



# Contents

Message from the General Secretary
ACT by the numbers
World map showing spend
ACT Alliance 10th anniversary6
ACT's COVID-19 response
Africa
Asia and the Pacific
Latin America and the Caribbean
Middle East and North Africa
Climate Justice
Gender Justice
Migration and Displacement
Emergency Preparedness and Humanitarian Response
Peace and Human Security
Forums at the heart of the Alliance
Reference Groups
Quality and Accountability
Audited Accounts
ACT's Governing Board
ACT Members and Observers
Contact Us

#### IMAGE ON COVER:

Zachel Choisil laughs as she holds one of her goats in the Haitian community of Ganthier, where Mission Sociale des Eglises Hatïenne (MISSEH), a member of the ACT Alliance, has helped her and other residents rebuild their homes and lives after the village was devastated in 2016 by Hurricane Matthew. Besides providing construction material for housing construction, MISSEH has also provided animals, seeds and tools to farmers, while helping the community organize a more agile and responsive program of disaster risk reduction.



Rudelmar Bueno de Faria

# Message from the GENERAL SECRETARY

2020 will go down in history for the global pandemic, but also as proof of human kindness and determination. COVID-19 highlighted existing vulnerabilities and affected hard-won socioeconomic progress. Yet we also saw governments and organisations collaborate to contain COVID-19 and work towards reopening the world in a more just and inclusive way.

2020, for me, was also a year of hope. People selflessly extended their support to friends and strangers alike. ACT moved quickly to prioritise COVID-19 and to restrict its spread. We launched a USD 12 million appeal and launched 34 COVID-19 RRFs and Sub-Appeals. Because the pandemic added to the inequitable status of women and girls, ACT humanitarian and gender programmes added a gender lens to our COVID-19 response. We also responded to regional emergencies including those in the Philippines and Central America, as well as the Beirut Blast.

The pandemic affected the ACT Secretariat and our members financially, increasing the Secretariat's financial strain. I worked closely with the Core Management Team and the Board to address the Secretariat's immediate situation while we continue to develop a sustainable funding model. ACT continued to position itself as a thought leader, emphasizing its value as a faith-based actor. I was named a co-chair of the UN Multi-Faith Advisory Council where I worked with other faith leaders and UN agencies to advocate for issues such as vaccine equity.

2020's Electronic Assembly laid the groundwork for significant changes in years to come, adding two new youth seats to the ACT Governing Board and changing the spacing of ACT's General Assemblies. Climate Justice began a multistakeholder process focused on Paris +5. ACT's Peace and Human Security Reference Group made concrete plans for 2020-21 through a new Sub-Strategy on Peace and Human Security.

2020 also marked our 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary as ACT Alliance. This journey has only been possible due to the dedication of our members and forums who make ACT Alliance the force that it is locally, nationally, regionally and globally.

We have a long road ahead of us as we continue to respond to the global pandemic and the vulnerabilities and inequities it has intensified. We gladly take on these challenges to improve the lives of communities through targeted interventions. ACT Alliance continues to work towards a world where no one is left behind.

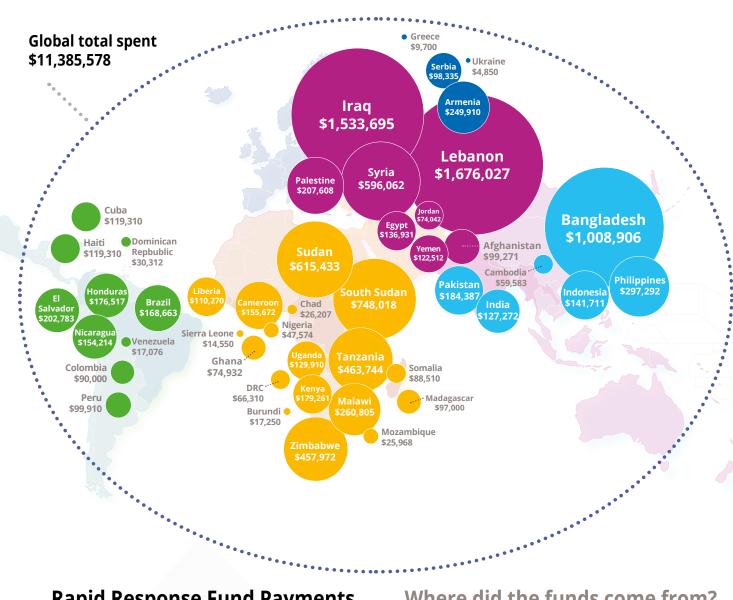
Rudelmar Bueno de Faria

General Secretary ACT Alliance

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

Present in over members countries observer members THE WORLD'S **LARGEST PROTESTANT** staff **AND ORTHODOX** global south\* **ALLIANCE**, **ACT Alliance** consists of: women global north men nonglobal binary volunteers vouth PUTTING PEOPLE FIRST

## ACT raised \$11,385,578 for humanitarian response in 2020 Where was it spent?



#### **Rapid Response Fund Payments**

Asia and Pacific \$208,927 18.09%

> Middle East and **North Africa**

> > \$269,792

23.37%

Europe \$150,000

12.99%

Latin America and Caribbean

\$495.912

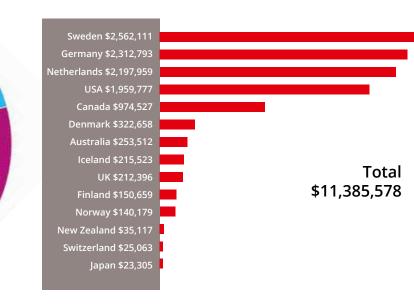
42.95%

Africa

\$30,000

2.6%

#### Where did the funds come from?



#### **PRAYER FOR ACT ALLIANCE ON ITS 10th ANNIVERSARY**

Looking back at the journey we have shared, we are grateful for ten years of common vision, effort and commitment, "towards a world community where all God's creation lives with dignity, justice, peace and full respect for human rights and the environment."

