



@world
ACTION AGAINST POVERTY

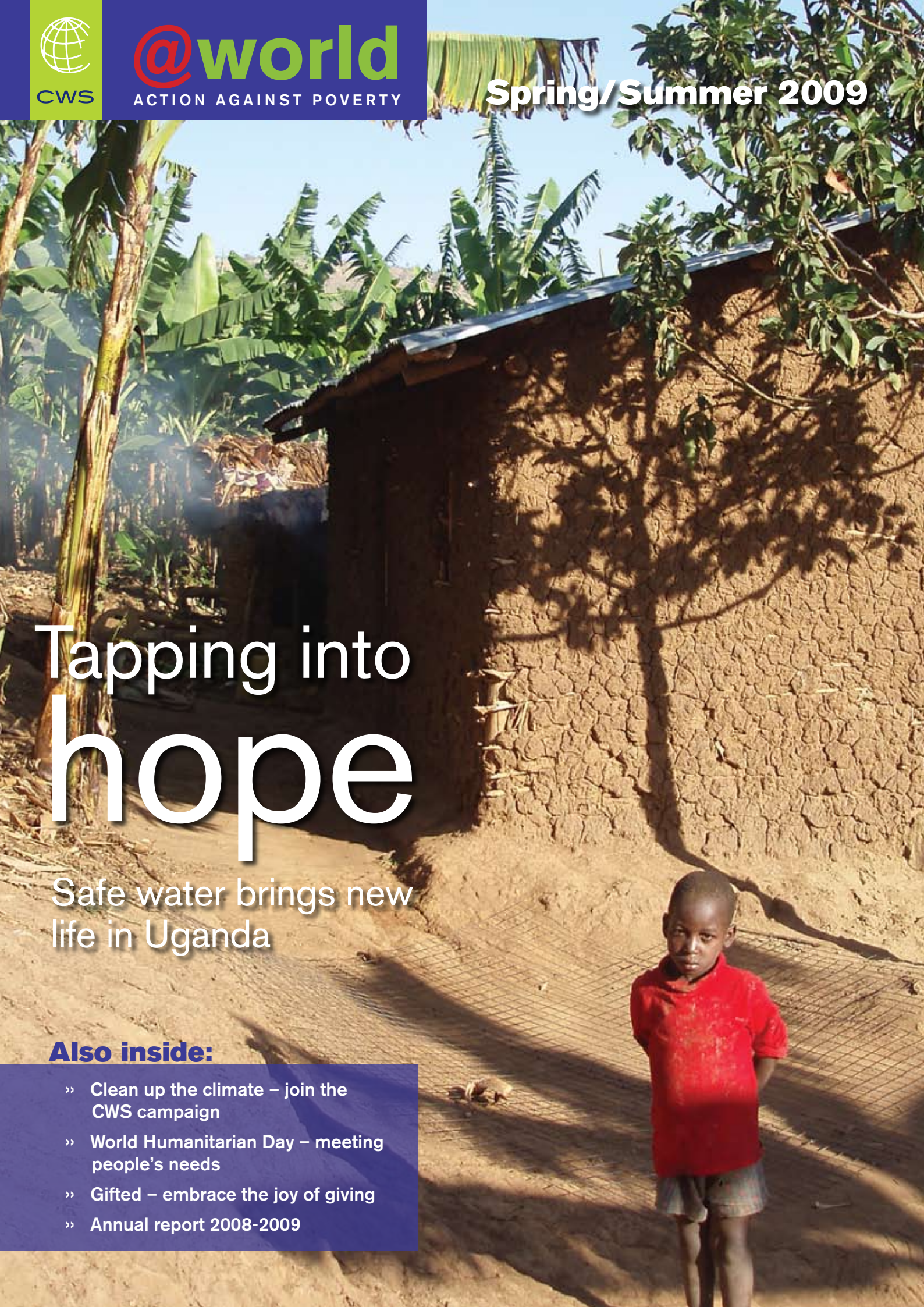
Spring/Summer 2009

Tapping into hope

Safe water brings new
life in Uganda

Also inside:

- » Clean up the climate – join the CWS campaign
- » World Humanitarian Day – meeting people's needs
- » Gifted – embrace the joy of giving
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Tapping into hope: Safe water brings new life in Uganda

A safe, clean, convenient water supply means much more than physical survival. In Uganda, CWS is supporting a rainwater harvesting project that enables families to improve health, nutrition, income and opportunity in one of the driest areas of the country. See page 4-5 for more on the difference water makes.



