



Annual Report 2012



THE
LUTHERAN
WORLD
FEDERATION

A Communion
of Churches

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LWF Constitution – Article II: Nature and Function

The Lutheran World Federation is a communion of churches which confess the triune God, agree in the proclamation of the Word of God and are united in pulpit and altar fellowship.

The Lutheran World Federation confesses the one, holy, catholic, and apostolic Church and is resolved to serve Christian unity throughout the world.

The Lutheran World Federation:

- Furthers the united witness to the Gospel of Jesus Christ and strengthens the member churches in carrying out the

missionary command and in their efforts toward Christian unity worldwide;

- Furthers worldwide among member churches: diaconic action, alleviation of human need, promotion of peace and human rights, social and economic justice, care for God's creation and sharing of resources;
- Furthers through cooperative study, the self-understanding and the communion of member churches and helps them to act jointly in common tasks.



Foreword

“With passion for the church and for the world”—the theme for this Annual Report of The Lutheran World Federation (LWF)—captures in a poignant way critical aspects of our identity as a communion of churches. It speaks to our unwavering commitment to the one, holy, catholic and apostolic church. In doing so, it also documents our strong ecumenical engagement with the biblical call to become one. And it illustrates our commitment as churches around the world to journey together, supporting each other as we endeavor to witness within the various contexts in which we find ourselves. This passion for unity—in tandem with our passion for appropriate participation in God’s mission—is fundamental to our self-understanding.

Our passion for the world is ignited by God’s call for justice, peace



LWF General Secretary Rev. Martin Junge
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and reconciliation. Therefore the LWF is meant to engage the realities of the world in which people and churches find themselves to make these biblical principles real. As a communion of churches the LWF is passionate to participate in actions that allow human beings to enjoy justice, peace and reconciliation as concrete realities in their lives. This

explains our care for refugees and for people suffering in the midst of humanitarian emergencies. It explains our commitment to see all human beings exercising their fundamental rights. This sheds light on our determination to build bridges, to provide opportunities for different churches, faith groups, civil society and the United Nations to sit at tables with one another in order to work together, so that all might enjoy an abundant life.

“With passion for the church and for the world”—I trust that this report will provide readers with both insight and encouragement concerning the challenges and the achievements of the LWF, which aspires to express its vision of a communion that is graced by God to live and to work together for a just, peaceful and reconciled world.



Greeting from the President

Accompaniment, the mission theology of our global communion, shapes our relationships with one another as much as it challenges the ways we engage in mission to each other. Accompaniment recognizes that each of us stands on equal ground at the foot of the cross and calls us to bring our best gifts to share as we participate together in God's mission of reconciliation.

Our time together at the 2012 Council meeting in Bogotá, Colombia, provided many experiences of accompaniment. As member churches, we are committed to work for the unity of our global communion, knowing that we share the Gospel of Jesus Christ which unites us for wit-



LWF President Bishop Dr Muniib A. Younan
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ness and service for justice, peace and reconciliation. As a Council, we raised our voice, advocating that the United Nations (UN) increase its presence in Central America for the benefit of all citizens. As we met

in one of the world's most beautiful ecosystems, we stood with Rio+20, advocating for a Financial Transaction Tax to support societies most vulnerable to the effects of climate change.

Above all, however, we experienced in Bogotá deep hospitality from our sisters and brothers in Latin America and the Caribbean. Their warm welcome and generosity exemplified the discipline of accompaniment, as we supported one another in the joys and pains of human experience. I commend this report to you and look forward to seeing how this record will inspire us toward even greater passion for the church and for the world.

Who We Are and How We Work

The LWF is a global communion of churches. The LWF was founded by Lutheran churches meeting in 1947 in Lund, Sweden.

As of June 2013, the LWF spans 79 countries and has 142 member churches representing over 70 million Christians. The LWF works for and with Lutheran churches in pro-

claiming the gospel, serving the poor and advocating for a just, peaceful and reconciled world.

Each year, the LWF offers humanitarian assistance to over 1 million refugees irrespective of religion or belief and supports development projects and advocacy for the poor and oppressed in over 15 countries.

The LWF works with and for member churches to develop capacity to grow spiritually and fulfill their mission which includes church projects and programs in the area of education and diakonia/social service across the world. Upholding regular ecumenical dialogues and engaging in conversations with other faith groups



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is part of LWF's work as is studies and consultation series on Lutheran identity and theology in a global, multicultural society.

The LWF Communion Office is located in the Ecumenical Center in Geneva, Switzerland. This makes possible cooperation with other Christian World Communions, the World Coun-

cil of Churches, ecumenical organizations, the UN and international secular organizations.



