



Programs and Partnerships Team Report

April 1, 2022 to March 31, 2023



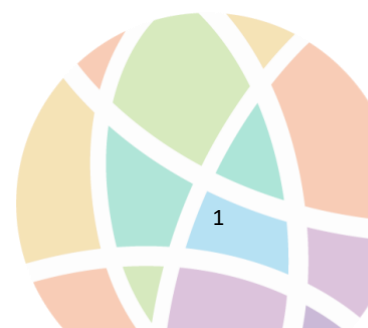
PWRDF

The Primate's World Relief
and Development Fund

The Anglican Church of Canada

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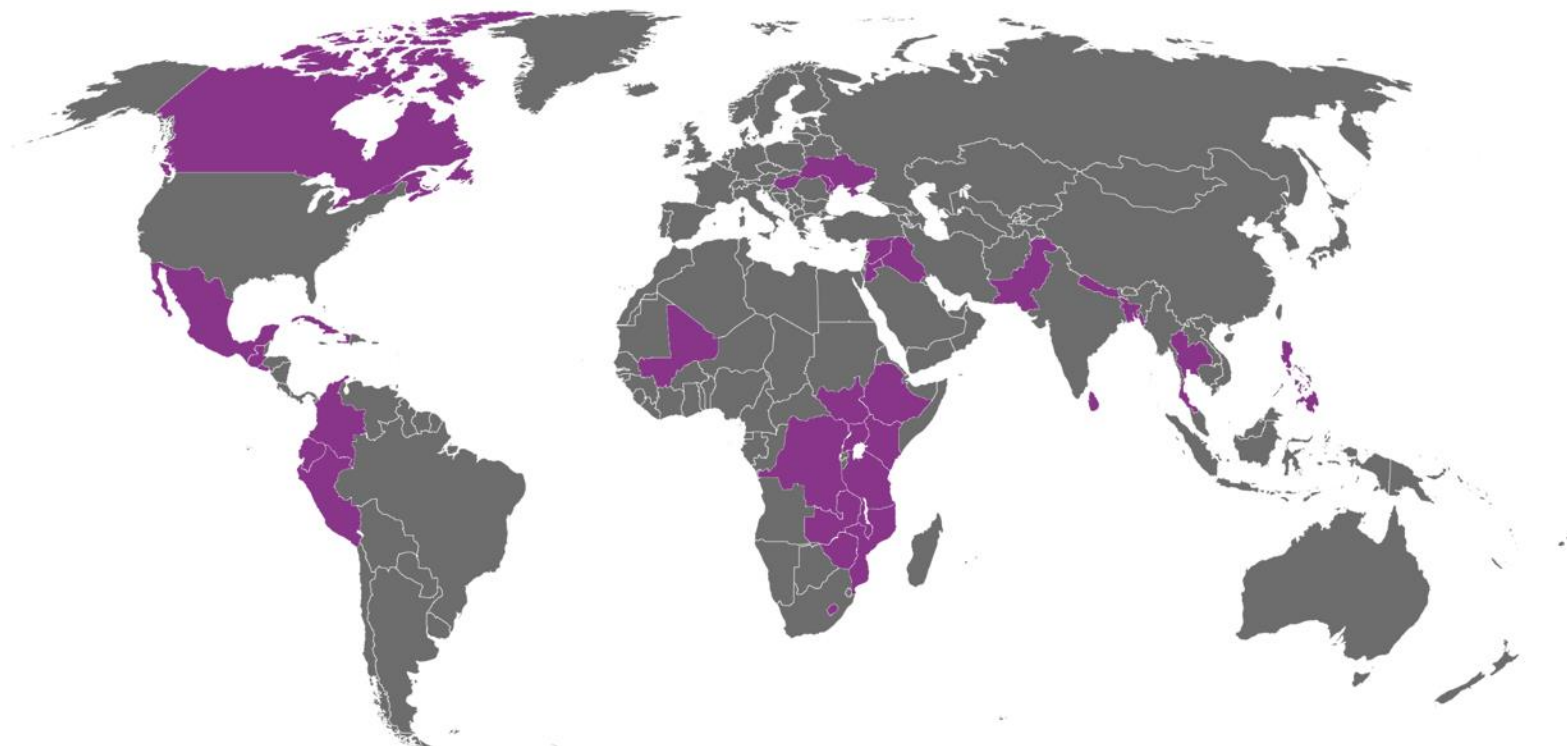
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Programs and Partnerships April 1, 2022 to March 31, 2023: An Overview in Numbers

From April 1, 2022 to March 31, 2023 (fiscal year 2022 to 2023), PWRDF supported projects in 33 countries, the same number of countries as the previous fiscal year. PWRDF managed 76 projects in 2022-2023 for a total of \$8,791,352, a 27.51% increase on total disbursements compared to April 1, 2021 to March 31, 2022 (\$6,894,512 total). The average value of disbursement for 2022-2023 was \$104,659, an increase of 21.44% from \$86,181 in 2021-2022.

PWRDF Projects 2022-2023



The most significant changes in program funding trends observable in 2022-2023 were:

- A substantial increase in humanitarian funding and Canadian Foodgrains Bank disbursements (\$6,855,259 out of \$8,791,352, or 77.98% of all PWRDF disbursements were allocated to humanitarian and Foodgrains Bank programming in 2022-2023), representing more than double the investment in humanitarian and Foodgrains Bank programming observed in 2021-2022
- Increased funding to Europe, allocated towards the ongoing war in Ukraine
- A large increase in funding allocated to Foodgrains Bank equity

The following four figures illustrate where PWRDF invested program funding during 2022-2023. The data used to construct these graphs was taken from financial disbursement records for 2022-2023 and the PWRDF project database.



To create these graphs, a primary sector has been identified for each individual PWRDF project, however, it is important to note many projects target several sectors. For example, every investment PWRDF has made in microfinance is intended to help empower and uplift women's businesses, and as such these projects could rationally be classified as empowering women. Many health projects have water and sanitation components, climate change projects often incorporate food security, and humanitarian responses integrate several sectors. While these graphs provide a snapshot of PWRDF's current sector focus and the strategic plan, it is important to assert that many PWRDF programs have multisectoral or holistic focusses.

Figure 1. Total 2022-2023 project funding distribution by region and dollar value

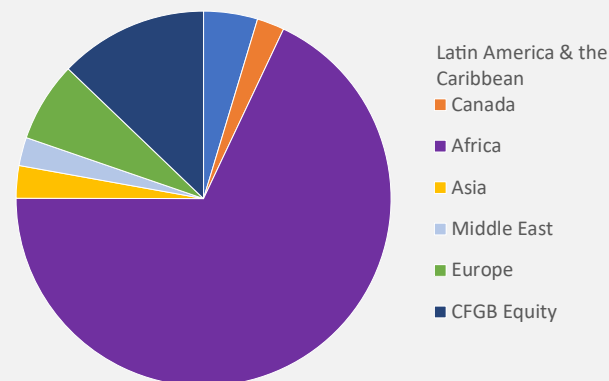


Figure 1 illustrates that PWRDF maintains a diversified project portfolio in key regions, with a focus on programming in Africa, in particular sub-Saharan Africa.

- PWRDF continues to maintain a strong presence in Africa, despite reduced Global Affairs Canada funding
- Funding for CFGB initiatives in East Africa with Church World Service represents a significant portion of PWRDF's investments in Africa
- CFGB equity allocations are included as a separate region due to the size of the investment made (\$1,128,563)

Figure 2 illustrates total program funding by sector, which illustrates the aforementioned significant shift toward humanitarian and CFGB programming observed in 2022-2023. This figure shows several trends:

- The ending of Global Affairs Canada funded initiatives saw a significant decrease in program funding allocations to health, with 9.8% of total disbursements directed towards health in 2022-2023 compared to nearly 50% of total disbursements in 2021-2022
- 77.98% of all PWRDF disbursements were allocated to humanitarian and Foodgrains Bank programming in 2022-2023 (62.56% Foodgrains Bank; 15.43% other humanitarian)
- Projects with a health focus remain the largest component of PWRDF's investments in sustainable development initiatives

Figure 2. Total 2022-2023 project funding distribution by sector and dollar value

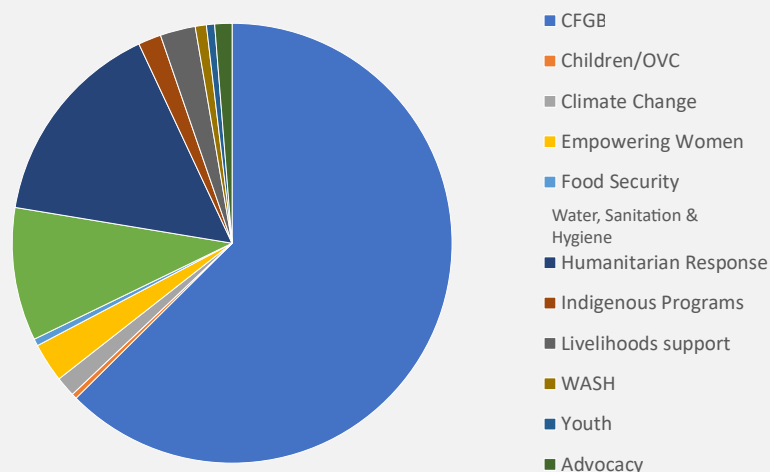


Figure 3 shows a relatively equitable distribution in the number of projects across regions. The number of projects in Europe has increased due entirely to the war in Ukraine.

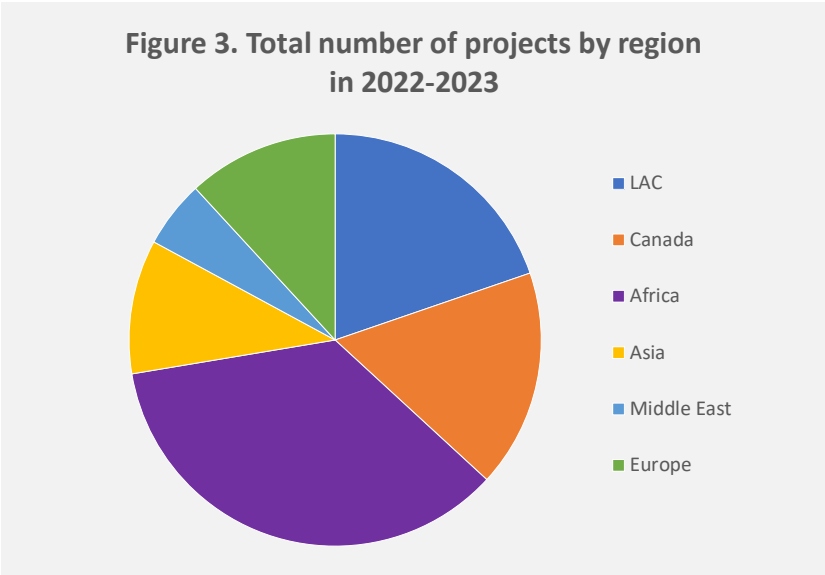
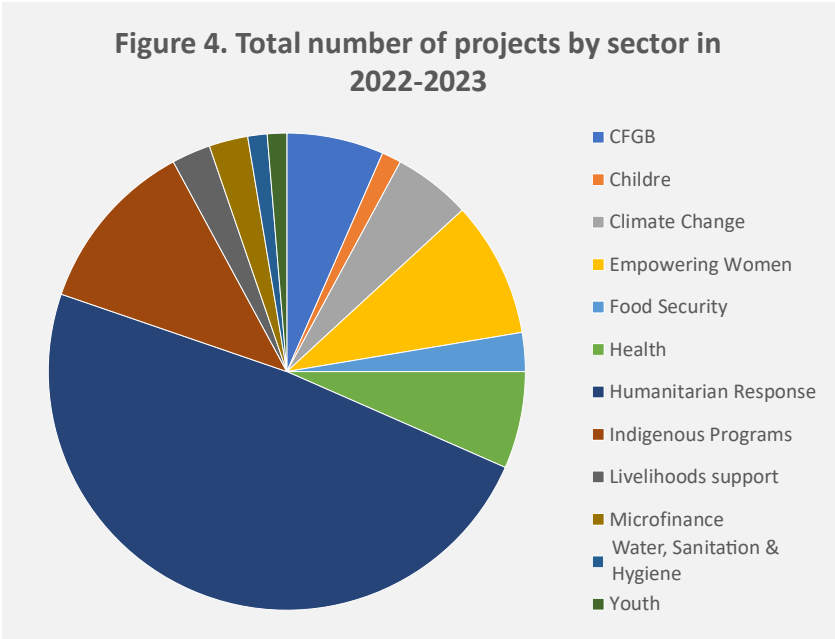


Figure 4 shows the total number of projects by key sector for 2022-2023. Considering many projects do not neatly fit into these categories, this still illustrates a few key points:

- There is a more equitable distribution of discrete projects by sector, but total funding to each sector is weighed differently
- Humanitarian initiatives represent the largest component of PWRDF projects by total project number. Whereas in previous years this trend owed to many smaller disbursements to various humanitarian initiatives, PWRDF investments in humanitarian programming in 2022-2023, as observed in Figure 2, are increasingly of higher value, in particular CFGB led initiatives
- PWRDF has continued to build on relationships with Indigenous partners in Canada through the Indigenous responsive program, with eight active projects in 2022-2023 (compared to seven in 2021-2022)



Global Affairs Canada and PWRDF Funded Projects

Partner Name:	Muso		
Project Name:	Enabling Continuous Proactive Care in the Context of COVID-19 in Mali		
Location:	Commune 6 in Bamako, Mali		
Total Project Budget:	\$1,046,493		
Start Date:	December 2, 2021	End Date:	November 30, 2022

When COVID-19 struck, Muso set to work immediately with the Malian government to strengthen the health system for pandemic preparedness and to reduce COVID-19 mortality among vulnerable populations. Two key strategies were deployed over a nine-month period with funding from PWRDF and Global Affairs Canada. Muso improved the accessibility of public health and healthcare services for infected individuals in Commune 6 in Bamako, particularly vulnerable groups such as women and children. Second, Muso worked to strengthen COVID-19 preparedness and response at the national level through training in contact tracing and monitoring and COVID-19 vaccination.

Throughout the project, Muso maintained uninterrupted essential health services for patients at their direct care delivery site in Yirimadio, Bamako. Providing personal protective health equipment and community health worker (CHW) supply kits for frontline health workers, clinic staff and CHWs allowed for the safe, uninterrupted delivery of health care to 220,000 residents. As a result, CHWs conducted 1,440,079 COVID-19 safe and proactive home care visits between April and November 2022.

The contact tracing program was established to ensure quick detection of COVID-19 cases and to minimize their spread within the community. Muso provided support to 157 contact tracers and monitors, as well as training on the District Health Information System 2 (DHIS2) behind the program. At first, COVID-19-related data, including information on suspected contacts, was collected using both paper-based systems and a newly established DHIS2 database. Following the launch of the DHIS2 tracker in Bamako, subsequent assessments and reports indicated significant amounts of missing or poorly reported data. The project addressed the issue by training 12 district health personnel in using DHIS2 to track contact tracing and 76 others to track COVID-19 vaccine data. This contributed to the percentage of COVID-19 vaccination records entered by district health agents increasing from 11% to 23% following their training on DHIS2 capacity building. This resulted in a marked improvement in the quality of the data, which in turn supported the decision-making process behind health policies.

In addition to these crucial activities, Muso worked to better protect Malians from the virus by proactively administering COVID-19 vaccines to those eligible and advocating to the Malian government to expand this eligible population to include children 12 years and older, as well as pregnant and lactating women. In April 2022, the Malian government updated its guidance, making the vaccine available to these groups. This meant the target population in the Bamako district grew by 433,818, from 1,323,990 to 1,757,808 people. A dozen community health centres in Bamako's sixth administrative commune deployed mobile vaccine teams to vaccinate people during their daily activities—at the market, at the mosque, at school and at home. These efforts led to a significant increase in vaccination coverage, from 241,923 in April 2022 to approximately 630,016 vaccinated by November 2022.



Mobile vaccine team. Photo credit: Muso



Health professional administering a COVID-19 vaccine to a community member in Commune VI Bamako as young child looks on. Photo credit: Muso

The project activities inspired other health actors to launch their own campaigns, resulting in a continued increase in vaccination rates even after the project ended in Commune 6. By the end of November, the vaccination rate had reached an impressive 110%, surpassing August's coverage rate of 62% due to the effectiveness of the mobile vaccine campaigns in reaching more people than were officially registered by the census. The city of Bamako's mobile outreach activities were highly successful, resulting in 2,272,616 being vaccinated out of a total of 2,725,560 eligible people, showcasing the impact of collaboration and community outreach efforts in promoting health and wellbeing. The

success prompted mobilization efforts to be extended after the project ended beyond the city limits with the vaccine equity campaign funded solely by PWRDF.



PWRDF Funded Projects

Africa

Partner Name:	ACT Alliance, Methodist Development and Relief Agency (MeDRA), Rural Action Community Based Organization (RACOB AO), Ethiopian Orthodox-Church Development and Inter-Church Aid Commission (EOC-DICAC) and Kenya Evangelical Lutheran Church (KELC)		
Project Name:	Locally Led Climate Fund		
Location:	Ethiopia, Kenya, Uganda and Zimbabwe		
Total Project Budget:	\$100,000		
Start Date:	January 2023	End Date:	March 2024

ACT Canada members convened an ecumenical consultation on climate change with member ACT Forums from East and Southern Africa following COP26. Feedback from participants on how ACT Canada members could support climate action at the local level led to developing a fund. ACT Canada members expressed a strong preference for programming such a fund through local organizations.

ACT members in Canada committed various amounts towards a locally led climate fund and in discussion with stakeholders, including the ACT secretariat, decided that the ACT Secretariat would hold and administer the fund with support of a Fund Management Committee (FMC). This committee is comprised of two representatives from ACT National Forum members from East and Southern Africa, ACT Canada members and ACT Secretariat staff. The ACT Secretariat is providing additional technical support.

The fund aims to catalyze and drive positive change by tackling climate vulnerability and advancing structural and systemic change at the local level by funding one-year initiatives that:

- Build, strengthen and scale out working interventions to address climate change
- Invest in local institutional and organizational capabilities for climate advocacy and programming
- Build local leadership through multi-stakeholder coordination and partnerships
- Create shared value for impact through multisectoral collaborative action
- Enable participatory practices in policy and planning processes for local ownership programming areas

Through the selection process the FMC approved four projects:

- Ethiopian Orthodox-Church Development and Inter-Church Aid Commission (EOC-DICAC): Improving resilience through livelihood diversification and forest conservation
- Kenya Evangelical Lutheran Church (KELC): Tackling climate change effects to achieve ecological justice and environmental stewardship and sustainability
- Methodist Development and Relief Agency (MeDRA): Fostering community activism in advancing national climate adaptation policy priorities in Zimbabwe
- Rural Action Community Based Organization (RACOB AO): Strengthening multi-stakeholder engagement and climate financing advocacy in Uganda

Total funds from ACT Canada members Canadian Lutheran World Relief (CLWR), the United Church of Canada (UCC), Presbyterian World Service & Development (PWS&D), Primate's World Renew and World Association for Christian Communication (WACC) were \$275,000. The projects will be implemented in the next fiscal year.



Partner Name:	Maison Dorcas of the Panzi Foundation	
Project Name:	Support for the socio-economic reintegration of vulnerable women and girls supported by Maison Dorcas of the Panzi Foundation	
Location:	Bukavu city and the territories of Kaziba, Walungu, Katana, Kabre and Bwegera, Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC)	
Total Project Budget:	\$180,000	
Start Date:	September 1, 2019	End Date: August 31, 2022

Maison Dorcas is one of the institutions that comprise the Panzi Foundation in the DRC. The goal of the project funded over the past three years has been to assist survivors of sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) to heal and safely reintegrate back into their communities.

An evaluation of the project in November 2022 carried out by the consultant Agance Cibembe concluded:

- 1,021 women (118 under 18 years old and 903 over 18 years old) received vocational training from Maison Dorcas over the past three years.
- 125 of these women who did not know how to read and write also received functional literacy training.
- By the end of the project, 878 of the 1,021 (86%) women were successfully reintegrated back into their communities and engaged in the vocation or income generating activity in which they were trained at Maison Dorcas. This achievement paralleled a similar finding of 92% in an evaluation carried out by the International Center for Advanced Research and Training (ICART) in 2021.
- 80% of the participants generating income in their small businesses testified that the level of income was sufficient to meet the needs of their households without external help. Consequently, this has positively influenced the lives of 7,637 dependents of the 1,021 direct participants. Indirect beneficiaries were 4,312 women, (2,795 who are under 18 years of age and 1,517 over 18 years of age) and 3,325 men (2,511 who are under 18 years of age and 814 over 18 years of age).
- Direct participant satisfaction with the project was 75%.
- Access to credit in solidarity groups known as MUSOs, (mutuelles de solidarité - mutual solidarity) and sales of their products at Nobella centres (market stalls) were cited as the most common factors that assist their income-generating activities. A bonus is that the microcredit solidarity groups have proven to be inclusive and have brought together survivors of different ethnic groups that have been in conflict for decades.
- 344 participants engaged in farming reported that production improved in their fields. Production in vegetables increased by 4% in Kaziba whereas in Katana dryland cropping increased by 4.2%. Participants also reported an increased number of meals eaten per day.



