violations in garment factories in Bangladesh**

**ACT members highlight exploitative extractive industries through a submission to the UN working group at the UN Forum on Business and Human Rights**

**ACT members in southern Africa hold an annual 'Alternative Mining Indaba'**

## 2012

**ACT members engage with the extractives industry, holding a first 'Alternative Mining Indaba'**

## 2011

**ACT achieves 'consultative status' with the UN Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC)**

**ACT supports miners' union to improve gold mine work conditions in DRC**

Alliance members advocate at community, national and global level, working to ensure that companies are held accountable for human rights violations. The alliance consistently brings the voices of the people impacted by corporate human rights violations on the ground to global level processes such as the UN Human Rights Council, to discuss with various stakeholders ways of successfully implementing the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights and to promote dialogue and cooperation on among key stakeholders.



In southern Africa the Mozambican government and local authorities today refer to ACT Alliance and its members and as a **'voice from the communities'** when talking about extractive industries



**Image top:** A side-event co-organised with ACT Alliance and the Lutheran World Federation on the occasion of the fourth UN Forum on Business and Human Rights.

ACT/Valter Hugo Muniz

**Images right:** Civil society rallies together to march for climate justice at the 2012 UN climate summit in Durban, South Africa.

ACT/NCA/Jane Vogt Evensen



# Raising an alternative voice

ACT Alliance's Southern Africa Regional Forum (SARF) has as a group of 44 members been a strong advocate for justice in the extractive industry and in governance.

In an area rich in diamonds, gold, platinum and copper, where these are exported by multinationals more often than they are used to further development domestically, and in which communities are exploited along the way, these issues are a shared priority among ACT members, who work daily with the impacted people on the ground. The forum therefore works to raise the voices of these communities nationally, regionally and globally.

**“Workers endure dangerous conditions, are exploited and even lose their lives, and pollution is normal”**

In response the community is raising its voice. For several years, the forum has organised the “Alternative Mining Indaba (AMI)” in response to Africa's largest mining conference held annually in South Africa, the “Mining Indaba”. Originally set up by ACT member Economic Justice Network and with 25 delegates, in 2015 the Alternative Mining Indaba hosted 350 delegates from across the world. Its impact has spread

**“Mining goes ahead without adequate agreement from the local community – there is often either a lack of consent or poorly informed consent for mining projects”**

from a South Africa event to Botswana, Mozambique, Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe, where in 2015 ACT members played major role in organising national Alternative Mining Indabas. However the major success lies in the dialogue that has been generated among communities and private and national mining companies from national to global level.

The impact has been so great that in recent years the original “Mining Indaba” organisers threatened court action in a failed attempt to keep exclusive use of the event's name – a clear example of how coordinated advocacy helps communities ensure their voices are heard.

Civil society rallies together to march for climate justice at the 2012 UN climate summit in Durban, South Africa.

ACT/NCA/Jane Vogt Evensen





# ACT Alliance advocating towards the SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

ACT Alliance has been actively engaged in the post-2015 process, which in September 2015 generated the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), replacing the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). Since their adoption, ACT Alliance members have made remarkable strides in their advocacy, programs and partnerships in applying the SDG mandate as a guiding framework.

## ACT SUPPORTS SDGs THAT:

**SUSTAIN LIVES AND LIVELIHOODS IN THE FACE OF DISASTERS, BY**

**RECOGNISING** the impact of everyday disasters on lives, livelihoods and assets as a means of poverty reduction

**PRIORITISING** the most at risk, poorest and marginalised people

**TACKLING** the underlying causes of people's vulnerability to disasters

**MOBILISING** political commitment by focusing on rights, responsibilities and accountabilities

**PROMOTING** partnerships and public participation

**ENSURE A CLIMATE-CONSCIOUS FRAMEWORK, THROUGH**

**ENSURING** low carbon development and sustainable production and consumption

**ENSURING** climate resilience

**BUILDING** in disaster risk reduction to global, national and local strategies

**LEAVE NO ONE BEHIND AND CLOSES THE GAPS, THROUGH**

**GENDER** equality and women's empowerment

**REDUCING** economic inequality within countries

**GLOBAL** equity, including striking the right balance between promoting domestic action and a shared responsibility in relation to global governance issues

**PROVIDE COMPREHENSIVE SOCIAL PROTECTION FOR ALL, BY**

**ENSURING** social protection is rights-based, non-discriminatory, transparent, participatory, empowering and clearly defined in legal frameworks that enable accountability

**ENSURING** social protection floors are established in countries

**THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY** extending more support to low and medium income countries in establishing and extending social protection programmes, policies and institutions

