



**actalliance**  
annual report 2023

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Image on cover:

*A Rohingya woman and her child sit in the doorway of their shelter in a refugee camp near Cox's Bazar, Bangladesh. Members of ACT Alliance provided humanitarian support for the refugees.*

PHOTO: Paul Jeffrey/ACT



Rudelmar Bueno de Faria

PHOTO: SIMON CHAMBERS/ACT

## Message from the **GENERAL SECRETARY**

For ACT Alliance, 2023 was marked by significant achievements, partnerships, and collaborative efforts that underscored our commitment to building a more sustainable and just future for all. Faced with increasing social and political polarization and shifting narratives, ACT's commitment to human rights, inclusion and justice remained unwavering.

The geopolitical landscape has been marked by death and widespread destruction in Ukraine and Gaza, coupled with daunting economic challenges everywhere. Such events underscore the critical need for organisations like ACT Alliance to engage with moral and ethical crises globally. ACT plays a vital role in addressing both high-profile, widely recognized issues and those that are too often overlooked by the international community and donors.

As a global alliance, we pride ourselves on our agile and professional response to all manner of crises. We ensure that our reach extends to the marginalised and forgotten. Our proactive approach to these challenges allows us to carve a distinctive niche in the humanitarian sector. We provide support and relief where it is needed most, regardless of the level of global attention. ACT's proactive approach to its programmes, particularly humanitarian response, gender and climate justice, as well as migration and displacement, means that our efforts in these critical areas are continually transformed into action; action that reinforces capacity sharing, funding, and advocacy.

ACT's journey in 2023 involved numerous organisational and programmatic changes, including a transitional funding model and

reform of the humanitarian mechanism. The decisive steps made in improving financial systems, enhancing human resource policies, and addressing colonial and racist legacies in our work demonstrate our dedication to becoming a more accountable and inclusive organisation.

To ensure the long-term viability of our Secretariat, we started developing the Future Funding Model 2026. This reflects our commitment to continue making a positive impact on a global scale. Discussions regarding a new membership model signalled our dedication to adapt our organisational structure for a more inclusive and robust future.

Our engagement in ecumenical and multi-religious spaces included participation in the Lutheran World Federation General Assembly and the World Council of Churches Central Committee, and in the UN Multi-faith Advisory Council. Invitations to contribute to the G20 Interfaith Forum and the Pre-COP28 Faith Leaders' Summit demonstrated our influence in shaping global conversations.

In summary, 2023 was a year of growth, resilience, and impactful collaboration for ACT Alliance. As we move forward, I am confident that our shared mission and collective efforts will continue to make a positive difference in the world.

Rudelmar Bueno de Faria

# actalliance

The ACT Alliance is a faith-motivated, rights-based, impact-focused network committed to working ecumenically and inter-religiously. The communities we seek to serve and accompany are at the centre of our work.

ACT is the world's largest ecumenical alliance engaged in humanitarian, advocacy and development work.