Spotlight on: Urbanisation

In memory of Ana Vasconcelos



CWS was saddened by the August death of Ana Vasconcelos in Recife, Brazil. Ana was the founder and honorary president of long term partner, House of Passage. House of Passage works with girls in the slums and on the streets of one of Brazil's poorest cities. It works to give young people the opportunity of a better life through education, health and social assistance, counselling, and cultural, art, sport and leisure activities that build self respect and leadership. They seek the reintegration of vulnerable young people into the family, the school and the community and advocate for children's rights and an end to violence.

Ana started the renowned programme in 1989 after a year of listening to the vulnerable girls. Each day, after work as a lawyer, she would change into street clothes and sit in the gutter in areas where the street girls hung out. There she talked with them, learning about the issues that led them to life on the streets, challenges they faced and what they would find helpful. The girls spoke of the streets and violent slums as 'the passage to hell'. She invited them to build a passage to heaven.

A woman with great passion, Ana built up a successful programme that will continue to give generations of girls the chance of a new passage in life.

To learn more about this work, borrow the documentary *A Path to Citizenship*, produced by CWS. Contact the CWS office.

While many CWS partners work in rural areas, over half of humanity now lives in cities. The 50% milestone was reached in 2008. By 2010, it could be 60%, marking a huge demographic shift. The world's urban population was only 13% in 1900 and 29% in 1950. Now, the UN says 3 million people are added to cities of developing countries every week. African urbanisation is the highest in the world and if current trends continue, by 2050 half of Africa's population will live in cities (UN HABITAT State of the World's Cities 2008-2009).

Poor people from impoverished rural areas seeking work in the cities are fuelling this trend. But with urban unemployment high, the move out of villages can worsen their poverty. When they leave their homes, they leave the social networks and home gardens that helped them survive and end up on the streets or in slums with few coping mechanisms. According to the UN, one out of every three people living in cities of the developing world now lives in a

slum. Problems facing slum dwellers include lack of water and sanitation, non-durable housing, insufficient living area, and insecurity of tenure.

CWS partner, the UNPK in New Caledonia, has been forced to build a shelter to house the influx of rural migrants who have ended up on the streets. In Fiji, ECREA has spent years working with squatter communities to ensure land rights and water access. You can find out more about their programmes in the CWS Christmas Appeal. In Brazil, House of Passage helps vulnerable girls cope with the challenges of slum dwelling. Many other partners assist rural communities to improve opportunities, livelihoods and standards of living so people are not forced to move.



Our sincere thanks

CWS gratefully acknowledges gifts made in memory of: Rona Collins, Murray Ryburn, Ian Catanach, Ellen Moyle, Floss Dawson – all of Christchurch; Hazel Bennett – Papatoetoe, Harry Swadling – Porirua.

And bequests from Anne Wheble, Lyn Peryman, G Muldowney, Vivienne Holmes, G H Gainsford, John Lawrence, Mary Queale, J & M Cheyne Trust, Rona Collins, Milly Hunt, Hazel Bennett, Myrtle Hughes.



Clean up the Climate

CWS has launched a petition as part of its ongoing climate change campaign. Postcards have been sent to churches and Trade Aid stores and can also be signed online at www.cws.org.nz. They call for the New Zealand government to take a strong stand on climate justice at the UN talks in Copenhagen in December. This conference will negotiate the successor to the Kyoto Protocol, setting the framework for global action for the next decade and beyond.

The postcards demand a 40 per cent cut from 1990 levels in domestic carbon emissions by 2020, and assistance for poor countries to adapt to the changing environment and escape poverty using clean technology. CWS does not believe the government's planned 10-20% cuts are enough and is calling for more public pressure in the build-up to Copenhagen.

Climate change is a justice and development issue. The lives and livelihoods of people in poor countries are already threatened. Our partners speak of increased natural disasters, changes to weather patterns, disrupted

agricultural cycles and declining fish stocks as the biggest impacts on their communities to date. Food production is a critical concern. "When the weather becomes terrible, what use is our traditional knowledge for living off the land?" asks Peter Enderson of the Pacific Conference of Churches (PCC).