*A woman showcasing the results of the agricultural training she attended.
Photo credit: Panzi Foundation*



Partner Name:	Maison Dorcas of the Panzi Foundation	
Project Name:	Support for the socio-economic reintegration of vulnerable women and girls supported by Maison Dorcas of the Panzi Foundation	
Location:	Bukavu city and the territories of Kaziba, Walungu, Katana, Kabre and Bwepera in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC)	
Total Project Budget:	\$234,195	
Start Date:	October 1, 2022	End Date: September 30, 2025



Women participating in an animal husbandry session on goat rearing. Photo credit: Panzi Foundation

Based on the success of the first three-year project concluded in August 2022, PWRDF increased funding for a second three-year project with Maison Dorcas. Panzi Foundation is renowned for supporting survivors of SGBV and assisting them to take back control of their lives in a turbulent region full of extreme violence.

Maison Dorcas has in the first few months of this project begun the process to consolidate agricultural training, inputs, and credit assistance for survivors of SGBV in the same three rural areas of the first project beyond the vocational training still provided

in the city of Bukavu. Training in tailoring and functional literacy is under way in Kaziba.

The ramp up of agriculture is key for survivors who come from rural areas. Consequently, fields, agricultural implements, seed, goats, pigs and fishing equipment have been acquired for distribution. Those successful after applying skills learned and agricultural inputs and credit received in the first 3-year project, gained recognition from their families and community. Testimonies continue to affirm that agricultural success boosts self-esteem of survivors and facilitates their reintegration back into their family and communities. The increase in financial autonomy mitigates the risk of becoming a victim again.

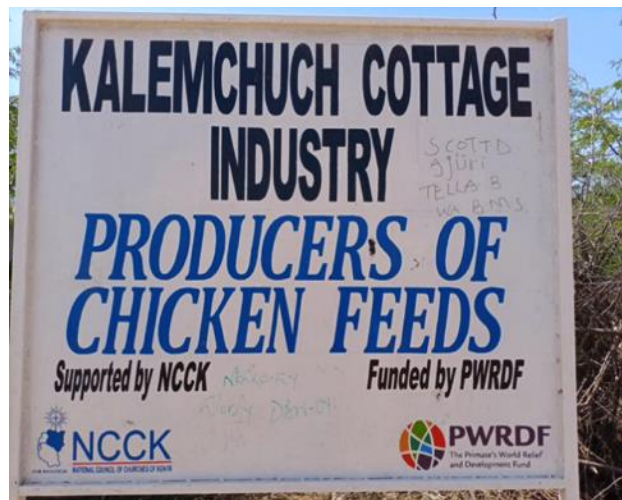
Partner Name:	National Council of Churches of Kenya (NCCK)	
Project Name:	Up Scaling Community Support Systems for Women and Girls Empowerment	
Location:	Kakuma Camp, Turkana County, Kenya	
Total Project Budget:	\$150,000	
Start Date:	June 30, 2019	End Date: December 31, 2022

The Kakuma refugee camp was established in 1992 in Kenya's northern semi-arid region to accommodate 70,000 refugees, the camp population has reached more than 185,000. PWRDF's support to NCCK has evolved along with the situation of the refugees, which has contributed to improving health and living conditions for many refugees, particularly women and girls, HIV and AIDS prevention, and establishing fish, vegetable and poultry farming initiatives.

This project addressed the economic needs of residents in both Kakuma and the host community, an isolated and underserved region. As refugees are not allowed to work outside the camp in formal employment, access to adequate livelihood opportunities and work is limited. The impact on young women is especially pronounced as this contributes to early marriages and pregnancies, engaging in the sex trade and vulnerability to gender-based violence (GBV).

Building on past achievements, the project centered on establishing two poultry feed processing cooperatives using the local plant Mathenge and is benefitting cooperative production members, their families and poultry farmers. It allowed women and girls to learn and work and avoid their dependency on the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and other agencies.

Despite the delay in activities due to the pandemic, inadequate water supply and the effects of the war in Ukraine, the project was completed with excellent results, both in the refugee settlement and in the host community, by demonstrating collaboration with the county government, other agencies and stakeholders in the agricultural sector. The Kakuma group has been operating on their own since they were registered as a company. The cooperative has shown all indications of growing into bigger enterprises with more people turning to poultry rearing due to feed availability. The Kalobeyei group is still undergoing the registration process under the Refugee Consortium of Kenya (RCK).



Signboard acknowledging the poultry feed processing cooperative Kalemchuch Cottage Industry. Photo credit NCKK

Support from PWRDF concluded in December 2022 due to changes in the UNHCR's administration of Kakuma Camp and NCKK is not operating in Kakuma until they receive independent operational status. In February 2023, NCKK was nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize, which is a recognition of years of dedicated work in promoting peace, democratic government, public participation and the establishment of a just, resilient, and sustainable society, a commitment that is also important to PWRDF's work.

Partner Name:	Ecumenical Church Loan Fund (ECLOF) Kenya		
Project Name:	Capacity Building on Climate Smart Agriculture Dairy Farming		
Location:	Kenya		
Total Project Budget:	\$112,362		
Start Date:	January 1, 2020	End Date:	June 30, 2023

ECLOF Kenya is a locally rooted, mid-tier microfinance institution serving more than 40,000 low income entrepreneurs and farmers who are mostly women. ECLOF Kenya provides access to loans, and non-financial services and training.

The project seeks to demonstrate to the cooperative's farmers that successful dairy agribusiness is achievable by adopting sustainable financing, planning and dairy practices such as climate smart fodder, silage, constructing climate smart cowsheds. This is the final year of the three-year project focussed on building demonstration farms through local cooperatives to exhibit best practices in dairy farming practices to increase milk production and income.

ECLOF Kenya continues advancing its plan of having 2,000 farmers (1,000 women, 600 men and 500 youth) knowledgeable on climate smart agriculture. The following are a few achievements from this reporting period:

- Two new demonstration farms were launched; one is completed and the other will be completed by end of May 2023
- Nine climate smart agriculture partnerships have been established since the project started
- 414 farmers participated in training
- Improved cooperative board management with 42 board members trained on good governance

- Four Board members from Rongai Dairy visited Elburgon progressive dairy to learn best practices in managing dairy cooperatives



In February 2023 Primate Linda Nicholls and staff from ACC and PWRDF visited some of the dairy farms. Photo Credit ECLOF Kenya

Among the main challenges encountered by the farmers are economic conditions in the country because inflation affected their ability to borrow and implement what they learned in the climate smart agriculture trainings. Climate change has led to changes in weather patterns affecting feed production, animal health and milk production. Due to the prolonged drought and lack of water in the country, some plans were postponed including building the demonstration farms, planting fodder and trainings at the demonstration farms. These challenges increased production costs and reduced expected agricultural profitability.

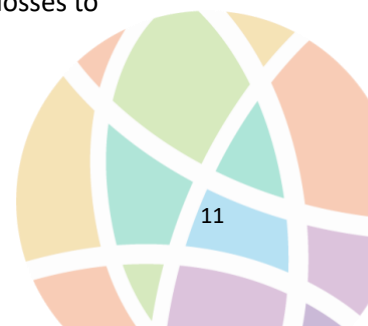
Partner Name:	ADS-Nyanza and Springs Community Empowerment Foundation (SCEF)	
Project Name:	Widows and Orphans Empowerment “Wamama Wajijenge”	
Location:	Bondo District, Siaya Province, Kenya	
Total Project Budget:	\$74,000	
Start Date:	December 14, 2020	End Date: December 14, 2023

Springs Community Empowerment Foundation (SCEF) supports widows and facilitates school access for orphans, especially those who are hosted at their orphanage. ADS-Nyanza is a development service organization within the Anglican Church of Kenya with expertise in delivering development programs and monitoring and evaluation. SCEF is the implementer of the project in collaboration with ADS-Nyanza providing technical support and oversight.

The project is raising awareness in communities on the rights of widows and orphans, creating opportunities to address their social needs, and advocating for social accountability on their rights and access to services. This is achieved by Widows Saving and Education group members participating in a seven-step training program on leadership, financial and business management, rights awareness, kitchen garden establishment and school fee payment for orphans. The groups support saving and provide loans for small businesses thereby creating opportunities for widows to have financial inclusivity, make their own decisions and control resources.

The following results were achieved during the reporting period:

- Procuring and supplying poultry vaccines to reduce infections, deaths, and associated losses to households, and to build poultry production resilience
- 20 of 45 goats distributed to three widows' groups gave birth to kids
- Three widow support groups connected with the Bondo farmers association



- 135 children (85 girls and 50 boys) and 15 widows' group leaders from three communities attended sensitization session on widows and orphans' rights facilitated by local facilitators
- Student school fee intervention supported 70 students (38 girls and 32 boys; 46 continuing students and 23 new students)
- 18 students sat for Kenya Certificate of Education exams

Partner Name:	Utooni Development Organization (UDO)	
Project Name:	Shallow Wells Project	
Location:	Machakos, Makueni and Kajiado counties, Kenya	
Total Project Budget:	\$180,000	
Start Date:	July 2019	End Date: July 2022

UDO worked with communities in south-east Kenya to establish shallow wells that improve the quantity and quality of water available during the dry seasons. UDO assisted community groups to build, seal and equip 45 shallow wells in this three-year project. Thirty of the shallow wells draw underground water through handpumps and 15 draw water with a solar powered submersible pumps. By the end of July 2022, only one of these wells had run dry during what was characterized as the worst drought in 40 years in which farmers have not reaped a harvest in the past two years.



Women and adolescent girls pumping water from a project well. Photo Credit: UDO

Focus group discussions with project participants during the evaluation of this phase highlighted some promising changes to the landscape. Hand dug deep scoop holes near sand dam sites with a shallow well are now rare to see. Consequently, there is a marked decrease in the number of children, women and livestock becoming injured while obtaining water from scoop holes that cave in along seasonal rivers. The incidence of waterborne diseases has decreased in households that fetch water from shallow wells and consumers are more knowledgeable on water treatment. Unpaid time spent queuing for water during the

dry season has been reduced from 60 to 30 minutes on average for those who fetch water from shallow wells. Hence, the burden women and children encounter in water collection is lessened and children have more time to focus on school.

The estimated total number of people reached by project is 9,000 (5,652F/3,348M). In addition to water wells, two community groups engaged in irrigated agriculture and tree seedling production each received a 10,000-litre water tank. Three other water tanks (10,000 litres) and nine donkeys were distributed to vulnerable, female-headed households to assist with carrying and storing potable water. The criteria for selection were vulnerable, female-headed households raising four or more children and living more than two kilometers from a waterpoint. Additional groups from UDO's Agro-ecology and Climate Smart and Livelihood project benefit from these wells too.

Making safe water accessible in Kenya



Angela King'oo is a member of the Kitunda self-help group in Mukuyuni. She received a donkey this year to ferry water from the new waterpoint, established with UDO assistance. Angela explained the difference it has made to her life to Primate Linda Nicholls during her visit to Kenya in February 2023. "This donkey has really helped me carry and transport water. I now spend only one and a half hours to fetch water per trip whereas before it used to take two hours. I fetch 26 jerry cans of water every day for household use and to irrigate my kitchen garden. I used to carry the water and it led to back pain, but now the pain has ceased because the donkey carries the water for me."

Partner Name: **Utooni Development Organization (UDO)**

Project Name: **Shallow Wells for Health**

Location: **Machakos, Makueni and Kajiado counties, Kenya**

Total Project Budget: **\$199,728**

Start Date: **October 1, 2022**

End Date: **September 30, 2025**

PWRDF is funding a second three-year project based on the success of the shallow well project that concluded in July 2022. Representatives from communities near community groups that benefitted from the past project continue to lobby UDO to be included in this new shallow well project. UDO utilizes local expertise and contributes additional technical knowledge to determine sites for shallow wells that have an abundance of water nearby. Participating community members dig a well, collect sand, gravel and rocks and supply the physical labour needed to construct water wells. The community contribution of labour and locally available resources has proven to be an effective way to ensure community ownership. UDO also engages with community groups to identify vulnerable households eligible for water tanks, donkeys and/or carts to help with their limitations to carry and store potable water.

Feasibility studies were carried out at 15 sites for the first year; two are near sand dams, five are near seasonal streams, seven in areas where the water table is high, one is near a water pan and another is near an earthen dam. Baseline studies have been conducted at seven of the sites. All 15 community groups have been sensitized on project activities which include digging the well, installing culverts and pumps, operation, maintenance, repair, water treatment, sanitation and hygiene and how donkeys and water tanks will be distributed. Ten wells have already been dug and digging is ongoing at the remaining five sites. Seven wells have been sealed and hand pumps installed. Water tank slab construction will soon begin at three sites. The fixing of a pump will soon occur at another well site. Two groups working on the Agro-ecology and Climate Smart project have each received a 10,000-litre tank to store water to irrigate their tree seedling nurseries. The orientation of the Water Sanitation and Hygiene officer who will work with the fifteen water groups has been completed. The officer will train water groups on household water treatment and promote safe hygiene practices in the community to mitigate potential outbreaks of waterborne diseases.

Partner Name:	Partners In Health (PIH) Canada and Partners In Health (PIH) Lesotho	
Project Name:	Providing Quality Maternal Care at the Bobete Health Centre	
Location:	Thaba-Tseka district, Lesotho	
Total Project Budget:	\$180,000	
Start Date:	July 1, 2020	End Date: June 30, 2023



Women and their young children waiting for their health appointments for growth monitoring and development.

Photo Credit: Partners In Health (PIH)

Partners In Health Lesotho implements a comprehensive primary health care model at the Bobete Health Centre, incorporating maternal and newborn services, including routine antenatal care and postnatal care, malnutrition screening and management, elimination of mother-to-child transmission of HIV, screening for sexually transmitted infections, and community outreach and health promotion activities. During the reporting period, 1,267 patients benefited from maternal and infant care services, including 856 women, 261 girls and 150 boys.

Within the Bobete catchment area, 96% of deliveries took place at a health centre under expert care. Of the facility-based deliveries, 75% of women delivered at Bobete Health Centre and 21% were referred to and then

delivered at the district hospital, as they required more specialized obstetric care. Because care at the district hospital often comes with fees, PIH Lesotho funds or provides transportation and covers any hospital fees, ensuring financial barriers do not prevent pregnant women from seeking and receiving care. During the reporting period, 35 women were referred to the district hospital, 28 for delivery and 7 for complications requiring specialized obstetric care.

Heavy rains and flooded rivers were the major obstacles interfering with women's ability to deliver in a health facility. This was especially true in November and December, when the Bobete region received high levels of precipitation. The project aims to mitigate the risk posed by bad weather by encouraging women to relocate to the maternal waiting home in the weeks leading up to their due date. Maternal waiting homes provide a location for women who live far from the health centre to await delivery, as well as a place where any pregnant woman undergoing monitoring or testing during her pregnancy can stay if needed. This strategy has contributed to an increase in the percentage of women accessing skilled care during labour. However, it has not yet eliminated the risk that women deliver at home. The PIH Lesotho team believes that, as maternal mortality reduction program assistants are central to ensuring women relocate, further progress can be achieved when the country is able to increase the maternal mortality reduction program assistants' workforce.

Considering the catchment area's treacherous terrain, the Bobete maternal waiting home is a critical piece of infrastructure that ensures pregnant women receive the care they need and are able to quickly access the health centre when they go into labour. During the reporting period, 213 women were admitted to the maternal waiting homes. This vastly exceeded the admission capacity of the homes, which is 144 people. The team took steps to increase capacity by removing bed frames and installing additional mattresses. PIH Lesotho has secured funding to build another maternal waiting home within the next few years, which will address these capacity and crowding issues.

Partner Name:	Help Lesotho	
Project Name:	Safer Communities – Reducing Gender-Based Violence in Lesotho	
Location:	Berea and Botha Bothe districts, Lesotho	
Total Project Budget:	\$90,000	
Start Date:	July 1, 2021	End Date: June 30, 2024

The Safer Communities project employs a proven method of reiterative training, which delivers and repeats the same messages, using the same, strategies and approaches to multiple populations holding different levels of power. Changing entrenched cultural practices is only possible when people at all levels of power are engaged in the process. Asking girls to stand up for their rights can put them at greater risk if others are unwilling to use their power to support the change. The project addresses the urgency for local leaders, health providers, police officers, teachers, boys, men, community, and family members, who should be protecting girls and women, to understand and accept their roles as duty bearers and responsibility holders in supporting girls' mental, emotional and physical health and safety.



Community leaders attending sensitization sessions on gender-based violence. Photo Credit: Help Lesotho

A total of 81 local leaders (39F/42M) including community councillors, village chiefs, priests, teachers, village health workers, initiation school representatives and community policing committee members attended an intensive training with the district-wide leader groups in September 2022. Following the training, individual meetings were held in each of the six electoral divisions in November 2022. The aim of the meetings was for the community leaders to share success stories of their short-term pledge implementation and to facilitate a session on role modeling.

The local leaders reported improving on safeguarding measures and supporting survivors. They also shared concrete examples of actions they took towards challenging harmful norms and advocating for women and girls. During the November meetings, the leaders committed to take more responsibilities as active protectors of people exposed to GBV. It was inspiring to see them becoming more passionate about and engaged in the issue.

Reducing Gender-Based Violence in Lesotho: Local Leaders advocate for women and girls

One of the chiefs, Mrs. Mamookho Phakela, shared that she immediately organized public gatherings in her community to address gender-based violence. She said that children had been skipping school and abusing drugs, which she felt was contributing to young boys abusing girls and women in the village.

“I followed up with the involved parents of such children and they reported to have noticed behavioural patterns of change as they are no longer seen strolling around the village but rather attending school properly. The number of domestic violence cases reported has declined following my interventions,” she said. A member of the local policing committee added: “Most young people in my community used to be in public bars, drinking irresponsibly regardless of their age. I organized a meeting with them only, showing the importance of being engaged in social activities such as soccer clubs. I have been watching their moves and observed that they no longer visit such places.”

Several teachers reported they facilitated a discussion in their classrooms about sexual consent and rape. In doing so, they realized how pervasive the issue is within the student body, with both girls and boys experiencing sexual violence. “Through the children’s facial expressions, I learned that something was odd and the students shared that the older boys during herding season bully them and force them to have anal sex and they threaten them not to report at home,” said Mrs. Letsoela.

Partner Name:	Partners In Health (PIH) Canada and Partners In Health (PIH) Malawi (Abwenzi Pa Za Umoyo – APZU)		
Project Name:	Goat Seed Project		
Location:	Neno district, Malawi		
Total Project Budget:	\$240,000		
Start Date:	October 1, 2019	End Date:	September 30, 2024

The Goat Seed Project was developed in consultation with the 1,228 (838F/395M) community health workers who are integral to providing community health services throughout Neno district. The project provides additional livelihood support by providing each community health worker with three healthy female goats either directly purchased through the project or through a passing on the gift model. When goats give birth to female kids, the kids will be passed on to other community health workers once they have finished weaning and received their vaccinations.

To date, the project has procured 306 goats in July 2020, 426 goats in March 2021, 510 goats in August 2021 and 132 goats in July 2022. Cumulatively, 1,374 goats have been procured and distributed by the project to 458 community health workers. Through the passing on the gift model, 84 goats were passed on to 28 community health workers in the second project year and during this reporting period, 510 goats were passed on to 170 community health workers. This resulted in 594 female goats being passed on to 198 community health workers.

A total of 656 community health workers have received goats by the end of the third project year and it is expected the remaining 572 community health workers will receive their goats in the fourth and final project year. If there are any community health workers who have not received their goats by the end of the project, APZU’s community health program will ensure the passing on the gift model continues beyond the life of the project resulting in all 1,228 community health workers receiving three healthy female goats.

Among the 102 community health workers who received 306 goats in July 2020, 273 goats have now been passed on at a rate of 89%. This is equivalent to 91 CHWs each passing on three goats. Among the 142 who received 426 goats in March 2021, 212 goats have been passed on, for a rate of 50% (equivalent to 71 CHWs completing the full pass on). The 170 community health workers who received 510 goats in August 2021, have passed on 109 goats for a rate of 21%. Although the pass on mechanism is not rapid, the fourth and final project year will allow more goats to be passed on at an expected rate of 75%.



A community health worker with the goats she received from the project. The goats are being bred successfully to increase the herd size. Photo Credit: Partners In Health Malawi/APZU

The 306 goats procured in the first project year have given birth to 363 goats, achieving an average kidding rate of 119%, up from 62% at the end of the second project year. The 426 goats procured in March 2021 have now produced 336 kids with a 79% kidding rate at present. To date, 1,063 goats have been born within the project against 1,374 goats purchased and distributed. The local breed of goat provided to community health workers was selected because it is well adapted to the environment in Neno district. However, this breed has a low rate of twin pregnancy compared to other goat breeds, just one in five. Given a five-month gestational period and a four-month weaning period, it is unlikely for a female goat to have more than one offspring in a 12-month period.

Partner Name:	Muso	
Project Name:	Expanded Vaccination with COVID-19 in Rural Mali	
Location:	Kéniéba district (Kayes region), Kangaba district (Koulikoro region) and Bankass district (Mopti region), Mali	
Total Project Budget:	\$113,740	
Start Date:	September 1, 2022	End Date: January 31, 2023



Health providers track vaccine records in the Bankass Health Clinic. Photo Credit: Muso

The Expanded Vaccination with COVID-19 in Rural Mali project was launched to address the challenges of access to vaccines to eligible persons residing in rural Mali. The targeted districts were chosen in collaboration with the public health sector based on their low levels of vaccination and high risk of infection. In addition, Kéniéba and Kangaba are gold mining communities, where labour migration has resulted in higher rates of COVID-19 cases.

Muso facilitated 10-day mobile vaccination campaigns in each of the three health districts in partnership and collaboration with the government and health authorities. The Muso Technical Assistance team was vital in maintaining and strengthening relationships with government partners across the three regions. They provided capacity building assistance by implementing a comprehensive plan to deliver the vaccines to the target population by monitoring stock levels, resolving any supply chain issues and providing accurate project updates to stakeholders while supporting data collection in their respective regions.