**150**  
members  
**2** observer  
members

Present  
in  
**73**  
countries

**46**  
forums

**64%**  
global south

**30%**  
global north

**6%**  
global

**ACT Alliance  
consists of:**

**23,516**  
member  
staff

**9,201**  
women

**12,859**  
men

**24,834**  
volunteers

**3,456**  
youth

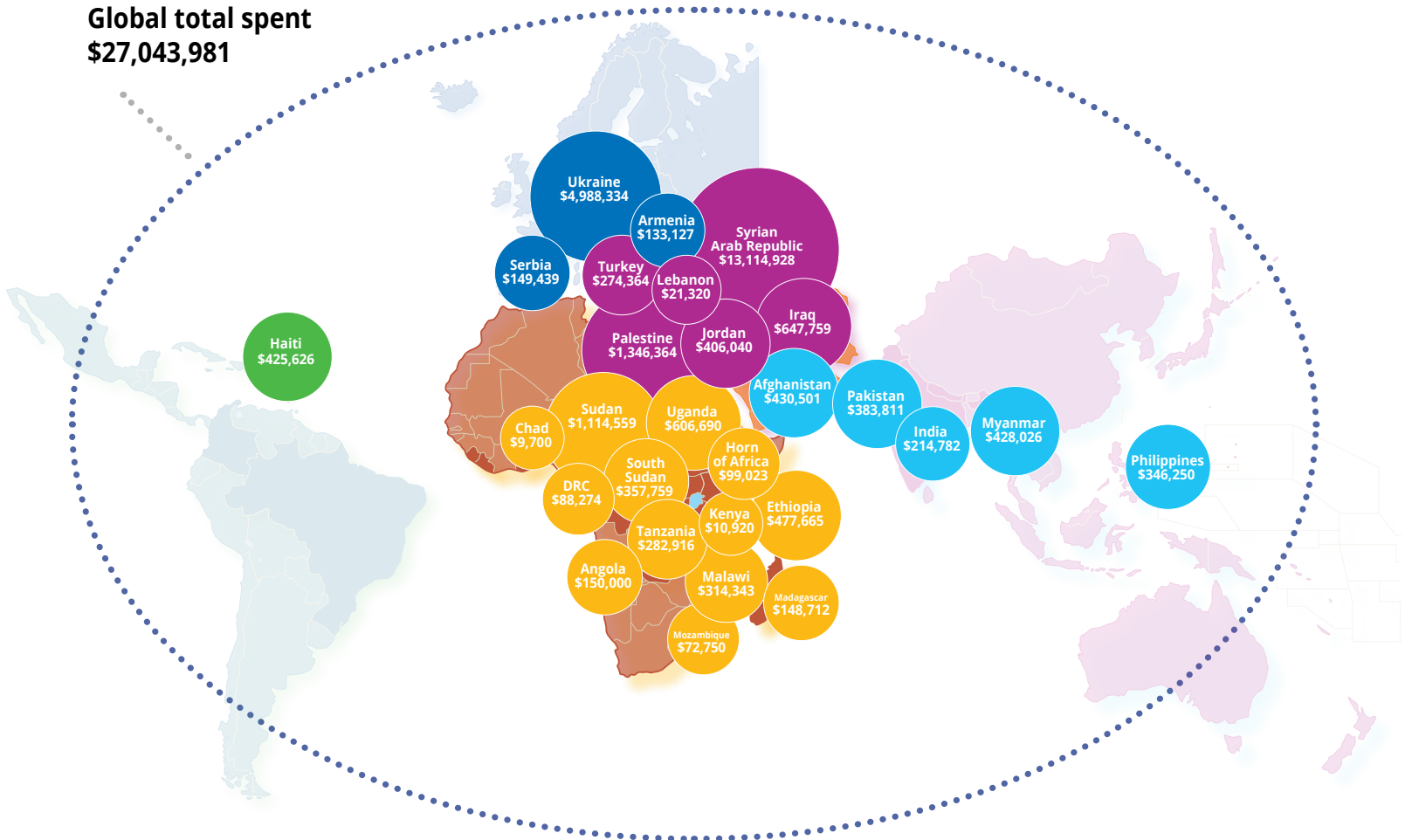
**76**  
non-  
binary

hope  
in action 

PUTTING  
PEOPLE FIRST

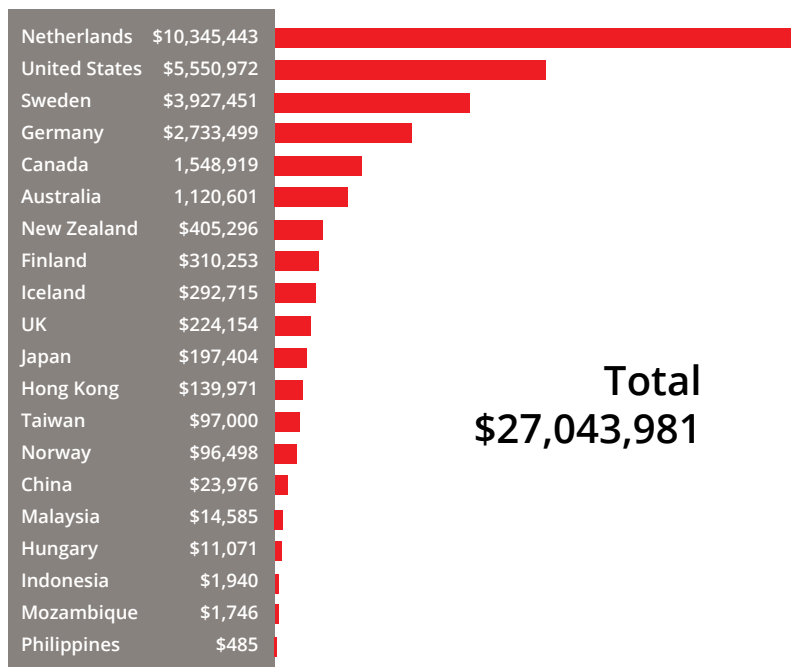
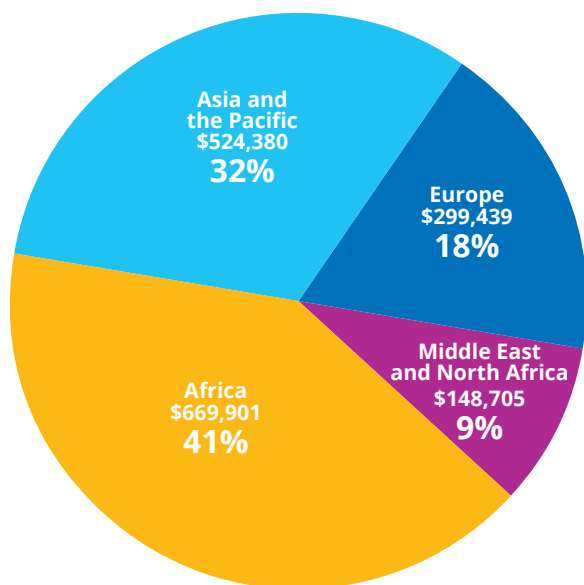
# ACT raised \$27,043,981 for humanitarian response in 2023 **Where was it spent?**

Global total spent  
\$27,043,981



## Where did the funds come from?

### Rapid Response Fund Payments



**Total**  
**\$27,043,981**

# Climate Justice

## NEW AFRICA CLIMATE PROJECT

The ACT Alliance Canada Forum created a pool of funds for projects in Eastern and Southern Africa. The alliance established a Locally Led Climate Fund (ACT – LLCF) with a representative governing structure that supports national and local climate action in these regions. It will soon be expanded to Western Africa.



*As part of the LLCF project, the Zimbabwe Forum responded to community requests by drilling deep boreholes such as this one in Uganda.*

PHOTO: E. Paulley/ACT

*Jessica Novia of YAKKUM, Indonesia and a COP28 ACT delegate, met with a local community.*

PHOTO: Jessica Novia/ACT



### “ ” VOICES

“In Indonesia, there were more than 3,000 disasters in 2023, overwhelmingly hydro meteorological disasters. These disproportionately affect women, girls and people with disabilities. Funding for loss and damage should reach them before it’s too late.”

—*Jessica Novia of ACT Indonesian member YAKKUM; ACT COP28 delegate.*

# Climate Justice



ACT COP28 delegates were part of a public action to draw media attention to ACT's key climate justice messages.

PHOTO: Albin Hillert/LWF

## A MIDDLE EAST COP

ACT members worldwide followed the COP28 Dubai negotiations virtually. They tracked adaptation, loss and damage funding, the Global Stocktake, human rights, mitigation, just transition and gender. Some ACT delegates who attended this Middle East COP in person advocated for climate and gender justice in Arabic as well as English, while others hosted an ACT side event.



## REVISED ADVOCACY FRAMEWORK

The Climate Justice Advocacy Framework underlines the urgent need for concerted action by ACT members in building a global movement for climate justice. In 2023 it was updated by the ACT Climate Justice Reference Group and its member groups with guidance from the ACT Secretariat Climate Justice team.

PHOTO: Paul Jeffrey/ACT

actalliance  
ACT climate justice  
advocacy framework  
2023–26  
POSITION PAPER

# Gender Justice



## REGIONAL ACCOMPANIMENT

*ACT members from the Latin America and Caribbean region met with faith leaders about the challenges of gender justice work.*

PHOTO: Simon Chambers/ACT

ACT tailored training and resources to support gender policies in the Asia-Pacific Region. Theological papers on gender-based violence, sexual and reproductive health and rights, and economic justice were created with the Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC) Community of Practice. Regional security and gender training for members addressed the contextual risks of carrying out gender programmes.