According to recognised climate scientists, 40% emission cuts are the minimum needed to avert devastating climate change. The costs of not responding effectively will be far greater than the economic costs to New Zealand of cutting emissions, especially in the Pacific region with more disasters likely and pressure to take climate refugees.

CWS is also concerned climate change will be used to prevent development in poorer countries. Rich countries already benefit from using more than their share of natural resources. Poorer countries need assistance to mitigate the effects of climate change and find ways to develop using clean technology. Rich countries need to reduce significantly their carbon emissions and not simply pay for carbon offsetting.



Community clean ups of the coast are just one of the environment and climate change projects of Developers, CWS's partner in the Philippines.

The issue of resettlement

Pacific island states fear the important issue of climate refugees is being ignored. "The current framework on climate change is devoid of anything to do with ocean people. There is nothing on resettlement that will be brought about by climate change-induced havoc. It is saddening that our unique position is not mentioned," says the Pacific Conference of Churches' Peter Enderson. Even if strong emission cuts are made, many island homes will be lost to rising sea levels.

Resettlement is a problematic issue. Already in Australia there is concern that climate change refugees will take local jobs. In the Pacific, people fear losing their land, heritage, culture and way of life. "It is a gross misrepresentation of the issue to say that Pacific Island people want to come across to Australia and New Zealand," explains Peter. "They will be a 'received people' in the same way as Palestinian refugees."

Problems have already surfaced in Papua New Guinea, where the first climate refugees were resettled from the low lying Carteret islands to Bougainville's mainland (see @world Winter 2009). Families returned home after finding land ownership issues and the lack of food and proper housing too hard to cope with.

With predictions that up to 330 million people worldwide could be displaced by flooding, such tensions need to be addressed early. The PCC wants the international community to recognise the right to resettlement and prepare for the dilemmas of forced migration.

Take action:

- Sign the CWS postcard and collect others. Please return by 31 October.
- Sign the PCC petition (available from CWS) calling for emission cuts and consideration of resettlement issues.
- Learn more: Climate change is a complex and contentious issue. See the special www.cws.org.nz web focus for more information on the issue and international negotiations, faith materials, stories from CWS partners and practical actions you can take.





Tapping into H

Safe water brings new life in Uganda.

While most of us take for granted the ease, safety and benefits of freely available water in our homes, many communities struggle to access this necessity of life. A CWS supported project in Uganda is helping to change this for families looking after orphans and other vulnerable children. As it does, the benefits are much broader than safe drinking water.

The Oruchinga Valley in southwest Uganda is one of the driest regions in Uganda. It is an area of steep slopes and highly mineralised soils which make the groundwater unsuitable for human consumption. There is one river, with poor quality water. Many people have to walk five to eight kilometres to reach it, and then have the burden of carrying heavy containers back uphill.

Another problem that has devastated the area is HIV and AIDS. It often feels as if a generation is missing. Elderly grandparents are left to raise their orphaned grandchildren and other vulnerable children in the community. They fear the future. "Many of us carers are now becoming old, so who will take care of the young orphans in the future?" asks one woman.

The community has formed carer groups, with 20-30 members. The people work together and raise funds to assist the orphaned and vulnerable children in their

care. One important activity is water collection.

The job of water collection often falls to children. They can spend many hours and much energy fetching water from remote sources. They risk physical and sexual attacks on the long walk. The water they collect often comes with parasites, bringing disease and general poor health. The carers of Oruchinga view household rainwater tanks as a critical need.

The Centre for Community Solidarity (CCS) is a new CWS partner, with the first funding being sent in 2008. The CCS, with only one full time paid staff member but many volunteer office holders and trainers, is working with twenty carer groups in the Oruchinga area to help families improve their living conditions and wellbeing. They provide training in building and maintaining water tanks. Over the past year, CWS has helped fund the construction of 150 tanks – several for each of the carer groups.

It is a great example of partnership. While CWS has funded support for materials not locally available, such as cement, steel reinforcement mesh, and outlet pipes, everything else required for the project has come from the community. The groups themselves select who will receive the tanks. To qualify for support the household must

collect the local materials needed (aggregate, hardcore, water) and assist with the collection of river sand as well as providing unskilled labour during the 7 days of construction. It has been impressive to see how quickly the CCS and carer groups threw themselves into the tasks. In the first three months they had already constructed 21 tanks, with 16 more underway. CWS has now funded a second year, for the construction of a further 100 household tanks and community training.