**FINANCES SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT, THROUGH**

**INTRODUCING** progressive direct taxation and gender-budgeting

**ESTABLISHING** an international body on tax cooperation and promoting transparency and accountability

**IMPLEMENTING** commitments on official development assistance

**SOCIALLY** and environmentally accountable business operations, and trade and investment that respects human rights

**REGULATED** financial markets

**ADDITIONAL** climate finance

**Image above:** Twelve-year old Iman collects eggs from the chickens in her family's home in Beit Hanoun, Gaza. The house was damaged by Israeli tank fire during the war in 2014. ACT/Paul Jeffrey

## HIGHLIGHTS OF HOW ACT HAS ENGAGED IN IMPLEMENTING THE SDGS SINCE THEIR ADOPTION

### In Latin America and the Caribbean

An interfaith coalition on development effectiveness founded by ACT members and Religions for Peace has been holding a series of strategy and advocacy workshops, meetings and discussions with the UN and the World Bank to raise their voices for justice and the rapid fulfilment of the SDGs.

### In Asia

An ACT member in Indonesia has been educating people in communities about the SDG discussions and the direct impacts on their lives.

### In Europe

ACT members have been engaging in national, regional and global discussions regarding the implementation of the SDGs at the regional level of the EU and at the UN.

## PROCESSES LEADING TO THE CREATION OF THE SDGS IN WHICH ACT ALLIANCE HAS ACTIVELY ENGAGED

- The High Level Political Forum (HLPF), put in place to raise the ambition of states' engagement in issues of sustainable development and review the implementation of the SDGs
- The Open Working Group on Sustainable Development Goals, made up of 70 UN member states, which has reduced the hundreds of goal proposals highlighted at the Rio+20 conference to the 17 goals in place today
- The Intergovernmental Expert Committee on Sustainable Development Financing, set up to make innovation recommendations on financing the new global SDGs and which delivered the Addis Ababa Action Agenda
- Civil society consultations as well as national and regional consultations in Africa, Asia, Latin America and Europe



# The critical role of Faith-Based Organisations in the SDGs

While the SDGs are first and foremost commitments agreed upon by states and the responsibility of states to therefore provide essential social services to all citizens, the realities of inequalities between states, inequalities between people, abuse of power, and conflict and disaster, have all contributed to either the inability or unwillingness of states to meet the essential needs of their populations.

For many years these acts of service have been undertaken by Faith-Based Organisations (FBOs) as 'gap fillers', taking on the acts of service to those in need that the state has not been able to provide. To prevent this approach from encouraging states to abdicate their responsibilities in the expectation that FBOs will continue to be in places where no other groups are or are willing to be, a new conceptual approach has been taken by many FBOs focusing on building partnership models with states and other stakeholders in relation to the fulfilment, monitoring and evaluation of the SDGs.

- FBOs are in most places, particularly in spaces seldom seen, where the socially excluded and marginalised are forced to dwell
- FBOs can offer a conduit for neglected and vulnerable populations to offer their narratives to be considered in global, regional and national political fora
- This is a valuable asset that FBOs bring to the policy level. At grassroots level too it can have lasting and life changing impacts on people that might otherwise be passed by

**"We have a task in the community because we are part and parcel of communities worldwide, where ACT Alliance members contribute to health and educational services, and work with people who are marginalised or excluded. So while we are challenging the governments, we are also actively challenging ourselves to build the world we want"**

John Nduna, General Secretary,  
ACT Alliance

## TOWARDS A MORAL AND SPIRITUAL IMPERATIVE TO END POVERTY

In 2015 ACT Alliance embarked on a partnership, joining with 40 leaders of various faiths and the highest levels of the World Bank to develop and agree a "Moral and Spiritual Imperative" explicitly linked to the role of Faith-Based Organisations in the eradication of poverty and fulfilment of the SDGs. ACT has continued to lead as part of the steering committee as it starts to shift from a space for dialogue to a space for action. While methods and specifics of what this will mean in practical terms are now being fully defined, all parties agree that a facilitated dialogue between World Bank staff, UN Staff, state officials, faith leaders and staff of faith-inspired humanitarian and development agencies would offer a desperately needed start to breaking down silos of mistrust and could contribute to an ending of myths and misconceptions held by all sectors. Now more than ever before, it is critical for Faith-Based Organisations to work progressively in partnership with civil society sectors to ensure that our efforts can guarantee a compliance with global norms and standards, for human rights and for the sake of transparency and mutual accountability.





# Advocating for FINANCE FOR DEVELOPMENT

Governments and traditional donors around the world are cutting development spending and re-evaluating the role of civil society and non-governmental organisations as key partners and stakeholders in state-funded service delivery.

This re-evaluation does not always result in negative outcomes for the sustainability of our work, but significant challenges and troubling trends were seen by major international institutions in 2015 that many anticipate will continue in the years to come, such as domestic resource mobilisation, foreign direct investments and private sector finance, including public-private partnerships as primary sources of sustainable development finance.