By the end of the project, 24,637 vaccine doses were administered to eligible persons. Sinovac, Sinopharm and Janssen vaccines were available in all three districts, while Pfizer vaccines were also available in Kangaba and Kéniéba districts.

The vaccination campaign had a broader impact by increasing protection to the populations living in the three districts from COVID-19 and reducing the potential burden of COVID-19 on health centres. Health centres are the primary source of care for many communities, and any service disruption can have severe consequences. The pandemic contributed to overcrowding, longer wait times and resource shortages at health centres. The vaccination campaigns helped alleviate the burden on health centres and minimize disruptions for essential health care services.

Partner Name:	Cooperativa de Crédito das Mulheres de Pemba (CCMP)		
Project Name:	Microfinance for Low-Income Women		
Location:	Pemba Municipality, Province of Cabo Delgado, Mozambique		
Total Project Budget:	\$195,000		
Start Date:	November 2019	End Date:	October 2022

CCMP is a credit union owned and operated for and by the low-income women they serve. The presence and patrols by troops from Rwanda and the Southern African Development Community (deployed in response to Islamic insurgency) continued to maintain a period of stability in the province this year. Internally displaced people began to return to the north. Women displaced by Islamic insurgency still residing in Pemba were encouraged to trade in consumables to mitigate risk. Consumables bought and sold most were sweet potatoes, tomatoes, dried and fried fish, chicken, bananas, coconuts, beans, corn, peanuts, dried cassava, prepared food and cakes. Long-time members of the cooperative on the other hand began to resurrect their small businesses disrupted by COVID-19, lockdowns and supply chain constraints experienced over the last two years.



CCMP credit union member selling produce at a market. Photo credit: CCMP

A total of \$69,623 worth of loans were disbursed to both groups in all 17 neighbourhoods of Pemba. Loan repayment dipped slightly from 98% to 96%, still an impressive result in comparison to the performance of microfinance institutions elsewhere in the country. Positive results are due to the CCMP staff being flexible to adjust loan methodology and terms according to the present risk environment. Members savings also increased by 3.67% to \$70,000. Membership increased by 67% thanks to mobilization efforts of the CCMP Board and staff. The number of direct beneficiaries were 680 women and 4 men by the time the project period ended in October 2022. There were estimated to be 3,400 girls, 3,100 adolescent girls, 1,600 boys and 1,400 adolescent boys as indirect beneficiaries.

Partner Name:	EHALE
Project Name:	Light for Every Birth (LFEB)
Location:	Nampula province, Mozambique
Total Project Budget:	\$230,222
Start Date:	February 2021
End Date:	March 31, 2023



Solar Suitcase installed at health centre in Nampula province, Mozambique

The Light for Every Birth project was extended in order to have 50 version 3 solar suitcases installed and functioning optimally. Challenges to this goal arose in August 2022 when Islamic insurgents burned down two of the health centres that housed solar suitcases near the Nampula-Cabo Delgado provincial border. Both suitcases were destroyed, the health centres were closed and will not re-open until renovated and security ensured for the return of health personnel. An additional 4 solar suitcases were identified as defective. Two were repaired by a We Care Solar (WCS) technician based in Zimbabwe. WCS has since face obstacles shipping two replacement solar suitcases as couriers declined to ship lithium batteries (potentially flammable) inside the solar suitcases. As a result, two new solar suitcases from the WCS Kampala office have been shipped without batteries and are scheduled to arrive in Nampula in May 2023. EHALE has extra lithium batteries available and has identified a local vendor that sells compatible batteries. Consequently, 48 out of the 50 version 3 solar suitcases were reported functioning optimally as of the end of March 2023. All 30 of the version 2 solar suitcases installed in 2016 that had their battery replaced in 2022 continue to function without issue.

In February 2023, External Funding Program Manager, Richard Librock, met with the Regional Director for WCS in Kampala to request that WCS consider declaring Mozambique a “Light for Every Birth” (LEB) country. If approved, WCS would mobilize donors and apply its

saturation strategy to provide a solar suitcase to every off the grid health centre that delivers babies in Mozambique. WCS has accomplished this in Uganda and Zimbabwe over the last few years. The strategy entails installation of 200 to 300 solar suitcases at a time. Spare solar suitcases, spare parts and installation teams would ensure speedy installation, maintenance and replacement of solar suitcases when needed. The results of a feasibility study to make Mozambique a Light for Every Birth Country will be known by this time next year.

Partner Name:	Action for Rural Women’s Empowerment (ARUWE)
Project Name:	Girls and Women Lead 2: Promoting Resilience and Safeguarding of Young Girls against Teen Pregnancy and Early Marriages
Location:	Wakiso district, Uganda
Total Project Budget:	\$42,989
Start Date:	March 1, 2022
End Date:	February 28, 2023

ARUWE is a gender focused organization that strengthens girls and women’s leadership through advocacy for economic justice, sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR), promotion of education and lifelong learning. ARUWE enables communities to adapt to climate change and challenges the negative impact of rigid and oppressive gender stereotypes to break the chains of poverty, patriarchy, class and sexual repression.



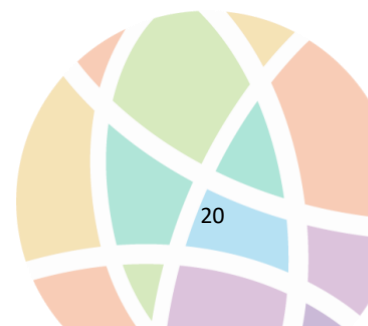
Women and adolescent girls participating in a savings and loans meeting. Photo credit: ARUWE

ARUWE worked with 1,310 girls and women, 538 boys and men, and 218 other stakeholders this year to promote resilience and safeguarding against teen pregnancies, early marriages and transmission of sexual infections among youth. ARUWE deployed a multipronged approach that included community sensitization and awareness raising through face-to-face meetings and media outreach campaigns. ARUWE also provided vocational training to adolescent girls and young mothers, and promoted personal savings and provided links to financial services for adolescent girls to raise capital to start income generating activities. Youth received sexual and reproductive health (SRH) services and were linked to affordable and professional SRH services. Coalitions were enhanced with other stakeholders and duty bearers to

harness additional synergies for improved service delivery.

As a result, this year the project contributed to:

- An increase in knowledge and access to information on SRHR for 914 in-school and out-of-school adolescents (582F/332M) and 218 community members
- 734 participants received SRH services from ARUWE (information, products, and psychosocial support), while 57 were referred elsewhere
- Increased adolescents' predisposition to seek professional SRH services as opposed to depending on peer pressure and hearsay
- Increased uptake and use of family planning and other SRH services
- Improved knowledge among 200 out-of-school adolescents and teen mothers on savings, business start-ups, entrepreneurship, and training in vocational skills
- Out-of-school adolescents and teen mothers increased their productivity, livelihoods, and income.
- Greater self-reliance has reduced their vulnerability and risk of pregnancy and early marriages. Closer collaboration with duty bearers and other stakeholders resulted in increased responsiveness to teenage pregnancies, early marriages and GBV
- Enabled shared learnings and experiences and built a foundation for collective responsibility, accountability and sustainability of project results



Training for Gender-based Violence Coalition Members in Uganda (Referral Pathways)

Nabakooza Teddy is a community caseworker living in Naluvule parish, Wakiso district. She is a member of the Wakiso GBV coalition that was established by ARUWE during the implementation of the Girls and Women Lead-2 (GWL2) project funded by PWRDF. Teddy said the continuous capacity-building meetings on case management and psychosocial support under coalition benefitted her career and self.

“By the time I was identified by my community to serve as a caseworker, I didn't have enough skills to manage cases,” she says, “but because I loved helping disadvantaged people, I accepted. During that time, I faced a lot of challenges because there are times when I would receive cases that I didn't know how to resolve. I didn't know which people or offices I could reach out to for support but when I joined the GBV coalition that was established by ARUWE as a network to handle, identify and refer GBV cases, I became knowledgeable.

“While under the GBV coalition, I received capacity building training on case management, psychosocial support, documentation, referral and networking. During the engagements, I also gained more knowledge on how to effectively prevent and respond to teen pregnancies, early marriages and GBV.”

Teddy said that the skills she attained as a member of the GBV coalition have enabled her to support her community and find justice, especially for the girls, women and survivors of GBV who most times are affected. She further said that when she receives a case of violence (GBV), she quickly identifies among the GBV coalition a specific stakeholder who can handle the case. Furthermore, she follows up on all cases she has referred to other stakeholders, which she learned during the capacity building training. Teddy, like any other community development worker, has challenges in her work. For example, when a survivor reports abuse to her, the perpetrators sometimes threaten her, but she has learned to report every threat to police. She is aware of her rights as a woman and case worker.



Partner Name:	Rape Hurts Foundation (RHF)	
Project Name:	Reviving Lives and Livelihoods of Women and Youth In Busoga	
Location:	Busoga Region, Eastern Uganda	
Total Project Budget:	\$65,000	
Start Date:	October 2020	End Date: February 2023

RHF's mission is to empower women to initiate and manage their socioeconomic development process through strengthening human rights awareness, health care, community participation, advocacy and service provision. Addressing women's rights and SGBV is at the core of RHF work, working in collaboration with Uganda Human Rights Network, Thompson Reuters Foundation, and Jinja District NGO Network.

Removing gender-based barriers makes a substantial contribution towards reducing social-cultural barriers to women progress. Empowering women and youth in Eastern Uganda with information, knowledge and marketable skills for protection against SGBV, female genital mutilation (FGM), human trafficking and modern-day slavery, human rights abuses, and social-economic exploitation, are the focus of this project. The activities implemented yielded the following results:



Women participating in a sensitization session on SGBV/FGM issues. Photo Credit: RHF

- 243 women and 192 youth experiencing SGBV/FGM issues were linked to legal aid and access to court services and to the police. While the courts helped in the prosecution of some of the perpetrators, 78 cases were handled out of court through mediation and arbitration.
- Follow ups were carried out on the social and psychological health of women involved in court cases, mediation and arbitration.
- 2,126 women who were trained on detecting and following up on cases of SGBV are able to support fellow women in their communities through community-based platforms for dialogue about SGBV.
- Updates were made to existing beneficiaries' profiles and existing human right manuals, and profiles were created for women in new villages. 8,990 women and 5,008 adolescents were identified to participate in the project.
- Women participated in sensitization sessions on rights and responsibilities to address SGBV/FGM issues.
- Women participated in refresher and practical training on entrepreneurship skills to produce a range of high quality products.

Partner Name:	St. Jude Family Project	
Project Name:	Community Poverty Reduction through Food Security Improvement and Adaptation to Climate Change	
Location:	Masaka district, Uganda	
Total Project Budget:	\$150,000	
Start Date:	June 2020	End Date: June 2023



Students working on school gardens in Masaka district. Photo credit: St. Jude

In the final year of the project, St. Jude staff intensified sustainability strategies to empower community groups to carry on without their assistance after the project ends in June 2023. Consequently, 40 trainers from participating communities deepened their knowledge in key themes of agro-ecology such as water harvesting, seed saving, cultivating trees from

seedlings and using organic inputs. These 40 community-based trainers (CBTs) then trained 1,200 farmers and conducted more than 200 follow-up visits to farmers' households, which is triple what could have been accomplished from just St. Jude's less numerous staff.

Ten agro-ecology clubs involving 350 students in primary and secondary schools were established this year. Students learned and applied the principles of permaculture to school gardens to produce food and planted 1,500 multi-purpose trees. Permaculture is a design approach to land management that adopts arrangements observed in flourishing natural ecosystems. The school gardens have proven to be practical demonstration sites for the roll out of the revised Ugandan curriculum which is more learner centered and appreciative of vocational skills. Some students have applied skills learned at school to backyard gardens at home.

Partner Name:	Zambia Anglican Council Outreach Programs (ZACOP)	
Project Name:	Ending Child Marriages	
Location:	Chibolya community, Katete district, Eastern province, Zambia	
Total Project Budget:	\$145,000	
Start Date:	October 1, 2020	End Date: September 30, 2023



Adolescent peer group members preparing to participate in a role-playing activity. Photo credit: ZACOP

ZACOP is pleased to report the Children's Code Act became official law in Zambia on August 24, 2022. The Act achieves many crucial reforms to ending violence against children and protecting their rights, including prohibiting all corporal punishment of children. The Act explicitly prohibits child marriage and female genital mutilation and codifies various children's rights including the right to social protection and social services, health care, parental care, education, survival and development. The passing of the Act creates a more conducive environment to achieve the ultimate outcome of the project which is to end child, early and forced marriages for girls and boys under the age of 18 in Chibolya community.

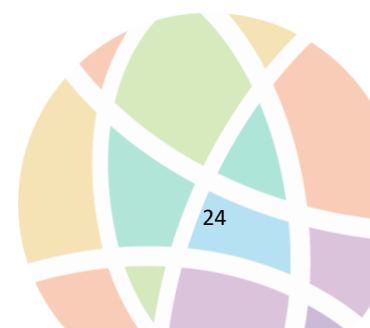
Peer educators are conducting education through sport in schools, churches and communities where 2,704 adolescents (1,800F/904M) were reached in edu-sports including soccer, netball and athletics. Participating helps adolescents improve their physically fitness, improve their mental health and reduces their risk of engaging in dangerous activities. Edu-sport activities begin with education sessions facilitated by peer educators on topics including child marriages, child abuse, teen pregnancies, sexually transmitted infections, male circumcision, substance abuse, behaviour change and personal hygiene. Through edu-sports, adolescents are learning skills on how to face and overcome their challenges and how to form healthy social bonds as well as where to access services provided by the project such as counselling.

The Mother Mentors provide mentorship to young women and adolescent girls on sexual and reproductive health issues such as teen pregnancy, menstruation and personal hygiene. These issues are addressed by taking into consideration the individual situations and ages of each individual who seeks their mentoring. Young women and adolescent girls who reach out to the Mother Mentors include adolescent girls who have reached puberty, girls who have been removed from child marriages, pregnant adolescent girls and adolescent mothers. Sometimes the Mother Mentors also engage with the adolescent girls' parents to enable them to understand the consequences of certain actions as parents.

Partner Name:	Towards Sustainable Use of Resources Organization (TSURO) Trust	
Project Name:	Establishment of a Chimanimani Biosphere Reserve Governance Structure	
Location:	Chimanimani, Zimbabwe	
Total Project Budget:	\$13,600	
Start Date:	January 9, 2023	End Date: March 31, 2023

The purpose of this short project was to legally establish the Chimanimani Biosphere Trust to govern the Chimanimani Biosphere Reserve that was designated by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) in June 2022. The new status has brought change to the way certain areas are designated for conservation and sustainable development. There is a new emphasis on jointly developed rules that can help to create harmony between people and nature. There are new opportunities for building resilience in watershed areas, educational programs, green economic approaches, response to climate change and support for sustainable livelihoods in Chimanimani district. The proposed initiative was also of regional relevance as it supported an important step towards the formation of a Chimanimani Transboundary Biosphere Reserve. This is the vision of actors in Zimbabwe and Mozambique, building on many years of work in connection with the Chimanimani Transfrontier Conservation Area (4,091 km²). While the process in Zimbabwe has already brought about the nomination of a biosphere reserve, the process on the Mozambican side has not yet reached this stage. A joint governance structure will be crucial to blend approaches and management together, and the lessons learned from the Chimanimani biosphere governance will be instrumental. A well set-up Chimanimani Biosphere Trust will demonstrate the merits of a participatory, multistakeholder approach to biosphere management, something which has been neglected in several biospheres elsewhere in the world.

Funds were used to obtain legal counsel and convene 38 stakeholders to establish the Chimanimani Biosphere Trust over two meetings. The Deed of Trust was debated, amended, validated, adopted and signed by 25 trustees who were selected in a participatory process that included democratic elections of buffer zone committees. The interests, mandates and functions of Trustees elected were clarified. The Trust has satisfied all legal requirements according to Zimbabwe law and was registered with the Registrar of Deeds in Harare. The project enabled the governance structures and systems to swing into action right after signing of the Deed.



Asia

Partner Name:	Drug and Alcohol Recovery Education (DARE) Network	
Project Name:	Stepping Back to Myanmar	
Location:	Thailand-Burma (Myanmar) border	
Total Project Budget:	\$162,170	
Start Date:	January 1, 2020	End Date: December 31, 2022

DARE Network is a local organization serving 8% of the population of five refugee camps and one migrant village along the Thailand-Burma/Myanmar border, and provides community-based and culturally appropriate addiction prevention, education and substance abuse treatment. DARE aims to deliver effective and appropriate alternatives to treatment and to educate community members, especially adolescents and children. This program is mainly staffed by community members and recovering addicts who are trainers/educators and addiction workers. PWRDF has supported DARE since 2003 and financial support is set to end in 2023.

The recent military coup and current political situation in Myanmar has caused great uncertainty around hopes for an enabling environment for repatriation. Additionally, concentration of need, funding constraints and COVID-19 led DARE to focus work along the Thai/Myanmar border, while efforts to expand to Karen state in support of an eventual return were limited. Despite these challenges, DARE carried out important work and made the following progress:



Community prevention education session. Photo credit: DARE

- More than 81,383 people reached through DARE's program
- 75 clients in Mae La and Nu Poe camps completed their treatment successfully
- As an active member of Coordinating Committee for Services for Displaced People in Thailand, DARE attended six meetings and one strategic planning session, cooperating with international and local NGOs with permission of the Thailand Government
- Delivered sustainability workshop in three camps, 37 Addiction Workers attended and three DARE Core Staff
- Hand-over for new senior staff to more effectively manage and monitor the program
- Monitoring and evaluating programs in all camps and Karen State were completed bimonthly

Partner Name:	Diocese of Colombo	
Project Name:	Oppuravillam Peace Centre	
Location:	Vavuniya, Sri Lanka	
Total Project Budget:	\$14,000	
Start Date:	January 2023	End Date: December 2023

In 1981, Fr Donald Jeyapalan Kanagaratnam established "Oppuravillam", a house of peace on land owned by his family near Vavuniya. Oppuravillam was gifted by his family to the Diocese of Colombo when it was handed back by the army after the war ended in 2009. A Management Committee (OPMC) oversees its work with support from the Reconciliation and Peace Desk of the Diocese of Colombo. With funding from Episcopal Relief and

Development and other partners, the Diocese of Colombo has made repairs and additions to the house with two resident counsellors.

Resulting from the local conversations and consultations, the Centre’s work began and continues with:

- a trilingual pre-school (Tamil/Sinhala/English) which cares for 30 children
- tutoring for school children in science and mathematics; counselling mainly for women
- a Youth Club
- a Women’s Group, which has been extended to three communities in Mullaitivu district in the Northeast awareness raising events on several areas of interest to community members.

The counselling and other services have been a huge assistance, especially for women, as surrounding villages face issues with alcoholism, drugs and domestic violence. The Centre has been steadily growing in its inter-faith work, developing relationships with nearby Buddhist and Hindu temples. The Centre’s presence in these communities has become a beacon of hope for the villagers, many of whom have undergone several displacements during the war and have returned to situations of poverty and restarting life once again.

A dormitory and multi-use building to accommodate 25 persons has been 90% completed with funding from the United Thank Offering (UTO, a ministry of The Episcopal Church in the U.S.) for a retreat centre. Oppuravillam has also become a centre for ‘Savings with Learning’ women’s groups (funded by Episcopal Relief and Development), four of which have been formed in the surrounding villages. A UTO funded IT Training for children has also taken off, while two vocational trainings for women in tailoring funded locally.

PWRDF is contributing to the following:

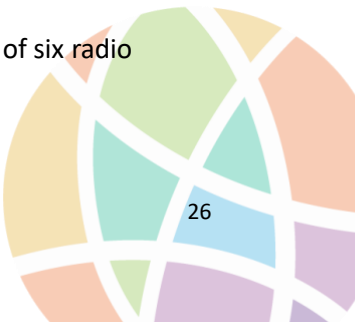
- A mini water purification system for a community drinking water project to be used by the village and the Oppuravillam Centre (completed in this reporting period)
- To further develop the organic vegetable and fruit farm as a cooperative venture for the village women’s groups
- To complete furnishing the residential and multipurpose building built with the funding from UTO

Latin America and the Caribbean

Partner Name:	World Association for Christian Communication (WACC) and Latin American Network of Radio Education (ALER)	
Project Name:	Voices of the Amazon: Community Radio Networks Enabling Grassroots Participation in Environmental Policy	
Location:	Amazonian Region: Brazil, Colombia and Ecuador	
Total Project Budget:	\$165,517	
Start Date:	January 1, 2023	End Date: December 31, 2025

The World Association for Christian Communication (WACC) is a pioneer of the communication rights movement by working with grassroots communities from diverse sectors to advance worldwide the communication rights of marginalized communities, and advocating for systemic changes in communication-related legislation and policy. WACC is the lead partner and cofounder of the project and is coordinating with the Latin American Network of Radio Education (ALER), a regional organization at the forefront of the community radio movement for more than 50 years and producing content on the Amazon. Additional partners on the ground supporting the implementation of this new three-year project include:

- The Ecuadorean Network of Community Radio Broadcasters (CORAPE) with its network of six radio stations
- The Amazon Radio Network (RNA), a Catholic broadcasting network in Brazil



- Grupo Comunicarte Radio Network in Colombia

The voices, knowledge and ideas from people most affected by climate change are rarely heard in media and are also absent from most national and international climate policy conversations. This is partly due to lack of access to information and platforms to express their views. As a result, most people do not have real opportunities to help shape the policy responses promoted by their governments. This occurs in the Amazon, a massive region that spans nine countries, contains extensive forest reserves, indigenous reservations, and national parks, and is home to an impressive cultural, linguistic, geographic and natural diversity. Unfortunately, deforestation, agricultural encroachment, illegal economies linked to drug trafficking, and an extractive economic model favouring activities such as mining and ranching threaten the ecosystem including those who inhabit it.