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THE LUTHERAN WORLD FEDERATION

With Passion
for the Church
and for the

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Kim Hock LIM

The Lutheran
World Federation of
Churches

Accompaniment in Mission

The LWF understands mission as proclaiming the gospel, serving people in need (diakonia) and advocating for justice, peace and reconciliation. The LWF Department for Mission and Development (DMD) accompanies and supports member churches in their participation in God's mission. DMD particularly highlights the diaconal dimension of a faith active in love, working for the empowerment and liberation of people who are marginalized and in need.

Accompaniment means that member churches walk together in solidarity, share their gifts and resources, learn from their contextual

In 2012, DMD accompanied 42 member churches through 118 projects involving around EUR 4.2 million to respond to varying challenges and needs in their contexts. The projects addressed issues of poverty, environmental problems including climate change, HIV and AIDS, advocacy, women's empowerment, gender justice as well as evangelism and leadership development.

diversity, and are mutually responsible and accountable for their actions.

The 2012 global consultation on theological education and formation is one of the examples that illustrate well how DMD accompanies member churches and fosters communion among them.

About 50 representatives of theological faculties and church leaders met in October 2012 in Wittenberg, Germany. Participants stressed the importance of strengthening connections among Lutheran theological institutions and networks by promoting faculty exchanges and enriching seminary curricula and ecumenical engagement. Networking among Lutheran theological institutions provides opportunities for sharing experiences and resources, while allotting space to work together on questions of identity and ministerial formation. The overall aim is to strengthen theological education and formation, and to identify common agendas for the 500th an-

niversary of the Reformation in 2017 that take into consideration emerging challenges for the understanding of Lutheran identity. As a follow-up to the conference, a resource group of seven persons representing the seven LWF regions is currently engaged in a series of virtual meetings to develop guidelines for the Lutheran Theological Education Network (LUTEN).

Capacity development in member churches

Through its program for Comprehensive Capacity Development, DMD is helping member churches improve sustainability and effectiveness in governance structures and assist churches in processes of conflict resolution. DMD employs its methodological framework and works closely with member churches in the respective regions when engaging in a process to assist a given member church on governance and management issues.

Diaconal workshops

A number of workshops were held with member churches in 2012 to address issues around marginalization in different contexts, empower diaconal workers and volunteers to use models for transformation and share experiences. By offering participatory approaches, training trainers and dialoguing with communities, the workshops have promoted participation and ownership. They have also provided tools so that training sessions can be replicated locally. Diaconal actors are motivated to address the socioeconomic challenges and propose holistic responses in their respective contexts.

In 2012 workshops were held in the Evangelical Lutheran Church

in Zimbabwe, Evangelical Lutheran Church in Myanmar, Bolivian Evangelical Lutheran Church, Evangelical Lutheran Church of Colombia, and various member churches in Europe.

Promoting accessibility through translation

DMD has also accompanied member churches by supporting translation, printing and reception of the *Diakonia in Context* handbook into Bahasa, Icelandic, Kiswahili, Mandarin, Portuguese, and an executive summary into Burmese. Access to the handbook in the local languages empowers member churches to enhance their understanding and deepen their reflection on the theological aspects of diakonia in different regions and

contexts. Churches have promoted the assessment of existing diaconal practices and encouraged inclusive practices for responsible stewardship.

In addition, member churches have strengthened networking with partners like the Myanmar Council of Churches, Young Women's Christian Associations and the International Academy for Diakonia and Social Action. Churches have appreciated the importance of working with volunteers locally and internationally. The knowledge and skills that professionals and volunteers bring empower member churches to better respond to the socioeconomic challenges locally. These diaconal actors serve as a kind of "resource bank" ready to strengthen the theological reflection on diakonia.



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Working Together for Sustainability

Cross-project learning between member churches in Congo and Cameroon

Since 2012 two of LWF/DMD's longest supported programs—the Bashimbi project in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) and the Integrated Development Project (PADI) in Cameroon—have been sharing their learning through joint monitoring and evaluation visits.

DMD has been supporting the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Congo (EELCo) advocacy and diakonia work with the most marginalized, oppressed and exploited people in the DRC—the Bashimbis since the 1990s. The Bashimbis (pygmies), who are natives of the African tropical forests, mainly live off the land they inhabit. Over the years DMD

has worked alongside the Bashimbis, promoting their self-determination and helping them gain equal treatment, defend their basic human rights and live in dignity.

In Cameroon, the DMD-supported rural development project PADI has partnered with local people to reduce poverty levels in a way that ensures sustainable development. Communities have been able to reflect on the type of organizations they need, then manage and evaluate them without relying on outsiders. By collaborating with the local communities, the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Cameroon (EELC) has developed valuable expertise and capacity in this kind of ministry, which is being increasingly recognized by government departments and civil society actors.