## RECOMMENDING FAIR AND PROGRESSIVE TAX SYSTEMS

ACT Alliance members have been considering and recommending fair and progressive tax systems that could be implemented throughout the world, for example, building a standard for 'domestic resource mobilisations' that would both provide robust budgets to continue government-driven development agendas and implementation plans, and curb the uncontrolled growth of income and social inequalities between both people and states.

## ENSURING PRIVATE SECTOR ACCOUNTABILITY

The private sector as a growing actor in development assistance has ignited the necessary dialogue for processes to ensure socially and environmentally accountable business operations by which private sector actors respect human rights, the environment and development effectiveness principles, and promote sustainable development. This dialogue is driven by a growing desire to seek, where possible, partnerships with all sectors of society to meet the needs of communities in every corner of the globe.

### 2015

ACT members took part in the third UN initiated International Conference on Financing for Development in Ethiopia in July, a platform to discuss how to concretely implement and finance the sustainable development goals. The hope was that governments would agree on clear and concrete recommendations to help create a more stable and fair financial system and appropriately harness financial resources to achieve sustainable development. The conference delivered the Addis Ababa Action Agenda, which, while challenging to pin-point concrete "actions", agreed on the establishment of an annual review mechanism.

ACT Alliance brought together a diverse set of stakeholders from states to businesses and faith-based organisations, to discuss transparency and accountability of private enterprises in supporting global and national development objectives. These discussions took place in Europe and North America during meetings of the World Bank Group, European Union and United Nations General Assembly.

### 2014

Alliance members make various interventions at meetings of the Intergovernmental Expert Committee on Sustainable Development Financing in March, and the Open Working Group on Sustainable Development Goals

### 2013

ACT is invited to address the UN's Intergovernmental Committee of Experts on Sustainable Development Financing

### 2012

ACT receives recognition at the international advocacy level, being one of a handful of organisations invited to address the UN's Intergovernmental Committee of Experts on Sustainable Development Financing during its civil society organisation session.

### 2011

In a significant move forward, ACT achieves 'consultative status' with the UN Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC), enabling it now to exert more influence in global debates and to access important bodies, processes and institutions within the UN system.



# ACT Alliance's recommendations for finance for development

**1**

**Introduce progressive direct taxation and gender-budgeting**

**2**

**Establish an international body on tax cooperation to combat tax evasion and other forms of illicit financial flows, and ensure countries meet their human rights obligations**

**3**

**Promote transparency and accountability in sustainable financing strategies and promote the use of open data that is comprehensive, comparable, timely and accessible to all development actors**

**4**

**Ensure the continuation and growth of official development assistance (ODA) and ensure ODA streams from industrialised countries to low income countries**

**5**

**Agree on socially and environmentally accountable business operations through binding corporate accountability rules to ensure that private sector actors respect human rights, environment, development effectiveness principles and promote sustainable development**

**6**

**Develop processes for an impartial and transparent international debt arbitration mechanism to ensure efficient restructuring of debts**

**7**

**Ensure trade and investment decisions honour states' human rights obligations and international social, environmental and climate change commitments**

**8**

**Ensure climate finance is additional to ODA, cut fossil fuel subsidies and reallocate those funds to low carbon development**

**9**

**Regulate financial markets to reduce growth of dangerous financial products and speculative flows**



# ACT Alliance advocating for DEVELOPMENT EFFECTIVENESS

ACT Alliance has been involved in the Global Partnership for Effective Development Cooperation since its establishment in 2011.

It is a partnership bringing together governments, bilateral and multilateral organisations, civil society and representatives from the private sector, all of which are committed to:

- strengthening developing country institutions
- increasing transparency and predictability of development cooperation
- enhancing gender equality
- supporting greater involvement of civil society, parliaments and the private sector in development efforts

The partnership also promotes the eight Istanbul Principles for Civil Society Organisation Development Effectiveness developed in 2010, which are a set of mutually shared values guiding the development work of civil society organisations worldwide. These principles are an integral part of the International Framework for Civil Society Organisation's (CSO) Development Effectiveness and a distinct globally acknowledged reference of effective development work.

The ACT Alliance Community of Practice on Human Rights and Development is active, sitting with governments in the context of the Global Partnership for Development Effectiveness Task Team on Enabling Environment for Civil Society. This has been an important space to express the interests of faith-based organisations (FBOs) and broader civil society in a multi-stakeholder dialogue with states and other actors addressing shrinking space for civil society.

**Within this context ACT Alliance co-chairs the FBO working group of the Civil Society Partnership on Development Effectiveness (CPDE) and sits on the finance committee of the FBO sector of the CPDE. ACT Alliance also coordinates the CPDE FBO sector under the leadership of one of its members.**

## ACTION IN 2015

In 2015 the FBO sector of the Civil Society Partnership for Development Effectiveness held two trainings of trainers events – one in July in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia in the shadow of the third Finance for Development Conference, and the second in Amman, Jordan in September – to build peer-accountability models to ensure information exchange and mutual adherence to the Civil Society Istanbul Principles for Development Effectiveness.