We are grateful for each communion, each

organization, each partner—be they local, national, regional or global—who, together, make up this body we call the ACT Alliance. Though we are many, You have called us to transcend our differences, honor all voices, to be the hands and heart of Christ among Your beloved peoples, wherever there is need.



# stronger together actalliance













2010-2020

2010 2011

2012

2013

2015

2016

2017

2018

2019

We know their pain because we were there with them

Since its creation in 2010, ACT Alliance has been working with its members to alleviate the suffering of the most vulnerable.











10 years
137 members
120 countries
500+ responses
100% diakonia

#### We are rooted in the communities we serve

ACT Alliance celebrated its 10th anniversary in 2020. Our members have made ACT the largest Protestant and Orthodox network of churches and agencies engaged in humanitarian, development and advocacy work. Together we help create meaningful change in the lives of the vulnerable.

# **ACT's COVID-19 response**

# "We are not just working with communities; we are the communities."

ACT Alliance and its members quickly adapted to the reality of COVID-19. We called for vaccine equity and worked closely with civil society, the UN and other partners. We organised virtual meetings where members shared strategies to reduce COVID-19's impact on their work. Our collective activities addressed the immediate risks of the disease while incorporating COVID-19 into existing programmes and thematic work.

ACT's activities highlight Faith-Based Organisations' (FBOs) ability to foster behaviours that protect people's health. We helped:

- channel fact-based messages in local languages,
- reduce vaccine hesitancy,
- find and support quarantined families, and
- implement safety protocols for religious gatherings and burials.

► During COVID-19 Indonesian ACT member Yakkum Emergency Unit (YEU) sent medical teams to assist vulnerable people in their homes. Near Yogyakarta.

#### Highlights

# Emergency preparedness and humanitarian response

ACT launched a global USD 12 million appeal and Rapid Response Fund, raising USD 4.1 million in 2020. The funds helped ACT set up integrated programming between the humanitarian and gender justice programmes.

■ ACT helped launch 34 COVID-19 RRFs and Sub-Appeals, some of which helped fund gender projects.

#### **Climate Justice**

■ ACT held six virtual dialogues and conferences on COVID-19

and climate change, food security, youth and the pandemic's impact.

#### **Gender Justice**

With the global Gender Justice team, ACT developed new gender and security online training modules reflecting gender justice policies.

### Migration and Displacement

- ACT believes all persons, especially those on the move, should have access to accurate information, hygiene and health services, food, livelihood and psychosocial support.
- ACT Forums were active in global NGO networks supporting the UN Secretary General's new High-Level Panel on Internal Displacement.

#### **Peace and Human Security**

ACT developed COVID-19 Conflict Sensitive Considerations for use in strategic planning and programming.

#### **ACT Communications**

■ A new COVID-19 section of the ACT website featured factual COVID-19 resources created by ACT, its members, the World Health Organization and other experts.

#### **SECTORS OF RESPONSE**



Public health



Food security and nutrition



Water, sanitation and hygiene



Unconditional cash grants



Gender



MHPSS and CBPS



► Burundi: Practicing

hygiene to stop the

pread of COVID-19.

OTO: LUTHERAN WORLD FEDERATION

> . Kathmandu's

university teaching

▲ Afghani girls face many barriers to education: pressure to earn or help at home, few female teachers, a lack of supplies, sanitation and access to safe, clean toilets. The 33% of girls married before the age of 18 are encouraged to leave school. Added to this, in 2020 COVID-19 led all schools to close. The absence of internet and technology meant distance education was impossible for many, adding to the obstacles for girls. PHOTO: CWSA

# COVID affects girls' education

Rabia Sabri, Programme
Coordinator at CWSA
Afghanistan, fears that the
economic impact of COVID in her
communities will cause families
to further prioritise boys'
education at the expense of
girls. "It is important to continue
to support these families
financially and convince them to
invest in education," she says,
"especially for girls."

#### YOU KNOW?

ACT's humanitarian operations include a gender analysis and gender-sensitive programming for engaging women and girls to prevent gender-based violence.



# Supporting IDPs in Cameroon

Since December 2016, people in Cameroon's two Anglophone regions have experienced all forms of atrocities, human rights violations and restricted movement. They endure official and unofficial checkpoints, curfews, lockdowns, arbitrary detentions and the confiscation of personal documents.

ACT members reached over 71,250 IDPs in these regions. More than half of the beneficiaries were women and children.





The project provided

lifesaving assistance

essential medical and

psychosocial support

· early recovery/livelihoods







training on how to

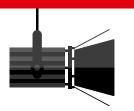
emergencies

prepare for potential

Cameroonians were further affected by the COVID-19 crisis. Here Al Alliance member Missic 21 responds to the

LWF TIGRAY RESPONSE FUNDED BY

PHOTO: MISSION 21/PG



#### **SPOTLIGHT**

# ACT forums respond to Ethiopia-Tigray conflict

Military action in the Ethiopia-Tigray conflict led to insecurity, internal and external forced migration and disruption to livelihoods for at least 1.3 million people.

Responding to this, ACT Ethiopia Forum called for a peaceful resolution, launched an appeal and established a humanitarian corridor to protect relief recipients and delivery.



With ecumenical partners, ACT provided humanitarian support including:

- cash transfers to thousands of IDPs,
  - food distribution,
  - water, sanitation and hygiene,
  - psychosocial support and protection.



