

By Gillian Southey, CWS communications coordinator.

CWS partner DSPR distributes food and water in Gaza. Photo: DSPR

We All Need Water

he memories of long days without much water were forgotten when these young boys eagerly collected supplies for their family during one of the breaks in Gaza's conflict. Stuck at home for days on end, they were glad to get out and have a reprieve from the sounds of shells and missiles that have rocked the slip of coastal land. The 50 day war has been harsh. The streets are paved with rubble, the sanitation systems down and people are finding shelter with family or in the cramped facilities run by the United Nations.

No one escaped this brutal war unharmed. Everyone worried about friends and family, nervously rationing what food and water they had. One staff member of the Department of Service to Palestinian Refugees lost her son. Others fled their homes along with tens of thousands of Palestinians. Anxious about the poorest communities in which they work, DSPR staff organised relief efforts.

Despite poor communications and very little electricity, they kept going. In the neighbourhood of heavily bombed Shija'ia, the community guarded the medical clinic when its doors were blown off. Hasty repairs meant staff could attend to medical and psychosocial needs just as their colleagues at Rafah and Darraj were doing. Animals and crops have died through the lack of water and attention. People of all ages are traumatised by their experiences and need help.

With a new ceasefire, the long process of recovery has begun. Bewildered families are more dependent than ever on the UN and agencies like DSPR to provide the basics they need for each day. Finding the energy to help each other is where the recovery begins. DSPR has done it before and will do it again.

The lasting affects of War

The memory of war is never far from the lives of Tamils living in the north of Sri Lanka. The deprivation and suffering of the war years are long lasting. There are few jobs available for young people anxious to help their families. Determined to get ahead they make brave choices, often leaving all that is familiar to seek a better life somewhere else. Senduja now aged 20 is one who bears the scars of war.

No sooner had she started work at one of the country's garment factories in the Free Trade Zones, her face, feet and arms started to swell and she began to faint often. Concerned, Senduja went to the doctor only to find she was suffering kidney failure. She was transferred to Colombo Hospital for treatment. For almost three years she has been on medication and the factory grants her leave to attend the clinic monthly.

Coming from Palai, Jaffna, she spent long periods of the civil war sheltering inside a bunker without food

or water. The lack of water has affected both her kidneys, but she is determined to keep working to support her family. Senduja's father was killed by falling shells during the long years of the war. Her mother is often ill and with nine brothers and sisters, she works hard to earn as much as she can so they can go to school.

When the war ended in 2009, a van with loud speakers came to their town promoting factory



Senduja. Photo: Women's Centre



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jobs with good benefits. Now she works long hours as a machine operator. With overtime her monthly salary is 20,000 rupees (NZ \$183.67). The conditions are hard but Senduja is driven by the desire to help her family.

Outside of work, she has discovered a world away from home. Interviewed as part of a Women's Centre survey on the discrimination faced by newly arrived Tamils, she found a community of support. When she travels to Colombo for medical treatment, she stays with Padmini Weerasuriya, the executive director of this programme working to support women in the Free Trade Zones, established by the government to encourage overseas business. Senduja assists with translations at the workshops they run and has encouraged 25 other Tamil women to become members. Eager to learn, she attends all the Sunday programmes offering health and other advice. Now she understands her illness better and is determined to end the discrimination facing Tamil workers.

She shares a boarding house with 30 Tamil and 10 Sinhala women workers. Although the war ended five years ago, deep suspicion remains. The Women's Centre is helping them overcome their fears and prejudices. Both boarding house and factory owners are keen to play one group off against the other for their own ends. The Women's Centre is one of the few groups in the Free Trade Zones helping workers to see what they have in common rather than what divides. Joint activities and trips to the north are helping to breakdown these barriers.

Make Music for More Water

Wellingtonians were given a rare treat from 9/10 August with a 24 hour Musicathon organised by St Andrew's on the Terrace and St John's in the City as part of CWS's Direct Partner initiative. The programme was rich and varied. From the youngest singers to seasoned performers from the New Zealand Symphony Orchestra,



The Troughton make music to give water to families in Palestine's West Bank. Photo: J Irvine

they all offered their skills to raise funds. Knowing how important an audience is, one choir conductor raised over \$1,000 to be the audience – though she always had company! Together they raised more than \$17,000 so families who had to buy water can build tanks or be connected to municipal water supply services – not a simple task when water access is contested. What's more everyone involved had a great time and as one organiser said, were staggered by the results.

When you see distressing scenes of people suffering in conflict or disaster, there is always something you can do. Our partners are working in hotspots like Gaza and northern Iraq to give people water and food as well as helping isolated rural families where help is hard to find. They need more support to feed the hungry, give water to the thirsty, clothing to those who have lost everything and freedom to those who are treated badly at work. If you were there and looked these people in the eye, you would feel compelled to help. Please give generously to the Spring Appeal so our partners can do more to help the people they meet.

Live Below the Line

Hunger on a global scale can be overwhelming, so CWS has been a keen supporter of Live Below the Line since the beginning. The challenge is to spend no more than \$2.25 on food for five days in return for sponsorship.

The hunger participants experience will inspire them to do more to help the 1.2 billion people who live on less than that every day of the year. Live Below the Line runs from 6-10 October.