The PADI project, which will come to an end in December 2013,

has developed important principles concerning project sustainability in rural areas by sharing knowledge about the importance of working with local people and their existing groups as agents of transformation.

The exchange between the PADI and the Bashimbi projects started with a joint evaluation in DRC and continued with a joint project monitoring visit in Cameroon. As both initiatives utilize community development tools to empower the most vulnerable people, the lessons learned from the EELC-led project on sustainability were highly valued by the Congolese church. For its part, the Bashimbi project has introduced a better accounting system into its village groups and focused more on its self-help initiatives and on strengthening community participation.

Youth

Advocates for the future

The LWF Youth activities in 2012 have empowered and trained young Lutherans to grow in knowledge, experience and self-awareness as young leaders. They strengthened youth commitment to the Lutheran communion and to the protection of creation. Their dynamic and creative impact can be seen in the member churches through meaningful networking, mentoring, advocacy and support for projects. Two key programs in 2012 focused on the care for creation.

Virtual learning: Early birds and night owls

In May 2012 the LWF held its first “green&just” virtual conference, organized by the LWF Youth desk.

The live global conference, which involved 400 participants from 52 countries, provided a learning platform for them to study ecological justice together. This was a unique event, where some participants had to get up at five in the morning while others were engaged deep into the night, as the conference crossed 24 time zones. The event illustrated how

it was possible to arrange global conferences in an eco-efficient, financially sustainable and accessible way.

A poll of participants following the virtual conference indicated high interest for the 17 presentations, which included speeches and web-based workshops (webinars).

Climate change: A challenge to our churches

The move by the Youth desk to send young people as *the* official LWF delegation to the 18th session of the



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“I found it a delightful combination of several valuable tools and features that the Internet and the cyber-age offer: pre-recorded videos, webinars and group chat.”

“It was a very good experience, and this format should become a key way for the LWF to work.”

– participants at the LWF
“green&just” Virtual Conference

Conference of the Parties (COP) to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change in November 2012 resulted in dynamic, inspiring and active participation by the youth. Their impact was seen throughout the COP 18, in the LWF Communion Office and in the member churches. The delegation’s report “Climate Change – A Challenge to Our Churches” has already started

playing an important role in the LWF discussion on climate change.

“We cannot negotiate about acting or not acting,” said Nahún Stürtz from Argentina, an LWF delegate to the summit in Doha, Qatar. “Climate change is happening. We have to do something. And I want to get down to work.”

The nine young delegates, selected from nine LWF member churches participated in various events, including high-level segment panels, panel discussions, interfaith side events and the first Qatari Climate demonstration. They also took the lead for the first interfaith youth meeting on climate justice. Back home they are engaged in implementing environmental care projects

in their local contexts, varying from regional interfaith youth meetings to establishing climate justice advocacy groups in their local churches.

“We believe our delegation’s participation in the COP 18 summit builds upon the LWF’s long-standing advocacy efforts in the area of climate change. Yet we also believe that all can and should do more to work towards healing our creation and ensuring a future for generations to come. In addition, given the lack of progress in the negotiations at the COP 18 summit, we believe there is even greater urgency for the LWF.”

– LWF delegation report
from COP 18



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Gender – Women in Church and Society

The LWF Women in Church and Society (WICAS) program is an effective way of empowering women to participate in leadership and decision-making processes throughout the communion.

WICAS acts as a resource to the worldwide Lutheran communion on issues such as gender justice in the church, and women's empowerment in church and society. The network is active regionally as well as centrally within the LWF.

At its meeting in 2012 in Bogotá, Colombia, the LWF Committee for Theology and Ecumenical Relations voted to endorse the next steps towards the LWF gender justice policy, and to mandate the Department for Theology and Public Witness to present a draft of the LWF gender justice policy at the Council meeting in 2013.

In collaboration with the gender advisory group, WICAS has conti-

nued to play a role in drafting LWF's gender justice policy. By providing such a tool, the LWF seeks to ensure that the concerns and experiences of women and men constitute an equal and integral part of the programmatic work, theological dialogue and structural organization at all levels of the communion.

This gender justice work has already begun in many places throughout the communion. The WICAS networks in Bolivia, Colombia and Japan, have based their reflections on gender as a theological issue on the LWF document, *A Faith Reflection on Gender and Power*.

Similar work and study is underway internationally concerning women's empowerment. The WICAS network in the West-South Asia Lutheran Communion has focused on capacity building for women, while the WICAS network in the Nordic

region has concentrated on refining the project "Women are women's best friends," which seeks to increase the involvement of women in the churches. Launching the Women and Gender Justice Network in Latin America and the Caribbean was an important step forward in the effort to reorganize the women's network in that region, and in letting the voices of women theologians to be heard throughout the LWF communion.