The finished tanks are making a big impact. But it is not only the provision of clean and convenient water that helps. The groups have also received training in hygiene and responses to HIV and AIDS. Through this part of the programme the community is learning to reduce the spread of HIV and AIDS as well as ways to lessen the negative social, economic and psychological



The finishing touches to a rainwater tank.

State of the World's Water



Hope

impacts. As builders of their own tanks, the families know how to maintain them and have gained in confidence by working together to overcome a serious problem in the area.

The rains come twice a year, and the runoff collected from roofs in the 6 cubic metre tanks meets the needs of the months ahead. The soils are fertile and the provision of a household water supply frees up time for people to grow more food. Nutrition improves and there is a surplus to sell for extra income, especially through banana growing. Now families can also consider raising small animals and poultry, which gives them further income and food options. Children are no longer at risk from the often fatal waterborne diseases inhabiting the river.

With health and income improving, and the hours once spent collecting water now available for other pursuits, the children of Oruchinga will have the possibility of attending school. This is the foremost hope of their elderly carers. "They would love to see their children go to school so they can support themselves in the future and become self-reliant," explains Charles Rwabamari, Coordinator of CCS. Your donations to CWS help these hopes to be realised. Please give generously to this @world appeal and return your coupon today.

Health

- Almost one-tenth of the global disease burden could be prevented by improving water supply, sanitation, hygiene and management of water resources.
- In 2000 diarrhoea accounted for 17% of the 10.6 million deaths in children younger than five. 1.4 million children die each year from preventable diarrhoeal diseases.

Access

- Only about 2.5% of water on the Earth is fresh water. Rain is the main source.
- Less than 20% of the world's drainage basins have pristine water quality.
- Agriculture is the main user of water. Globally 70% goes to irrigated agriculture, in some regions it can be up to 90%.
- More than 1 billion people have little or no access to renewable water resources.
- 85% of the world's population resides in the driest half of the Earth.
- The 10 largest water users (in volume) are India, China, the United

States, Pakistan, Japan, Thailand, Indonesia, Bangladesh, Mexico and the Russian Federation.

- As the population grows, life expectancy extends and globalisation of trade tempts more consumption, the demand for fresh water is increasing by 64 billion cubic metres a year.

Poverty

- The overall economic loss in Africa alone due to lack of access to safe water and basic sanitation is estimated at \$28.4 billion a year, or around 5% of GDP.
- According to the World Health Organisation, every dollar invested in safe drinking water and sanitation returns \$3-\$34, depending on the region.
- With water increasingly charged for at market rates, the poorest households have to spend 3%-11% of their income on water.
- Almost two in three people lacking access to safe drinking water survive on less than \$2 a day and one in three on less than \$1 a day.

From Water in a Changing World: UN World Water Development Report 2009



Scenes from Oruchinga, where water is improving food and livestock production, health and children's opportunities.

The issues ahead:

The world is on track to meet the Millennium Development Goal (MDG) target on drinking water. More than 90% of the global population should have safe drinking water sources by 2015. However, the sanitation target will not be met. Based on current trends, the total population without improved sanitation in 2015 will have decreased only slightly, from 2.5 billion to 2.4 billion. Additional investment is needed.

Climate change is expected to influence rainfall patterns and access to water. Water scarcity may limit food production and supply. This will increase food prices and the

dependence of many countries on food imports, putting further pressure on communities living in poverty.

Water scarcity is also likely to increase tensions between communities and contribute to conflicts. The Darfur crisis is in part based on access to water. The need for nomadic people to move into different areas for water increased confrontations with the pastoralist people also dependent on the declining water supplies. The lack of government investment in water resources exacerbated the situation and this is one of the identified factors in the inter-ethnic violence that has devastated the region.



World Humanitarian Day: Emergencies and aid

World Humanitarian Day raised awareness of many forgotten emergencies, such as people displaced by conflict in the eastern Congo, and the relief programmes helping them survive. ACT International has provided safe drinking water, latrines, and other support to families here, as well as to many residents of the host village. Photo: ACT International/ Paul Jeffrey.

On 19 August, the inaugural World Humanitarian Day was held. It was established by the United Nations to increase public understanding of humanitarian assistance worldwide and to honour humanitarian workers who have lost their lives or been injured in the course of their work.