This new project started seeks to promote more inclusive, culturally relevant and impactful environmental policies in the Brazilian, Colombian and Ecuadorean Amazon reflecting the concerns and knowledge of small-scale subsistence farmers, Afro-descendant and Indigenous communities. The focus in 2023 includes:

- A detailed needs assessment to identify local capacity gaps and policy change opportunities
- Recruiting participants
- Establishing local alliances and agreements with 18 selected community stations and 36 environmental reporters
- Developing a capacity and advocacy plan and a network brand identity
- Delivering training/capacity building modules
- Media production pilots: editing and producing media content pieces (four content pieces per reporter per month), a weekly radio magazine production and disseminating media content across 18 stations

Partner Name:	MiningWatch Canada (MWC)	
Project Name:	Protecting Water Sources in the Andes from Mining Impact	
Location:	Andean Region, Ecuador and Colombia	
Total Project Budget:	\$71,760	
Start Date:	September 1, 2019	End Date: March 31, 2023

MiningWatch Canada (MWC) supports communities impacted by environmental, social and economic risks of extractive activities while strengthening linkages to bring reforms and sanctions for irresponsible mining practices. The expansion of industrial mining is encroaching on and threatening the unique and sensitive Páramo ecosystems (high plateau moorland ecosystems in the Andes). This unique ecosystem is of cultural and socioeconomic importance for millions of inhabitants and is the main source of water for communities. The Páramos are also important carbon sinks and harbour strategic biological diversity connected with other biomes in the Andean-Amazonian region.

For a decade, there has been local opposition to mining companies in the Paramos of Kimsakocha, Ecuador, and Santurban, Colombia. MWC and partners Savia Roja and Corambiente have supported local communities in developing safeguarding strategies for survival and environmental protection. Additionally, the project explored alternatives for women's economic development that do not harm the Páramos. More than 255,000 women from Ecuador and Colombia have participated in the project.

A summary of results and outcomes achieved include:



- After many attempts, MWC accessed the Loma Larga environmental impact assessment (EIA). An evaluation of the EIA by Corporación Geoambiental Terrae gathered vital scientific information on levels of heavy metals in Kimsakocha watersheds.
- Several local organizations, including Savia Roja, and water defenders disseminated the EIA findings in three public coordinated outreach events for over 500 participants, mostly Indigenous and campesino communities in September 2022.
- Producing and disseminating a brochure and press release as well as media interviews on findings from the report increased public awareness of water stewardship and alternative livelihoods to mining.
- [The Financial Post \[Canada\]](#) was one of the regional and international media organizations to cover the findings
- 52 participants attended a meeting to expand and strengthen regional networks called “Forum and Regional Exchange of Experiences about Extractivism” was hosted by WACC and Comunicarte community radio stations working in the Páramos in January 2023. Participants included six Indigenous water defenders, members of the Savia Roja agroecology school, members from groups against fracking and open pit coal mine in Santander, water protectors from Páramo Santurbán, Municipal Associations, youth, women, ILSA and PWRDF.
- During the Regional Exchange, local communities emphasized the role of agroecology in mining resistance as communities rely on agriculture for their livelihoods, thus prioritizing land and water protection over economic gains associated with mining expansion.
- Community organizing and greater awareness of the irreversible impacts of mining in the Kimsakocha Páramo have led to widespread public support and community referendums banning mining.
- The Loma Larga project’s licence was denied against a background of significant government support for mining. A 2021 referendum in the nearby city of Cuenca resulted in an 80% vote in favour of protecting water and the Páramos. In June 2022, the National Confederation of Indigenous Nationalities of Ecuador (CONAIE) led a historic national strike, where a key demand was a moratorium on mining. In July, a local judge granted protective measures to the Kimsakocha Páramos and suspended all mining activities.

Partner Name:	World Association for Christian Communication (WACC) and Grupo Comunicarte	
Project Name:	Voices of the Andean Moorlands: Network of Environmental Citizen Reporters	
Location:	Colombia	
Total Project Budget:	\$132,128	
Start Date:	January 1, 2020	End Date: December 31, 2022



Broadcasters Serrania Radio station Paramo El COCUI. Photo Credit: WACC

In collaboration with thousands of grassroots communities from diverse sectors, WACC works to advance the communication rights of marginalized communities, advocating for systemic changes in communication-related legislation and policy. WACC was the lead partner and cofounder of this project with Grupo Comunicarte the implementing partner. Grupo Comunicarte, a Colombian civil society organization and long-standing partner of WACC, works collaboratively with a network of community radio stations located in Páramos’ ecosystems across the country employing communication strategies to strengthen the social fabric of communities to promote greater equity, social and environmental justice, and foster sustainable and democratic development.

One of Colombia's greatest environmental concerns is the protection of the Páramo ecosystems, the source of 70% of the country’s water.

With Colombia being home to 50% of the world's Páramos, it is urgent to protect these ecosystems. The goal of this project was to generate, foster and deepen a culture of knowledge and care of the Páramos among community members, visitors and tourists. The project focused on establishing a network of 10 environmental journalists connected to a network of national community radio stations. These journalists disseminated information and encouraged environmental cooperation across moorland communities. By the end of the Project, Comunicarte had formed a group of reporters with a high sensitivity to the realities of climate change and demonstrated the responsibility and role of media in the sensitization of the community.

Additionally:

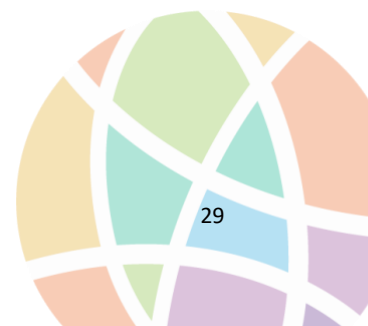
- Three, four-day training sessions for reporters and community members were completed and attended by 114 participants (65F/49M) including children from a school radio station
- Face-to-face meetings conducted with the network to evaluate, provide instruction / knowledge about the Biome of the Páramos and reflect on academic and Ministry of the Environment research of social movements and advances in radio communication, multimedia and creative sound production
- Production of short videos, sound series, with, from and for rural and Indigenous communities on traditional ecological knowledge, impacts of environmental conflicts and community protection actions were completed and include 40 radio bulletins, articles and photo images
- Materials and media disseminated by community radio through weekly 60 minute broadcasts at each of the 10 local stations. The potential direct audience for each station is 2,000 to 3,000 listeners, for an average of 30,000 listeners
- Some content was shared via digital channels: 120 radio magazines, two radio series, 98 articles, 10 events, three national encounters, 43 Facebook videos, 11 videos blogs, two infographics, 500 photos, 100 photos supplied by the radio stations and 10 sound postcards
- Samples of media products can be found here:
<https://comunicaparamos.wixsite.com/comunicarte/audioteca>
- The network of reporters in the Páramos were important social agents because they covered environmental activities that informed the social movements that continue to grow

Challenges encountered during project implementation:

- Two radio stations had to be changed due to the pandemic because there was a reduction in staff and the stations had to temporarily suspend their transmissions
- Field visits and training were delayed due to the pandemic and they could not take place during the winter seasons because of the road conditions

Partner Name:	Ecumenical Church Loan Fund (ECLOF) Colombia	
Project Name:	Empowering Small-scale Farmers and Micro Entrepreneurs	
Location:	Boyacá, Colombia	
Total Project Budget:	\$131,037	
Start Date:	September 1, 2019	End Date: December 31, 2022

ECLOF Colombia, a rural microfinance institution under the umbrella of ECLOF International, serves smallholder farmers and micro entrepreneurs in rural/peri-urban areas. ECLOF Colombia offers non-financial and financial products in the form of training, micro credit for working capital, fixed assets, home improvement and education.





Yolanda is a farmer participating in the project. Photo credit: ECLOF Colombia

The project goals were to 1) strengthen farmers capacity to maintain and manage family/farm businesses and finances through non-financial services, 2) diversify farm production, while promoting access for women and youth to resources and 3) strengthen young farmers sense of belonging to stay engaged in local farming instead of migrating. The economic effects of the pandemic and a social crisis experienced in the country contributed to worsening the economic situation, which affected several sectors including agriculture. Increasing prices for agricultural inputs due to the war created production difficulties and lead farmers reduced or suspended their activities resulting in food insecurity. Despite these challenges, all project activities were completed.

The project reached 1,743 individuals directly and 8,000 people indirectly. The following was achieved:

- Developed and strengthened farmers' skills allowing them to cultivate land more effectively and utilize available resources
- Rural women gained more options to contribute economically to their families and improved family diets with the produce grown in their home gardens.
- Increased awareness among participants on effective use of land and water resources contributing to improved environmental and natural resource management
- Farmers received microcredit valued at approximately \$52,000

Partner Name:	Instituto Latinoamericano para una Sociedad y un Derecho Alternativos (ILSA)		
Project Name:	Building Up Alternatives for Wellbeing with Rural Women of the Pisba's Páramo		
Location:	Boyacá, Colombia		
Total Project Budget:	\$165,050		
Start Date:	November 1, 2022	End Date:	October 31, 2026

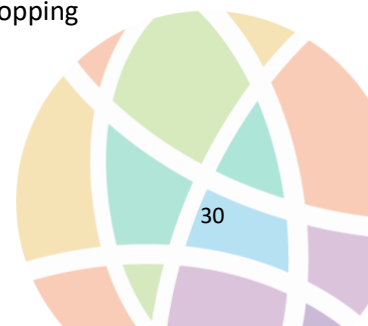


Will Postma (PWRDF Executive Director) and Jeannethe Lara (PWRDF Program Coordinator) being welcomed by ILSA in February 2023. Photo credit: ILSA

deterioration.

Since 1978, ILSA has engaged with marginalized communities to address development from a gender and right's perspective, focusing on issues of territory and conflict, human rights, public policy rights and developing grassroots constitutional changes. After more than 60 years of armed conflict in Colombia, this project contributes towards peace and social justice for women and small-scale subsistence farmers in rural areas of the Páramo de Pisba.

The past three years laid the foundations for almost 300 women from nine municipalities in Pisba to exercise their individual and territorial rights. Women are aware of the risks to the Páramo ecosystem and impacts of climate change and seek alternative prevention and mitigation strategies to improve living conditions while stopping



This new four-year project aims to increase theoretical and practical capacities among local women to formulate and implement alternative, environmentally friendly productive initiatives for income generation. The project is based on the solidarity and care economy approach, quality of life of all people and the Páramo territory, and improvement of the women and their organizations’ leadership to influence public initiatives backing women and the territory.

Project activities include:

- Regional meeting for planning activities and evaluation
- Design and elaborate productive initiatives to be executed between April and May 2023
- Create the Network of Guardians for native trees and seeds and recognize the lands for home hardens
- Recovery and path demarcation in the Páramo de Pisba to mitigate damage and protect the area

Partner Name:	Episcopal Church of Cuba (ECC)		
Project Name:	Integral Development Program (PDM Program)		
Location:	Cuba		
Total Project Budget:	\$34,993: PWRDF \$33,873 + \$1,120 donation by Grace Church Anglican		
Start Date:	June 20, 2020	End Date:	June 30, 2023

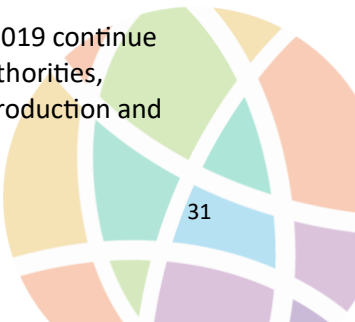
The Integral Development Program (PDM) implemented by the Episcopal Church of Cuba (ECC) aims to integrate asset-based community development in sectors such as nutrition, economic opportunities, water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH), and disaster management and resilience. Since 2019, the PDM program has fostered awareness and empowerment among rural and poor communities to end food scarcity, poor nutrition and dependency. The program has demonstrated that transformative social change and self-sufficiency are possible through productive and innovative projects carried out by people themselves. The program encourages women and men to participate equally in all areas such as training, micro-enterprise ventures, income generating activities, and saving with education. There is also a focus on awareness around GBV and strategies on how to eliminate GBV.

During this period, the program has achieved the following results:

- 50 new community promoters were trained, which added to the 84 trained in the last three years; there are currently 134 (82F/52M) community promoters
- 22 Disaster Management Committees working in communities with their respective risk reduction plans
- 50 communities benefited from the program due to the positive impact of 966 development projects that contributed to the transformative change for community members towards a better quality of life and self-sufficiency
- The 22 community promoters who graduated from a disaster management training in 2019 continue assisting their communities by providing support and collaboration with local health authorities, coordinate emergency activities, and support food security activities to increase food production and consumption of healthy foods by community members participating in the program.



Drought resilience project in Santiago de Cuba. Photo Credit ECC



- During the reporting period, 50 people participated in training on mental health and resilience to support the effects of the crises on the most vulnerable populations

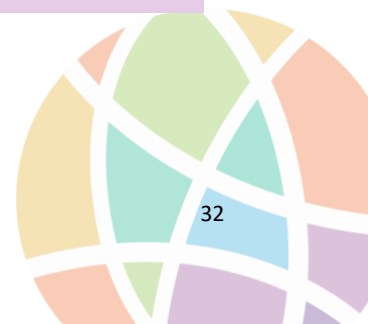
Partner Name:	Asociación Comité Contra el SIDA Cabañas (CoCoSI)		
Project Name:	Educating and Fostering Youth and LGBTQIA+ Leadership for Gender Justice in Cabañas, El Salvador		
Location:	Cabañas, El Salvador		
Total Project Budget:	\$34,935		
Start Date:	March 15, 2023	End Date:	May 31, 2024

CoCoSI has been working in rural communities for 23 years and has identified several challenges. (1) Schools do not teach an authentic concept of gender, there is no sex-education, which contributes to increasing abuse and sexual violence; and there are high rates of teen pregnancies in communities. (2) The lack of non-binary gender education leads to discrimination, isolation and hate crimes against the LGBTQIA+ population in schools, families, churches and communities. (3) There is a total absence of a local public policy to comprehensively addresses the problems and seek solutions for youth and the LGBTQIA+ populations. (4) CoCoSI's Country Breezes Collective needs tools and strengthened abilities to be referents and strategic allies for the youth in the project's participating communities.

The absence of governmental will and a formal policy for teaching SRHR is an important factor exacerbating high levels of discrimination, violence and harassment towards LGBTQIA+ people. This project seeks to strengthen knowledge and capacities to defend their human rights and highlights the importance of SRHR based on non-binary gender and diversity education. The Educating and Fostering Youth and LGBTQIA+ Leadership for Gender Justice in Cabañas, El Salvador project will be carried out in six schools in six rural communities in three municipalities. This project works directly with adolescents, parents, teachers, local organizations and local government authorities to generate favourable conditions for youth participation and activism. They are enabled to promote SRHR within the general population, create awareness and advocate for respecting human rights of persons LGBTQIA+ towards fostering a culture of peace.

Learning Together with CoCoSI

PWRDF has made efforts to be more intentional and innovative in connecting supporters with the work of our global partners. In early 2023, a group of interested PWRDF youth supporters participated in a four-session series of meetings with CoCoSI to observe the program development process for a project supporting LGBTQIA+ inclusivity, advocacy and comprehensive sexuality education in rural El Salvador. This included a virtual community transect walk, visiting a school and local household, observing a focus group session with LGBTQIA+ youth in and walking through a budgeting and proposal development process together. While PWRDF partners are empowered with the agency and self-determination to identify their own development challenges and develop responses and initiatives of their own design to address those challenges, it was a meaningful opportunity for Canadian youth to see what this process entails, and how a proposal comes to life. Canadian youth participants appreciated having a closer look at the process, and the opportunity to have substantive conversations and ask questions of partners. More importantly, CoCoSI really valued the perspective and were excited at the prospect of building deeper linkages with Canadian youth. PWRDF will explore more digital exposure and partner connections moving into 2023 and beyond.



Partner Name:	Rayjon Share Care of Sarnia Inc.	
Project Name:	Haitian Women's Federation Breadfruit Transformation Initiative	
Location:	St Marc, Haiti	
Total Project Budget:	\$45,000	
Start Date:	March 1, 2021	End Date: April 30, 2023



Breadfruit plantation. Photo credit: Rayjon Share Care

In partnership with Rayjon Share Care, the Haitian Women's Federation seeks to educate its members, develop solidarity groups and work in collaboration. This project focused on expanding mill operation activities and focused on breadfruit cultivation, harvesting and processing. Participating women cultivate the nutritious produce, then dry and grind it into flour, which has a longer shelf life and can provide income and sustenance throughout the year. The purpose of the project was to create jobs, generate income, build the local economy, invest money back into communities to support women and increase household food security. The project also addressed deforestation by promoting sustainable agriculture and establishing a tree nursery.

Results achieved include:

- 350 Federation members, representing 1,350 families, are directly engaged in the project. The project is having a positive impact on 5,750 community members
- Strengthened leadership. The Federation is managing the community mills and the breadfruit tree nursery. The elected treasurer, who was trained in financial management, is providing financial reports to Rayjon and to the broader Federation membership for maximum transparency.



The Haitian Women's Federation training in May 2022. Photo credit Rayjon Share Care

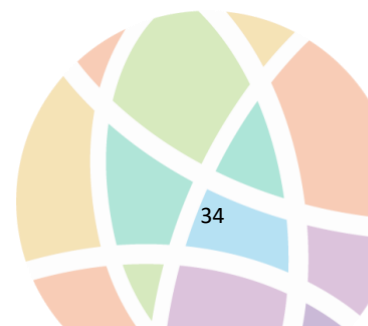
- A perimeter fence was built to protect the tree nursery and mill from theft and grazing goats. Community members worked together to source and transport the rock foundation, digging the ground with pickaxes and building the perimeter fence by hand in the hot sun. The fence is symbolic in this traditional community where the leadership and authority of women has not always been respected. It is a symbol of strength, purpose and value. The gate is a symbol that loudly says to the community: We are open for business and ready to help.
- Rice and corn mill services are available at an affordable price to hundreds of farm families. The mills are a modest but sustainable source of income generation for the Federation. Profits are reinvested in breadfruit operations, microcredit and business training.

Challenges were encountered this reporting period that affected project outcomes, delayed activities and required a responsive approach that was compassionate and flexible:

- Political insecurity: since the assassination of President Jovenel Moise in 2021, political instability and violence have rocked Haiti. Armed gangs control a majority of the capital city, Port-au-Prince,

making it difficult to transport goods and deliver services. The Haitian currency has devalued, and inflation is increasing resulting in higher costs for goods.

- Disrupted trade and travel: roads and other routes are disrupted or impassable, which has made it difficult to source specialty equipment needed for breadfruit processing and maintaining mill equipment as well as vehicles. The solution is being patient and finding alternatives while focusing on what can be accomplished safely.
- Banking: there is limited cash flow in St. Marc to pay salaries and purchase materials because banks in Port-au-Prince are not transporting cash because armoured vehicles are being ambushed by gangs. The project has employed a lot of creative solutions to address the shortages.



Indigenous Partnership Program

Partner Name:	Nuu-chah-nulth Economic Development Corporation (NEDC)		
Project Name:	Indigenous Youth Business Strategy Program (IYBSP)		
Location:	British Columbia		
Total Project Budget:	December 31, 2019 – Revolving Fund		
Start Date:	April 01, 2019	End Date:	March 31, 2023

Indigenous youth encounter multiple barriers to employment and are the most at risk demographic group in Canada with decreasing entrepreneurial funding opportunities. Funds available to youth for entrepreneurial experience, which has been proven to build an array of skills and provide quality experience, has significantly decreased nationwide. The change resulted in a lack of focus on youth and forced youth to compete for funding with older more experienced businesspeople. Thus, the number of youth businesses receiving business funding decreased.

PWRDF provided one-time seed funding in 2019 for this NEDC initiative. The long-term goal for the NEDC Indigenous Youth Business Strategy Program is to develop a million-dollar microloan fund to deliver to Indigenous Canadian youth and provide training opportunities and micro-loans for youth to launch viable businesses. Since July 2019, \$260,849 in loans have been approved and were disbursed to 21 clients from April 1, 2019 to March 31, 2023. The fund received \$149,012 in loan repayment, including principal and interest. All interest is reinvested in a portfolio to increase sustainability of the fund. NEDC reported that the program is on track and will continue to support young entrepreneurs striving to make a business for themselves. The consistent repayments indicate youth are working hard to pay back the money they borrowed, and the interest generated on the fund will provide help to other Indigenous youth and ensure the fund is sustained.

Partner Name:	Pikangikum First Nation		
Project Name:	Water and Wastewater Systems (16 Homes) – Phase 4		
Location:	Northwestern Ontario		
Total Project Budget:	\$300,000		
Start Date:	November 2, 2020	End Date:	November 1, 2023



On-the-job training for Indigenous youth. Photo credit: Pikangikum First Nation

Since 2013, Pimatisiwin Nipi (Living Water) Group has partnered with PWRDF and Pikangikum First Nation to provide safe drinking water and indoor plumbing for the most vulnerable households. Four hundred of the approximately 500 homes in the community do not have indoor plumbing and running water. Many families collect and carry water to their homes from one of the six water stations across Pikangikum connected to the water treatment plant, which is particularly challenging in very cold weather. Families use outdoor toilets, essentially a hole in the ground inside a wooden structure.