ACT members also worked to prevent Gender Based Violence.

women and jamilies of Ayaer, lisplaced from their homes by the fithiopia-Tigray conflict, learn how o prepare Famix, a supplementary train-based food distributed by utheran World Federation and the fivangelical Ethiopian Church Mekane (esusu (EECMY). The families also eceive kitchen necessities.

FEDERATION ETHIOPIA

#### **Humanitarian crises**

ACT responded to multiple humanitarian crises, including severe floods and cyclones in Madagascar, South Sudan, Ghana, Liberia, Somalia, Kenya and Uganda. Several thousand people were displaced due to the loss of infrastructure and livelihoods.



#### Humanitarian Crisis in Lake Chad Basin

The Lake Chad Basin area faces one of the most severe humanitarian crises due to the displacement of more than 2.5 million people. They include internally displaced persons (IDPs), refugees and returnees. This is the result of protracted conflict and climate change which have led to extreme poverty.

10 > actalliance 2020 Annual Report

Climate change

increased drought in

Zimbabwe, Zambia and

neighbouring countries.



**FORUMS** 11 national 1 sub-regional 1 regional

# **Asia and** the Pacific

#### Rebuilding after floods in Bangladesh

▶ Children walk home from school in Kunderpara, a village on an island in the Brahmaputra River in northern Bangladesh. Severe flooding eroded the bank of the river, washing away part of this farm. ICCO Cooperation, a member of the ACT Alliance, provided emergency food and seeds so that island families could replant their food crops and restart their lives. HOTO: PAUL IEFFREY/ACT



▲ ACT member the National Council of Churches in the Philippines (NCCP) distributes food aid in response to the displacement caused by natural disasters. PHOTO: NCCP

#### **Upholding** human rights and justice

security in the region. ACT Alliance signed a The bill limited the movement of civil society limiting civil liberties and adding to human

#### **Multi-disaster appeal**

ACT issued its first multi-disaster appeal for the Philippines, responding to the impact of major typhoons and the Taal volcanic eruption, which caused displacement of more than 100,000 people and disrupted

economic activity. ACT member the National Council of Churches in the Philippines and other FBOs received funding to support those affected.



▲ Annalyn Consulta from Bariis village, Philippines, one of those affected by Typhoon Goni in November 2020. PHOTO: MARK SALUDES



# ACT statement on

#### human rights in the **Philippines**

"We, Church people from around the world ... are alarmed by the passage into law of the Anti-Terrorism Act of 2020, which poses severe threats to civil liberties ... We call for an end to these killings and stand with the Filipino citizenry in denouncing state impunity and the wanton display of violence and brutality by state forces."

**ACT is now** recognized as a thought leader in Asia and the Pacific on Climate **Change Adaptation** and Disaster Risk **Reduction. This is** thanks to ACT's role as a Faith-**Based Organisation** working with civil society networks.





#### **Access to water**

In 2020, drought and COVID-19 increased the vulnerability of local small farmers and indigenous communities in the El Impenetrable area of Chaco, Argentina.

ACT Alliance Argentina Forum members and partners CREAS, SEDI, Hora de Obrar and CWS launched a rapid

response fund to help Junta Unida de Misiones (JUM) increase water access in the region. The project trained rural community leaders to build and maintain water infrastructure. The repairs and construction have benefited more than 200 members of farming families and indigenous communities.

"Access to water is one of the most perverse forms of inequality and the consequence of a development model based on profit and lack of care for Creation. This ... is a sign of hope," said Mara Luz Manzoni, CREAS Regional Director.

▲ Children play in flood waters in San Pedro Sula, Honduras. PHOTO: SEAN HAWKEY/LIFE ON EARTH

# YOU KNOW?

ACT engaged with Central American ecumenical and faith-based organisations to overcome longstanding conflicts caused by gang activities.



#### ▲ Helping hurricane survivors in Haiti

A couple sit in front of their new house built by Servicio Social de las Iglesis Dominicanas in the Haitian community of Ganthier. SSID, a member of the ACT Alliance, worked extensively in the community following its destruction by a Hurricane in 2016. PHOTO: PAUL JEFFREY/ACT



#### **◆ Brazilian** Amazon fire recovery

ACT member CESE responds to the needs of communities affected by fires in Brazil's Amazon rainforest. PHOTO: RODRIGO VIELLAS/CESE

#### **Rising fundamentalisms** and climate justice

Rising fundamentalisms (religious, political, economic and social) in the region were a focus in 2020. ACT promoted local-level research to understand its spread in different areas. This now forms part of the regions' advocacy strategy. In 2021, a network of pastors representing Protestant and Pentecostal churches will be established.

A meeting with key scientists and religious leaders highlighted how fundamentalists both deny climate change and oppose gender justice efforts. The outcomes of this meeting will be published in 2021.

#### Gender justice and migration

The Guatemala, Brazil, and Colombia Forums led on the issue of protection of women and vulnerable people due to gender-based violence. The Honduras, El Salvador, and Guatemala Forums led initiatives to protect migrants with a gender justice approach.





#### **Building a new life**

Lavira Maurepas shows off her catch in the fishing community of Plateforme, a village on the northwestern coast of Haiti. After Hurricane Matthew devastated the community, the ACT Haiti Forum helped rebuild its economy with fishing materials, a solar-powered refrigerator room for storing their catch, and other assistance.

PHOTO: PAUL IEFEREY/ACT



#### **COVID-19 response**

All forums and members contributed to the COVID-19 response by providing food, biosecurity items, psychosocial support and spiritual counsel.



#### Cuba embargo

ACT asked that Cuba have access to biosecurity materials, medical supplies and vaccines.

14 > actalliance 2020 Annual Report

▲The ACT Argentina Forum

supports Indigenous

and other vulnerable

communities affected by

long-term drought and

now COVID-19 through

an ACT-funded project

infrastructure.