It is a timely reminder of the escalating needs during emergencies worldwide. Long-running and intractable conflicts, many no longer “newsworthy” events, continue to exact a devastating toll on civilians. Some are left in a state of limbo. Refugees that have lived in camps for many years are neither considered for pure emergency nor for pure development projects. Natural disasters are increasing in frequency and severity. Through ACT (Action by Churches Together) International, CWS supports

lifesaving efforts of local organisations. “ACT humanitarian workers are different from others,” explains John Nduna, director of ACT International. “ACT is present in the local situations. As an alliance we are cooperating with the churches. They are always there, and part of the society.”

He says humanitarian work has changed. “The aid cowboys are gone. They entered the bush as a fire brigade, without knowing the people they came to help. They didn’t listen to them either. They are long gone.” Now it is important to see the dignity in other people and have knowledge of the society they are working in.

Unfortunately, there is also negative change. “Humanitarian workers were never targeted before,” Mr Nduna says. “They were seen as non-participants

who cared for the people. Today it is different. Those involved in conflicts know that the international society will notice them by attacking humanitarian workers.” Despite attacks on ACT workers in Somalia, Darfur, Iraq and Afghanistan, ACT International members continue recruiting mostly local people. Many are often volunteers, from the affected communities. Others have already lived through what the affected community is facing. Innocent Kaba, a project officer with Christian Care, whose relief programmes CWS has funded in Zimbabwe, says his passion to assist people in need is because he once was one of them. “When I was a child, the latrine that I used when I went to school was built by Christian Care. And so now, I work as a project officer with the organisation that helped me to go to school”.

Updates from:



The dilemma facing families displaced in Pakistan is whether to return to an uncertain future at home or live with uncertainty in refuge. CWS partners are helping both returnees and those remaining in host communities. photo: ACT International/Ghulam Raasol

Pakistan

Four million people displaced by fighting between Pakistani forces and the Taliban in the North West Frontier are being told to return home. The first hundred thousand have left, and are facing hard conditions. Their homes, shops, and livestock are destroyed, and there is an acute shortage of food. Most remain in host communities where other problems grow. The locals, themselves poverty-stricken, are supporting on average 25 people in their households. During this transition, CWS partners through ACT International will follow the homeless home, and at the same time continue



African led worship at the ACT Development conference on ACT unification, Buenos Aires, May.
Photo: ACT Development/S Hawkey

CWS joins new global Alliance

In May CWS supported the formation of the ACT (Action by Churches Together) Alliance, bringing together 150 church development and relief agencies with a common income of more than US\$2 billion dollars and a staff of 40,000, including volunteers. CWS voted to unify ACT International – the emergency response network that coordinates humanitarian operations all over the world – with ACT Development – which coordinates work in areas such as aid effectiveness, impact assessment and eradication of malaria. The members of the alliances come from both the global north and south.

“The magic of ACT is the cooperation with churches all over the world,” explains director of ACT International, John Nduna. “When most infrastructure collapses, there is still a church that operates and that we are working with. That represents a unique network.” The

new movement will be a professional and Christian alliance working on emergency response and development. It is increasingly difficult to differentiate between the end of emergency relief and recovery and general community development work. The new alliance will be able to better manage this transition, as well as rationalise resources and raise a compelling global voice.

Jill Hawkey, former director of CWS and current director of ACT Development says “the unification is a great moment for our members, since most of them work in both long-term development and emergency response. It makes sense to them coming together like this. Now we have the opportunity, and the tools, for a more strategic use of these funds.”

The formal launch of the new alliance will take place in March of next year. Watch for more details in the next @world.

to assist the displaced people living in camps and host communities.

Forty year-old Said Daulat expresses many of the concerns prospective returnees have. “Although we are very happy to go back, we have many concerns as to what will happen. Before we came here, I owned a rickshaw and was earning about five to six thousand rupees on a monthly basis. When we left in such a panic, my rickshaw was left behind. Now, I wonder how I will save money to buy a new one. Currently, my children have a playground. At least we are safe and secure, and as parents we do not need to ponder more on

their safety.”

Urgent needs remain for shelter, food, health services, sanitation, safe water, trauma counselling and livelihood opportunities.

Sri Lanka

Months after the fighting ended and the Sri Lankan government declared victory over the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE), concerns are mounting for the more than 260,000 people remaining in camps. Most are unable to leave, find work, attend school or access adequate medical care. ACT (Action by Churches

CWS STALWART TURNS

150!