## FAITH CHANGEMAKERS

ACT's Gender Justice programme co-hosted the first Faith Changemakers inter-religious convention, in South Africa. Working with Act Ubumbano, Faith to Action Network and several multi-faith actors, the four-day event drew 200 participants. ACT delegates shared faith-based methods of transforming masculinities, advancing sexual and reproductive health and rights, and ending sexual and gender-based violence.



ACT's Gender Justice programme is "an innovative and multi-faceted approach leveraging the narrative of progressive faith actors ... with outstanding achievements ... as a progressive faith voice in global and national advocacy and policy spaces."

—From the external evaluation of the ACT Alliance Gender Programme, 2023.



# Gender Justice



## FAITH-BASED ADVOCACY

*Advocacy in action: ACT members, including Church of Sweden's Archbishop Antje Jackelén (r), advocated for faith-based gender justice at the UN's 67th Commission on the Status of Women in New York.*

PHOTO: Simon Chambers/ACT

ACT Alliance is a pivotal player in advancing sexual and reproductive health and rights and countering backlash to gender equality. ACT developed a global briefing paper, facilitated alliance members' advocacy participation and co-hosted a high-level side event at the UN Commission on Population and Development with Norway, Argentina, and the UN Population Fund.

*Read more about the ACT Gender Justice Programme's contributions on our dedicated LinkedIn page:*



## Emergency Preparedness

## and Humanitarian Response

### SUDAN:

### A MAJOR CRISIS INVOLVING FIVE COUNTRIES

By mid-2023 internal armed conflict in Sudan led to the displacement of more than 5 million people. A further 1.1 million people sought refuge in the neighbouring countries of Ethiopia, South Sudan, Chad and Egypt. ACT members raised about USD 2 million for emergency support for the Internally Displaced Persons, returnees and refugees dispersed over the five countries.

*A woman in a camp for internally displaced persons in Sudan.*  
PHOTO: Paul Jeffrey/ACT

### UKRAINE:

### MULTIFACETED SUPPORT FOR REFUGEES

The ongoing war in Ukraine has created the largest refugee crisis in Europe since WWII. In 2023 ACT members continued to provide psychological, spiritual and practical support for both those displaced to other countries or still in Ukraine. Survivors and the community are at the forefront of leading all ACT-supported processes.

*ACT member Hungarian Interchurch Aid helped internally displaced Ukrainians manage their trauma through community-building activities such as English classes.*  
PHOTO: Simon Chambers/ACT

# Emergency Preparedness and Humanitarian Response

ACT Syrian members, including GOPA-DERD and the Middle East Council of Churches, responded to those affected by the February earthquake.

PHOTO: GOPA-DERD/ACT



## DID YOU KNOW?

Both Syrian and Sudanese displaced people received cash assistance. Cash transfers are direct payments of money for humanitarian assistance, an effective, transparent and immediate way of supporting those in need while respecting their dignity. The focus moves from top-down "aid" to assistance and partnership with local communities.

## SYRIA:

## RESTORING THE STAFF OF LIFE

ACT members, working with local agencies, responded to the urgent needs of Syrians displaced by a series of earthquakes in early February. HEKS/EPER helped repair subsidised public bakeries that had been damaged. The increased bread production ensured access to this staple for more than one million people. The Middle East Council of Churches (MECC) rehabilitated six schools and other buildings, ensuring that more than 4,000 children could return to classes.

The destruction caused by the February earthquake was widespread throughout Syria and Turkey.

PHOTO: Hope Center/ACT



# FOCUS ON WEST AFRICA

SIERRA LEONE



## TRANSFORMING MASCULINITY

*Katumu Canfeh and her husband are a gender model family, working as equal partners to support their family with the help of loans she accessed from the Christian Aid supported Village Savings and Loan Association.*

PHOTO: Jonathon Y. Bundu/Christian Aid.

An innovative project led by the ACT Sierra Leone Forum has seen more than 200 men and boys become gender justice changemakers. *Promoting Gender Transformative Approaches in Sierra Leone through Positive Masculinity* addresses violence against women and girls and was developed with ACT's Gender Justice programme.

Evidence shows that men and boys must be active allies in the struggle for gender equality. They can transform harmful gender norms and promote positive behaviours. The changemakers mentor and train other men and boys to advance gender equality in their communities and advocate for gender-balanced decision-making at local and national levels.

Using a faith-based, community-driven approach, the project promotes the positive aspects of masculinity and aims for long-term behavioural change. The changemakers' training includes working with women and girls to develop and practice inclusive, equitable, and sustainable approaches to gender justice. These approaches address the needs and rights of all individuals across the gender spectrum.



*Hawa Boima delivered her baby at a clinic rehabilitated by Christian Aid's Health Legacy Project. Pregnant women in her village no longer have to travel hours on foot to deliver their babies elsewhere.*

PHOTO: Jonathon Y. Bundu/Christian Aid.



*Madame Duwai established her livelihood with a low interest loan from a Village Savings and Loan Association group. The group facilitates women's economic independence.* PHOTO: Jonathon Y. Bundu/Christian Aid.

## GENDERED CHALLENGES

*Gender-specific challenges Sierra Leone women face include:*

- gender-based violence;
- limited access to higher education;
- restricted access to healthcare, linked to high maternal mortality rates. Sierra Leone has the worst maternal mortality ratio in the world.
- forced child marriages, including for girls as young as 12;
- limited access to employment, land ownership, and their own financial resources due to traditional gender roles; and,
- female genital mutilation, which has serious health risks and violates women's and girls' rights to bodily integrity and autonomy.

## TRANSFORMATIONS

*The project has led to the following transformations:*

- Members of Positive Masculinity Clubs meet regularly to discuss and promote gender equality practices.
- Men and boys now challenge harmful traditional practices. This contributes to a broader cultural shift towards gender equality and reduces gender-based violence.
- Spouses model respectful and equitable relationships with their partners and families. Boys do the same with their families and friends.
- Males can better identify their emotions and seek support as needed. Communication skills and emotional wellbeing have improved.
- Men and boys' greater involvement in caregiving and parenting promotes gender equality in the household.