Of the approximately 100 homes that have a water system, 20 were retrofitted in Phase 1 and Phase 2, another 10 with funding from the

Government of Canada, and 16 more in Phase 4 through donations directed to PWRDF. There have been important additional supports from the Government of Canada through different departments. Pikangikum

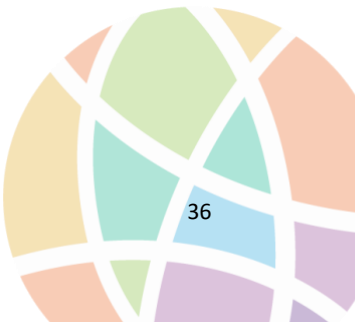
Administration and Pikangikum Public Works have supported this project financially by paying staff salaries and contracting plumbers and electricians to supplement and provide training when needed. Government financial supports have been made possible due to donations and because the project is addressing such an important need: clean and safe water and sanitation for all. Many of the families living in these homes are vulnerable. Family members include Elders and many Elders have serious health issues including the need for dialysis and special care. When the waters systems are completed in homes in the fall of 2023, the project will have assisted 46 families to have hot and cold running water in sinks, showers, baths and toilets. Most importantly, the quality of life and dignity of many of the most vulnerable in the community will have improved. To date, the project has trained and employed 18 youth community members to install the water and wastewater systems.

Partner Name:	Water First Education and Training Inc.	
Project Name:	Water First Drinking Water Internship	
Location:	Ontario	
Total Project Budget:	\$87,836	
Start Date:	March 01, 2021	End Date: January 31, 2023

The Water First Drinking Water Internship Program addresses drinking water challenges by providing 15 months of paid skills training in water monitoring and treatment. Interns receive more than 1,800 hours of training in the classroom, at local water treatment facilities and out on the land. Indigenous traditional knowledge is invited and incorporated into the program with community guidance. The training supports participants in obtaining provincially recognized certifications, providing them the opportunity to pursue employment, further education or other career paths. Most importantly, interns are helping to ensure access to clean drinking water for communities now and into the future. To date, more than 48 interns from 32 Indigenous communities have participated or are currently enrolled in the program and 35 are certified as Operators-in-Training. A graduate of the Water First pilot internship program on Manitoulin Island in 2018, Paige Manitowabi has worked as an environmental field technician at Wahnapiatae First Nation. In the spring of 2021, Paige was hired as the Local Project Coordinator for the Georgian Bay Internship. From being an intern herself to a member of the Alumni Network and an active graduate in her community, she led the next internship and supported the Georgian Bay interns. In late August 2022, 14 interns from the Georgian Bay area, [who later graduated in late September](#), gathered in Wiikwemkoong First Nation on Manitoulin Island for a week of on the land learning of Traditional Knowledge. [Paige shared with the group the importance of learning Traditional Knowledge](#) alongside western science that is predominantly taught in labs and in treatment plants.



Paige: A Short Film from Water First



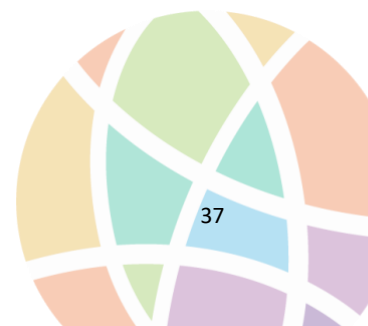
Partner Name:	Xilotl Asociación para el Desarrollo Social A.C. Ocosingo, (México) and ODIGUA Sembrando Esperanza (Guatemala)	
Project Name:	Weaving Strength for Good Living in Tzeltal Indigenous Communities, Chiapas, Mexico; and Q'eqchi' Indigenous Communities, San Pedro Carchá, Guatemala	
Location:	Guatemala and Mexico	
Total Project Budget:	\$30,000	
Start Date:	January 01, 2023	End Date: December 31, 2025



The project responds to key needs expressed by Indigenous communities, who requested Xilotl in Mexico and ODIGUA in Guatemala to assist in the implementation of strategies aimed at their wellbeing through sustainable development programs. The participating communities in Mexico and Guatemala encounter high levels of poverty and marginalization. Poverty and marginalization in turn influence factors such as education, health, food security and gender equality. Both partners have been working and supporting sustainable development initiatives aimed at good living carried out for/by/with Indigenous communities for over 20 years.

The project aims to strengthen people's abilities and skills to achieve a comprehensive community development with a gender focus. Emphasis is placed on training men and women as local development promoters. The program seeks to empower women to have a better quality of life and exercise their rights for better conditions and work towards reducing poverty. The specific objectives are:

- Food Security: 12 communities encompassing 500 families of the Tzeltal and Q'eqchi' ethnic groups in Mexico and Guatemala achieve food security through sustainable agriculture and local marketing of their produced surpluses
- Empowering women: Local processes of empowered and self-valued women are strengthened in the Tzeltal and Q'eqchi' communities
- Capacity building of Indigenous peoples with the participation of young people: train and organize 20 young men and women with the skills necessary to exercise their leadership within their communities



Partner Name:	Centro de Culturas Indígenas del Perú (CHIRAPAQ), Kinal Antzetik (Mexico) and Toronto Metropolitan University (formerly Ryerson University) Aboriginal Initiatives	
Project Name:	Indigenous Midwifery Program for the Americas	
Location:	Ayacucho, Peru, Guerrero, Mexico and Canada	
Total Project Budget:	\$90,000 (CHIRAPAQ \$45,000, Kinal Antzetik \$45,000)	
Start Date:	April 2022	End Date: March 2025



*CHIRAPAQ Workshop, March 2023.
Photo credit: CHIRAPAQ*

This program aims to deepen and enhance the processes and strategies successfully implemented in the 2017-2020 project to contribute to improving maternal health, reproductive and sexual health, and reducing maternal mortality among Indigenous women from a human rights approach and with cultural relevance.

During 2022, Kinal and CHIRAPAQ held 11 meetings to discuss and learn from each other's experiences. These meetings also served as coordination for the development of the regional mapping of Indigenous midwives. CHIRAPAQ held four training and knowledge exchange workshops on Indigenous traditional midwifery with the participation of 74 midwives. Topics covered included sharing reflections of the community and health roles of midwives, differences with the conventional western health system, and the review of biological, social and spiritual knowledge of reproductive health. Another key theme was culturally relevant care during pregnancy. CHIRAPAQ and Kinal collaborated to produce testimonial videos of traditional Peruvian and Mexican midwives who shared their training

experiences, community health care and political participation. The purpose of these videos is for the midwives to recognize each other prior to the virtual dialogues that they will have in the second year of the project. In addition, the participating midwives have an opportunity to share their practices, ask questions about the ways to care for pregnant women and newborns, and the strategies/advances in practices for Indigenous midwifery.

Kinal reported that ten Indigenous master midwives and ten Indigenous apprentices participated in their training on traditional midwifery aimed at ensuring the transmission of knowledge and epistemologies that guarantee the continuity and survival of midwifery in their communities. The midwives shared their knowledge from the non-formal community education model based on orality as they have done for centuries. The apprentices dedicated time to accompany the master midwives to care for pregnant women, monitor them, assist in deliveries, help prepare herbal remedies or infusions, learn by doing, and creating a link with the community. In addition to this accompaniment process, the midwives and apprentices organized a study group that met every two weeks for the past six months.

With a list of topics agreed upon by the midwives, the apprentices take turns presenting to the group. There are opportunities for their colleagues and teachers to provide feedback and have discussions. The process of direct teaching in practice is complemented by a series of workshops that address topics such as intercultural health, community health, rights of Indigenous peoples, SRHR, rights of Indigenous women, and regulatory frameworks for traditional midwifery in Mexico.



Kinal hosting the second National Agenda Meeting. Photo credit: Kinal

Listening The Wisdom from Our Elders: PWRDF Indigenous Responsive Grant Fund

“We are not a deficit to be mapped out and managed according to the deficit.”

*The Reverend Canon Dr. Murray Still, Diocese of Rupert's Land
Parish of St. Stephen and St. Bede (shared Anglican-Lutheran)
August 2015 Sacred Circle*

“What level of risk will PWRDF take for advocacy on behalf of Indigenous communities here in Canada, given that the issues here are key issues that are directly related to government of Canada's policies?”

*Corinne from Nishawnabe Aski Nation (NAN),
May 2011 Indigenous Partners' Roundtable*

“I need to know you better if we are to be partners.”

*Dr. Simon Lucas, Nuuchah-nulth elder, Nuuchah-nulth Economic Development Corporation
October 2014 Heads of Agencies Meeting and Indigenous Development Circle Gathering in Tofino, B.C.
hosted by our partner the Nuuchah-nulth Economic Development Corporation (NEDC)*

[For more than 25 years](#), PWRDF has been listening to and learning from Indigenous partners. The voices of these 50 plus partners have welcomed us to walk side by side as truly equal partners based on mutual and equal trust and respect. [The cultural protocols, framework and methodologies](#) designed through this process have been acknowledged and endorsed by our partners.

Working towards the 2019-2024 Strategic Plan Goal to “Accompany and support First Nations, Métis and Inuit people on our mutual path of reconciliation”, PWRDF initiated a process to establish an institutional body that would provide guidance and support to our Indigenous work. PWRDF engaged with Indigenous partners, the Anglican Council of Indigenous Peoples, and KAIROS' Indigenous Rights Circle, to identify Indigenous community leaders and traditional Elders with interest in becoming members of the proposed entity.

In March 2020, PWRDF celebrated the founding of the [Indigenous Program Advisory Committee \(IPAC\)](#). These six IPAC members are highly respected, deeply knowledgeable, and have extensive experience working, representing, educating, and advocating for Indigenous communities and Indigenous rights. Each member brings their own gifts, commitment and proven leadership in representing Indigenous voices. Since then, IPAC has been providing advice and sharing wisdom to guide PWRDF's Indigenous partnership program. They acknowledge the impacts caused by residential schools and other harmful government policies and have witnessed the suffering in their communities.

With guidance from IPAC, PWRDF launched the [Indigenous Responsive Grant Fund](#) in August 2021 to respond quickly to funding needs and priorities identified by Indigenous communities and organizations. Since then, PWRDF has approved [13 projects](#) for a total amount of \$226,150. Some of these Indigenous partners' projects have contributed to healing intergenerational trauma, youth suicide prevention, COVID-19 response, Indigenous cultural preservation, traditional environmental protection, teaching Indigenous knowledge practices and knowledge sharing about Indigenous food and medicinal plants.

The Indigenous Responsive Grant Fund has supported Indigenous partners' initiatives aimed at furthering the efforts of Indigenous Peoples to take back and decolonize their education for their future generations. As was stated by one of the partners “... Our vision for the project is “... Knowledge is Power of which Gitksan have and would like to instill in the younger generation”.

Similarly, some partners' initiatives foster, and deliver traditional teaching on Indigenous medicines and seek to preserve this knowledge from their ancestors and families to be passed on to younger generations. Traditional knowledge keepers and traditional medicine healers have told us that their community has depended on the traditional medicines between 2020 and 2022 to help with the pandemic waves which have affected them and other surrounding Ojibway communities in Manitoba.

Other supported initiatives focus on preserving Indigenous languages, cultures, histories and ways of life by developing a gathering place on ancestral sites in their communities. For instance, Mohawk people in Kahnawake community in Quebec, and Mi'kmaw people in Nova Scotia are working with their communities respectively toward establishing cultural centres. The Mi'kmaw affirm that "... (we) have been here for millennia... (the initiative) will create significant economic impacts for the Nation as well for the province of Nova Scotia and for Canada; strengthen and expand Mi'kmaw tourism and heritage sectors; and most importantly, facilitate and support the process of reconciliation that is key to a shared future."

Some Indigenous partners have been implementing new programs aimed at healing intergenerational trauma and suicide prevention in support to their youth, the most affected group. These partners' voices expressed sorrow: "It is important to figure out how to convince youth they are part of Creation... They come into the world as light... And because of circumstances, their light goes out".

PWRDF has been listening to the wisdom from the Elders from Indigenous communities across Canada. They have trusted us in continuing walking side by side in strengthening our current partnerships and expanding our relationships with new partners.

-Jose Zarate, May 1, 2023

Indigenous Responsive Grant Fund

Partner Name:	Diocese of Edmonton - Birth Support Worker Program		
Project Name:	Indigenous Birth Support Worker Program		
Location:	Alberta		
Total Project Budget:	\$15,000		
Start Date:	March 14, 2022	End Date:	December 31, 2022



This program supports Indigenous people during pregnancy, birth, postpartum and into early parenting. Based in Edmonton, the program serves families across Treaty 6, 7 and 8 Territories, Metis Nation of Alberta Regions, and Alberta Metis Settlements, rural, urban and on reserve. Indigenous families experience many barriers to care that do not exist in the same way for non-Indigenous families and have complex needs arising from the multi-generational impacts of colonial trauma. These barriers include assumptions, biases, judgements, the privileging of settler colonial worldviews and practices, a lack of culturally safe care (power imbalances and racism), and a lack of trauma-informed care. The day-to-day work of the program contributes to healing and, alongside mentoring work, helps restore the knowledge of how to support people on their birthing journey back to families and communities where it can then be shared with other community members as well as future generations. Birth work is the ongoing work of generational healing, cultural resurgence, language reclamation, the restoration of ceremony, knowledge and traditions. It

breaks the cycles set in motion by colonial systems and structures, and the attempts to erase and then assimilate Indigenous peoples.

During 2022, the grant supported the overall work of the program and the Indigenous led and created 13 Moons Journey into Birth Mentorship project. Ten mentee-helpers were selected and attended four weekend land-based gatherings where Aunties, Elders and other community members shared knowledge in traditional ways of learning. The program continued to support Indigenous people, including pregnant youth and adults, their babies and multiple generations in families including grandparents and other children present in the home with culturally-safe, trauma-informed, inclusive prenatal care and education, birth support and postpartum care.

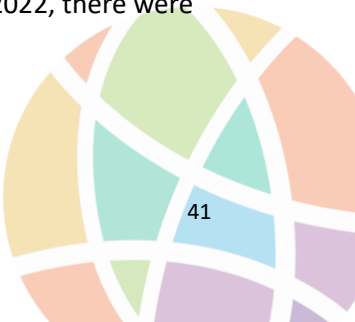
Partner Name:	Gitanyow Health & Wellness Society	
Project Name:	Gyets Gitxsan Guks Guuhls lip Siwilaaksinsxwi'm - Call Back Our Education Curriculum Development Initiative	
Location:	Kitwanga, British Columbia	
Total Project Budget:	\$15,000	
Start Date:	March 2, 2023	End Date: March 1, 2024

The Gitanyow Health & Wellness Society, under the responsibility of their Gyets (western) Gitxsan Indian Residential School (IRS) Program, are implementing the project. Their mission is to provide support, education and awareness of Gitxsan healing tools to their community. They assist survivors of Indian Residential Schools, their communities, and families to receive the tools to heal, learn and become well-groomed Gitxsan. The long legacy of discrimination, violence and harm on and to Gitxsan society has resulted in trauma that is felt to this day and affects the First Nations people across Canada. This history has not been adequately taught in Canadian schools and many Canadians just learned recently about this stark truth through the media and T’kemlups Teschewepum’k (Kamloops IRS) finding of 215 unmarked graves at their IRS site.

This project will carry out the Gyets Gitxsan Guks Guuhls lip Siwilaaksinsxwi'm Curriculum Development Initiative. This initiative will educate, raise awareness, provide connection to lost culture, language, history, self-awareness and wellness through connection to self and lax yip (land). This knowledge will promote self-esteem, identity, revitalization of culture and language through renewed connections to land, history and Gitxsan values in three participating western Gitxsan communities. The Gyets Gitxsan IRS Program recognizes the need for a new approach to education within the local high school that is Gitxsan specific. This initiative will take at least a year to develop and implement and the project aims proactively “to take the lead in this initiative rather than wait and implement ‘regular’ ‘status quo’ education that has not been working for our children.”

Partner Name:	1JustCity	
Project Name:	Elder in Residence and Harm Reduction Program	
Location:	Winnipeg, Manitoba	
Total Project Budget:	\$10,000	
Start Date:	October 15, 2021	End Date: September 30, 2022

1JustCity supports three drop-in community centres in Winnipeg’s core neighbourhoods: West Broadway, the West End and Osborne Village. The project fosters wellbeing among Indigenous community members seeking support with healing intergenerational trauma and abuse and provides direct support to community members living with substance use disorders. The program, implemented by an Elder-in-residence and a Harm Reduction/Outreach Program worker engaged individuals experiencing homelessness or without safe/secure housing. More than 75% of the people who participate in the centre spaces are Indigenous. In 2022, there were more than 100 people who engaged directly with these programs.





Elder-in-residence programs included smudging, Full Moon Ceremonies, medicine picking, beginner language instruction and beading. Photo credit: 1JustCity

1JustCity reported that the implementation of the Indigenous Elder-in-Residence program and the Harm Reduction program have met the expected results successfully. The Elder-in-residence worked with existing Indigenous staff people to help them design and implement programs such as Sharing Circles, Pow Wow demonstrations, a Sweat Lodge, smudging, Full Moon Ceremonies, medicine picking, beginner language instruction, beading and sewing. The Harm Reduction program staff provided training and support to existing staff and partnered with a local group called Street Connections who provide the organization with safer drug use supplies and information. The Harm Reduction program staff lead also led the 1JustCity in Outreach Walks in the community where the program staff would spend a few hours at a time visiting encampments near the

drop-in sites, to connect and build relationships with people who (for many reasons) may have been uncomfortable entering the three locations. The Outreach Walks were also used as an opportunity to distribute safer drug use supplies, food and other items such as socks, hats and gloves.

Partner Name:	The Anglican Council of Indigenous People (ACIP)	
Project Name:	From Trauma to New Life (Phase 1)	
Location:	Winnipeg, Manitoba	
Total Project Budget:	\$15,000	
Start Date:	January 15, 2023	End Date: March 31, 2023

The Canadian government created Residential Schools and Day Schools as a way to “kill the Indian in the child.” Children were forcibly removed from their homes and taken to the schools where they were disciplined for speaking their languages. Children were sexually, emotionally, physically and spiritually abused. Most recently, the bodies of children discovered on the grounds of former Residential Schools has resulted in an awakening to the horrors of the schools. As early as the 1930s and into the 1980s, children were “scooped” from their Indigenous parents and adopted into non-Indigenous homes where they were removed from any connections to their heritage. The intergenerational trauma continues to this day as well as the recorded stories of missing and murdered Indigenous men, women, girls and boys. Today, jails are filled with Indigenous people and the “scooping” or removing of Indigenous children from their biological parents continues. Young Indigenous people are unaware of their proud history of living off the land and waters. They are committing suicide as they deal with addictions and poverty.

With this long history of trauma that the Church has taken part in, it is critical that trauma healing and acts of reconciliation are pursued. This project seeks to begin addressing cumulative trauma in Indigenous communities in Northern Manitoba in a three-phase process partnering with the Anglican Council Indigenous Peoples (ACIP) and Crisis and Trauma Resource Institute (CTRI). This project aims to bring together 30 Indigenous and non-Indigenous Christians from different denominations, 15 from the south joining 15 from the north. This partnership offered an opportunity for training people to know how to respond to intergenerational trauma who could then go back to their communities. Each community involved will be given tools to assist communities in their healing. Educated community members will receive resources that will stay with their communities and the project will be evaluated to duplicate in other communities. The first phase involved trauma training for staff engaged in the project and an in-person planning and visioning meeting.

Partner Name:	Interfaith Council on Hydropower (ICH)	
Project Name:	Kohkoms' Healing Gathering	
Location:	Winnipeg, Manitoba	
Total Project Budget:	\$15,000	
Start Date:	February 2023	End Date: September 2023

ICH has been involved in policy analysis and public engagement on hydropower issues since the mid-1970s. They work in relationship with and carry forward the stories of hydro-impacted people and communities. Hydro development has been the cause of significant loss to land, water and livelihoods, and causing massive destruction and desolation to everyone and everything that lives in the shadow of the dams. Over 50 years of hydro development has left communities in incredible pain and a feeling of helplessness to confront the problems and find meaningful ways forward. It is this pain and helplessness that will be named and addressed through the project.

The process of identifying and selecting community members is underway. Ultimately, 16 Grandmothers and 16 youth from several hydro-impacted communities will be invited to attend the Grand Rapids Culture Camp for a Grandmother's Healing Circle in August 2023. The invitees will be women already active in their communities and who have long ties with the fight for justice for their people. The participating Grandmothers, as keepers of water, are committed to ensure that water is clean, accessible, unpolluted, and continues to fulfill its spiritual roles for their communities, grandchildren and future generations. They also believe that despite the challenges, they must figure out a new path to wholeness and good health.

Partner Name:	Medicine Eagle Camp	
Project Name:	Medicine Eagle Camp Teaching Sessions 2022-2023	
Location:	Keeseekoowenin 61A, Elphinstone, Manitoba	
Total Project Budget:	\$15,000	
Start Date:	July 15, 2022	End Date: March 14, 2023



Medicine Eagle Camp Graduate

The Medicine Eagle Camp is a traditional teaching and harvesting camp where traditional Knowledge Keepers teach students about the Anishinaabe medicines growing in the region and ways this knowledge has been passed on from Ojibway ancestors/families. Operating for over 15 years, Medicine Eagle Camp is located on Keeseekoowenin Ojibway First Nation territory and is a recognized by the Keeseekoowenin Ojibway First Nation community and its leaders.