The Mahurangi Methodist Parish, which includes Warkworth, Snells Beach and Point Wells, celebrates its 150th anniversary in October. Mahurangi has been a staunch supporter of CWS for many years. Successive presbyters have endorsed the work of CWS through support of the annual Christmas Appeal and emergency appeals. The parish is also active in promoting CWS campaigns, engaging the Northern fieldworker to speak on these at ‘cafe seminar’ style afternoons. Topics have included Fair Trade, Palestine, and water. “Learning about the underlying structures of poverty-related issues is important”, says Parish Link Annette Sharp.

The parish sees their support of CWS as a constructive way to help those less fortunate than themselves. After awareness raising from CWS the parish is now an enthusiastic supporter of Fair Trade, serving Trade Aid tea, coffee and hot chocolate after Sunday services, and selling these products to members of the congregation.

CWS wishes the parish well for its big celebration.



Mahurangi folk enjoy fair trade morning teas

Mahurangi Methodist

Together) International partners are delivering emergency relief supplies but contact with those living in the camps is tightly controlled. They are providing food for communal kitchens to feed 40,000 people and assisting with desperately needed water supplies. Although the Sri Lankan government has stated that it wants to move people out of the camps, it is still detaining most for ‘security reasons’ in what human rights groups are calling arbitrary detention. CWS is pressing the New Zealand government to make representation to the Government of Sri Lanka, and continues raising funds for the relief work.

From the National Director



I took up the position of National Director of Christian World Service in February 2009, after 15 years in Geneva working with the World YWCA, the World Council of Churches and lately with the World Health Organisation. I feel privileged to have been able to bring my interests and skills in development, social justice and ecumenism to CWS. It is an honour to work for this organisation, which has such a strong analytical base and a 64-year history of standing alongside and working with the poor.

Three main areas of our work really stand out for me.

Firstly, the inspiring programmes of our overseas partners as they tackle poverty in their own communities. It is no cliché to say they are making a real difference. As local people, they are on the spot and able to respond to actual needs, with a fuller understanding of the context they work in. I admire the way their focus changes as needs change, especially in the area of emergency relief. With their existing networks and commitment to involving people in their own recovery, our partners can provide relief quickly and appropriately. Many such disasters are being driven by climate change, and they are taking on this and other new issues that affect the wellbeing of their communities.



Computer exam, South India. CWS partners help educate and empower women. Photo: EKTA

As my knowledge of, and communication with, CWS partners increases, I have been struck by how similar we all are. We may be in different countries working in different contexts facing different realities but we are motivated by a common purpose and shared concerns.

Secondly, I am proud of the wider approach CWS takes. We do not just provide financial support to our partners, but we advocate and educate on the causes of poverty and injustice rather than providing 'band aid' relief for a few individuals. Thus we can make long term gains and bring about meaningful change.

Finally, since taking up this position, I have come to realise the incredible loyalty of our supporters. Over the last 60 plus years, CWS has formed close relationships with many churches, church groups and individuals. We appreciate this ongoing support and are humbled by the commitment and trust shown us. We feel honoured to act as this bridge between individuals and groups in New Zealand and communities in need overseas.

In reflecting on another successful year of action against poverty, we need to acknowledge the challenges of the year ahead. The economic recession and climate change are just two global problems that are impacting on our lives in New Zealand. CWS is concerned about how much greater the impact is for poor communities who have fewer resources to cope. Millions already live in a fragile balance between poverty and basic survival. More than ever people need decent community development assistance if they are going to survive. CWS will continue to advocate for appropriate overseas development assistance and call on supporters to assist the self reliance programmes that CWS funds.

Thank you to everyone who contributed to this work over the past year. We look forward to your ongoing partnership.

Pauline McKay
Pauline McKay

Annual Review

Over the last financial year, CWS staff have continued to produce resources, initiate campaigns for justice, relate to overseas partners, contact and visit parishes nationwide, and administer donations. The following are just some of the highlights and important changes for CWS during that time

Overseas Partners

Over the year CWS has supported 29 overseas partner groups as well as regional programmes in Asia and the Pacific and peace and justice programmes through the World Council of Churches (WCC). The WCC programmes have included being a public witness in conflict areas, promoting reconciliation, working for a nuclear weapon free zone in Africa and engaging churches to protect the earth's atmosphere and rights to water.