*The Jorma Village Savings Group pose with their savings box, the result of a Christian Aid-supported programme to improve the lives of local women, men, and adolescents. Christian Aid contributed to the Sierra Leone Forum's Transforming Masculinity programme.*

PHOTO: Jonathon Y. Bundu/Christian Aid.



Latin American migrants climb up the side of an embankment to reach a ride. PHOTO: Sean Hawkey/ACT

## MIGRATION AND DISPLACEMENT

### LAC: Focus on migration and climate change

Climate change and migration is now a regional priority for ACT's Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC) region. In 2023 LAC members formed the first ACT Community of Practice on Human and Climate Mobility and completed an initial mapping of their human mobility work.

### Landmark study on migration and climate change


The study *Addressing the Protection Gap – Human Mobility and the Climate Crisis in International Frameworks* was presented to decision-makers and members at global climate meetings in New York, Dubai and online. Advocates – including ACT members – learned how to best use international frameworks to make rights-based progress for those displaced by the climate crisis.



ACT Alliance and Bread for the World hosted a workshop on Climate and Human Mobility during the UN General Assembly's high-level week in New York. PHOTO: Simon Chambers/ACT

## COLOMBIA'S NATIONAL PEACE PROCESS

The ACT Colombia Forum initiated a dialogue and advocacy project for peace and human rights protection. This included a mission to Chocó, on the country's west coast. Members learned of the risks faced by repeatedly displaced communities and recorded community proposals for peace in the region.



*An Indigenous leader with his bastón, a sign of community leadership in Cacarica, Chocó. This peace community protects residents - returned displaced people who have witnessed violence - from local armed groups.*

PHOTO: Sean Hawkey/ACT

## PEACE AND HUMAN SECURITY

### ACT AFRICA FORUMS DEVELOP PEACE PROJECTS

ACT members and forums in South Sudan, Cameroon, Ethiopia and Nigeria developed peace clubs, peace mediators and ambassadors, and engaged in community dialogues. The Zimbabwe Forum formed a Community of Practice on Justice, Peace and Reconciliation, held dialogues with paramilitary groups, created community peace structures, and engaged in election peace monitoring.



*A girl sells okra in an Akobo market, South Sudan. The arrival of many newly displaced families increased competition for scarce food. ACT member DanChurchAid assisted with food security.*

PHOTO: Paul Jeffrey/ACT



Graduates of the Uganda Forum Quality, Accountability and Safeguarding workshop. Similar workshops were held in Kenya and the MENA region. PHOTO: ACT

## QUALITY AND ACCOUNTABILITY

ACT Alliance provides members and forums with policy guidance and support around Quality, Accountability and Safeguarding.

### CHS pilot programme moves to second phase

With the support of Kerk in Actie, ACT members completed Phase One of a pilot programme to mentor selected national organisations through the Core Humanitarian Standards (CHS) self-assessment process. Four members, one each from Cuba, Haiti, Indonesia and Kenya, were selected through an application process to participate in Phase One. Phase Two of the programme began in December.



YAKKUM Emergency Unit (YEU) hosted a workshop on the Core Humanitarian Standards self-assessment journey for the ACT Indonesia Forum and local partners. PHOTO: YEU/ACT



“Conducting a CHS self-assessment was a great opportunity for staff self-reflection on how to improve the quality of our response to affected communities and renew our commitment to more transparent accountability.”

—Maria L. Navas Zorrilla,  
Cuban Council of Churches.



# FORUMS

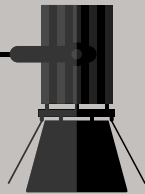
## the heart of ACT Alliance



Forums are ACT's vehicles to create meaningful change in the lives of communities in need.

### In 2023, ACT Forums:

- Played a critical role in humanitarian response with numerous RRFs and appeals.
- Worked together on joint programming for the Gender Justice and Climate Justice programmes.
- Developed joint advocacy.