The programmatic work of WICAS is also focused on increasing the involvement of women in society by advocating at the UN. During discussions on the role of women in combating hunger and poverty at the UN 56th Commission on the Status of Women, for example, WICAS facilitated the participation of two women and organized a parallel session titled: "From a potential impoverishment to seeds of sustainability."



Juntos por un mundo
justo, pacífico y

LWF Conferencia • 15-20

Mano Ruiz SANCHEZ

José María GONZÁLEZ

Diego PEREZ

Eduardo MARTÍNEZ

Governance in Colombia

In 2012 the LWF Council met in Colombia for its annual governance meeting under the theme “Together for a Just, Peaceful and Reconciled World.”

The Evangelical Lutheran Church of Colombia (IELCO) hosted the meeting in the capital city Bogotá.

In a country marked by a long-standing conflict, which has forcibly displaced one out of every ten inhabitants, IELCO remains committed to proclaiming the gospel, serving people in the community, preserving creation and promoting justice and peace.

“We consider that our main strength is to be part of a confessional family which is so extensive, diverse and wonderful, as is the Lutheran Communion in the world. Meetings such as the Council’s are tangible signs of communion among Lutheran men and women from around the world.”

– IELCO Bishop Eduardo Martínez

More than 50 years of social and political conflict have caused internal displacement for over 4 million people in Colombia. While legal and illegal armed actors continue to violate human rights and international humanitarian law, more than half of the country’s citizens live in poverty. Severe flooding in recent years has destroyed homes and crops in many parts of the country. The Colombian Lutheran church runs a number of diaconal projects on sustainable development, environment and human rights. The LWF Department for World Service (DWS or World Service) is also active in the Latin American country, working with people displaced and living in poverty.

Being in Colombia was important for Council participants to experience what it means to serve as a minority Lutheran church in a context of con-

The LWF Council expresses its solidarity with the IELCO and encourages the church to continue responding in faith and actions to the challenges of Colombian society. The LWF Council calls upon Lutherans around the world to pray and engage with and for the churches and people of Colombia, and for a sustainable peace based on justice.

– LWF Council statement on Colombia

lict. Council participants were moved by meeting the challenges and difficulties of people living in poverty in the context of the country’s long-standing conflict. In late 2012 peace talks were initiated, which the LWF and IELCO welcomed as a sign of hope.

For IELCO, the 2012 Council meeting underlined the solidarity of the global Lutheran communion to which the church belongs.

IELCO joined the LWF in 1966 and has 1,998 members.



Faith and Protection

Welcoming the stranger – LWF partnership with UNHCR

The LWF Strategy 2012-2017 highlights advocacy and public witness as cross-cutting priorities. The LWF aims to be a reliable and effective voice for justice, peace and human rights, and for member churches to have capacities for vibrant public witness on behalf of vulnerable and oppressed people.

The December 2012 United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) Dialogue on Faith and Protection offered an important illustration of the potential for LWF's advocacy. Because of the close working relationship with UNHCR, LWF's assistant general secretary for international affairs and human

rights was asked to be a member of a working group of experts to draft background documents and help prepare for the dialogue. The dialogue brought together faith leaders from the world's major religions to consider what the faith groups have in common with respect to humanitarian protection for refugees and other forced migrants. The LWF president and general secretary had prominent roles in the process. The high commissioner assigned LWF to represent Christians in the follow-up to the dialogue.

As a result of the dialogue, faith leaders from around the world—at local, national, and international levels—will be invited to endorse a document titled, “Welcoming the Stranger: Affirmations for Faith Leaders.” This document begins, “A core

value of my faith is to welcome the stranger, the refugee, the internally displaced, the other. I shall treat him or her as I would like to be treated. ... I will welcome the stranger.”

There is a mutually-reinforcing, mutually-supporting relationship between service and advocacy. The successful advocacy with UNHCR would not be possible without LWF's well-respected work with refugees through World Service. And because of LWF's advocacy role, the opportunities for service have expanded. LWF is now the UNHCR's largest faith-based implementing partner, and one of the top five collaborating agencies overall. The Faith and Protection Dialogue was a highly visible way for the LWF to demonstrate its commitment to interfaith relationships, and to service.

Hermeneutics

Hermeneutics program strengthens the communion's biblical reading practices

The LWF hermeneutics program was designed to strengthen the communion's efforts to share reading practices that help renew the churches and empower them to participate effectively in social transformation. Hermeneutics is about looking at how Christians are shaped by reading biblical texts in the context of their lives and faith traditions.