This year we are raising funds for Developers who work in a remote coastal area of Aklan province in the Philippines where 94-98% of the houses were badly damaged or destroyed in last year's super typhoon. You can sign up for the challenge yourself or convince others to find out what hunger is like. It can be a tough challenge, so please support those taking part.

For more information contact our intern, Grace at grace.manning@cws.org.nz or look on line at: https://www.livebelowtheline.com/nz/partner/cws



Summary Annual Review 1 July 2013 - 30 June 2014

am pleased to report that Christian World Service has made a significant contribution to communities trapped in poverty and dealing with unimaginable disaster over the past year. The generosity of our donors and support from churches and women's groups have enabled us to make sure our partners can resource communities to do their work. It has been a challenging few years, but I am confident that we are heading in the right direction.

My confidence is based on some key indicators of increased financial support: donations to our quarterly mailing have increased by 26% and regular donors have given 12.5% more than last year. Generous donations to emergency appeals for Myanmar, the Philippines, the Solomon Islands, Syria, South Sudan and Tonga have meant that our partners could help respond to displaced people and after natural disasters. CWS is grateful for funding from the New Zealand government for development programmes in Tonga, Lebanon and Jordan (to be received in 2014-15), and emergency response for Syrian refugees and in the Philippines.

The 2013 Christmas Appeal with the theme Share Water, Share Life focused attention on a resource that is highly contested. Parishes that used the Refugee Sunday Worship resources were reminded of our responsibility as Christians to attend to the needs of refugees. At the end of 2013, the

United Nations reported there were at least 51.2 million refugees, the highest number since World War II.



The 2013 Annual General Meeting approved a new constitution giving partner churches and a representative from the new Supporters' Council representation on the Board. Already CWS is benefitting from their greater involvement in its governance. I am grateful to Alison Maccoll who was elected as the new Chair. The Supporters' Council made up of individuals and groups who have made at least two donations over the last two years will meet for the first time on 27 September.

I commend to you the work of our partners. They have proved themselves once again to be strong advocates of the people whose rights to a decent life are ignored. Growing inequalities, the challenge of more devastating natural disasters and bitter conflicts mean they are working harder than ever. It is work made more possible by the gifts you give.

Pauline McKay
National Director

Summary Financial Performance

Income

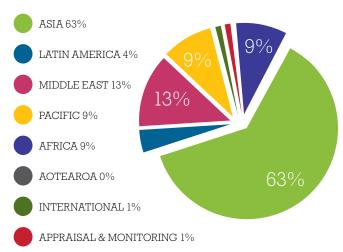
Christmas Appeal	439,310			
Regular Appeals	214,157			
General Donations	49,419			
Regular Contributors	186,385			
Designated Donations – Development				
(including Gifted, Live Below the Line)	135,772			
Bequests	150,356			
Designated Donations - Emergency	286,903			
Grants (Church and Government)	253,936			
Interest and sundry	51,376			
Total Income	1,767,615			

Expenditure

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International Programmes Funding	1,055,592
Education and Relationships	5,526
Promotions	83,526
Coordination (including all staffing costs)	423,504
Total Expenditure	1,568,149
Excess of Income over Expenditure	199,466

This summary is taken from the full statement of accounts that has been prepared for audit. The Full audited accounts will be available after they have been accepted by the Annual General Meeting on 27 September.

Total Programme Funding 2013-14





Partners funded 2013/14

Africa

Chad - ACT Alliance

South Sudan – Maridi Service Agency

Uganda – Centre for Community Solidarity

Zimbabwe – Dabane Trust

Regional Total \$100,585

Bangladesh - National Garment Workers Federation

EKTA Women Resource Centre

Human Rights Foundation

NEYTHAL.

Social Action for New Development

Women Development Resource Centre/Federation for Dalit

Women Empowerment

Indonesia ACT Alliance

Myanmar Church World Service Asia Pacific

Philippines

Developers Foundation

National Council of Churches in the Philippines

Sri Lanka

Devasarana Development Centre

Movement for Land and Agricultural Reform

Women's Centre

Regional Total \$698,088

Latin America

Haiti Institut Culturel Karl Lévêque

Nicaragua Consejo de Iglesias Evangélicas Pro-Alianza

Denominacional

Regional Total \$40,000

Middle East

Palestine Department of Service to Palestinian Refugees

Syria/Jordan DSPR: response to Syrian refugees in Jordan.

Regional Total \$142,880

Pacific

Regional Pacific Conference of Churches

Solomon Islands Anglican Church of Melanesia

Tonga – Tonga Community Development Trust Ama Takiloa

Tonga - Joint Consortium DRR Simulation Exercise - Vanuatu, Tonga and Fiji

Regional Total \$104,381

Aotearoa/New **Zealand**

Peace Movement Aotearoa

Total \$2000.00

International

ACT Alliance

Humanitarian Accountability Project

Total \$6,906

More detail is available in the Annual Review 2013/14 which will be available at cws.org.nz or from the office after the Annual General Meeting.





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CWS is a registered charity: #CC22288



"We believe the provision and enjoyment of the basic necessities of life is the will of God for all humankind.'

Christian World Service has been doing a world of good since 1945. Established by the New Zealand churches to help in war torn Europe, we now assist groups around the world - helping communities

survive disaster, overcome poverty and build dignity

and self-reliance. We stand up for the powerless and campaign for social and environmental

justice. CWS provides help where it is needed -