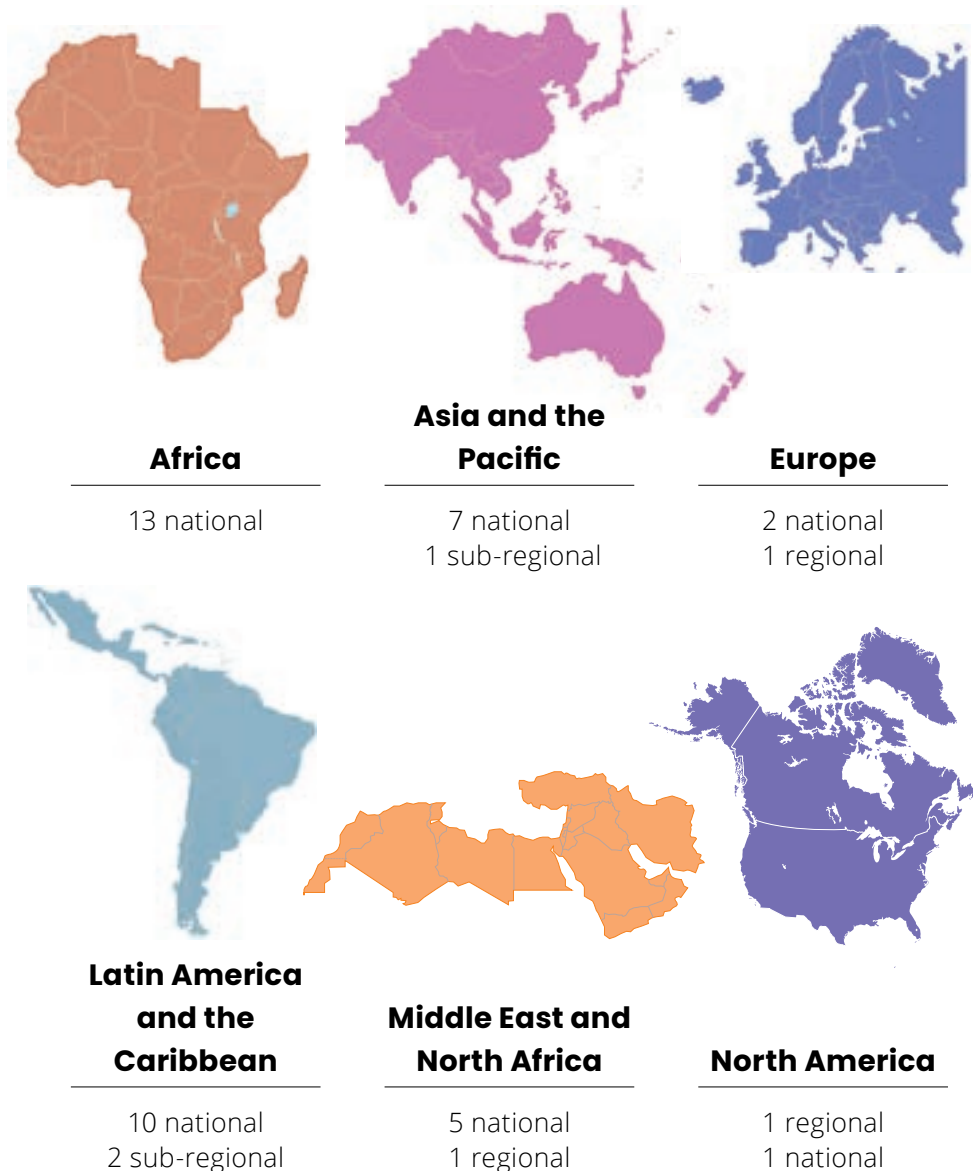


### SPOTLIGHT

- The Canada Forum contributed significant funding for the Locally Led Climate Fund (LLCF), an innovative Climate Justice pilot project that supports climate advocacy in the east of Africa.
- The Ethiopia Forum worked jointly on Gender Justice and on Climate Justice through the LLCF. Members also established joint consortia to cooperate on focussed areas of work. This included four joint programming initiatives on the triple nexus of peace, development and humanitarian engagement.
- The Argentina Forum was very active on both Climate Justice and Gender Justice.

### ACT Forums by region

Africa	13 national
Asia and the Pacific	7 national + 1 sub-regional
Europe	2 national + 1 regional
Latin America and the Caribbean	10 national + 2 sub-regional
The Middle East and North Africa	5 national + 1 regional
North America	1 regional + 1 national



# Audited Accounts

## BALANCE SHEET AS AT DECEMBER 31

	2023 USD	2023 CHF	2022 USD	2022 CHF
<b>ASSETS</b>		<b>0,8392</b>		<b>0,9234</b>
<b>Current Assets</b>				
Cash at bank	6 650 960	5 581 759	7 169 349	6 619 959
Income receivable net	48 629	40 812	70 457	65 057
Staff advances	26 443	22 192	24 719	22 825
Other debtors	414 848	348 158	186 712	172 405
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	<b>7 140 880</b>	<b>5 992 920</b>	<b>7 451 237</b>	<b>6 880 246</b>
<b>Non Current Assets</b>				
Software at cost	149 522	125 485	149 522	138 064
Software accumulated depreciation	-64 793	-54 377	-34 888	-32 215
<b>Total Non Current Assets</b>	<b>84 729</b>	<b>71 108</b>	<b>114 634</b>	<b>105 849</b>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>7 225 609</b>	<b>6 064 028</b>	<b>7 565 871</b>	<b>6 986 095</b>
<b>LIABILITIES AND OWN FUNDS</b>				
<b>Current Liabilities</b>				
Accounts payable	295 800	248 247	297 651	274 842
Other creditors	336 429	282 345	189 379	174 867
Accrued expenses	167 207	140 327	139 556	128 862
Funds received in advance (Unspent earmarked contribution)	958 358	804 293	1 595 274	1 473 027
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>	<b>1 757 794</b>	<b>1 475 212</b>	<b>2 221 860</b>	<b>2 051 598</b>
<b>Funds in Trust</b>				
Appeal Funds	3 333 063	2 797 244	2 921 966	2 698 055
<b>Total Funds in Trust</b>	<b>3 333 063</b>	<b>2 797 244</b>	<b>2 921 966</b>	<b>2 698 055</b>
<b>Own Funds</b>				
<b>General Reserve</b>				
Restricted Reserve	1 981 353	1 835 807	2 087 293	1 915 781
Unrestricted Reserve	84 752	84 211	21 589	23 585
<b>Total Reserves</b>	<b>2 066 105</b>	<b>1 920 018</b>	<b>2 108 882</b>	<b>1 939 366</b>
Result of Operations for the Year	68 647	61 704	313 163	300 583
Cumulative Translation Adjustment	-	-190 150	-	-3 508
<b>Total General Reserve</b>	<b>2 134 751</b>	<b>1 791 572</b>	<b>2 422 045</b>	<b>2 236 442</b>
<b>Total Own Funds</b>	<b>2 134 751</b>	<b>1 791 572</b>	<b>2 422 045</b>	<b>2 236 442</b>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES AND OWN FUNDS</b>	<b>7 225 607</b>	<b>6 064 028</b>	<b>7 565 871</b>	<b>6 986 095</b>

### Report on the audit of the financial statements

#### Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of ACT Alliance - Action by Churches Together (the association), which comprise the balance sheet as at 31 December 2023, and the statement of income and expenditure, the movement in general reserves for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements comply with Swiss law and the association's articles of incorporation.

### Report on other legal and regulatory requirements

In accordance with article 69b paragraph 3 CC in connection with article 728a paragraph 1 item 3 CO and PS-CH 890, we confirm that an internal control system exists which has been designed for the preparation of the financial statements according to the instructions of the Governing Board.

We recommend that the financial statements submitted to you be approved.