The special task of this hermeneutics program is to encourage serious engagement with the Bible as the basic source of faith by exploring various ways of reading for understanding. However, as Lutherans we also search out our shared traditions to see how they can inform our engagement with Scripture. In addition, we recognize that our diverse contexts and life situations also contribute to the way we

read Scripture. Therefore, we try to relate all three hermeneutical poles (text, tradition and context) to strengthen our shared interpretive practices.

Since our participation as Christians and churches in the transformation of the world is also informed by our engagement with Scripture, we not only read and reflect on our readings but also seek to have our interpretations shape our engagement with the world. Therefore, our shared reading practices help us forge a common witness to the world.

Our disagreements as Christians tend to be rooted in questions of biblical interpretation, hence the importance of this program. The LWF hermeneutics program does not necessarily need to solve the biblical differences, but it works to help Lutherans to engage in a respectful manner and in appropriate spaces on questions of biblical interpretation.

The first publication of the hermeneutics program was published in

2012 under the title, '*You Have the Words of Eternal Life: Transformative Readings of the Gospel of John from a Lutheran Perspective*'. Published in the LWF Documentation series (No. 57/2012), this volume in the study process includes articles from Lutheran theologians who participated in the 2011 inaugural meeting in Nairobi, Kenya. *You have the Words of Eternal Life* can be used for academic study as well as for personal edification. The publication has been widely distributed and well received with requests for extra copies by seminaries and libraries, necessitating a reprint.

In addition to these efforts, a number of short Lutheran hermeneutics workshops were given to different groups visiting the ecumenical center in Geneva throughout 2012. Upon invitation, similar courses were given to churches and also at the international Summer School at Mission Eine Welt, Neuendettelsau, Germany.

Tripartite Dialogue

The first ever international trilateral dialogue between Catholics, Lutherans and Mennonites in December 2012, launched a five-year discussion focusing on baptism.

Representatives of the LWF, the Vatican's Pontifical Council for Promoting Christian Unity (PCPCU) and the Mennonite World Conference focused on the topic "Baptism and Incorporation into the Body of Christ, the Church."

Baptism has generally been considered as the ecumenical theological topic where substantial agreement exists within the main Christian

traditions. However, emphasis on infant or adult baptism remains a challenge in ecumenical relations where these rites differ.

While Catholics and Lutherans practice infant baptism, Mennonites follow the 16th century Anabaptist practice of adult baptism.

Papers presented at the Rome meeting hosted by the PCPCU, provided background for the trilateral dialogue, summarized presentations of past dialogues on baptism, and discussed the understanding and practice of baptism.

The atmosphere of the talks was enthusiastic and promising because of the challenging but central topic and particularly because of the new trilateral method of dialogue, being used for the first time at the international level.

Lutherans have a history of bilateral discussions with Catholics and Mennonites respectively but this was the first time that all three Christian traditions had met together in a formal ecumenical theological dialogue.



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Ecumenical dialogues:

The Lutheran-Roman Catholic Commission on Unity 1967-

The Lutheran-Reformed Joint Commission 1970-

The Anglican-Lutheran International Committee 1972-

The Lutheran-Orthodox Joint Commission 1981-

Lutheran-Mennonite Study Commission Mennonite action 2010

The Lutheran-Mennonite-Roman Catholic Commission 2012-

Emergency Response

Miracles in Maban – DWS emergency response

It is the opening day of a new tented school in Maban county, South Sudan. Around 1,000 children are waiting eagerly in the compound. Exercise books and volleyballs have been delivered for the children and there is chalk for the teachers. Education is important for the people of

the Blue Nile region of Sudan, who fled violence there for relative safety in the neighboring Upper Nile State where LWF World Service operates refugee camps for the UNHCR. The Sudanese have welcomed LWF's efforts to open the school just six weeks after the camp site had been identified.

The environment in Maban presented particular challenges to emer-

gency response. It is one of the most remote parts of South Sudan, very difficult to access for most of the year and very sparsely populated. There are few roads to speak of, and equipment had to be brought in by air, increasing the costs of the operations. Behind all these efforts, there has been a great deal of hard work by the LWF East African Emergency Hub, which supports World Service emer-



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gency response operations in various parts of Eastern, Southern and the Horn of Africa, including South Sudan, Ethiopia and the Democratic Republic of Congo. Staff have been secured and trained, equipment brought in by air/truck and the camp has been cleared of unexploded ordinances.

World Service emergency response operations are second to none, and in 2012 a new global

response strategy was initiated, emphasizing better preparedness, improved coordination, more effective emergency action, enhanced strategic partnerships and better equipped staff.

The focus is on delivering quick and effective responses to save lives and serve people in need. For the Blue Nile people, this means a more dignified life despite the still

difficult conditions at Maban. In the midst of heat and rain, the school is open and child protection staff have been working to reunite families and make sure every child has a home. It all happened in just six weeks—one miracle at a time.