## REAPING REWARDS OF IMPLEMENTATION IN PRACTICE



- In Latin and Central America, organisations that have engaged in CPDE trainings have continued dialogue and collaboration around strategies, capacity building events and informational exchanges. These conversations have matured to hold FBOs in the region accountable to the Istanbul Principles, and at the same time have progressively become spaces where FBOs now gather to discuss the implementation of the

Sustainable Development Goals and the Agenda 2030 on sustainable development, including the Sendai Framework on DRR adopted in 2015, the December 2014 Paris climate deal, and the long-standing Beijing Platform for Action on Gender Justice.

- Other regions have applied learning from the Istanbul Principles to their internal strategic planning and as a measure of quality and accountability of existing and future development programs. Participants of CPDE trainings have in 2015 written articles, delivered sermons and prayers on issues around development effectiveness, and held trainings in their own organisations and with their fellow staff.





# Embodying the eight Istanbul Principles

The Istanbul Principles embody the dual mandate of ACT Alliance as both a faith-based and rights-based network, and are principles entrenched in the alliance's work together. These eight principles cover commitments to

- democratic ownership
- an enabling environment for civil society
- human rights and social justice
- gender equity considerations
- accountability and transparency
- environmental sustainability
- knowledge sharing
- equitable partners

## HIGHLIGHTS IN 2015

- In 2015 ACT through its seat on the Global Partnership for Development Effectiveness's Task Team on Enabling Environment for Civil Society continued to champion the need for better political frameworks to generate productive relationships in dialogue and partnerships between civil society and states. This represents a critical point of political access for the alliance in an increasing environment of states aligning more with the private sector and with less commitment and funding being allocated to NGOs, INGOs, civil society organisations and local actors.
- In 2015 the advocacy work of the ACT Community of Practice on Gender Justice focused on engagement in global level processes at the UN Human Rights Council and the UN Commission on the Status of Women – for the latter developing an alliance statement calling for women's economic and political empowerment; ending gender-based violence; equal access to education, and universal maternal health and sexual and reproductive health and rights.
- In 2015 the ACT Community of Practice on Human Rights in Development expanded its work on the implementation of rights-based development strategies within the alliance with new active participants from India and Kenya. The Community of Practice also translated its report on Civil Society Space into Spanish and French, developed a methodology for case studies about shrinking political space, and participated in the Roundtable in the EU parliament on shrinking political space with the UN Special Rapporteur on the freedom of association and peaceful assembly.





# Sharing **BEST PRACTICES**

Skill sharing is a key approach of the ACT Alliance. ACT Communities of Practice (CoPs) bring specialists together from across the globe to pool their collective knowledge for the greater good of the alliance. The CoPs work on topics of common interest and concern to members of the alliance, harnessing energy and sharing expertise honed in a range of development and emergency situations.

## Disability inclusive development

The CoP aims to raise the profile of disability, promote understanding of it as a human rights issue and actively advocate for the rights of people with disabilities. The CoP gathers the experiences of ACT members and others to share knowledge and support one another in implementing disability-inclusive programmes.

### In 2015 The CoP

- worked towards building a knowledge base for providing disability-inclusion awareness and training
- developed a publication highlighting its members' work and shared learnings in this area

Contact: Felomain Nassar  
fns@actalliance.org

## Gender equality and justice

ACT Alliance has committed itself to working gender awareness into all of its work. The CoP supports ACT members in their efforts to create policy and programming that works for gender justice, to ensure programmes reflect the needs and wishes of all people.

### In 2015 The CoP

- developed an alliance statement for the 60<sup>th</sup> Commission on the Status of Women taking place in March 2016 in New York, calling for women's economic and political empowerment; ending gender-based violence; equal access to education, and universal maternal health and sexual and reproductive health and rights.

Contact: Carlos Rauda  
cra@actalliance.org

## Disaster risk reduction (DRR) and adaptation to climate change

The CoP encourages ACT members to build disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation into their work. It provides knowledge, expertise and advice, produces background material and represents ACT at international negotiations, conferences and other events.

### In 2015 the CoP

- attended the third World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction, which is part of the United Nations International Strategy for Disaster Reduction
- called for vulnerability and preparedness to play a crucial role in the new framework on Disaster Risk Reduction to achieve long term resilience
- showcased their best practices at community level relating to disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation

Contact: James Munpa  
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The executive secretary of the local homeowners' association reviews a disaster risk reduction map with other residents in the Suburban neighbourhood of Rodriguez, Rizal, in the Philippines.