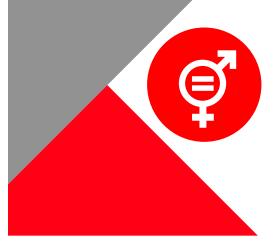
PHOTO: RAUL ROMERO/IUM

teaching the community to

build and maintain water



2020 saw the launch of new Lebanon, Jordan and Syria national forums and the MENA regional forum.



# Mainstreaming gender in development

Gender is a key focus of the regions' forums. A gender lens was used on a study about the main structures and functions of one of Palestine's Church laws. The Jordan and Palestine Forums are engaged in a joint gender justice programme.

In Jordan, the Department of Service to Palestinian Refugees of the Middle East Council of Churches works with Palestinian and Syrian refugees on awareness building and empowerment on the following issues:

- gender-based violence,
- economic justice,
- early marriage and
- protection of women and girls.

The Palestine Forum, with the Jordan Forum, developed a Gender Justice proposal which is being implemented in 2020-2021 in Palestine, Galilee and Jordan.













On August 4, 2020, a major explosion in Beirut killed more than 178 people, injured 6,500 and left another 300,000 homeless. It destroyed health infrastructure and destabilized a fragile population already facing civil unrest, an ongoing socio-economic crisis and the COVID-19 pandemic.

An ACT Appeal raised USD 1.6 million from 14 different funding members and helped 71,336 beneficiaries, more than half of them female. Appeal funds provided:

- basic assistance,
- shelter and hospital rehabilitation,
- food security, water and sanitation services,
- cash, and
- protection and health assistance.

The Appeal also helped Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) recover. Women-led MSMEs were prioritised so that they could sustain their families beyond the project's lifetime.

# Climate **Justice**

#### **Programme Goal**

Protect and support communities affected by the impacts of climate change, enhance adaptation and resilience, address climateinduced economic and noneconomic loss and damage, and build capacity, advocate and mobilise for climate justice.

Scientific evidence shows that climate change is a reality, worsening poverty and inequality, especially in developing countries. Increasing numbers of floods and droughts, sealevel rise and other extreme weather events lead to more humanitarian crises.

ACT's Climate lustice programme builds member's capacities in relation to Agenda 2030, the Senda Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction and the UNFCCC, with a focus on the implementation of the Paris Agreement.

# YOU KNOW?

In the Asia-Pacific region ACT adds value as a faith-based actor in civil society networks, where we help members work together on regional **United Nations climate** change processes.



#### **COVID-19** impact

COVID-19 delayed plans to implement the Paris Agreement. Yet ACT continued to rally for climate justice beyond the UNFCCC processes. We joined the climate work of the United Nations' Multi-Faith Advisory Council.

With DanChurchAid and Norwegian Church Aid, ACT investigated peacebuilding and climate change in Mali and Somalia. The resulting report Winning the Peace shows how adaptation projects can support peacebuilding in those countries.

To prepare the alliance for future climate action three other studies were published looking at:

- The UN's Sustainable Development Goals through a climate lens
- Climate Risk Insurance and Risk Financing
- Climate Resilient, Sustainable Low Emission Livelihoods



#### **VOICES**

#### w 🥱 Increasing climate finance for fragile communities

"There is a need to increase climate finance specifically for countries where climate-related conflicts are looming. Climate finance should not only be scaled up but it should also be carefully considered in terms of how it can best support communities that are most likely to be displaced and suffer from violence."

—Mattias Söderberg, senior advocacy adviser at DanChurchAid. Mattias currently serves as the co-chair of ACT's Climate Change Working Group.

#### **Gender Justice**

# WE ARE THE

▲ Hidaya Dude Maulid is Zanzibar's Waking the Giant youth

Lutheran Church in Tanzania (ELCT) brought youth from

across the country to mark 16 Days of Activism against

ambassador. Working with ACT Alliance and the Lutheran World Federation's Waking the Giant initiative, the Evangelical



Gender-Based Violence in Dar es Salaam. The interfaith event included young women and men from the East Coastal Diocese Tanzania Episcopal Conference (Catholic-TEC) and the National Muslim Council of Tanzania, as well as leaders of faith-based organisations and civil society. PHOTO: KATABAZI/CCT



▲ Advocating for an end to Gender-Based Violence, 16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence, Dar es Salaam, Tanzania. PHOTO: KATABAZI/CCT

# YOU KNOW?

12 million girls each year get married before the age of 18 roughly 33,000 every day, or one girl every two seconds.

#### **Programme goal**

To be a leading faith-based alliance speaking out on gender justice, with a strong track record of effective programming that responds to intersecting inequalities.

"Communities around the world trust us to be their moral compass. We have a crucial role to play when it comes to promoting justice and teaching values."

#### **Capacity-building** modules

With regional Gender Justice Communities of Practice (CoPs), ACT developed virtual capacity-building modules specific to each region.

Each CoP developed a roadmap to implement the localisation of the ACT Gender Policy. Ninety of 137 ACT members have a gender policy, and a further 20 members plan to develop one.



#### **ACT forum projects**

actalliance

2020 saw the start of ten selected projects implemented by ACT Forums (Argentina, Guatemala, Serbia, Jordan, Palestine, Solomon Islands, Indonesia, Ethiopia, Zimbabwe and Uganda). They addressed issues like Gender-Based Violence (GBV), transformative masculinities, family law, Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR), and gendered economic justice.

ACT took part in 16 Days of Activism, the global campaign to end GBV, including a virtual conference.

18 > actalliance 2020 Annual Report actalliance 2020 Annual Report > 19

IN 2020 we adjusted our programme to address the realities of COVID-19. Pandemic restrictions on movement limited asylum options and job losses were common among undocumented migrant workers.

