



AUTUMN STORY

By Gillian Southey, CWS communications coordinator.



Planting mangroves will help protect Filipino families from tidal surges. Credit: Developers

CREATING CLIMATE HOPE

In the Philippines local fisher families are holding yet another planting drive. Anxious to prepare for future dangerous storms, they are hard at work planting young mangrove seedlings in shallow waters. Months after planting thousands of fruit trees and root crops, they are not giving up. Flourishing mangroves will be the first line of defence against tidal surges and major typhoons scientists say will increase as the climate warms.

In south India a group of women farmers listen carefully as they watch a teacher mix a ratio of cow dung and urine, neem leaves, salt and herbs in a large container. The mixture will be stirred from time to time and left to ferment. Used to working all days outdoors, they do not feel discomfort at the long days. Instead they are desperate to learn how to make *Panjakavya* a natural pesticide that promotes plant growth and learn other tips that will improve productivity on their tiny plots of land. Women Development Resource Centre offers this training with local agricultural experts. Armed with new knowledge, the 215 women attending each course can better manage the hotter and drier growing conditions to feed their families.

Further down India's southern coast, a small group of people gather at the same spot each day with measuring devices and a notebook. Neythal has organised fisherfolk to record water levels and other environmental changes as part of their plan to protect their livelihoods. The results are analysed by scientists and the results used in court cases to protect the coastal environment from further harm.

In southeastern Ethiopia and eastern Kenya after extremely dry weather and poor harvests last year, ACT Alliance members are building long term resilience. Village committees are set up and supported to manage water supply and sanitation for everyone. Together with local government the committees will improve sustainability



Neythal uses data collected by local fisherpeople in submissions on coastal protection. Credit: Neythal.

PCC's Frances Namoumou talked climate justice to Scottish First Minister Nicola Sturgeon at last year's climate summit. Credit: WCC/Sean Hawkey



and find new ways to support their community. Farmers learn to make *zai* pits, 60 cm square and deep, with a mound of dirt on three sides to drive rain to five seeds and maximise moisture.

Far from drought, Pacific leaders press for urgent action to keep the global temperature rise below 1.5 degrees Celsius. The Pacific Conference of Churches has been helping Pacific peoples learn about climate change for more than a decade. Using the story of Genesis they encourage church people to understand their responsibility to creation and increase their resilience.

Knowing how serious climate change is for the Pacific, PCC has sent delegations to each round of climate negotiations under the Paris Agreement and advised



PCC is at the forefront of climate justice work in the Pacific says Rev François Pihaatae. Credit: Gillian Southey

In Tonga, Ama Takilao encourages members to grow pele (spinach) and giant taro as disaster food. Credit: Trish Murray

In Ethiopia, a farmer is forced to feed the last of his teff harvest to his cattle rather than sell it. Credit: ACT Alliance/Hilina Abebe



>>

governments on policy. Climate Change officer Frances Namoumou spoke to negotiators at last year's negotiations on behalf of the Pacific and the World Council of Churches. She asked them to put people ahead of the economy and focus on survival. PCC has completed research on relocation in Fiji and the Solomon Islands and begun work on options for Kiribati and Tuvalu.

Already PCC has worked with two Fijian villages forced to higher ground. According to General Secretary Rev François Pihaatae 43 more will need to move. Staff are encouraging members to be prepared by growing crops with a better chance to survive cyclones and to improve eating habits. Alongside its office in Suva, a flourishing garden produces kumara, yams and bananas.

JOIN THE MOVEMENT FOR CHANGE

Supporters of CWS are very much part of this movement to create climate hope. Our partners are giving some of the most vulnerable people the skills and training they need to stay alive now and when disaster strikes. As part of a wider movement calling for strong actions by governments, CWS is pressing our government to tackle climate change here and to assist countries on its frontlines. We cannot work alone. We will work together so all people can live well and to protect the planet for the future. **Your donation to the Autumn Appeal will keep this life-giving work going.**

Be the lifeline

OPERATION REFUGEE

Looking for a challenge? Join the lifeline to Syrian refugees. Live on the same food as in a refugee emergency food parcel or donate to someone who is. We want to provide more emergency food and clothing, education, medical care and education so the Department of Service to Palestinian Refugees in Jordan and Lebanon can continue its support to refugees. More information is available: <https://www.cwsoperationrefugee.nz/> or contact David Lawson or 021 671 430.

YES, TODAY I WANT TO HELP PEOPLE ADAPT TO CLIMATE CHANGE AND ADVOCATE FOR THEIR SURVIVAL.

Name

Address

City

Postcode Donations of \$5 and over are tax deductible

Telephone ()

Email

I enclose: ☐ \$35 ☐ \$75 ☐ \$150 ☐ Other \$.....

Direct deposit to: 06 0817 0318646 00

Particulars: Your Name

Code: Autumn Appeal

Reference: Your CWS Supporter ID no.

Email your postal details to cws@cws.org.nz for a tax receipt.

Please debit \$ from my
☐ Visa ☐ Mastercard ☐ Diners ☐ Amex

Name on credit card

Signature Expiry date /

Card number

AUTUMN 2018

Christian World Service

National Office

PO Box 22652, Christchurch 8140. Ph: 03 366 9274 0800 74 73 72
cws@cws.org.nz www.cws.org.nz

Auckland office: (09) 5719150

CWS is a registered charity: #CC22288