The camp helps to supports students in healing themselves and their family members through reconnection to traditional culture, the land, and being in a reciprocal relationship with one another; Indigenous practices that colonial policies sought to destroy. The project aims to continue teachings and harvesting of Ojibway traditional medicines, otherwise they will be lost. These traditional teachings bring interested students together so they can learn firsthand how to gather and use these medicines and learn how to protect this traditional knowledge for future generations.

The following activities were successfully implemented by the Medicine Eagle Camp:

- Community volunteers and students set up the camp in July
- Participating Elders held the Pipe Ceremony and offered tobacco prayers for the use of the Sacred Fire
- Two professors and 13 students, (9 enrolled in the Indigenous Ethnobotany Field Class) from the University of Winnipeg attended the first training session onsite at the end of July
- Four graduate-level medicine teachers assisted with the two groups to provide teachings according to the years of the students <https://news.uwinnipeg.ca/unique-land-based-course-weaves-indigenous-perspectives-with-plant-science/>
- 25 university students, five children and five teachers attended a second training session facilitated by the Medicine Eagle Camp Elders in August
- Participants and students submitted program evaluation forms that concluded the teaching sessions were a great success
- The local Band Council, the Health Office and more volunteers from the community and other First Nation communities provided support to the Medicine Eagle Camp activities



Partner Name:	The Confederacy of Mainland Mi'kmaq (CMM)	
Project Name:	Home to Mi'kma'ki: the Conservation Assessment Phase	
Location:	Truro, Nova Scotia	
Total Project Budget:	\$15,000	
Start Date:	August 1, 2022	End Date: March 31, 2023



Cultural items in Mi'kmaq collections held at the National Museum of the American Indian (NMAI) at the Smithsonian Institution in Washington, DC

The project seeks to return Mi'kmaw collections housed at the National Museum of the American Indian (NMAI) at the Smithsonian Institution in Washington, DC to The Mi'kma'wey Debert Cultural Centre (MDCC). The MDCC will be working with knowledge holders and experts to expand their understandings about and relationships to these important collections. The MDCC is projected to attract more than 50,000 visitors a year, including more than 5,000 students of all ages; create more than 16 full time positions; serve the Mi'kmaw Nation as a repository for their own cultural materials; safeguard digital versions of their oral histories, knowledge and language; create significant economic impacts for the Nation as well for the province of Nova Scotia and for Canada; strengthen

and expand Mi'kmaw tourism and heritage sectors; and most importantly, facilitate and support the process of reconciliation that is key to a shared future.

Project activities include:

- Assessing the condition of collections
- Training two Mi'kmaw university graduates in anthropology and archeology
- Completing a final conservation assessment report including a comprehensive assessment with object records and recommendations for the loan request to the NMAI

The partners on this project include MDCC's parent organization, the Confederacy of Mainland Mi'kmaq (CMM), NMAI, the Nova Scotia Museum, and the Canadian Conservation Institute, as well as their funding partners, including the Department of Canadian Heritage and the Nova Scotia Department of Communities, Culture, Tourism and Heritage. The NMAI has a central role in this project including supervising the overall conservation and the conservation training. The Nova Scotia Museum has provided the initial training. Along with partnering organizations and government departments are their own communities and community experts who are guiding the work as it progresses.

With the work of the two Mi'kmaw trainees, CMM have made significant progress their ability to bring the collection home. In October 2023, the project will be shared at the Association of Tribal Archives, Libraries and Museums Conference in Oklahoma. The session will be led by the NMAI.

Partner Name:	Anamiewigummig Kenora Fellowship Centre	
Project Name:	Ambe, Strengthening Our Circle	
Location:	Kenora, Ontario	
Total Project Budget:	\$15,000	
Start Date:	February 1, 2023	End Date: May 31, 2023

Anamiewigummig Kenora Fellowship Centre is an Indigenous Ministry serving in the Traditional Territory of Treaty 3 since the 1960s. They are governed by a predominantly Indigenous Board of Directors, 90% of the staff are Indigenous and 85% of the peoples they serve are Indigenous. They offer a 24/7 operation helping to meet basic needs of individuals facing many different vulnerabilities including mental health and addiction. Often, community members served by the Centre are dealing with deeply rooted intergenerational trauma stemming from the residential school system and systemic discrimination. The Centre acknowledges and witnesses the devastating impacts of colonization including the 60s scoop, residential and day schools, systemic discrimination and overrepresentation in the child welfare system and justice system, and murdered and missing Indigenous women and girls. All of these intersecting issues decrease opportunities for young Indigenous people to be close to their families and aware of their cultures, including their Indigenous languages. Some of the served community members have endured loss and grief and faced or suffered suicidal attempts and suicides. The Centre provides healthy grieving practices and healing opportunities and serves all ages, with individuals aged 18 to 35 the most represented.

The community is also facing HIV and opioid overdose crises. These social issues were aggravated by the COVID-19 pandemic. A few of the Centre's operational Community Health priorities are suicide and addictions prevention, mental health promotion and engaging traditional caregivers. Some of the project activities are focussed on land, Indigenous language, mental health and wellness. Elders share firekeeper teachings, sacred ceremonies and cultural protocols. Invitations are given to local expertise and resources to attend the Centre for information sharing sessions, prevention, testing and follow up care sessions about suicides and opioid consumption/addictions.

Partner Name:	Métis Nation of Ontario – Highland Waters Metis Council	
Project Name:	Fireweed Learning Community Plant	
Location:	Ontario	
Total Project Budget:	\$10,000	
Start Date:	October 14, 2021	End Date: December 30, 2022

In November 2021, Métis Nation of Ontario – Highland Waters Metis Council in collaboration with the Fireweed Learning Community, began to carry out their Seed Sanctuary program. The program aims to reconnect Indigenous food and farming practices to Indigenous culture and knowledge recovery, as well as teaching the community on land stewardship and protecting nature and the environment. In 2022, a water storage system

was assembled to collect rainwater, which was used to water the teaching gardens. Activities were offered onsite for children and adults. An increased number of visitors came to enjoy the tours, workshops and classes, including a retreat. In addition, 45 new families have entered the lead partner’s online platform and are benefiting from written content and teachings about nature and environment. In the spring, the project facilitators grew their redesigned medicine wheel gardens for more plant teachings because this has been the activity that resonated most with the public.

The project gained recognition as a public venue to host events and teach local Metis members and others about seeds planting, growing food, perennial plants and medicinal plants, which all are welcomed as gifts from the land, Mother Earth. These enhanced activities allowed the Council to hire their first volunteer, a high school co-op student, who gained knowledge and skills during her contract term and assisted the Council in carrying out the project activities smoothly. A second high school co-op student and a first-year university have also joined the program volunteers’ team in the summer. The partner assessed the project success by stating “... (it) has been a beautiful project for building relationships and allowed us to have help to enhance our work and reach out to more communities eager to learn about Indigenous teachings... It helps bring people to the area and it has helped cottagers feel more called to stewardship and understanding the local Native landscape”.

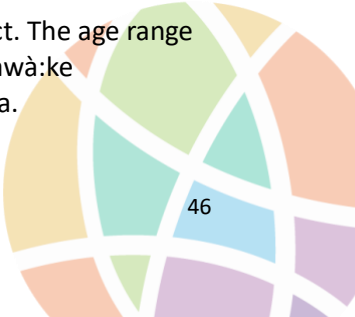
Partner Name:	Kanien’kehá:ka Onkwawén:na Raotitióhkwa Language and Cultural Center (KORLCC)		
Project Name:	Kahnawake Capacity Development for Future Generations and Community Wellbeing Project		
Location:	Quebec		
Total Project Budget:	\$15,000		
Start Date:	January 2, 2022	End Date:	December 31, 2022

This project responds to the Kahnawake Mohawk community need for local talent to be available at the opening of the proposed new Cultural Village, which will host the new facilities for KORLCC, as well as the Community Theatre and the Community Museum. The project aims to ensure local talent will have access to capacity development in cultural interpretation, museum curation, play writing and as Indigenous knowledge keepers.

Participants are students from the KORLCC Mohawk language Kanien’kéha Ratiwennahnírats Adult Immersion Program. The facilitator of the project programming is a past KORLCC immersion program graduate with a specialization in skills taught. Because this project implementation is done in their Ancestral Mohawk Ways, KORLCC has compiled a long list of resources that the participants can tap into for activities and curriculum development. KORLCC’s key strategy in implementing the project is involving/engaging local facilitators with experience on the necessary skills required to be developed by others, and who have a high language proficiency. In addition to these activities, the program includes land-based learning of survival skills, hunting, medicines and tree identification, and skills such as beading, traditional singing, wood carving, and silver smithing that are all taught in Onkwewonwehnéha language immersion. Elders’ involvement ensures proper validation and assessment of the Mohawk learning, expertise and proficiency through onsite visits for exposure and to certify the qualifications for trainees’ graduation and hiring for new jobs in the community that is committed to preserve and speak the language always.



Two Kanien’kéha Ratiwennahnírats cohorts, totaling 22 students participated in the 2022 project. The age range of the students is between 18 and 65 years old, they are all Indigenous and 99% are from Kahnawà:ke community. The remaining 1% are from sister Mohawk communities Akwesasne and Tyendinaga.



Humanitarian Assistance and Emergency Response Projects Funded by PWRDF

Africa

Partner Name:	Lutheran World Federation (LWF) Ethiopia/ACT Alliance		
Project Name:	Northern Ethiopia Crisis		
Location:	Tigray region, Ethiopia		
Total Project Budget:	\$90,000		
Start Date:	February 2022	End Date:	February 2024

The Tigray conflict, in Northern Ethiopia, began in November 2020 and later spilled over to the neighbouring Amhara and Safar regions. It is estimated that over 3 million people were displaced, with a majority (approximately 2 million) in the Tigray region. The conflict ended on November 2, 2022 with the signing of a peace deal, which lifted the blockade on essential humanitarian supplies. Since then, humanitarian access has gradually improved allowing partners to reach more people. The resumption of essential services has also continued and is expanding in geographic coverage and scope across Tigray. Telecommunication services have resumed in nearly all towns and are pending in some border towns and areas. Banks resumed services in major towns as of February 7, 2023. Moreover, the price of consumer supplies is stabilizing, as commercial trucks continue to access the region.

Despite the cessation of violence, the humanitarian situation in the region remains critical: More than 90% of the Tigray population depend on food assistance, health facilities have been damaged, 75% of water infrastructure is rendered non-functional, livelihoods are disrupted and there have been three years of disruption to education. The PWRDF grant was pooled with the financial resources from other ACT Alliance members, which collectively supported the following activities:



- Repair motorized pumps and generators: a new borehole in Seba Kare Internally Displaced Persons (IDP) Camp was equipped with a new submersible pump, a new power source (transformer) was installed and a generator/guard house constructed. The borehole is complete and functional. It is serving 10,560 (5,438F/5,122M) IDPs and 2,991 (1,555F/1,436M) host community members.
- Rehabilitation/construction of pipelines: completion of a new pipeline for the Seba Kare IDP Camp that transports water from the new borehole to the water storage tank. Another pipeline for the host community was also constructed. It is part of the water system described above.
- Child friendly space establish, equipped and functioning: a Child Friendly Space (CFS) was established in 2021 in Mai Weyni IDP site and has been running since. Activities in the CFS include a feeding program, indoor and outdoor games, life skills and basic literacy activities. CFS is currently supporting 883 children (440F/443M). Following the delay caused by the conflict, this activity is not yet complete. Purchasing some items is still ongoing.

Partner Name:	Church World Service (CWS) Kenya/Canadian Foodgrains Bank (CFGB)		
Project Name:	Food Assistance to Drought Affected People, Tana River Sub County		
Location:	Tana River Sub County, Tana River County, Kenya		
Total Project Budget:	\$745,491		
Start Date:	December 2021	End Date:	May 2022

CWS Kenya responded to the drought emergency with food assistance to 3,000 households (1,800 female headed households and 1,200 male-headed households representing 15,000 people). These households represent the most food insecure among the affected communities in Tana River Sub County. This included pregnant and lactating women, persons with disabilities (PWDs), elderly people, households with children under 5 years and others severely affected by drought and with limited livelihood options.

CWS coordinated with the Kenyan National Drought Management Authority, World Food Programme County Commissioner's Office and County Government of Tana River to provide four months of in-kind food rations to the most vulnerable and food insecure. The rations consisted of 50 kg of maize flour, 10 kg of beans, 3 litres of oil, and 1 kg of salt per household per month. The project was funded by the PWRDF equity at the Canadian Foodgrains Bank, which was matched at 4:1 ratio by the core grant from Global Affairs Canada.

Partner Name:	Church World Service (CWS) Kenya/Canadian Foodgrains Bank (CFGB)		
Project Name:	Food Assistance to Drought Affected People in Laisamis Sub County, Marsabit County		
Location:	Laisamis, Loglogo and Korr/Ngurunit wards, Laisamis Sub-County, Kenya		
Total Project Budget:	\$1,242,360		
Start Date:	July 2022	End Date:	November 2022

The prolonged drought, political and economic instability, effects of the COVID-19 pandemic and the damage caused by a desert locust infestation intensified and exposed the vulnerability of the communities in the Arid and Semi-Arid Lands region in Kenya. In partnership with local and international actors, CWS has been actively implementing initiatives to support the most vulnerable community members against the drought. CWS distributed food baskets to 4,000 households (26,456 individuals) for four months in 2 wards in Laisamis Sub-County, Marsabit County in a bid to save lives. A total of 800 MT of maize flour, 112 MT of beans, 48 MT of cooking oil and 8 MT of salt were distributed.



Community Meeting before food distribution. Photo credit: CWS

Based on the needs, amongst the drought affected communities in the area, 4,000 extremely vulnerable households who have been left behind through gaps in mobilization of assistance support were selected as per below with agreed upon selection criteria:

- Female headed households who lost their food supply or resources for the coming months due to the current drought crisis
- Vulnerable expectant and lactating women and girls
- Vulnerable households with children under five years

- The elderly without means of support and are experiencing extreme food insecurity
- PWDs without means of support and are experiencing extreme food insecurity
- Poor families having additional, non-earning family members including adopted orphans,
- Separated, unemployed minority families
- Severely affected households due to the current crisis with no food supply or resources for the coming months

Partner Name:	Church World Service (CWS) Kenya/Canadian Foodgrains Bank (CFGB)	
Project Name:	Marsabit County Drought Response Initiative	
Location:	Marsabit County, Kenya	
Total Project Budget:	\$510,000	
Start Date:	March 2023	End Date: June 2023

CWS is implementing a food assistance project in Maikona and Korr/Ngurunit wards in Marsabit County, Kenya. Close to 90% of the population in Marsabit County has been affected by drought. Livelihoods have been devastated, including high numbers of camel deaths which are typically very resilient to drought. An unprecedented fifth consecutive rainfall failure and warmer than usual temperatures have accelerated the depletion of rangeland and water resources.

Household food needs are not being met. With limited food availability, market disruptions and loss of livelihoods, the hunger situation is expected to increase. Marsabit county has been designated as Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) Acute Food Insecurity 4 (Emergency) since October 2022. Nationally, over 5.5 million people are in need of humanitarian assistance. As a continuation of the previous two food projects in Marsabit, CWS will provide a further three months of food basket transfers to 2,000 households (12,000 individuals). The monthly household food basket will consist of 50 kg of maize meal, 10 kg of beans, 3 litres of cooking oil and 0.5 kg of iodized salt. In addition, households with pregnant and lactating women and/or elderly persons who are extremely affected by the drought (approximately 50% or 1,000 households) will also receive a monthly ration of 5 kg of corn soya blend (CSB). A total of 300 MT of maize meal, 60 MT of beans, 18,000 litres of oil, 3 MT of salt, and 15 MT of CSB will be provided over the three-month project, with a total budget of \$510,000 (with 1:1 match from CFGB's General Account). Presbyterian World Service & Development and the United Church of Canada have provided equity support to this project at \$50,000 and \$80,000 respectively.

Partner Name:	Church World Service (CWS) Kenya	
Project Name:	Marsabit County Food Assistance	
Location:	Turbi and Maikona Wards of North Horr Sub County, Marsabit, Kenya	
Total Project Budget:	\$1,412,844	
Start Date:	September 2022	End Date: January 2023



*Food Distribution Exercise in Kalacha, North Horr.
Photo credit: CWS*

Marsabit is one of the worst affected counties impacted by the drought in the Horn of Africa with over 90% of the population becoming food insecure. This project was part of the Humanitarian Coalition Hunger Appeal.

Sixty-three advisory committee members were identified from the nine distribution centres spread across Turbi and Maikona Wards of North Horr Sub County to facilitate the identification of vulnerable households to participate, distribute food items, and manage the complaints and feedback mechanism. CWS undertook and successfully completed the food distribution for 4,000 households

(22,441 individuals) drought affected households. Distribution occurred every month for four months (late September 2022 to mid January 2023).

Monthly food rations per household were comprised of 50kg of maize flour, 10kg of beans, 3 litres of cooking oil, and 0.5kg of salt. An additional 5kg of CSB was provided to pregnant and lactating women and those with children under 5 years supporting 1,764 households.

The food commodities distributed to these communities had been lifesaving and the testimonies from the elders showed that many lives would have been lost. During the last distribution sessions, elders showed their gratitude on behalf of the participants and pleaded for more support since there was no hope of rain.

Partner Name:	EHALE Associação de Saúde (Health Association)	
Project Name:	Cyclone Gombe Recovery	
Location:	Meconta, Moringual and Larde districts, Mozambique	
Total Project Budget:	\$80,000	
Start Date:	April 2022	End Date: September 2022

Tropical Cyclone Gombe hit Mozambique as a Category 3 cyclone with heavy rains (200mm within 24 hours) and strong winds (150 to 185km/h). The cyclone affected Nampula and Zambezia provinces, and to a lesser extent Sofala, Beira, Tete and Niassa provinces causing death, destruction and displacement. It also impacted the health centres where EHALE had installed solar suitcases with PWRDF's support. This project repaired three completely damaged health centres with maternity wards in Meconta, Moringual and Larde districts. These health centres became fully operational and community members, including women of reproductive age, pregnant women and young children resumed accessing their services.

Partner Name:	Finn Church Aid South Sudan/Canadian Foodgrains Bank (CFGB)	
Project Name:	Food Assistance for Crisis-Affected People of Fangak, South Sudan	
Location:	Fangak, South Sudan	
Total Project Budget:	\$1,396,803	
Start Date:	October 2022	End Date: November 2023

The Canadian Foodgrains Bank received \$14 million from the Government of Canada to respond to the deepening food crisis in the Horn of Africa where communities face the threat of starvation due to droughts and conflicts. This grant is being used to implement projects through 11 organizations based in four countries (Ethiopia, South Sudan, Kenya and Somalia) who are partners with five CFGB members.

As a part of this initiative, PWRDF is supporting Finn Church Aid with a 13-month food assistance project in Fangak County, South Sudan. Fangak is experiencing high levels of acute food insecurity due to flooding, conflict and displacement. In response, this project is currently providing 11 months of cash transfers for food (\$112 USD per household per month) for 640 most vulnerable households (3,840 people). Six Project Advisory Committees comprising community mobilizers, representatives of women's groups, village chiefs and elders, and other local representatives have been at the center of this project from designing, implementing and monitoring the project activities.

Partner Name:	Finn Church Aid South Sudan/Canadian Foodgrains Bank (CFGB)	
Project Name:	Improving Food Security and Livelihoods of Crisis-Affected People in Yei County [Humanitarian, Early Recovery and Development (HERD) Program]	
Location:	Yei River County, South Sudan	
Total Project Budget:	\$1,261,151	
Start Date:	April 2021	End Date: December 2023

Yei County, located in southwest South Sudan bordering Uganda and the Democratic Republic of Congo, is approximately 170 km from the capital Juba. Historically, Yei county has been a food producing area supplying food to Juba and other parts of the country. The outbreak of conflict characterized by violence, road ambushes, abductions, looting and harassment has greatly interrupted farming and other livelihood activities. As heightened violence spread to several villages, many communities are forced to flee. The people who remained turned to new coping strategies such as increased wild food consumption and increased the selling of bush products such as charcoal, raw honey and bush meat. Out of hardship, many young men have joined different armed groups.

Recently, the improving security situation in Yei has led to the spontaneous returning of households to the area from Uganda and the Democratic Republic of Congo. A total of 1,000 returnee households were provided with cash assistance so that they could purchase food and other basic items. These households also received agricultural tools, vegetable seeds and cereal seeds, along with 2,000 other households who are hosting the internally displaced households in five Payams (administrative units) within Yei River County. Thus, the agricultural intervention reached 3,000 households. Community mobilizers and 10 agriculture extension workers offered training and extension services for these farmers who are grouped under the leadership of lead farmers. A total of 180 technical and vocational training graduates have started small businesses in groups. To promote resiliency, the concept of conservation agriculture (CA) and village savings and loan associations (VSLAs) have been introduced. Community mobilizers, extension workers and lead farmers have already participated in trainings on CA and VSLAs.

Partner Name:	Finn Church Aid South Sudan	
Project Name:	Recovery for Returnees and Host Communities	
Location:	Yei County, South Sudan	
Total Project Budget:	\$100,000	
Start Date:	March 2022	End Date: October 2022

This project was funded for a second year by Ptarmigan Charitable Foundation complementing the Humanitarian, Early Recovery and Development (HERD) program being implemented by Finn Church Aid in Yei. Humanitarian needs in Yei River County have continued to grow, partly due to the recurring clashes between armed groups and government forces, and the growing number of spontaneous returnees from Uganda and the Democratic Republic of Congo. Most of these populations face challenges reintegrating into the community. Among the returnees and IDPs, women, girls, older people and PWDs face even harsher difficulties, such as discrimination and violence. Because of the growing number of returnees and IDPs, host community households continue to face challenges associated with hosting extra numbers, which is contributing to depleting their purchasing power for food, farming inputs and other essential items.