PricewaterhouseCoopers SA



Marc Secretan  
Licensed audit expert  
Auditor in charge  
Geneva, 9 May 2024



Elsa Ferreira Filipe  
Licensed audit expert

## STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE AS OF 31 DECEMBER

### INCOME

#### Fees

Forum fees	36 500	32 808	18 500	17 757
Income based fees (IBF)	2 083 000	1 872 273	1 690 625	1 622 714
International coordination fees (ICF)	14 346	12 895	133 342	127 986
<b>Total Fees</b>	<b>2 133 846</b>	<b>1 917 976</b>	<b>1 842 467</b>	<b>1 768 457</b>

#### Members Contributions and Donor Funds

Voluntary contributions earmarked	766 240	688 723	697 436	669 420
Other income	733	659	103	99
Funds earmarked to projects & programmes	2 122 025	1 907 350	1 893 638	1 817 573
Solidarity fund contributions	-	-	324 813	311 765
ACT Europe Forum funds for Ukraine Appeal	143 348	128 846	353 797	339 585
Appeals income net of SMC & ICF	27 043 982	24 308 075	32 936 424	31 613 404
Secretariat monitoring and coordination cost (SMC) income	850 364	764 337	2 259 457	2 168 697
<b>Total Member Contributions and Donor Funds</b>	<b>30 926 692</b>	<b>27 797 990</b>	<b>38 465 666</b>	<b>36 920 543</b>

#### Total Income

<b>33 060 538</b>	<b>29 715 966</b>	<b>40 308 134</b>	<b>38 689 001</b>
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### EXPENSES

#### Core Costs:

Staff costs	1 851 586	1 664 270	1 517 703	1 456 738
Office costs	499 470	448 941	405 007	388 739
Depreciation costs	29 904	26 879	29 904	28 703
Activity costs	378 219	339 957	202 892	194 742
Provision for doubtful debts and write off	4 000	3 595	31 975	30 691
General Assembly costs	61 686	55 446	7257	6966

#### Project and Programme Costs:

Climate Justice Programme 1	684 911	615 622	404 385	388 142
Gender Justice Programme 2	1 084 333	974 636	1 096 950	1 052 886
Peace and Human Security Programme 3	26 992	24 261	23 915	22 955
Migration and Displacement Programme 4	127 305	114 426	132 179	126 869
Quality & Accountability Project	79 011	71 018	12 000	11 518
Support to Faith Based CPDE (IBON Project)	15 923	14 312	21 869	20 991
ACT Forum Capacity Building	77 016	69 225	47 032	45 143
ACT Security Group	11 392	10 239	74 493	71 500
Other Projects	15 142	13 611	28 384	27 243

#### Humanitarian:

Humanitarian Mechanism (SMC) costs	1 206 304	1 084 268	931 217	893 811
ACT Europe Forum funds for Ukraine Appeal	143 348	128 846	-	-
Appeals disbursements	27 043 982	24 308 075	32 936 424	31 613 404

#### Total Expenses

<b>33 340 524</b>	<b>29 967 627</b>	<b>37 903 587</b>	<b>36 381 042</b>
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#### Operating Result

- 279 987	- 251 661	2 404 547	2 307 959
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#### Exchange (Gain) / Loss Core budget

7 307	6 567	32 104	30 815
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#### Intermediate Result before change in funds

- 287 293	- 258 228	2 372 443	2 277 144
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(Transfer to) Restricted funds - project funds carry forward

		- 52 431	- 50 325
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Use of / (Transfer to) Restricted funds for Humanitarian Mechanism (SMC)	355 940	319 931	- 1 338 089	- 1 284 339
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(Transfer to) Funds in Trust			- 493 948	- 474 106
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(Transfer to) Restricted funds			- 174 813	- 167 791
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#### SURPLUS / (DEFICIT) FOR THE YEAR AFTER ALLOCATIONS

<b>68 647</b>	<b>61 703</b>	<b>313 163</b>	<b>300 583</b>
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#### SURPLUS / (DEFICIT) FOR THE YEAR AFTER ALLOCATIONS

<b>68 647</b>	<b>61 703</b>	<b>313 163</b>	<b>300 583</b>
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# REFERENCE GROUPS AND COMMUNITIES OF PRACTICE

## Reference Groups

Members of ACT's Reference Groups play a vital role in setting the direction of ACT Alliance's work. In 2023, the Emergency Preparedness and Humanitarian Response Reference Group made substantial contributions to improving ACT's humanitarian mechanisms.



### Advocacy and Policy

#### Chairs

Eva Ekelund (Act Church of Sweden)  
Philemon Jazi (Diakonia Sweden)



### Climate Justice

#### Chairs

Elena Cedillo (Lutheran World Federation)  
Mattias Söderberg (DanChurchAid)



### Emergency Preparedness and Humanitarian Response

#### Chairs

Hilda Timmermann (Kerk in Actie)  
Joseph Sahayam (CASA)



### Gender Justice

#### Chairs

Palwashay Arbab (CWSA)  
Yordanos Asnake Sisay (EOC-DICAC)  
Ranan Issa Abu Shanab (CWSA)



### Migration and Displacement

#### Chair

Andrew Fuys (Church World Service)



### Peace and Human Security

#### Chairs

Nishant Neel (CASA)  
Tanya Viiki (Felm)



### Quality and Accountability/ Complaints Handling

#### Chairs

Coleen Heemskerk (Act Church of Sweden)  
John Gilmore (COCOA)



Members of the Climate Justice Reference Group hosted an ACT side event at COP28 in Dubai. PHOTO: Simon Chambers/ACT



US members facilitated ACT and its partners' participation in the 2023 New York Climate March linked to the UN Climate Summit. PHOTO: Simon Chambers/ACT

## Communities of Practice (CoPs)

1. Climate Change Adaptation & Disaster Risk Reduction
2. Climate Justice
3. Gender Equality and Justice
4. Human Rights in Development
5. Psychosocial support
6. Religion & Development
7. Youth



# ACT Alliance Governing Board

## Governing Board 2023

### Officers

#### Moderator

**Mr Erik Lysén**  
Act Church of Sweden (ActCoS)

#### Vice Moderator

**Ms Minnie Anne Mata-Calub**  
National Council of Churches in the Philippines (NCCP)

#### Treasurer

**Ms Simangalis Hove**  
Lutheran Development Service in Zimbabwe (LDS Zimbabwe)

### Executive Committee

#### Rev Sally Azar

[Youth] Evangelical Lutheran Church in Jordan and the Holy Land (ELCJHL)

#### Ms Maria Immonen

Lutheran World Federation (LWF)

#### Rev Dr Laurie Ann Kraus

Presbyterian Disaster Assistance- Presbyterian Church USA (PDA)