Photo: ACT/Paul Jeffrey





## Psychosocial

The CoP works to strengthen the alliance's capacity for psychosocial support. It aims to give suffering communities resilience and capacity to cope by building cooperation and opening access to the support they need.

### In 2015 the CoP

- helped set up and launch a psychosocial community of practice for Southern Africa with ACT members in Zimbabwe, Swaziland, South Africa and Malawi

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## Protection

The CoP seeks to strengthen the capacity of ACT and its members to protect crisis-affected communities and to influence the policy of global actors. The group offers policy-related advice to members and advisory groups.

### In 2015 the CoP

- developed an alliance-wide Child Safeguarding Policy, which is currently being implemented
- led a four-hour session at the UNHCR-NGO Annual Consultations on Community-Based Protection and led the process of soliciting, collating, and submitting successful ACT Alliance inputs into the report of the Whole of System Review on Protection

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## Human rights in development

The CoP aims to further the implementation of rights-based development strategies within the alliance and among its partners. Its work involves enabling civil society action, based on international human rights standards.

### In 2015 The CoP

- expanded its membership to include participants from India and Kenya
- translated its study on Civil Society Space into Spanish
- developed a methodology for case studies about shrinking political space
- participated in the Roundtable in the EU parliament on shrinking political space with the UN Special Rapporteur on the rights to freedom of peaceful assembly and of association

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## Migration and development

The CoP takes advantage of ACT members' and partners' in-depth knowledge to help develop useful interventions for the protection of migrants' rights. It also aims to strengthen and increase the visibility of ecumenical structures related to migration and development.

### In 2015 the CoP

- worked closely with ACT Alliance EU advising on the call for a collective and rights-based response from EU Member States to the refugee crisis
- created lobby tools to share with ACT members to facilitate their engagement with governments and churches prior to the Global Forum on Migration and Development, which took place in mid-October in Turkey

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## Religion and development

The objective of this CoP is to develop a better understanding of the intersection between religion and development. It also aims to play a constructive role in ensuring that the convergence that seems to be emerging between religion and development is consolidated, appropriated, spread and translated into global policy on development.

### Established in 2015, the CoP:

- helped build a growing awareness of a new discourse on religion and development, profiling this discourse in a number of international fora, including World Bank, IMF and UN meetings in New York throughout the year

**Contact:** Daniel Pieper dpi@actalliance.org

## Safety and security

The CoP is made up of the safety and security experts linked to ACT member organisations. These experts are responsible for the safety and security of people deployed to programmes. It advises ACT Alliance national and regional member forums in their response efforts. The CoP monitors the hot spots of the world, sharing knowledge with the alliance to provide proper safety and security.

### In 2015 the CoP

- conducted 16 security trainings in 14 countries for over 500 participants
- conducted its first gender security workshop, bringing together members from all regions to develop a strategy for keeping all ACT staff safe as they continue their valuable work
- worked with the European Inter-agency Security Forum (EISF) to develop a 'Security to Go' tool that members can use when deploying to a new area, or if their security situation changes drastically

**Contact:** James Davis  
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## Youth participation

This CoP aims to grow youth participation in ACT Alliance. It aims to ensure that youth are treated as agents of change and have their voices heard. The CoP was formed at the end of 2015.

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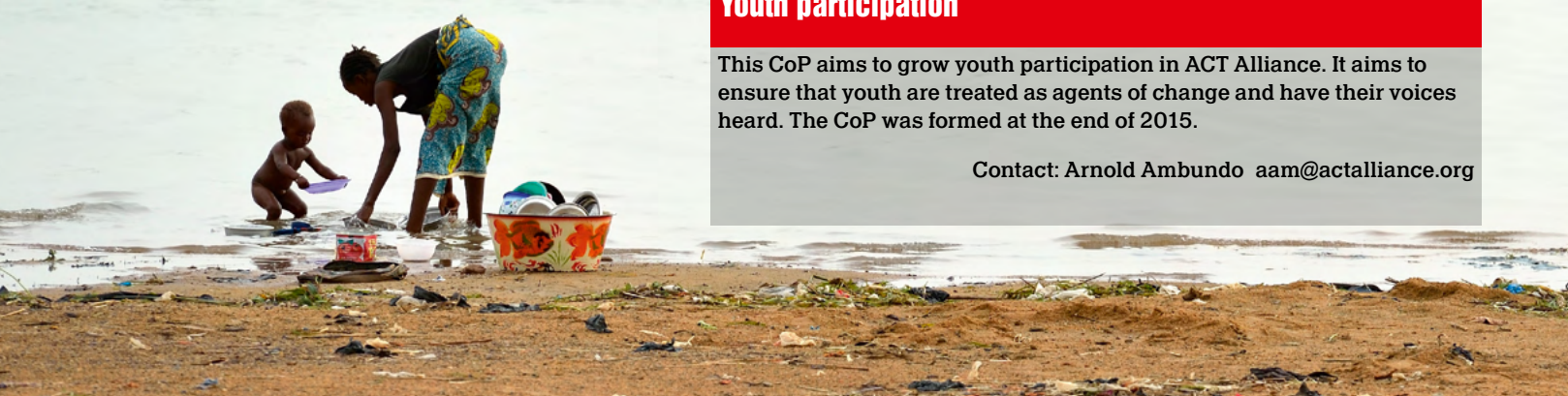


Image: A woman and her child washing dishes in the Niger River at Segou, Mali.