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Refugee Assistance

Children are focus of increased refugee operations

Children are at the center of LWF/World Service increased refugee operations, which takes care of 1.4 million refugees in 10 countries in close cooperation with the UN refugee agency. In 2012 new operations began in Jordan, Mauritania, South Sudan and Uganda included an additional 200,000 refugees, many of who are children.

World Service has a wealth of knowledge and experience in child protection work from its Kenya/Djibouti and Chad operations and has used this valuable resource in expanding its operations in 2012. World Service is working to create child-friendly spaces within the

refugee camps it runs. That means providing child-friendly spaces or play areas; learning spaces, including schools; and safe places, where traumatized children can receive much needed psychosocial support. UNHCR estimates that almost two-thirds of the 110,000 refugees who fled Sudan into South Sudan's Upper Nile State in late 2011 were children. DWS operates camps for the UN refugee agency at Doro, Jamam and Yusuf Batil.

Children are also a majority at other LWF refugee camps, including Za'atri in Jordan, set up in 2012 to deal with the influx of refugees fleeing the civil war in Syria.

Forced to leave their homes as a result of war, children experience severe disruption to their lives and are particularly vulnerable to psycho-

logical distress and abuse. Without organized structures to host children during the day, they roam around camps unsupervised and are more vulnerable to various types of physical and psychological harm, including sexual abuse or recruitment as child laborers or as child soldiers.

Loss of education, in particular, not only denies children of their right to learn and develop but removes them from an environment where they gain peer support, life skills, dignity, protection and a sense of normalcy. That is why World Service continues to focus on providing education for children caught in the world's refugee crises.



HAP Certification

Vulnerable people help shape World Service programming

People are at the center of our work in LWF World Service. In 2012 LWF World Service became certified under the Humanitarian Accountability Partnership (HAP) 2010 Standard. This Standard has helped World Service to design and implement accountable programs in its work with populations and communities affected by or prone to disasters, conflict, and poverty. HAP certification ensures that the vulnerable populations World Service supports, participate in project decision-making processes and provide critical feedback and complaints about World Service performance.

In Myanmar where World Service reached 51 communities in

the Ayeyarwaddy delta through an integrated rural development project as well as a child rights project, communities have been engaged in the establishment of 18 community-based disaster risk management teams and the planting of 54,000 trees in their communities to reduce disaster risks, improve the environment and provide natural resources for cooking and construction over the medium term. In addition these communities have been an integral part of the planning and construction of 11 community halls, 13 bridges and 880 Latrines to name but a few of the achievements.

Meanwhile in Jordan, in response to the influx of Syrian refugees in Za'atri camp, World Service has been empowering refugees to identify priority needs and the essential support required. Since August 2012 more

than 33,000 sets of winter clothing have been distributed, 270 prefabricated shelters have been set up and equipped with winterization kits, cooking gas cylinders and a porch, all with refugee design input.

In Colombia a mother of six is president of the LWF partner Permanent Committee for the Defense of Human Rights, which seeks opportunities for women in community activities. And in DRC two years of sensitization in gender equity motivate men and women to plan and work together for the future of their community.