Yet the pandemic meant that members had more access to global consultation processes, notably with the UN Network on Migration. ACT was also able to deepen its collaboration with migration and climate change experts.

We engaged with United Nations as follows:

- The UN Global Compact on Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration: ACT continued with implementation and follow-up within the Alliance.
- The UN Network on Migration: With ACT's involvement, a meeting series was designed to discuss the effects of the pandemic on migrant communities and those working with them. As civil society co-lead of Thematic Working Group 3 on Regular Pathways, ACT improved migrant protection. As a member of Core Working Groups 2.1 and 2.2 at the country level ACT influenced key guidance documents and prepared for virtual training workshops.
- Climate, Migration and Displacement Platform: As a steering group member we organised policy discussions with UN agencies and civil society partners.



**Emergency Preparedness** and **Humanitarian** 

#### **Programme Goal**

To enable an effective ecumenical response that saves lives and maintains dignity, strengthens the resilience of affected communities and accountability to people and communities affected by crises.

Today, humanitarian work is driven by increasing levels of conflict and natural disasters. ACT Alliance enables an effective ecumenical response that saves lives and maintains dignity by investing in preparedness, disaster risk reduction and resilience, in addition to its work in lifesaving emergency assistance.

A Hurricane Eta was a deadly and erratic hurricane that devastated parts of Central America, including Honduras, in November 2020. A family who lost their home in the hurricane prays inside a makeshift shelter near San Pedro Sula.

PHOTO: SEAN HAWKEY/ACT

#### respond to the Beirut Blast

**ACT members** 

On August 4, 2020, over 2,700 tonnes of ammonium nitrate exploded in a warehouse in the port of Beirut, killing hundreds, injuring thousands and displacing over 300,000 people.

MECC and DSPR, along with Christian Aid, Diakonia Sweden and Norwegian Church Aid launched a USD 3.2 million appeal for ACT's humanitarian work in response to the Beirut Blast.

PHOTO: NCA

#### DID YOU KNOW?

PHOTO: HUGH RUTHERFORD/ FINNCHURCH AID

schools. FCA also helped develop the study materials.

► A young refugee studies with the help of a radio. ACT Alliance member Finn

Church Aid (FCA) donated the radio and study materials when COVID-19 closed

Migration

**Programme Goal** 

and Displacement

To promote and realise the rights of people on the move.

More than 65 million forcibly displaced people move within and between countries; about two-thirds of them are internally displaced.

# Ecumenical statement on European migration

"Solidarity should be the guiding principle governing migration and particularly refugee reception. We expect the EU to reject the discourse and politics of fear and deterrence and to adopt a moral stance and compassionate practice based on the fundamental values on which the EU is founded."

> —From a statement by ACT and 12 other ecumenical groups before the release of the EU Commission's 2020 Migration Pact.

#### In 2020

- 30 ACT Appeals
- 34 Rapid Response Fund proposals
- For COVID-19 these included 17 Appeals and 19 RRFs.

#### **Humanitarian Advocacy**

ACT worked to contain the impacts of COVID-19 on:

- The International Council of Voluntary Agencies (ICVA),
- Sphere, and
- The Steering Committee for Humanitarian Response (SCHR).

#### DID YOU KNOW?

ACT played a vital role in the global coordination of large-scale emergencies, including the COVID-19 Global Response, Beirut Blast, Central America Hurricanes and Philippines Multiple Emergencies.

# **Peace and Human Security**

ACT is committed to addressing the root causes of conflict, preventing violence, contributing to human security and sustaining peace and justice.

5,000 internally displaced persons in an Episcopal Church compound in Wau, South Sudan. Most of the families here were displaced by violence early in 2017. Norwegian Church Aid, a member of the ACT Alliance, provided relief supplies to the displaced in Wau, and has supported the South Sudan Council of Churches as it has struggled to mediate the conflict.



**ACT Secretariat engaged** with the World Council of Churches, All Africa Council of Churches, the National Councils of Churches, and the Ecumenical Network for South Sudan and Ecumenical Network for Sudan, as well as interfaith networks and civil society organisations. Together, they improve communities' ability to manage future conflicts.

#### YOU KNOW?

ACT and its partners developed a Sub-Strategy on Peace and Human Security for 2020-21 which will strengthen ecumenical work, capacity building (notably among women and youth) and international engagement.

#### **Advocacy**

With the Ecumenical Network South Sudan, ACT advocated for the role of the South Sudan Council of Churches in that region's peace

ACT and the World Council of Churches appealed to Mozambique's President for his government to intervene in the armed conflict in Northern Mozambique/Cabo Delgado province and protect people's rights. ACT also met Mozambique's Ambassador in Geneva.

ACT called for the parties in the Armenia-Azerbaijan border conflict to respect the ceasefire and include faith actors in peace discussions.



∢ In a Nicaraguan community project supported by ELCA, a seed bank safeguards local varieties of beans

# **Voices**

With the help of an ACT Appeal, ACT members Lutheran World Federation (LWF) and Primate's World Relief and Development Fund (PWRDF) worked with the Dilja Agricultural Association to restore the water system in Northern Irag's Kujok village.

"Seven families came back once the water borehole became effective," says Dr. Prabin Manandhar of LWF. "Now there are 114 people living in Kujok village."

#### **FORUMS**

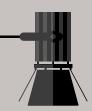
#### at the heart of the Alliance



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

#### **ACT Forums**

- played a critical role in humanitarian response with numerous RRFs and appeals,
- promoted national gender policy and programme implementation processes, and
- led national consultations on migration and displacement that fed into global consultations of the UN High-Level Panel on Internal Displacement.



#### **SPOTLIGHT**

LAC developed a regional approach to migration issues in close collaboration with the North America Forum and Mexico.