ACT/Paul Jeffrey



# ACT Alliance's QUALITY AND ACCOUNTABILITY

ACT Alliance is committed to demonstrating accountability in every aspect of its work. Its Quality and Accountability Framework (QAF) summarises standards of quality towards which the ACT governing bodies, ACT members and the ACT secretariat can be held to account by one another and all stakeholders, particularly the people we serve.

## Highlights in 2015

ACT introduced its alliance-wide Child Safeguarding Policy, to strengthen the safety and dignity of children with whom ACT member staff come into contact through their work. The impetus for the policy, developed in collaboration with the ACT Alliance Community of Practice on Protection and the ACT Alliance Pacific-Australia-New Zealand (PANZ) Forum, was to ensure that across our work there is no abuse of children. The policy is being implemented by the secretariat and members, with complete implementation expected by May 2017.

In June ACT became one of the founding members of the CHS Alliance and subsequently adopted the Core Humanitarian Standard (CHS) as a mandatory international standard for our members. The CHS has replaced the:

- 2010 HAP Standard in Accountability and Quality Management
- People in Aid Code of Good Practice in the Management and support of Aid Personnel, and
- Core Standards section of the Sphere handbook



## ACT engages with international standards bodies

- Sitting on the board of the Sphere Project
- As a member of the CHS Alliance, with the ACT secretariat having achieved HAP certification in 2013
- As a signatory to the Code of Conduct for the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) in Disaster Relief

**Images; Top:** Children in Orissa, India. ACT/Sean Hawkey

**Clockwise from above:**

A girl in class, Haiti;

A Wichi indigenous girl, Argentina;

An 85 year old earthquake survivor, Nepal;

Refugees and migrants study a map in Chios, Greece;

A boy in the Zaatari refugee camp, Jordan;

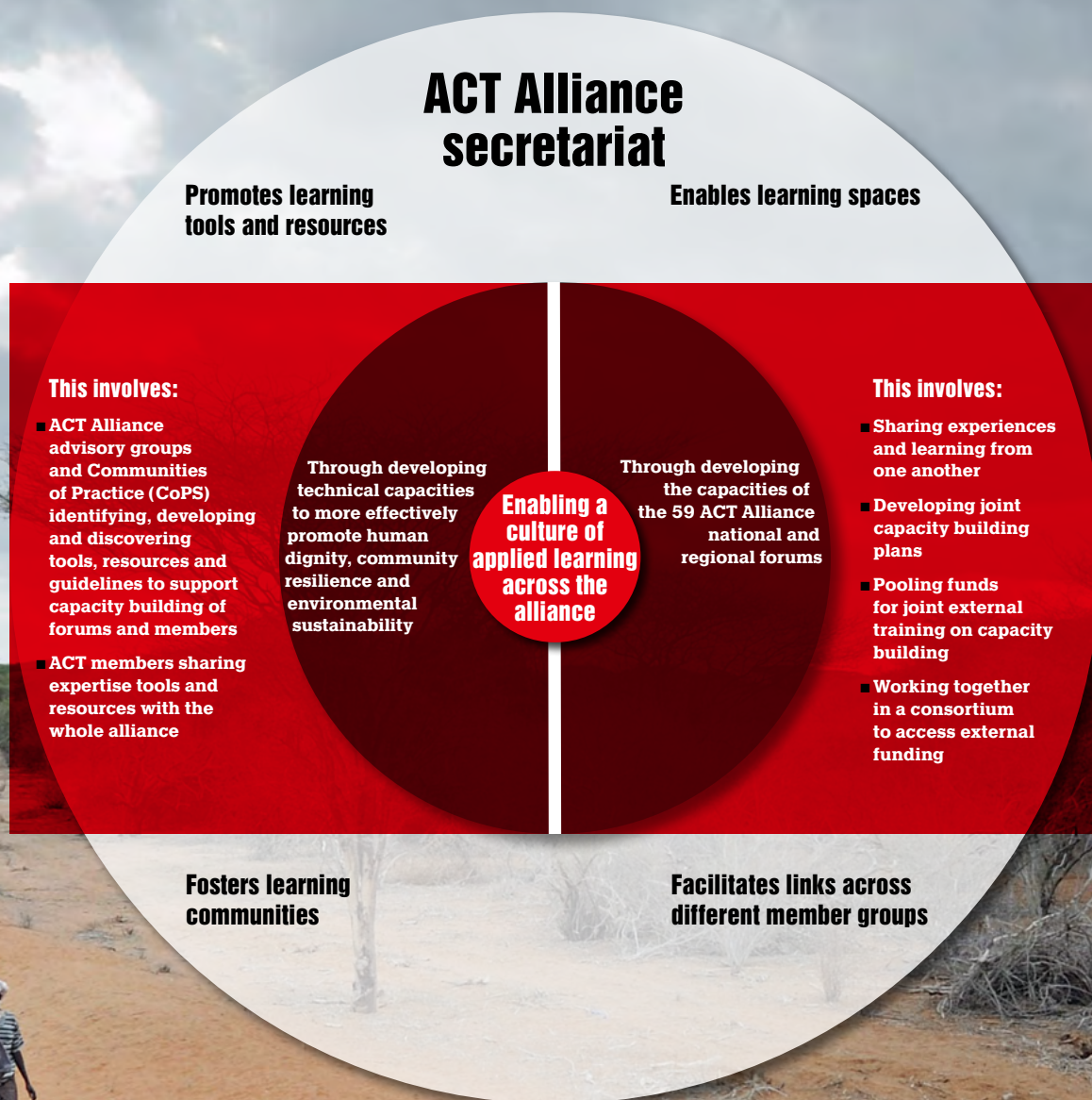
A five year old girl, Nepal.