Returnee and host farmers cultivate tomatoes. Photo credit: Finn Church Aid

This project focused on new participants (returnees and host community) in Tore payam, where humanitarian needs are acute, with the following objectives to improve agricultural livelihoods:

- Early recovery of 500 returnee households through provision of fast maturing vegetable seeds, training and tools for irrigation and accompaniment
- Recovery of 2,000 households (the above 500 returnees and 1,500 host community households) through provision of cereal crop seeds, agricultural tools, training and accompaniment

During the implementation of the previous project, Tore payam was inaccessible due to the presence of non-signatory armed groups in the area and continued clashes between the armed groups and government forces. Finn Church Aid coordinated with the United Nations (UN) and government to secure security clearance to access Tore payam.

Partner Name:	Church World Service (CWS) Tanzania/Canadian Foodgrains Bank (CFGB)	
Project Name:	Vegetable Production in Nyarugushu Refugee Camp	
Location:	Nyarugushu camp, Kigoma region, Tanzania	
Total Project Budget:	\$523,170	
Start Date:	May 2021	End Date: April 2024

Refugees living in the Nyarugushu camp rely mainly on the World Food Programme (WFP) for food rations to access food. However, rations contain only staple and pulse items, and are regularly reduced due to WFP's limited resources. The availability and access to other food varieties such as vegetables, meat and fruit is further challenged due to limited financial resources. The UNHCR has emphasized that Tanzania remains one of their least funded operations and has called for an increase in donor contributions for Tanzania.



A farmer carrying amaranthus bunches harvested from a multiple seed nursery, harvested bunch are used for cooking and surplus is sold for earning money. Photo credit: CWS

A team of 10 refugee extension workers were selected and trained and they have been providing technical assistance to all the farmers, including managing the five multiple seedling nursery production centres in close collaboration with the lead farmers and project staff. This approach has shown remarkable impact in the community, especially in ensuring the extension services are easily accessed and they reach out to the project participants on time even during the COVID-19 pandemic. This also increased local expertise in the community as capacity building trainings enable the refugee community to gain important and practical skills. Fifty extension workers and lead farmers participated in training of trainers. They in turn reach out to 510 other target households within the refugee camp. These 510 households have also received trainings on nutrition, gender equality and various aspects of sustainable vegetable production techniques including composting and seed preservation. More than 8,000 tree seedlings, including fruit trees and other multipurpose species, have been grown in the nurseries and were planted by the refugee households in their homesteads as well as on the community land in the camp.

Partner Name:	Rape Hurts Foundation (RHF)	
Project Name:	Survivors of Gender Based Violence	
Location:	Jinja, eastern Uganda	
Total Project Budget:	\$25,000	
Start Date:	March 2023	End Date: June 2023

Founded in 2008 as a community-based organization, RHF is a non-profit NGO working with marginalized groups of people, especially rural women and children in Uganda who have been victims of rape and sexual violence. RHF is partnering with other organisations and individuals in Uganda and neighbouring countries with complementary missions. This project is supporting 50 survivors of GBV with medical treatment, safe relocation and livelihoods support.

Asia

Partner Name:	Policy Research for Development Alternatives (UBINIG)	
Project Name:	Local Research on Climate Change Adaptation	
Location:	Sirajganj and Chakaria, Bangladesh	
Total Project Budget:	\$15,000	
Start Date:	July 2022	End Date: March 2023

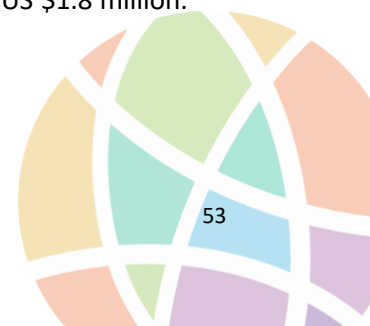
A mangrove nursery was established on 10 plots of land on the banks of the Matamuhuri river with the participation of school students in collaboration with the respective communities. The nursery area was protected by raising soil on four sides and fenced by bamboo sticks and nets to protect it from livestock. Twenty-five students were involved in developing the mangrove nursery and mangrove plantation. The project added a 3 km mangrove plantation to a 5 km mangrove forest that was established in the previous years, bringing the total length under mangrove regeneration to 8 km. The total number of people protected by and benefiting from the mangroves is 11,000 households.

The indigenous knowledge of bamboo binding (chatka) is a low-cost innovation for saving land and people from river erosion and natural calamities. The farmers and the youth of Sonatoni village constructed two segments of chatka. The site for construction on the bank of Jamuna river was selected by the community. There was an accretion of about 90 acres of land along the banks of the river. The chatka also saved 97 households from river erosion. On newly accumulated sandy lands, the farmers transplanted Korcha grass for soil formation, which will then be used for crop cultivation (groundnuts, black gram and millet) in the following years.

Tree plantations were carried out in Tangail, Sirajghonj, Pabna and Kushtia areas by mobilizing youth. Five hundred seedlings of indigenous fruit varieties were distributed to 450 youth members from 24 villages.

Partner Name:	Lutheran World Federation (LWF) Iraq/ACT Alliance	
Project Name:	Building Resilience in Iraq	
Location:	Nineveh province and Anbar province, Iraq	
Total Project Budget:	\$90,000	
Start Date:	April 2022	End Date: December 2022

PWRDF contributed to the ACT appeal “Building Resilience for IDPs, Refugees, Returnees and Host Communities Affected by the Conflict in Iraq” implemented by LWF Iraq for a total pooled appeal funding of US \$1.8 million.



Through the rehabilitation of water sources and networks, 10,237 IDPs in Dawodiya and Shekhan camps gained reliable access adequate amounts of safe water. Safe sanitation facilities, including solid waste management were provided in both camps along with care and maintenance services for the water and sewage systems.

The Women Friendly Space (WFS) in Shekhan camp provided women, men, boys and girls living in the camp, particularly those who experienced trauma due to the conflict, with access to critical psychosocial support and awareness services. This included regular awareness sessions for 1,433 individuals on GBV, child protection and related issues. Psychosocial support was also provided for groups of 20 women and girls through recreational activities to improve their sense of belonging and overall wellbeing. Professional case management was provided to survivors of GBV survivors who needed advanced care.

Another WFS in Ramadi center in Anbar opened for six months to provide women-headed households and survivors of GBV with protection services, awareness raising and psychosocial support. These services included awareness raising on GBV, child marriage, legal issues, structured psychosocial support and life skills sessions, and case management and referrals, along with advocacy campaigns. The services supported 494 women and girls and improved their psychosocial wellbeing.

LWF Iraq worked with local organisations, Sheyaw Organization and Ankawa Humanitarian Committee (AHC), to support two projects related to PWD inclusion and climate change respectively. With Sheyaw, the project completed eight capacity building trainings with young people to engage them in organization services for PWDs and build their skills to support PWDs across different governorates in Iraq (Duhok, Ninewa, Suleimani, Baghdad and Karbala). With AHC, the project supported 15 vulnerable farmers to improve agriculture sustainability.

Partner Name:	Middle East Council of Churches (MECC)/ACT Alliance	
Project Name:	Syrians in Jordan	
Location:	Northern Badia, East of Amman, Jordan	
Total Project Budget:	\$90,000	
Start Date:	August 2022	End Date: December 2023

MECC assisted some of the most vulnerable Syrians living in Jordan. The organization reached 3,410 individuals with food vouchers, 1,264 individuals with hygiene vouchers and 1,563 individuals with winter clothing vouchers. Livelihood assistance is currently being designed and will be implemented in 2023.

Partner Name:	Lutheran World Federation (LWF) Nepal	
Project Name:	Socio-Economic Empowerment of Marginalized People in Surkhet District	
Location:	Surkhet district, Nepal	
Total Project Budget:	\$34,454	
Start Date:	January 2023	End Date: December 2023

The project adopts intersectional approaches to vulnerability reduction by reaching out to 2,795 individuals in Chaukune Rural Municipality. Project participants are women headed households who are Dalits, indigenous and other marginalized people living with HIV and AIDS and disabilities. LWF Nepal is partnering with local NGO Social Awareness Centre Nepal (SAC Nepal) to implement informal transformative education sessions to empower illiterate rural women, organize WASH campaigns in communities, provide entrepreneurship development and improve farming practices.

Women's self-help groups that include single and HIV infected women have been formed and they are running saving and credit activities. Organizations for People with Disabilities (DPOs) have also been formed with the representatives of people with various forms of disabilities who have been coordinating with the local governments for the implementation of sensitization activities, advocacy on disability rights and policies. This

project will build on the foundation of recent work and accompany the women led self-help groups and DPOs. Expected outcomes include increased livelihoods diversification, local level climate change adaptation and access to rights and opportunities. This project is funded by the Manitoba Government Matching Grant Program of the Manitoba Council for International Cooperation on a 1:1 matching basis.

Partner Name:	The Episcopal Diocese of Jerusalem	
Project Name:	Ahli Arab Hospital	
Location:	Gaza Strip, Palestine	
Total Project Budget:	\$30,000	
Start Date:	January 2023	End Date: December 2023

The Gaza Strip is one of the most densely populated areas in the world with a high level of unemployment and poverty. The people of Gaza are suffering from economic collapse, movement restrictions, water shortages, long hours of electricity outages and the dramatic deterioration of livelihood options. Under such an unstable situation, the Ahli Arab Hospital operated by the Diocese of Jerusalem, serves all patients regardless of religion, gender, socioeconomic status or political affiliation. Al Ahli Arab Hospital has 80 beds in several departments including surgery, general medicine, pediatric, obstetrics and gynecology, orthopedics, ears, nose and throat (ENT), urology and plastic surgery. Al-Ahli Hospital also provides outpatient clinical services as well as a 24-hour emergency and ambulance service. Other services provided include physical therapy rehabilitation, laboratory and radiology services.

The project aims to support 500 women and 200 men towards creating awareness about osteoporosis, including early detection and treatment. At the time of writing this report, 190 vulnerable women have been diagnosed with osteoporosis and are undergoing treatment, including lifestyle and diet plans to protect bone mass, slow the progression of osteopenia, alleviate related symptoms, and prevent the development or further development of osteoporosis.

Partner Name:	Community World Service Asia (CWSA)/Canadian Foodgrains Bank (CFGB)	
Project Name:	Flood Affected Communities in Mirpur Khas district, Pakistan	
Location:	Mirpur Khas district, Sindh province, Pakistan	
Total Project Budget:	\$75,000	
Start Date:	March 2023	End Date: September 2023

The Government of Pakistan assessed that approximately 33 million people across the country were affected by the 2022 monsoon rains, floods and consequential impacts such as landslides leaving 1,739 people dead, including 647 children, and 12,867 injured. 2,288,481 houses were fully destroyed, 1,164,270 livestock animals perished and 13,115 km of roads washed away. Sindh is one of the most affected provinces in terms of human and infrastructural impacts, with 16 districts severely affected by floods and 5 districts moderately affected. Ninety districts across Pakistan have been declared “calamity hit” by the government, 24 of which are in Sindh. Mirpur Khas district is among the worst affected areas in the province.



Hafiza Bibi, a single mother of four, sits inside a tent. Hafiza is receiving assistance through the CWSA project.

PWRDF contributed \$30,000 to this project led by Presbyterian World Service & Development (PWS&D) and funded by Canadian Foodgrains Bank and Global Affairs Canada. With the objective of meeting basic food needs, this project will provide monthly cash assistance of CAD 98 (PKR. 20,000) to 3,100 selected households for a

period of three consecutive months. The project will ensure outreach to the most at risk communities that are internally displaced and/or live as the host population. This is in line with the first strategic objective of the Pakistan flood humanitarian response plan 2022 (Save lives by providing integrated services to those affected by shocks, ensuring that the needs of women, girls, elderly people, PWDs and other vulnerable groups are addressed).

Partner Name:	Community World Service Asia (CWSA)/Canadian Foodgrains Bank (CFGB)	
Project Name:	Food Assistance for Flood Affected Communities in Khairpur	
Location:	Khairpur district, Sindh province, Pakistan	
Total Project Budget:	\$30,000	
Start Date:	October 2022	End Date: May 2023

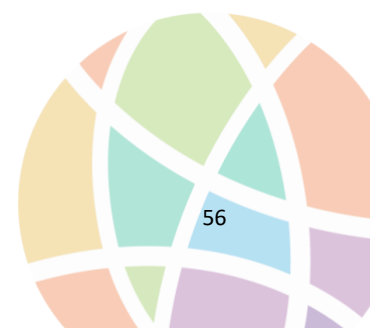
CWSA is providing emergency cash for food assistance to 6,625 households in some climatically vulnerable villages in Khairpur district in Sindh province. PWRDF contributed \$30,000 to this project led by Presbyterian World Service & Development (PWS&D) and funded by Canadian Foodgrains Bank and the Humanitarian Coalition. With a budget of \$2,250,000, this project will provide approximately \$72 per household per month for four months to enable the most vulnerable flood affected households to purchase basic food items from local markets. CWSA has ensured that women, elderly people and PWDs are prioritized. They are supported by CWSA social mobilizers and community focal persons in the process of receiving cash and utilizing the cash to purchase food and other items.

Partner Name:	DOR Development Organization	
Project Name:	Flood Relief in Pakistan	
Location:	Punjab province, Pakistan	
Total Project Budget:	\$20,000	
Start Date:	August 2022	End Date: December 2022



During the 2022 monsoon, Pakistan experienced unprecedented rains and devastating floods that caused the deaths of more than 1,700 people and affected the lives of over 33 million others across the country. The Church of Pakistan provided relief assistance to 500 households in five villages of Fazilpur area in Rajanpur district, Punjab province with food, water, tents and tarpaulins for temporary shelter, hygiene kits and awareness services, and jerry cans. The target households included PWDs, orphans and separated children. The PWRDF relief grant was combined with support from Episcopal Relief and

Development in the U.S., Anglican Board of Mission in Australia and U.K.-based United Society Partners in the Gospel. The total contributions were approximately \$66,000 CAD.



Partner Name:	Cordillera Disaster Response and Development Services (CorDisRDS) Inc.	
Project Name:	Water System in Western Ballayangon	
Location:	Barangay Ballayangon, Kalinga province, Philippines	
Total Project Budget:	\$22,715	
Start Date:	January 2023	End Date: June 2023

On July 27, 2022, a 7.0 magnitude earthquake struck the mountainous province of Abra triggering landslides, collapsing structures and flash floods. Cordillera Disaster Response & Development Services (CorDisRDS), Inc., a longstanding PWRDF partner, provided relief to the affected communities through funding from the Canadian Funds for Local Initiative of the Canadian Embassy in Manila and other sources. CorDisRDS requested support from PWRDF for the rehabilitation of a village water system.

CorDisRDS conducted a damage, needs and capacities assessment in the communities of Aguimitan and Pugo of Barangay Ballayangon. The results revealed that the water system in villagers rice fields had been damaged, two houses were totally covered by mudslides, an old water system tank was damaged and the hose and pipes were carried away by the flash flood. The project grant was combined with local contributions to support a cluster of 4 sitios (hamlets) in the western part of Ballayangon with 107 households. The objective is to restore the water system to provide a safe potable water source for 107 households. Aside from the households, an elementary school and a day care centre will also directly benefit from the water system. Adequate water can also improve sanitation and hygiene for communities and water availability for livestock. Bangowan Farmers' Association and the local government representatives have formed user groups to implement the project and ensure sustainable management of the water system.

Partner Name:	Diocese of Jerusalem	
Project Name:	Syria Earthquake Response	
Location:	Northern Syria	
Total Project Budget:	\$5,000	
Start Date:	February 2023	End Date: March 2023



Early in the morning on February 6, a devastating earthquake measuring 7.8 on the Richter Scale struck the region of southern Turkey and northern Syria. The reports from northern Syria (a region that falls within the Diocese of Jerusalem) were especially dire. Because the territory is largely inhabited by refugees fleeing an 11-year civil war, the situation there is literally “an emergency within an emergency,” as one locally impacted survivor put it. The war has made it particularly difficult for relief to reach those who need it most.

The Diocese approached friends and supporters to respond with relief efforts and PWRDF's rapid response enabled Diocese staff to provide urgently needed food parcels to 74 families living in northern Syria. UN agencies have a concrete system for mapping and coordinating all interventions by all actors to ensure that all areas are covered and no duplication or overlapping occurs. With this information, the Diocese distributed food parcels to affected families that had not been covered by other interventions. This was one of the advantages for using UN agencies to distribute directly to the families in Syria.

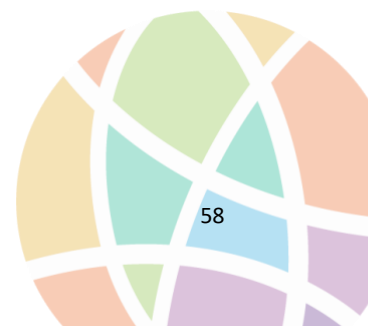
Localized and People-centred Response

A people centered response and linking relief with resiliency continue to remain the key aspects of PWRDF's humanitarian response programming. Below are some examples from our partners:

Church World Service Kenya implemented four food assistance projects in response to extreme hunger caused by persistent droughts and other crises such as local conflicts and excessive spikes in food costs. The community based advisory committees were at the heart of the project design, implementation and monitoring. These advisory committees played the key roles in identifying the most food insecure households, handling complaints, managing distributions effectively and efficiently, and carrying out post-distribution monitoring visits.

In South Sudan, Finn Church Aid's field office in Yei maintains a good working relationship with the County Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Environment. Ten Extension Workers from the department attend ongoing training on various aspects of agriculture extension services. In turn, these extension workers reach out to the lead farmers and members of their groups to work together on improved agricultural production techniques, leadership, group dynamics and market linkages. These Extension Workers come from within the county and most of them are also already engaged in farming in their communities.

In Nyarugushu refugee camp, Tanzania, the extension workers are part of the refugee community who have prior experience in the sector. CWS provides further training for these extension workers who then train the lead farmers in the camp. These lead farmers are selected by their group members, each group comprises roughly 20 farmers. Some of the lead farmers have started preserving indigenous vegetable seeds for future usage.



Canada

Partner Name:	Diocese of Rupert's Land	
Project Name:	Relief to Flood Affected People from Peguis First Nation	
Location:	Winnipeg	
Total Project Budget:	\$5,000	
Start Date:	May 2022	End Date: December 2022



In the spring of 2022, Peguis First Nation was impacted by rising flood waters. More than 2,000 community members were evacuated and provided with accommodation in hotels in surrounding cities including Winnipeg, Selkirk and Gimli. As of February 2023, 800 people had not been able to return home, with more than half of them still living in hotels.

While the Red Cross was coordinating housing and providing meals to the evacuated residents, there were additional needs identified by the community. The main concerns that the flood response team identified were diabetic and healthier snack options and activities were needed for children and efforts to rebuild a sense of community because community members were spread out and living in many different hotels.

The first immediate need identified was providing specialized food for diabetic and pre-diabetic people. The next priority was to create Activity Buckets for children at each hotel where the evacuees were taking up residence. While some of the games were bought at big box stores, the partner developed a relationship with the local game shop Game Knight and provided a 20% discount when they learned about the project. In the end, 18 Activity Buckets were donated and dispersed to the different hotels. Each bucket had 10 or more items that included games and puzzles for all skill levels.

Partner Name:	Diocese of Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island	
Project Name:	Hurricane Fiona Resilience Response Project	
Location:	Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island	
Total Project Budget:	\$50,000	
Start Date:	January 16, 2023	End Date: December, 2023

Hurricane Fiona devastated huge parts of Atlantic Canada on September 24, 2022. The Insurance Bureau of Canada estimated damages of at least \$800 million. Trees fell, infrastructure suffered, homes and cottages were swept away in the ensuing torrential waters. There impact was felt across all three Maritime provinces - Nova Scotia, PEI and New Brunswick - as well as Newfoundland and Labrador and the Magdalen Islands (Quebec). In the weeks and months following Fiona's landfall, PWRDF followed up with volunteers, churches and community members to learn the extent of the damages and impacts to communities. While acknowledging larger funds were committed by the government in the aftermath of the hurricane, PWRDF issued a funding appeal.

In conversation with the Diocese of Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island, a Hurricane Fiona Resiliency and Response Advisory Committee was established to suggest ways forward that could make good use of funds raised to leverage and not duplicate funds and efforts from others.

A process was established by the Diocese to solicit projects that would respond to identified needs and support mid to longer term planning, preparedness and awareness given the likelihood there will be future hurricanes and other severe weather and climate events in the region. Key to the process was how initiatives funded by the Diocese could promote collaboration and resilience and strengthen capacities for parishes and communities to respond as effectively as possible to subsequent emergency events.

By the end of March 2023, the Diocese has offered financial assistance to several parishes including installing back up generators, ensuring provisions for warming centres and enabling a one-year after space for community conversations by which to provide 1) a safe space for individuals to share their feelings about the climate crisis and climate emergencies and 2) build both individual and neighbourhood capacity and resilience to deal with future climate emergencies.

Other opportunities for training and climate change preparedness are being considered by the Diocese of Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island and with other Dioceses in the region where impacts from Hurricane Fiona continue to be felt.

Partner Name:	St. Olave's Anglican Church		
Project Name:	Relief for Families Displaced from Swansea Mews		
Location:	Toronto		
Total Project Budget:	\$5,000		
Start Date:	July 2022	End Date:	September 2022

Hundreds of residents were forced to leave Swansea Mews, a Toronto Community Housing Corporation complex after structural engineers found concrete ceilings in the units were at risk of collapsing. The evacuation came after one person was seriously injured when the concrete ceiling in their unit collapsed and struck them on May 27, 2022.