#### **ACT Forums by region**

Africa	22 national + 2 sub-regional
Asia and the Pacific	11 national, 1 sub-regional + 1 regional
Europe	1 national + 1 regional
Latin America and the Caribbean	14 national + 3 sub-regional
The Middle East and North Africa	5 national + 1 regional
North America	1 regional



#### **Africa**

22 national, 2 sub-regional

# **Latin America**

and the Caribbean

14 national 3 sub-regional



#### **Pacific Europe**

1 national

1 regional

11 national 1 sub-regional 1 regional



#### Middle East and **North Africa**

North America 1 regional

5 national 1 regional



▲ Representatives from 50 faith-based organizations gathered at the UN General Assembly's Climate Action Summit in New York to discuss issues such as climate justice, loss and damage, climate migration, emergency declarations and interfaith unity in the face of climate change. PHOTO: SIMON CHAMBERS/ACT

# **Reference Groups**

Shortly before COVID-19 caused lockdowns worldwide, ACT Reference Groups met for three days in Geneva. They discussed their work on the different thematic areas of ACT's global strategy. The Misconduct Disclosure Scheme of the Steering Committee for Humanitarian Response introduced ACT members to new approaches to their work.

#### **Reference Groups include:**



#### **Advocacy and Policy**

Chairs

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



#### **Climate Justice:**

Chair

Patriciah Roy Akullo (ACT Uganda Forum) and Mattias Söderberg (DanChurchAid)



#### **Emergency Preparedness and Humanitarian Response**

Chair

Michael Mosselmans (Christian Aid)



#### Gender Justice

Chairs

Palwashay Arbab (Community World Service Asia) and Marianna Leite (Christian Aid)



#### **Migration and Displacement**

Chairs

Rabia Sabri (Community World Service Asia) and Andrew Fuys (Church World Service)



#### **Peace and Human Security**

Chairs

Nishant Neel (Church's Auxiliary for Social Action) and Sunra Lambert-Baj (DanChurchAid)



#### Quality and Accountability/Complaints Handling

Chairs

Khurram Saeed (Community World Service Asia) and Coleen Heemskerk (Act Church of Sweden)



▲ Members of the ACT Gender Justice Community of Practice were involved in the 62nd Commission on the Status of Women at the United Nations. PHOTO: SIMON CHAMBERS/ACT



# Youth now a major force in ACT

ACT's General Assembly voted to include two youth seats in the Governing Board.

"We should be proud of this, as it is important for the organisation's trustworthiness and future. Youth are the voices, hands and ears of the society, and to continuously involve youth is essential."

#### Communities of Practice (CoP)

- 1. Youth participation CoP
- 2. Safety and security CoP
- 3. Religion and development CoP
- 4. Psychosocial CoP
- 5. Migration and development CoP
- 6. Human rights in development CoP7. Gender equality and justice CoP
- 8. Disaster risk reduction (DRR) and adaptation to climate change CoP
- 9. Disability inclusive development
- 10. Safeguarding CoP

# **Quality and Accountability**



**Key highlights** 

■ Core Humanitarian Standard (CHS): ACT qualified for the CHS maintenance audit and completed its four-year annual audit cycle in 2020. The Secretariat organised a series of webinars based on the findings from the CHS audit and the needs identified.

- **Did you know?** In 2020, ACT began revising its Complaints Handling Policy and Guidelines to further improve its ability to respond appropriately to complaints and assure its accountability to members and the communities they serve.
- Safeguarding CoP: ACT expanded the scope of the Child safeguarding CoP to including issues such as Prevention of Sexual Exploitation Abuse and Harassment, Codes of Conduct, reporting and feedback mechanisms, and screening and recruitment. We relaunched it as the Safeguarding CoP. New child safeguarding resources and six e-learning modules are available at fabo.org, promoting child safeguarding practices among members.
- **Guidelines developed:** ACT produced guidelines on Communicating with Communities across the Project Cycle Management. These will equip our members, forums and staff to foster dignity, inclusiveness and accountability while enhancing transparency, ownership and long-term projects' sustainability.

▲ A group learns about Quality and Accountability in a workshop in Mozambique.

# Capacity Building Key Highlights

- ACT developed the secretariat processes for PMER (Planning, Monitoring, Evaluation and Reporting). After receiving partner analyses, we initiated a new approach for activity preparation through collaborative planning, encouraging stronger cross-planning between teams, and providing a tool for monitoring implementation.
- ACT continues to develop the Fabo platform and other online tools for member capacity building, including the ACT Gender Security course, communications skills training, and other webinars and courses.



# **Audited Accounts**

BALANCE SHEET AS AT DECEMBER 31	Note	2020 USD	2020 CHF	2019 USD	2019 CHF
		03D	СПГ	USD	СПГ
ASSETS					
Current assets					
Cash at bank		4'010'396	3'622'350	4'620'299	4'554'534
Income receivable net		280'179	253'069	436'361	430'150
Staff advances		28'502	25'744	98'730	97'325
Other debtors		146'418	132'251	190'837	188'121
TOTAL ASSETS	;	4'465'495	4'033'414	5'346'228	5'270'129
LIABILITIES AND OWN FUNDS					
Current liabilities					
Accrued expenses		505'809	456'867	148'066	145'958
Other creditors		121'159	109'436	76'909	75'814
Funds received in advance (Unspent earmarked contribution)		1'180'058	1'065'875	1'405'827	1'385'816
Total Current liabilities	:	1'807'026	1'632'178	1'630'801	1'607'588
Funds in trust					
Appeals funds		1'917'480	1'731'944	3'184'301	3'138'975
Exchange Gain and Losses of Appeals		5'482	4'952	(43'265)	(42'649)
Total Funds in Trust		1'922'962	1'736'896	3'141'035	3'096'326
Own funds					
General reserve	4				
A. Restricted Reserve		574'392	518'814	868'937	856'569
Total Restricted Reserve	,	574'392	518'814	868'937	856'569
B. Unrestricted Reserve at beginning of year		_	_	228'605	225'351
Total Unrestricted Reserve	,	-	-	228'605	225'351
C. Designated Reserve for Assembly		_	-	_	_
Total Designated Reserve for Assembly		-	•	-	-
Funds for the Assembly		_	-	(65'929)	(64'990)
Result of operations for the year		161'115	151'139	(457'221)	(450'713)
Cumulative Translation Adjustment		-	(5'613)		· -
Total general reserve		735'507	664'340	574'393	566'217
Total own funds		735'507	664'340	574'393	566'217
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND OWN FUNDS		4'465'495	4'033'414	5'346'228	5'270'129

STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE AS AT DECEMBER 31	Note	2020	2020	2019	2019
		USD	CHF	USD	CHF
INCOME					
Fees					
Membership fees	5	27'578	25'870	144'900	142'837
Income based fees	5	1'754'004	1'645'400	1'824'626	1'798'655
International coordination fees	5	418'596	392'677	408'378	402'565
Total fees		2'200'179	2'063'948	2'377'904	2'344'057
Voluntary Contributions					
Voluntary contributions unearmarked	5	703'046	659'515	751'740	741'040
Voluntary contributions earmarked to Programs	5	209'658	196'677	852'288	840'156
External Income	5	1'585'986	1'487'785	20'092	19'806
Support to Faith Based CPDE	5	45'616	42'791	46'711	46'046
Appeals Income	6	11'385'578	10'680'605	12'307'610	12'132'423
Total Voluntary Contributions		13'929'885	13'067'372	13'978'441	13'779'472
TOTAL Income		16'130'063	15'131'320	16'356'345	16'123'529
EXPENSES					
Staff costs	11	2'278'482	2'137'402	2'818'312	2'778'196
Office costs		542'337	508'757	680'393	670'708
Program 1: Sustainability and Resilience		24'378	22'868	192'987	190'240
Program 2: Access to rights and protection for displaced		19'037	17'858	34'119	33'633
Program 3: Effective humanitarian response		24'154	22'658	28'116	27'716
Program 4: Gender Justice		(20'907)	(19'613)	44'965	44'325
Program 5: Private sector accountability		3'047	2'859	(33)	(33)
Program 6: Strategy and partnerships for change		59'709	56'012	114'123	112'498
Program 7: Alliance Development		108'255	101'552	190'411	187'700
Program 8: Strong brand and effective communications		31'313	29'374	63'660	62'753
Program 9: Effective secretariat operations		78'209	73'366	103'173	101'705
Provision for doubtful debts and write off	3	70'853	66'466	2'007	1'978
Support to Faith Based CPDE		16'369	15'355	62'902	62'006
Climate Justice Project - BFtW		148'831	139'616	-	-
Gender Project - SIDA		1'251'604	1'174'107	161'000	158'708
General Assembly Expenses		4'723	4'430	-	-
Appeals Expenses	6	11'385'578	10'680'605	12'307'610	12'132'423
		16'025'969	15'033'671	16'803'743	16'564'559
Exchange (Gain)/Loss Core budget	2	(57'021)	(53'490)	9'823	9'683
		(57'021)	(53'490)	9'823	9'683
TOTAL Expenditure		15'968'948	14'980'181	16'813'567	16'574'241
SURPLUS / (DEFICIT) FOR THE YEAR BEFORE ALLOCATIONS		161'115	151'139	(457'222)	(450'713)
Interest capitalized to restricted reserve		-	-	-	-
CLIDDI HS / /DESICIT) SOD THE VEAD ASTED ALL OCATIONS		161'115	151'139	(AE71000)	(450'713)
SURPLUS / (DEFICIT) FOR THE YEAR AFTER ALLOCATIONS		161 115	1511139	(457'222)	(450 / 13

**Members and Observers** 

# ACT Alliance

# **Governing Board 2020**

#### **Officers**

DanChurchAid

Moderator Ms Birgitte Qvist-Sørensen

Dignus Burkina Faso

Vice Moderator Rev. Tegwende Léonard Kinda

**Treasurer Ms Simangaliso Hove**Lutheran Development Service in Zimbabwe

#### **Executive Committee**

**Ms Minnieanne Calub**National Council of Churches in the Philippines (NCCP)

Ms Ida Kaastra-Mutoigo World Renew

**Rev. Joel Ortega Dopico**Consejo de Iglesias de Cuba (Cuban Council of Churches)

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

#### **Members**

#### **Permanent seats**

Ms Maria Immonen Lutheran World Federation (LWF)

Prof. Isabel, Apawo Phiri World Council of Churches

#### Africa

**Mr Girma Borishie Bati** Ethiopian Evangelical Church Mekane Yesus (EECMY)

#### Asia

**Ms Karen M. Janjua**Community World Service Asia

**Mr Zhonghui Qiu** Amity Foundation

#### Europe

**Mr Martin Kessler**Diakonie-katastrophenhilfe (DKH)

**Mr Erik Lysén** Act Church of Sweden

#### **Europe (Eastern)**

Mr Dragan Makojevic
Philanthropy: The Charitable
Foundation of the Serbian Orthodox
Church