#### Lic. Nicolás Rosenthal

Diaconal Protestant Foundation Time to Work/Fundacion Protestante Hora de Obrar (FPHdO)

### Permanent seats

**Ms Maria Immonen**  
Lutheran World Federation (LWF)

**Prof. Isabel Apawo Phiri**  
World Council of Churches

### Africa

**Ms Simangalis Hove**  
Lutheran Development Service in Zimbabwe (LDS Zimbabwe)

**Rev Dr Evans Onyemara**  
Christian Council of Nigeria (CCN)

**Mr Yilikal Shiferaw**  
Ethiopian Orthodox Church (EOC-DICAC)

### Asia

**Ms Karen M. Janjua**  
Community World Service Asia (CWSA)

**Mr Sungjae Kim**  
The National Christian Council in Japan (NCCJ)

**Ms Minnie Anne Mata-Calub**  
National Council of Churches in the Philippines (NCCP)

### Europe

**Mr Martin Kessler**  
Diakonie Katastrophenhilfe (DKH)

**Mr Erik Lysén**  
Act Church of Sweden (ActCoS)

**Ms Rommie Nauta**  
Kerk in Actie (KiA)

### Europe (Eastern)

**Ms Tsovinar Ghazarya**  
Armenia Inter-Church Charitable Round Table Foundation (ART)

### Latin America and the Caribbean

**Ms Judith Castañeda**  
Protestant Center for Pastoral Studies in Central America/Centro Evangélico de Estudios pastorales en Centro América (CEDEPCA)

**Mr Joel Ortega Dopico**  
Council of Churches of Cuba (CCC) / Consejo de Iglesias de Cuba (CIC)

### Lic. Nicolás Rosenthal

Diaconal Protestant Foundation Time to Work/Fundacion Protestante Hora de Obrar (FPHdO)