ACT/Paul Jeffrey



# Enabling a culture of applied learning

The capacity development framework for the alliance places learning at its centre with the ultimate aim of improving the quality of the work of the alliance as it seeks to achieve full life and dignity for all.



In May 2015 a new Capacity Development and Learning Strategy was put in place for the alliance. Entitled “Enabling a culture of applied learning”, it provides a common framework for capacity development, and outlines key focus areas with a cross-cutting approach of enabling a culture of applied learning throughout the alliance to ensure continuous improvement of the quality of our work.

ACT Alliance’s approach to enabling a culture of applied learning builds on the strengths of being a diverse network of organisations that have committed to continually growing their effectiveness through capacity development and the sharing of knowledge, learnings and experiences with one another.

The different alliance structures implement this strategy in different ways.





# WORKING TOGETHER for sustainable change

ACT Alliance forums are national and regional groupings of members who come together to plan, advocate and act to bring about sustainable change through coordinated effective humanitarian, development and advocacy work. The forums serve as unique communities for ACT members, and its members are the key implementers of ACT emergency appeals.

## ACT ALLIANCE CURRENTLY HAS 59 FORUMS ACROSS THE WORLD:

ACT/Valter Hugo Muniz



ACT members' workshop in El Salvador.

ACT/Samir Ibrahim Asfram



A training event in Amman, Jordan.

ACT



ACT Alliance Philippines forum meeting.

### AFRICA

ACT Angola Forum  
ACT Burkina Faso Forum  
ACT Burundi Forum  
ACT DRC Forum  
ACT Ethiopia Forum  
ACT Ghana Forum  
ACT Kenya Forum  
ACT Liberia Forum  
ACT Madagascar Forum  
ACT Malawi Forum  
ACT Mali Forum  
ACT Mozambique Forum  
ACT Nigeria Forum  
ACT Sierra Leone Forum  
ACT Somalia Forum  
ACT South Sudan Forum  
ACT Southern Africa Regional Forum  
ACT Tanzania Forum  
ACT Uganda Forum  
ACT West Africa Regional Forum  
ACT Zambia Forum  
ACT Zimbabwe Forum

### EUROPE

ACT Armenia Forum  
ACT Europe Forum

### LATIN AMERICA AND CARIBBEAN

ACT Argentina Forum  
ACT Bolivia Forum  
ACT Brazil Forum  
ACT Caribbean Forum  
ACT Central America Forum  
ACT Chile Forum  
ACT Colombia Forum  
ACT Costa Rica Forum  
ACT Cuba Forum  
ACT Dominican Republic Forum  
ACT El Salvador Forum  
ACT Guatemala Forum  
ACT Haiti Forum  
ACT Honduras Forum  
ACT Nicaragua Forum  
ACT Peru Forum  
ACT South America Forum

### ASIA

ACT Asia-Pacific Forum  
ACT Bangladesh Forum  
ACT Cambodia Forum  
ACT Central Asia Forum  
ACT India Forum  
ACT Indonesia Forum  
ACT Myanmar Forum  
ACT Nepal Forum  
ACT Pacific Forum (PANZ)  
ACT Pakistan Forum  
ACT Philippines Forum  
ACT Sri Lanka Forum  
ACT Thailand Forum  
ACT Vietnam Forum