#### **Latin America and the Caribbean**

**Ms Judith Castañeda** Centro Evangélico de Estudios pastorales en Centro América (Cedepca)

**Lic. Nicolás Rosenthal**Fundación Protestante de Diaconía
Hora de Obrar para el Desarollo Social
y Ambiental

#### The Middle East

**Mr Ramzi Ibrahim Zananiri**Department of Service to Palestinian
Refugees (DSPR)

#### **North America**

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

#### Pacific Nations, Australia and Aotearoa New Zealand

Rev. Dr Robert (Bob) Bradley
Mitchell Anglican Overseas Aid

#### Global

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

#### Membership and Nominations Committee

**Mr Jouni Hemberg** Finn Church Aid

Mr Melton Luhanga Churches Action in Relief and Development (CARD)

Ms Mara Manzoni Luz Centro Regional Ecuménico de Asesoría y Servicio (CREAS)

**Ms Arshinta Soemarsono** Christian Foundation for Public Health (YAKKUM)

Ms Elsa Tesfay
The Primate's World Relief and
Development Fund

#### AFRICA

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

**ACT Alliance** 

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

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

**Cameroon** Eglise fraternelle luthérienne du Cameroun (EFLC)

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

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

DRC Centre Oecuménique pour la Promotion du Monde Rural (COPROMOR) DRC Eglise du Christ au Congo Kinshasa

(ECC)

Ethiopia Ethiopian Evangelical Church
Mekane Yesus (EECMY)

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

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

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

**Kenya** Anglican Development Services Kenya (ADS) **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 Development Service in 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 Churches Action in Relief and

Development (CARD Malawi)

Mozambique Comité Ecuménico para o Desenvolvimento Social (CEDES) Nigeria Christian Council of Nigeria (CCN)

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

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

**Tanzania** Evangelical Lutheran Church in Tanzania (ELCT) **Tanzania** Tanganyika Christian Refugee

Service (TCRS)

Tanzania Christian Council of Tanzania

**Uganda** Church of Uganda (CoU) **Uganda** Uganda Joint Christian Council
(UJCC)

**Uganda** Rural Action Community Based Organisation (RACOBAO) **Zambia** Council of Churches in Zambia

(CCZ)

Zambia United Church of Zambia (UCZ)
Zimbabwe Lutheran Development
Service in Zimbabwe (LDS Zimbabwe)
Zimbabwe Zimbabwe Council of

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

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

#### **ASIA**

Churches (ZCC)

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 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 (CDRM&CDS)

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

Indonesia Christian Foundation for Public Health (YAKKUM), includes YEU Japan National Christian Council in

Japan (NCCJ) **Korea** (South) Presbyterian Church in

the Republic of Korea (PROK) **Pakistan** Community World Service

Asia (CWSA Pakistan)

Philippines National Council of Churches in the Philippines (NCCP) Sri Lanka National Christian Council of

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

#### **EUROPE**

Sri Lanka (NCCSL)

Armenia Armenia Inter-Church Charitable Round Table Foundation (ART) 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** Diakonie Katastrophenhilfe (DKH)

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

...continued

#### **EUROPE** ... continued

**Greece** APOSTOLI

**Hungary** Hungarian Interchurch Aid

**Iceland** Icelandic Church Aid (ICA) The Netherlands ICCO Cooperation (ICCO)

**The Netherlands**Kerk in Actie (KiA) **Norway** Norwegian Church Aid (NCA) **Romania** Ecumenical Association of Churches in Romania (AIDRom)

Russia Russian Orthodox Church Round Table Office (ROC)

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

**Serbia** Ecumenical Humanitarian Organization (EHO)

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

Switzerland Bread for All (BfA) (due to merge with HEKS in 2021)

Switzerland Swiss Church Aid (HEKS-

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

#### **LATIN AMERICA AND CARIBBEAN**

**Argentina** Centro Regional Ecuménico de Asesoría y Servicio (CREAS)

**Argentina** Fundacion Protestante Hora de Obrar (FPHdO)

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

**Brazil** Diaconia Brazil

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

**Brazil** KOINONIA Presença Ecuménica e Servico

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

Bolivia Iglesia Evangélica Metodista en Bolivia (IEMB)

Chile Fundación Educación Popular en Salud (EPES)

Colombia Presbyterian Church of Colombia (IPC)

Costa Rica Asociación Iglesia Luterana Costarricense (ILCO)

Cuba Council of Churches of Cuba (CCC). Consejo de Iglesias de Cuba (CIC)

Dominican Rep. 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** Centro Evangélico de Estudios pastorales en Centro América (CEDEPCA)

**Haiti** Service chrétien d'Haïti (SCH) **Honduras** Comisión de Acción Social Menonita (CASM)

**Nicaragua** Centro Intereclesial de Estudios Teológicas y Sociales (CIEETS) **Nicaragua** Council of Evangelical Churches (CEPAD)

Nicaragua Iglesia Luterana de Nicaragua Fé y Esperanza (ILFE)

Peru DIACONIA Peru

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

#### 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)

**OPT** Department of Service to Palestian Refugees (DSPR)

**OPT** The East Jerusalem YMCA (EJ-YMCA)

#### **NORTH AMERICA**

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

Canada Presbyterian World Service and Development (PWS&D)

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

Canada World Renew/ex Christian Reformed World Relief Committee (WR)

Canada Canadian Lutheran World Relief (CLWR)

**USA** Church World Service, Inc., (CWS-USA)

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

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

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

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

#### **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

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

**Switzerland** ECLOF International (ECLOF)

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

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

**Switzerland** World Young Women's Christian Association (World YWCA) **UK** The Salvation Army (SA) **USA** Baptist World Aid (BWA)

#### **OBSERVERS**

**UK** Anglican Alliance

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

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

#### actalliance

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# annual report 2020



annual report 2020

▲ A pastoralist wears a mask while herding his camel in Turkana West, Kenya. The Lutheran World Federation and other ACT Alliance partners worked with nomad pastoralists to prevent the spread of COVID-19 in their communities through social distancing, masking and other means.