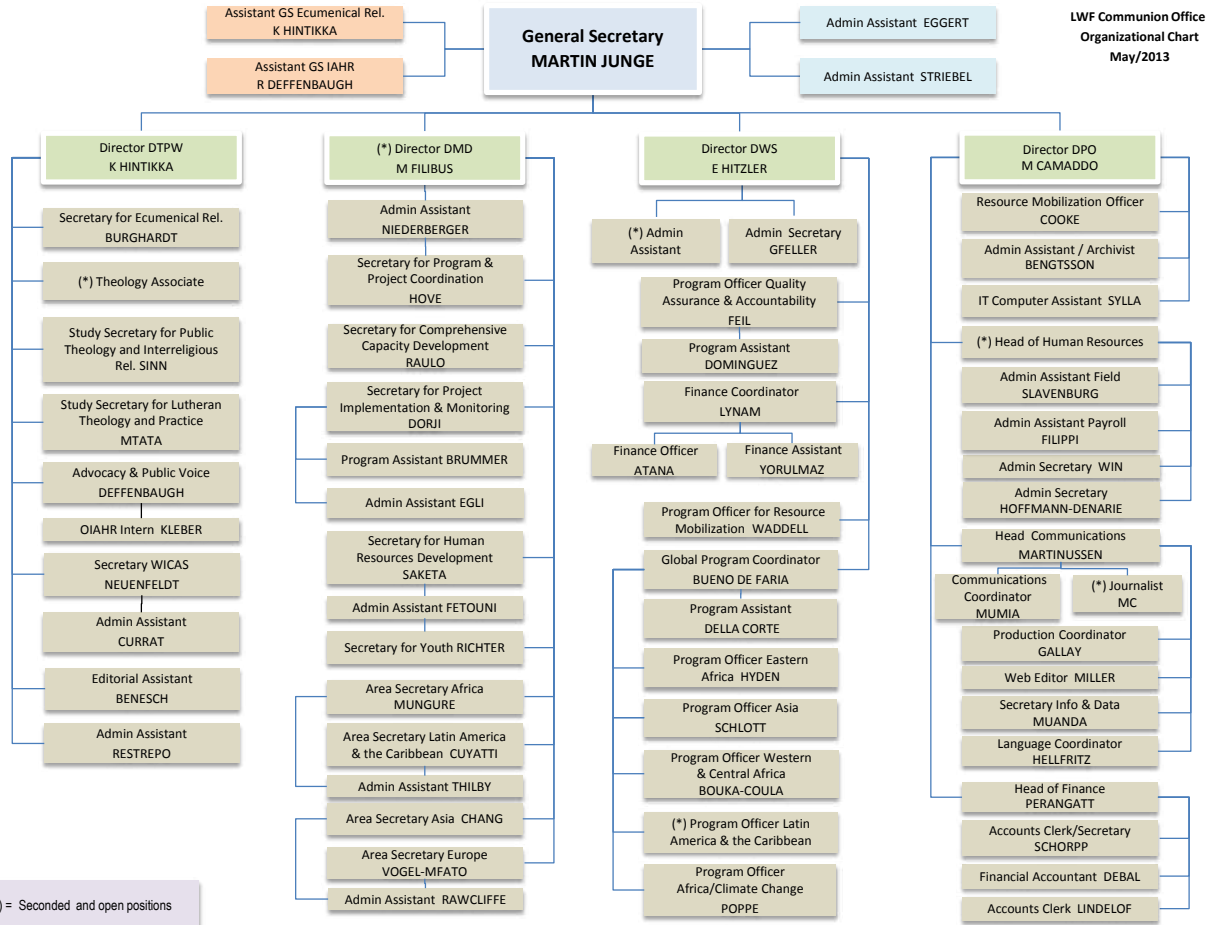
These are just some examples in 2012 of how World Service is being accountable to the people it serves.



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Department for Theology and Public Witness (DTPW)
Department for Mission and Development (DMD)
Department for World Service (DWS)
Department for Planning and Operations (DPO)
Office for International Affairs and Human Rights (OIAHR)

Staff





LWF Financial Management

The strategic priorities of the Communion Office (CO) emphasize financial sustainability as a crucial aspect for the life of the LWF communion. The recent reorganization, in part to tackle the structural deficit, and the newly created Office for Resource Mobilization address both the expenditure and income-generating areas of the finance operations. A balance has also been sought between the reduced staffing levels and workload to ensure cost effectiveness in the priority areas of work.

One of the important decisions taken in 2012 to minimize financial risks was the merger of the LWF

Pension Fund with the much bigger and more solid Abendrot Foundation. This transfer provides a better guarantee and good benefits for employees and reduces financial risks for the employer in the long term.

As foreseen in the new structure, the Office for Finance is now a unit of the Department for Planning and Operations.

Summary of income and expenditure 2012

The “Summary of Income and Expenditure 2012” provides the overall

financial picture. “Coordination (Geneva)” refers to the Geneva CO activities, including governance, planning, coordination, program implementation, monitoring, evaluation and capacity building. “Coordination (Field)” relates to non-project activities in World Service country programs.

The Geneva Coordination expenditure in Swiss francs was 3.5 percent below budget. The operational result for the year, including exchange differences and program write-offs was balanced in Geneva, and the field recorded a surplus of nearly EUR 2.7 million. Total reserves at the end of 2012 amounted to USD 21.5 million.

PricewaterhouseCoopers SA audited the 2012 consolidated financial statements in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards without any qualifications.

Income

Membership fees and contributions from member churches, related

Summary of Income and Expenditure 2012

Amounts in EUR	Coordination		Programs & Projects	Total
	Geneva	Field		
Income	5,362,773	4,586,251	90,190,941	100,139,965
Expenditure	-5,354,656	-2,036,363	-90,190,941	-97,581,960
Subtotal	8,117	2,549,888	0	2,558,005
Project write-offs	-572,809	0	0	-572,809
Financial result	701,738	0	0	701,738
Operational result	137,046	2,549,888	0	2,686,934
Decrease of pension provision	324,000	0	0	324,000
Net result	461,046	2,549,888	0	3,010,934
Reserves 01.01.2012	8,828,306	9,692,957	0	18,521,263
Reserves 31.12.2012	9,289,352	12,242,845	0	21,532,197

agencies, governments, specialized United Nations agencies and LWF reserves fund the activities administered by the CO. Income is also generated from interest, local LWF World Service programs and patient fees from the Augusta Victoria Hospital in East Jerusalem. Total income in 2012 was EUR 100.8 million.