### MIDDLE EAST

ACT Iraq Forum  
ACT Jordan Syria Lebanon Forum  
ACT Palestine Forum

### NORTH AMERICA

ACT North America Forum

**Image above:** A group of landless women in Bukid, a small village in the southern Philippines, who received tools and other assistance from the ACT Alliance following the devastating passage of Typhoon Haiyan through the region. ACT/Paul Jeffrey



# SOME HIGHLIGHTS OF THE WORK OF ACT Alliance forums in 2015

**16 ACT GUATEMALA FORUM** worked in partnership with other civil society organisations for advocacy in defence of human, individual and collective rights and developed a report titled 'Churches and Faith Communities in the face of Oppression and Violence against Indigenous and Mestiza Women in Guatemala'. The report discusses a number of aspects including violence against women from an inter-sectional perspective and perceptions of violence against women in churches or faith environments.

**17 ACT HONDURAS FORUM** worked to increase the capacities of the forum members on the conceptual and practical management of development processes, including community resilience and risk management. This included mechanisms for coordination and taking action on prevention, mitigation and responding to emergencies.

**14 ACT CUBA FORUM** actively participated in the alliance-wide climate justice campaign, collecting 1,150 petition signatures in support.

**15 ACT EL SALVADOR FORUM** implemented projects in response to the problems of drought that has affected much of El Salvador and other countries in Latin America. The forum also visited the President of the Latin American Parliamentary Assembly (EUROLAT) to deliver a letter from civil society organisations in Latin America and Europe as part of the advocacy towards the COP21 in Paris.

**13 ACT COLOMBIA FORUM** contributed to the promotion of justice and peace, working with a partner to document cases of violations of human rights and the promotion of a pedagogy for peace and reconciliation in the country.

**18 ACT EUROPE FORUM** worked together to develop a region-wide emergency appeal in response to the refugee crisis.

**19 THE ACT PALESTINE FORUM** conducted an open training on quality and accountability with an invitation extended to members in the region, focusing on issues such as information sharing, participation, preparedness, resilience, coordinated complementary assistance, learning from experience and managing resources effectively.

**6 ACT ASIA/PACIFIC REGIONAL FORUM** was officially launched in September to seek to identify joint priorities for the region and collaborate more closely on shared areas of work.

**10 ACT NEPAL FORUM** through its in-place emergency preparedness response plan was able to respond together within two days with local partners to deliver needed food and non-food items in a coordinated and consistent manner following the April earthquake. The joint programme gave greater response capacity in relief, WASH and shelter, than would have been possible as single organisations responding.

**9 ACT MYANMAR FORUM** focused on gender and rights with a joint training using ACT's curriculum developed by the ACT Gender Justice Community of Practice.

**7 ACT CAMBODIA FORUM** developed a joint Emergency Preparedness and Response Plan and undertook joint initiatives on capacity building, for example in the area of Disaster Risk Reduction.

**4 ACT SOUTH SUDAN FORUM** took part in the revision of the 2015 South Sudan Humanitarian Response Plan under the auspices of UN-OCHA and other rapid assessments, such as the Integrated Food Security Phase 5 Classification-2015.

**2 ACT ETHIOPIA FORUM** enabled a two and a half day training of trainers on the Istanbul Principles and Busan Agreements on development effectiveness, with a lens on financing and the effective means of implementation as the third UN conference on Finance for Development got underway in Addis Ababa.

**5 ACT UGANDA FORUM** has funded its own advocacy officer to support the joint advocacy strategy of the ACT members in the country. In 2015, they were able to secure a three year external grant for a climate change advocacy project.

**3 ACT MALAWI FORUM** contributed to the climate justice campaign mobilising communities especially in the rural areas, raising their awareness on climate change and supporting their engagement with COP21 policy discourse through the collection of signatures for an alliance-wide petition. The forum has followed up this campaign by setting an objective to increase tree cover in Malawi, promoting a collaborative campaign with the government which encourages each person to plant 15 trees during the rainy season, to reach 60 million new trees in total.

**1 ACT ANGOLA FORUM** collaborated with other faith organisations on the issue of climate change to sign a declaration on the issue that was submitted to the Angolan Ministry of Environment, and delivered to the organisers of the COP21 in Paris.

**12 ACT PAKISTAN FORUM** finalised a joint Emergency Preparedness and Response Plan in order to better and more effectively address emergency situations. Following an earthquake affecting both Pakistan and Afghanistan, ACT Forums in both countries came together to collaborate towards a joint funding appeal for emergency relief.

**11 ACT PACIFIC, AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND (PANZ) FORUM** worked effectively together on the Cyclone Pam Vanuatu emergency response as their first coordinated response as a forum.





Image: Agricultural workers ride to work in the village of Dong in northern Cambodia.  
ACT/Paul Jeffrey