### The Middle East

**Rev Dr Rima Nasrallah**  
Middle East Council of Churches (MECC)

### North America

**Rev Dr Laurie Ann Kraus**  
Presbyterian Disaster Assistance- Presbyterian Church USA (PDA)

**Mr Guy Smagghe**  
Presbyterian World Service and Development (PWS&D)

### Pacific Nations, Australia and Aotearoa New Zealand

**Ms Leah Odongo**  
Australian Lutheran World Service (ALWS)

### Youth

**Rev Sally Azar**  
Evangelical Lutheran Church in Jordan and the Holy Land (ELCJHL)

**Ms Embla Regine Mathisen**  
NCA - Changemaker Norway

### Global

**Ms Casey Harden**  
World Young Women's Christian Association (World YWCA)

### Membership and Nominations Committee

**Chair: Ms Marie Anne Sliwinski**  
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA)

**Mr Patrick Watt**  
Christian Aid (CA)

**Ms Joanne (Jo) Knight**  
Anglican Overseas Aid - Australia (AOA)

**Mr Lorenzo Mota King**  
Social Service of Dominican Churches/ Servicio Social de Iglesias Dominicanas (SSID)

# ACT Alliance Members and Observers

## AFRICA

**Angola** Angolan Council of Christian Churches/Conselho de Igrejas Cristãs em Angola (CICA)

**Burkina Faso** Dignus Burkina Faso (DIGNUSBF)

**Burundi** National Council of Churches of Burundi/ Conseil national des églises du Burundi (CNEB)

**Cameroon** Church of the Lutheran Brethren of Cameroon/Eglise fraternelle luthérienne du Cameroun (EFLC)

**DRC** Church of Christ in the Congo Kinshasa/Eglise du Christ au Congo Kinshasa (ECC)

**DRC** Ecumenical Center Promotion Rural World/Centre Oecuménique pour la Promotion du Monde Rural (COPROMOR)

**DRC** Ecumenical Office for Development Support/Bureau Oecumenique d'Appui au Developpement (BOAD)

**DRC** Evangelical Lutheran Church of Congo/Eglise évangélique luthérienne au Congo (ELCCo)

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

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

**Ghana** Presbyterian Relief Services and Development-Presbyterian Church of Ghana (PRSD)

**Kenya** Anglican Development Services Kenya (ADS)

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

**Kenya** Kenya Evangelical Lutheran Church (KELC)

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

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

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

**Liberia** Liberia Council of Churches (LCC)

**Liberia** Lutheran Development Service in Liberia (LDS Liberia)

**Madagascar** Church of Jesus Christ in Madagascar/Eglise de Jésus-Christ à Madagascar (SAF-FJKM)

**Madagascar** Malagasy Lutheran Church (MLC)

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

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

**Mozambique** Ecumenical Committee for Social Development/Comité Ecuménico para o Desenvolvimento Social (CEDES)

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

**Sierra Leone** Council of Churches in Sierra Leone (CCSL)

**South Africa** ACT Ubumbano

**South Africa** Economic Justice Network of Fellowship of Christian Councils in Southern Africa (EJN-FOCCISA)

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

**South Africa** Lutheran Communion in South Africa (LUCSA)

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

**Tanzania** Christian Council of Tanzania (CCT)

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

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

**Uganda** Church of Uganda (CoU)

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

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

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

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

**Zimbabwe** Ecumenical Church Leaders' Forum (ECLF)

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

**Zimbabwe** Methodist Development and Relief Agency (MeDRA)

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

## ASIA

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

**Cambodia** Life With Dignity (LWD)

**China** Amity Foundation (AF)

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

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

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

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

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

**Indonesia** Centre for Disaster Risk Management and Community Development Studies (CDRM&CDS)

**Indonesia** Christian Foundation for Public Health (YAKKUM), includes YEU

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

**Indonesia** Maha Bhoga Marga Foundation (MBM)

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

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

**Pakistan** Community World Service Asia (CWSA Pakistan)

**Pakistan** National Council of Churches in Pakistan (NCCP)

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

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

**Taiwan** Presbyterian Church in Taiwan (PCT)

## EUROPE

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

**Austria** Diakonie ACT Austria

**Belgium** Solidarité Protestante (SP)

**Czech Republic** Diaconia ECCB – Center of Relief and Development (DECCB CRD)

**Denmark** DanChurchAid (DCA)

**Finland** Finn Church Aid/Kirkon Ulkomaanapu (FCA)

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

**Germany** Bread for the World (BfdW)

**Germany** Diakonie Katastrophenhilfe (DKH)

**Germany** Mission EineWelt (MEW)

**Germany** Moravian Mission Society/Herrnhuter Missionshilfe (HMH)

**Greece** APOSTOLI

**Greece** Faros

**Hungary** Hungarian Interchurch Aid (HIA)

**Iceland** Icelandic Church Aid (ICA)

**Norway** Norwegian Church Aid (NCA)

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

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

**Serbia** Ecumenical Humanitarian Organization (EHO)

**Serbia** Philanthropy -The Charitable Foundation of the Serbian Orthodox Church (COVEX/COVEC)

**Sweden** Act Church of Sweden (ActCoS)

**Sweden** Diakonia Sweden

**Switzerland** Swiss Church Aid (HEKS-EPER) merged with BfA

**The Netherlands** Cordaid (merged with ICCO Cooperation)

**The Netherlands** Kerk in Actie (KiA)

**UK** Christian Aid (CA)

## LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

**Argentina** Diaconal Protestant Foundation Time to Work/Fundacion Protestante Hora de Obrar (FPHdO)

**Argentina** Evangelical Center for Diaconia/Servicio Evangélico de Diaconia (SEDI)

**Argentina** Regional Ecumenical Advisory and Service Center/Centro Regional Ecuménico de Asesoría y Servicio (CREAS)

**Bolivia** Bolivian Association Uniting Hands for Life/Asociación Boliviana Uniendo Manos por la Vida (RED UMAVIDA)

**Bolivia** Evangelical Methodist Church in Bolivia/Iglesia Evangélica Metodista en Bolivia (IEMB)

**Brazil** Diaconia Brazil

**Brazil** Ecumenical Coordination of Services/Coordenadoria Ecumênica de Serviço (CESE)

**Brazil** KOINONIA Ecumenical Presence and Service/KOINONIA Presença Ecumênica e Serviço

**Brazil** Lutheran Foundation of Diaconia/Fundação Luterana de Diaconia (FLD)

**Chile** Evangelical Lutheran Church in Chile/Iglesia Evangélica Luterana en Chile (IELCH)

**Chile** Popular Education in Health/Fundación Educación Popular en Salud (EPES)

**Colombia** Evangelical Lutheran Church of Colombia/Iglesia Evangélica Luterana de Colombia (IELCO)

**Colombia** Presbyterian Church of Colombia/Iglesia Presbiteriana de Colombia (PCC/IPC)

**Cuba** Christian Center for Reflection & Dialogue/Centro Cristiano de Reflexión y Diálogo (CCRD)

**Cuba** Council of Churches of Cuba (CCC) / Consejo de Iglesias de Cuba (CIC)

**Dominican Rep.** Social Service of Dominican Churches/Servicio Social de Iglesias Dominicanas (SSID)

**El Salvador** Christian Association for Education and Development/Asociación Cristiana de Educación y Desarrollo (ALFALIT)

**El Salvador** Salvadorian Lutheran Synod/Sinodo Luterano Salvadoreño (SLS)

**Guatemala** Protestant Center for Pastoral Studies in Central America/Centro Evangélico de Estudios pastorales en Centro América (CEDEPCA)

**Haiti** Christian Service Haiti/Service chrétien d'Haïti (SCH)

**Honduras** Christian Organization for the Integral Development of Honduras/Organismo Cristiano de Desarrollo Integral de Honduras (OCDIH)

**Honduras** Mennonite Social Action Commission/Comisión de Acción Social Menonita (CASM)

**Nicaragua** Council of Evangelical Churches/Consejo de Iglesias Proalianza Denominacional (CEPAD)

**Nicaragua** Interchurch Center for Theological and Social Studies/Centro Intereclesial de Estudios Teológicas y Sociales (CIEETS)

**Nicaragua** Nicaraguan Lutheran Church of Faith and Hope/Iglesia Luterana de Nicaragua Fe y Esperanza (ILFE)

**Peru** DIACONIA Peru

**Peru** Methodist Church of Peru (MCP)/Iglesia Metodista del Peru (IMP)

## MIDDLE EAST

**Egypt** Bishopric of Public, Ecumenical & Social Services (BLESS)

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

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

**Palestine** Department of Service to Palestinian Refugees (DSPR)

**Palestine** East Jerusalem YMCA (EJ-YMCA)

**Syria** Greek Orthodox Patriarchate of Antioch & All the East -Department of Ecumenical Relations and Development (GOPA-DERD)

**Syria** St. Ephrem Patriarchal Development Committee (EPDC)

## NORTH AMERICA

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

**Canada** Presbyterian World Service and Development (PWS&D)

**Canada** The Primate's World Relief and Development Fund (PWRDF)

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

**USA** Church World Service (CWS-USA)

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

**USA** Presbyterian Disaster Assistance-Presbyterian Church USA (PDA)

**USA** United Church of Christ (UCC)

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

**USA/Canada** Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) Week of Compassion

**USA/Canada** World Renew (WR)

## PACIFIC

**Australia** Act for Peace (AfP)

**Australia** Anglican Overseas Aid (AOA)

**Australia** Anglicans in Development (ABM-AID)

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

**Australia** Churches of Christ Overseas Aid (COCOA)

**Australia** UnitingWorld Relief and Development Unit (UWRDU)

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

## GLOBAL

**Canada** World Association for Christian Communication (WACC)

**Germany** United Evangelical Mission (UEM)

**Germany** World Communion of Reformed Churches (WCRC)

**Switzerland** ECLof International (ECLof)

**Switzerland** Mission 21: Protestant Mission Basel (Mission 21)

**Switzerland** World Young Women's Christian Association (World YWCA)

**UK** Anglican Alliance (member since 2013 as observer)

**UK** The Salvation Army (SA)

**USA** Baptist World Aid (BWA)

## PERMANENT

**Switzerland** The Lutheran World Federation (LWF)

## OBSERVER

**Belgium** Conference of European Churches (CEC)

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



Women living in a South Darfur camp for internally displaced persons bring home harvested wood. PHOTO: Paul Jeffrey/ACT

# actalliance

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