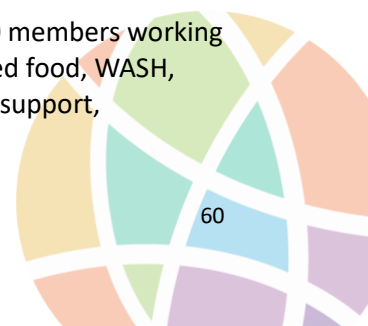
St. Olave's parishioners raised more than \$1,200 to support the preparation and delivery of 200 meals to Swansea Mews residents who had been displaced to other sites around the city. The main activities implemented as part of the PWRDF funds were determined through community consultation. \$5,000 was contributed to the \$92,000 raised by Stone Soup Network, an outreach group of the neighbouring United Church. The grant supported 104 families who had registered to receive a relief cheque from the Stone Soup Network.

Additional partner agencies in the Swansea Mews Emergency Response included Parkdale Golden Age Foundation (meals), One By One Foundation (meal delivery and community consultation) and the Toronto Anglican newspaper (sharing the story of the people from Swansea Mews).

Europe

Partner Name:	Hungarian Interchurch Aid (HIA)/ACT Alliance		
Project Name:	Relief for Ukrainian IDPs and Refugees		
Location:	Hungary and Ukraine		
Total Project Budget:	\$170,000		
Start Date:	February 2022	End Date:	March 2023

The total ACT Alliance response in Ukraine and neighbouring countries to date has included 40 members working together in partnership with local organizations. Humanitarian assistance response has included food, WASH, shelter, non-food item distribution, multipurpose cash assistance, mental health, psychosocial support,



education, legal support and protection. 28,563 Ukrainians have been supported through cash assistance worth over \$4,000,000 with the support of DanChurchAid, Christian Aid and World Vision International. Cash assistance projects run in Lviv, Ivano-Frankivsk, Kyiv, Cherkasy, Kropyvnytskyi oblasts and will be extended to Kharkiv, Ternopil, Dnipropetrovsk and Zaporizhzhia oblasts. The PWRDF grant was designated for HIA, which included \$50,000 from the Manitoba Council for International Cooperation.

Hungary

In addition to setting up its response in Ukraine, HIA responded to the thousands of refugees arriving in Hungary. Two Refugee Support Points were established in Barabás (Hungary) and Asztély (Ukraine), providing links to safe transport and food for those arriving from conflict-affected communities. A refugee transit hub was established in Budapest, operated in cooperation with five other charitable organizations. Here refugees arriving by train receive food, drinks, help in traveling further, and can also apply for accommodation, other services and register with the authorities if they plan to stay in the country. HIA also established a Child Friendly Space at the Budapest Airport providing a hub for displaced families to access information and basic goods as needed.



Refugee Support Point in Barabás, Hungary. Photo credit: HIA

HIA established its Support Centre for Ukrainian Refugees in Budapest to provide information, organize various community events and courses as well as to distribute in-kind donations. The Support Centre aims to cover all issues refugees can face while living in Hungary. The institution employs social workers, psychologists and aid workers to give refugees looking for mental health support, legal counsel, accommodation, work, healthcare and education. In addition to these activities, HIA conducted summer camps and school projects for refugee children in the Budapest area. These camps focused on activities aimed at reducing sociocultural differences. Recreational, sports and adventure programs were key elements of the activities, focusing on talent development, playfully teaching the Hungarian language, community building and skills development. In Debrecen, a development program for Roma and Ukrainian refugee children with multiple disadvantages was implemented for 42 children based on their project proposal. The project duration has been two to three months, after which the grant is evaluated and then renewed or discontinued.

Moldova

Partner Name:	Church World Service (CWS) Moldova	
Project Name:	Roma Community in Moldova	
Location:	Central and northern Moldova, Transnistria (officially the Pridnestrovian Moldavian Republic, an unrecognized breakaway state that is internationally recognized as a part of Moldova)	
Total Project Budget:	\$60,000	
Start Date:	October 2022	End Date: September 2023

CWS has been working in Moldova in partnership with local organizations for over 15 years focusing on sustainable livelihoods, renewable energy and addressing rural poverty. Since the Russian invasion of Ukraine,



CWS has expanded programs that continue with this approach of working alongside host communities and local organizations.

The Roma people are an ethnic minority who have experienced severe discrimination in Europe for centuries. Roma families often experience poverty and discrimination fueled by highly negative misconceptions and stereotypes, mistreatment by governments and a widespread lack of identification documents. On top of the challenges that all refugees from Ukraine face, Roma refugees must also contend with hostile and discriminatory attitudes from other Ukrainian refugees, Moldovan citizens and government officials. This makes it even harder for them to access safe housing, humanitarian support and services.

In response to these challenges, CWS has partnered with Romni (a national organization) since October 2022 to develop a team of Roma mediators to support at least 2,000 Roma refugees within central and northern Moldova and Transnistria. The six mediators assist Roma refugees in accessing services, including shelter, health care, education, food, clothing and transportation. The team collects information on the needs of the Roma refugees and refers them to local authorities, civil society organizations and other service providers. They also support referrals by providing advocacy, transportation and service fees, and follow up with refugees to check that their needs have been adequately met. The team includes three men and three women to ensure that Romni can navigate traditional family dynamics and adequately respond to the needs of female refugees in a culturally appropriate way. By January 2023, mediators have reached over 700 Roma women, men and children.

Ukraine

In the first days of the war, the disruption of supply chains coupled with the displacement crisis resulted in huge humanitarian needs. Distribution of emergency food and WASH kits to IDPs was paramount initially in western Ukraine and subsequently expanded eastwards. HIA set up warehouses in Budapest, Berehove and Lviv to support humanitarian operations with 1,718 tons of aid purchased, transported and distributed to more than 250 community shelters throughout Ukraine. As time went on, Russian troops were forced into retreat from Kyiv, Kharkiv and Kherson regions and HIA reoriented its in-kind aid programme towards the liberated territories. With a focus on inaccessible locations, HIA has delivered aid in places where military activity is still ongoing, such as Kherson.



Delivery of essential items to one of 200+ community shelters HIA helps to operate in Ukraine. Photo credit: HIA

During the winter, the country experienced a decrease in the availability of central heating and electricity, the situation was particularly dire in the areas liberated by Ukraine during its Kharkiv offensive, where returning IDPs were met with no utilities – if their houses were inhabitable at all. HIA surveyed the region and prepared a winterization action plan to protect the population from the rapidly advancing cold. Community shelters hosting displaced people were renovated in Pervomaiskyi and provided bomb shelter kits and cast iron stoves together with wooden pellets fuel to families in need around Balakliya and Izyum. HIA also implemented winterization programs in other parts of the country and supported the host communities with firewood and warm blankets throughout the winter.

Due to the frequent blackouts and power cuts, procuring and distributing electric generators also became a priority. These allowed the network of HIA-supported Ukrainian NGOs to continue their humanitarian work

throughout the country and contributed to the resumption of utilities in and around Kherson. HIA distributed 250 stoves in Kharkiv region as well as generators with the assistance of its local implementing partner.

In order to provide a community-based response, HIA has distributed Flexible Small Grants up to \$10,000 to community-based organizations. After an initial two to three months, the grant was evaluated and then renewed or discontinued. In 2022, 62 beneficiary organizations were supported through the program, reaching 94,194 people. With support from the Hungarian Government, two new kindergartens were constructed and opened in the village of Zagaltsy, and the city centre of Beregovo for 90 and 45 children respectively. To support the online education and tutoring for Ukrainian children, the office procured 350 laptops for schools in Zaporizhzhia, Lviv, Ivano-Frankivsk and Zakarpattia regions. Negotiations on building bomb shelters for education facilities following Ukrainian regulations are in progress with local authorities.

HIA has started a new project which aims to provide principled and lifesaving multisectoral assistance to people affected by the war with specific response of the newly liberated areas. HIA also provided medical supplies to four healthcare facilities in the Kyiv region in accordance with a memorandum that had been concluded with the Kyiv regional administration.

Partner Name:	Initiative E+	
Project Name:	Vehicles of Emergency Evacuation	
Location:	Ukraine	
Total Project Budget:	\$82,000	
Start Date:	November 2022	End Date: January 2023

This Kyiv-based organization was established in 2014 to help medics and first responders provide relief to families impacted by the 2014 Russian invasion and annexation of Crimea. As a result of the new stage of the Russian aggression beginning in February 2022, Ukraine has faced a critical lack of four-wheel drive vehicles for the medical evacuation of the injured in off-road conditions. As a result of the project, six vehicles were purchased, serviced and transferred to the frontlines of the conflict. These vehicles give the injured a chance to survive as lives depend on the speed of transportation to medical care.

The vehicles were given to frontline medics working in the war zone regions of Kharkiv, Luhansk, Donetsk, Zaporizhzhia and Kherson to provide assistance to both the military and civilians. More than 100 lives have been saved thanks to the project.

Initiative E+ cooperates closely with the State Service for Emergency Situations, the emergency service of the Ministry of Health and the Command of the Medical Forces of Ukraine. They developed these working relationships over the past years while providing medical equipment to hospitals and vehicles for medical evacuation.



Initiative E+ medics providing medical assistance. Photo credit: Initiative E+

Partner Name:	Dzherelo Children's Rehabilitation Centre	
Project Name:	Children's Rehabilitation Centre	
Location:	Lviv, Ukraine	
Total Project Budget:	\$71,700	
Start Date:	June 2022	End Date: November 2022

Dzherelo Centre, a member of the European Association of Service providers for Persons with Disabilities, provides family-centred, educational and rehabilitation services for children and youth with disabilities in Ukraine. Services include day programs and rehabilitation sessions, which are provided by a highly qualified, interdisciplinary team of specialists, in cooperation with parents.

As the Russian invasion of the country persists, the Dzherelo Centre continues to offer rehabilitation and social daycare services for children and young people with severe disabilities in Lviv. The project supported the procurement and instillation of two environmentally friendly electric boilers to replace the aging gas boilers, which were inefficient and costly to run as the price of gas continued to rise and supply was limited. Along with the electric boilers, a voltage regulator to provide a stable electricity supply and help eliminate the risk of burnout during voltage fluctuations and a diesel generator as a back-up power supply at the centre were procured and installed.



Dzherelo Centre operating during evening hours

Partner Name:	Free Ukraine	
Project Name:	Ambulances for Ukraine	
Location:	Ukraine	
Total Project Budget:	\$50,000	
Start Date:	June 2022	End Date: August 2022

Free Ukraine was founded in 2014 and is based in Geneva, Switzerland. It is a non-profit organization that brings together members of the Ukrainian diaspora and people of other nationalities who want to support Ukraine. Since the Russian invasion in February 2022, Free Ukraine initiated an ambitious project to donate 100 first aid medical ambulances to the central, eastern and southern parts of the country. PWRDF's financial contribution helped Free Ukraine to purchase two well equipped ambulances, including shipping and initial fuel costs. These ambulances were received by another PWRDF partner, Initiative E+, with whom Free Ukraine had been collaborating with. Initiative E+ is working closely with the local health centres and hospitals, including first responders.

Partner Name:	Fight For Right (FFR)	
Project Name:	Ukrainians with Disabilities	
Location:	Ukraine	
Total Project Budget:	\$64,160	
Start Date:	May 2022	End Date: March 2023

Since the beginning of the Russian-Ukrainian war, FFR pivoted to launch an international initiative "Emergency Response For Ukrainians With Disabilities by Fight For Right". FFR created a hotline through which callers can



select support in the following areas: psychological support, legal advice, humanitarian aid and evacuation. In addition to operating the hotline, the project was focused on providing legal and psychological consultations including direct counseling, and seminars on the most relevant legal issues and topics on psychological stability.

At the beginning of the project, 100 psychological and 100 legal consultations were planned for every month as it was not completely clear how many calls the hotline would receive for these services. After operating the hotline for the a few months, it became clear that the number of monthly consultations could be halved. However, it also became clear that people were making similar requests for psychological or legal advice. This resulted in expanding the planned seminars with a psychologist to additional seminars with a lawyer,

which were very popular. With this model, FFR was able to extend the duration of the project to March 2023. FFR received most of the requests from the territories close to the frontlines and de-occupied territories.

There has been a greater demand for legal consultations than the psychological consultations. Most likely, this is related to social stigmas in Ukrainian society regarding seeking psychological help. Individuals operating the hotline noted many more people appear to need psychological counseling but many callers refused this support.

The results of the project during the reporting period include:

- Creation and launch of the hotline
- Development and implementation of instructions for hotline workers (operator, lawyer, psychologist)
- Approximately 50 calls to the hotline every day. The largest number of calls were made in the first days of the launch of the "TEPLO" project. At that time, the operator received approximately 120 calls a day.
- Providing approximately 100 psychological and legal consultations every month
- Providing monthly supervision for the hotline psychologist
- Supervision of psychologists for emergency case managers
- Two publications in the media about the hotline work
- Eight seminars with lawyers, social workers and a psychologist:
 - "Border crossing by persons with disabilities: webinar with a lawyer" (46 participants)
 - "Feelings of guilt and fatigue: a webinar with a psychologist" (25 participants)
 - "Save your wallet and nerves: a webinar with a doctor" (29 participants)
 - "Establishment of disability: a webinar" (31 participants)
 - "Social guarantees for people with disabilities during the war" (41 participants),
 - "From limited opportunities to human dignity: correct terminology" (37 participants)
 - "War, love, disability: how to save relationships" (19 participants)
 - "Online meditation with psychologist Victoria Chernova" (9 participants)

Partner Name:	Fight For Right (FFR)
Project Name:	TEPLO: Winterization
Location:	Donetsk, Kherson, Dnipropetrovsk, Mykolaiv, Chernihiv, Kharkiv, Sumy, Zaporizhia regions, Ukraine (focusing on peoples with disabilities)
Total Project Budget:	\$100,000
Start Date:	October 2022
End Date:	March 2023

As critical heating infrastructure has been destroyed or damaged by the war, this initiative provided support for PWDs to survive the frigid winter temperatures. Warming sets were assembled including heating convectors, thermal layers, sleeping bags, electric blankets and power banks. The FFR team organized trips to the towns close to the frontline to distribute the warming sets directly. FFR provided assistance to 6,730 PWDs and their

families. Priority was given to people with complex types of disabilities who live in rural areas and are deprived of gas supply, PWDs and the elderly living in frontline territories and families with children with disabilities. The PWRDF grant was combined with funding from other partners for a total budget of \$746,000.

Partner Name:	Voices of Children Foundation	
Project Name:	Voices of Children	
Location:	Kyiv and other regions in Ukraine	
Total Project Budget:	\$82,799	
Start Date:	June 2022	End Date: May 2023



The organization focuses on providing psychological support to children who suffer from hostilities and experience traumatic events. They offer individual and group psychological sessions, conduct art therapy classes in the frontline areas, organize the work of mobile psychologists for children in schools in the conflict affected regions. Their psychologists bring these children and their parents out of the state of shock and with the help of routine meetings, offer them psychological stability and safety. The Foundation runs six centres to provide

psychological assistance to children and their parents. However, many displaced children and their families are unable to access their services, so PWRDF funds support the implementation of mobile psychological teams. These teams of psychologists reach out to IDPs and offer services.

Latin American and the Caribbean

Partner Name:	Centro Memorial Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. (CMMLK)	
Project Name:	Contribution to Food and Medicine Assistance and Psychosocial Rehabilitation of the Most Vulnerable Families Affected by Hurricane Ian	
Location:	Pinar del Rio province, Cuba	
Total Project Budget:	\$20,000	
Start Date:	December 1, 2022	End Date: April 30, 2023

CMMLK, an organization working in Pinar del Rio province, is an organization of Christian inspiration in which Cuban people and churches contribute to the solidarity of their country and communities. Since its foundation in 1987, CMMLK has a long tradition of mobilization in emergency situations and humanitarian aid in alliance with international organizations. The organization also serves as a donation collection centre. CMMLK has gained the recognition and support of the official agencies and organizations of the Cuban government and other entities to receive, store, distribute and deliver humanitarian assistance to individuals and communities.

On September 27, 2022, Hurricane Ian tore through the Caribbean making landfall in Cuba. Hurricane Ian lashed the western provinces of Cuba for more than seven hours, causing serious damage to homes, fields, and electrical, telephone and hydraulic services, as well as other sectors. More than 100,000 homes (almost 60%) were damaged in the Pinar del Rio province. The largest number of people evacuated was concentrated in Pinar del Rio including 228 families housed in evacuation centres who could not return to their homes. PWRDF supported CMMLK to provide food, medicine and psychosocial rehabilitation for the most vulnerable families

affected by Hurricane Ian. CMMLK has institutional infrastructure and human resources and equipment, as well the support from local networks that contributed to the project.

Partner Name:	Madre Tierra (Mother Earth Women's Association)	
Project Name:	Tropical Storm Julia	
Location:	Municipality of Santo Domingo Suchitepéquez, Guatemala	
Total Project Budget:	\$25,000	
Start Date:	October 2022	End Date: February 2023

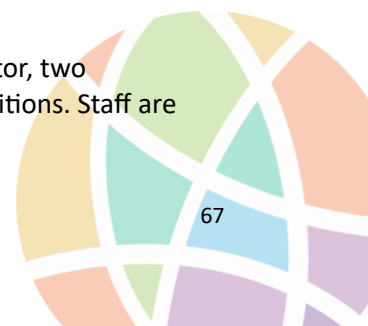
Hurricane Julia hit Guatemala in October 2022 causing death and ruining the livelihoods of many households that were already vulnerable to natural hazards such as floods. Many communities where Madre Tierra members of Madre Tierra live and work were particularly hard hit, including communities in the municipality of Santo Domingo Suchitepéquez. Food kits were provided to 160 families who were the most affected in these communities from November to January. Madre Tierra leveraged the PWRDF grant to access funding from another funding partner (Associated Fair Institution-JASS) and was able to provide food kits to an additional 40 families, and hygiene kits for all 200 families.

Partner Name:	Church World Service (CWS)/ACT Alliance	
Project Name:	Haiti Earthquake	
Location:	Pestel, Grand Anse Department, Haiti	
Total Project Budget:	\$67,670	
Start Date:	August 2021	End Date: March 2023

On August 14, 2021, a 7.2 magnitude earthquake caused extensive damage in the Nippes, South and Grande Anse departments of Haiti, areas that had already experienced major losses from 2016's Hurricane Matthew. An estimated 2,248 people lost their lives, while 137,500 houses were damaged or destroyed. The earthquake hit one month after the assassination of the country's president and during peak hurricane season. Tropical Storm Grace compounded the disaster's toll through heavy rains and mudslides. In this increasingly complex socio-economic, political and humanitarian context, CWS has been carrying out a multisectoral response in one hard-hit and isolated district, the commune of Pestel, Grand Anse Department.

Housing and cistern construction were stalled as the transportation of materials and the supplies themselves were inaccessible. Many of CWS's suppliers were temporarily forced to shut down services, and the supply chain continues to be impacted. Despite these setbacks, project engineers maintained contact with the construction workers to move what they could forward; however, as Haiti's cell towers run on fuel powered generators, these communications were spotty at best and inoperative at worst. In late October, the United Nations Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS) resumed flights, enabling two staff members to continue construction activities in Pestel with dwindling supplies. Given the challenges, CWS was not able to procure new materials for houses and cisterns until January. Furthermore, the general climate of instability made it increasingly difficult to coordinate project components with implementing partners. Consequently, CWS decided to undertake direct implementation of 15 new houses and five cisterns for families who participated in the rapid needs assessment after the earthquake. Access to water also presented a significant challenge for construction activities in the area – and continues to be a limiting factor. Water is used in many construction processes, including as a hydrating base for plaster, concrete and mortar aggregates. Rainwater catchment is the primary source of water in the area, but as most cisterns were destroyed in the earthquake, there has been limited capacity to store water. Compounding this, it has not rained since November. As a result, CWS can only implement construction activities that require no water, such preparing rebar.

The CWS response team, comprised of the CWS Haiti Country Representative, a field coordinator, two psychologists, two civil engineers and an architect, encounter extremely difficult working conditions. Staff are



dealing with stress, fear, insecurity, uncertainty, concerns about their health and their families, transportation by motorcycle or on foot, difficulties seeing their families on a regular basis, rising cholera cases, inadequate access to hospitals or health care, lack of water for drinking and showering, and limited access to nutritious food. They have been adapting constantly to the changing circumstances and feel that tension acutely.

With flexibility from funding partners, CWS revised its response to:

- Ensure staff/partner safety and wellbeing: CWS prioritized staff care by promoting time off, especially at the end of December and the beginning of January, to contribute to their wellbeing and to spend some time with their families.
- Amplify mental health components: CWS's mental health team provided trauma recovery and counselling resources and training to over 400 individuals in Pestel. This was conducted through cohort and individual sessions to the public and a specialized five-day psychosocial training for teachers. There is growing interest and intense need for this service in these targeted communities and the negative stigmas around mental health are already lessening because of it.
- Map out, and complete projects where possible: site staking of new houses and cisterns restarted in late November/early December. Because of this work, 40 houses and 15 cisterns are now under construction. Part of the new constructions are directly implemented by CWS to avoid further delays related to the lessons learned from partners.

CWS is stewarding a response in a rapidly changing landscape of need. CWS continuously reviews its response to the earthquake and adapts planning of activities as needed while making sure that programs are still in line with current priorities of affected communities. Based on ongoing needs assessments, CWS's response over the next six months will prioritize construction of houses and cisterns, distributing supplies – including school kits and medical supplies for the clinic in Pestel (hygiene promotion and education, mobile clinics and psychosocial activities).