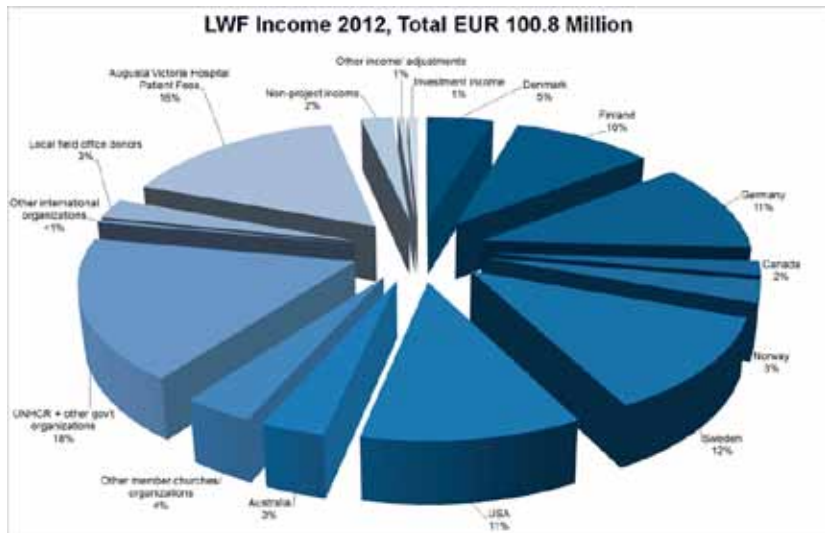
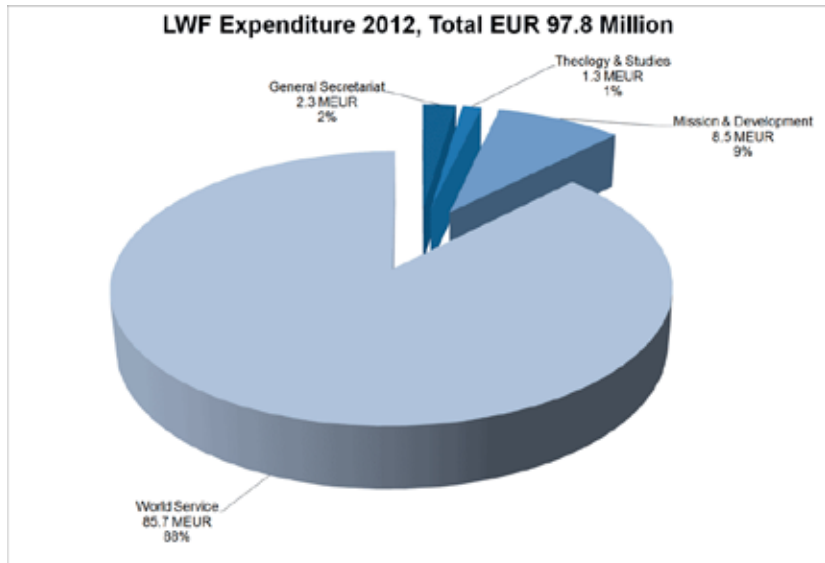
Expenditure

During 2012 the CO spent EUR 97.8 million for coordination, programs and projects, and write-offs.

Management and control

A comprehensive review of the various policies and procedures within the organization is planned for 2013.

Carbon emissions' compensation for all 2012 air travel within the CO will be used this year to support LWF's implementation of an environmental management system based on the Eco-Management and Audit Scheme.



Endowment Fund

The recent global economic uncertainties have underlined the need to ensure the financial stability of the LWF.

The LWF Endowment Fund strengthens the organization's financial stability and thus secures the continuity of its indispensable work. The Fund was established in 1999 with the goal to raise CHF 50 million, and a specific target of CHF 20 million by 2017, the 500th anniversary of the Reformation.

The value of the Fund by the end of 2012 was CHF 11.3 million.

During the year, it recorded a strong performance of CHF 1.08 million or 9.53 percent.

An independent Board of Trustees manages the Endowment Fund. Grateful thanks are offered to the board for their enthusiasm and support.

You can help!

Gifts and legacies from individuals and churches and related organizations are welcome. Please consider your gift to support LWF's work.

LWF Endowment Fund

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Liberated by God's grace,
a communion in Christ living
and working together for a just,
peaceful, and reconciled world.



THE
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WORLD
FEDERATION

A Communion
of Churches