Central to the work of all our partners is the idea of empowerment – giving the support, training and resources needed for communities to be able to transform their own lives. One example is CEPAD (Council of Protestant Churches in Nicaragua). At the end of 2008 CEPAD ended their direct involvement with 33 communities. More than 800 people had been trained in advocacy for community services, agriculture, environmental protection and counselling. They now share this knowledge to help others improve their livelihoods and no longer need CEPAD's help. With these communities more self-sufficient, CEPAD has moved to 43 new communities, and the process continues.

CWS partners funded in 2008-09:

Africa: Maridi Service Agency Youth Programme (Sudan), Church of Uganda/PDR Participatory Community Empowerment, CCS Rainwater Tanks for HIV and AIDS affected Groups (Uganda), African Women Filmmakers Trust (Zimbabwe).

Asia: Christian Conference of Asia (regional), Church World Service Cambodia Local Institution Development Support (Cambodia),

EKTA Gender Training Programme, FEDWE Promotion of the Dalit Women's Movement, HRF Empowering Women in Local Government, NEYTHAL Coastal Protection, SNEHA Integrated Development of Tsunami Affected Communities, Social Action for New Development, Women Development Resource Centre, Youth Education (India), Developers Women's Enterprise Development and Gender Equality (Philippines), Devasarana Development Centre Rural Programme, Movement for Land and Agricultural Reform, Women's Centre Programme for Workers (Sri Lanka).

Latin America: House of Passage for Children and Youth (Brazil), Las Dignas National Women's Programme (El Salvador), ICKL Popular Education and Capacity Building (Haiti), CEPAD National Community Development Programme (Nicaragua).

Middle East: Programme for Palestinian Refugees (Palestine)

Pacific: Pacific Conference of Churches (Regional), Bougainville Education Development Programme (Bougainville), ECREA Capacity Building Programme (Fiji), Human Rights and Democracy Movement in Tonga, Tonga Trust Village Women's Programme - Ama Takiloa (Tonga), Sustainable Agriculture & Youth/Women's Training, Fusona Livelihood Improvement Programme (Timor Leste), Association Morurua e tatou (Tahiti).

Aotearoa: CAFCA/Anti Bases Coalition, ChangeMakers Refugee Forum, Christchurch People's Resource Centre – BAS, Peace Movement Aotearoa, Human Rights Film Festival.

Emergencies

CWS has responded to a range of emergencies this year with funds going to relief in the Democratic Republic of Congo, Ethiopia, Darfur, Zimbabwe, Burma, China, India, Pakistan, Philippines, Sri Lanka, Haiti, Gaza, Fiji, the Solomon Islands and the Victorian bushfire appeal in Australia.

Some have been large public appeals, others have received support from the New Zealand government's Humanitarian Action Fund (HAF). Based on proven capacity, organisations like CWS can apply for HAF block grants. Three years on, we are really seeing its value as it enables us to plan and respond quickly when needs arise. For example, we could send money to help in the wake of Typhoon Frank in the Philippines as soon as we received a phone call from our partners. In the case of Sri Lanka, CWS's commitment to funding gave

our partners the guarantee they needed to start providing relief. NGOs need to demonstrate support from the New Zealand community in the form of public donations, so donor support has been important in accessing the HAF fund.

Emergency response is not just about relief when needed. CWS has been active in advocacy over the causes of humanitarian disasters and treatment of civilians caught up in conflict, most recently in regard to conditions for Tamils in the displacement camps in Sri Lanka. Disaster preparedness is another area CWS is working on with partners, ensuring communities are ready to cope when disaster strikes. In South India, village task forces trained and equipped after the 2004 tsunami were able to act quickly when Cyclone Nisha struck in November 2008. They arranged evacuations, removed trees and other debris, diverted stagnant water and provided rice for emergency rations.

CWS was pleased to be able to provide ongoing support in Darfur. When the International Criminal Court issued a warrant for the President of Sudan on war crimes in Darfur in March 2009, many foreign relief agencies were expelled. The programme CWS is supporting was one of the few to be able to keep operating.

Campaigning for Change

It has been a busy year for raising awareness and educating on the issues behind poverty and injustice. The Global Youth Encounter brought together young people around New Zealand with partner representatives from Sri Lanka, Timor Leste and Fiji. They shared common experiences and issues facing young people and learnt more about living with conflict. One participant said it made the news stories more real, having met someone her own age who had had to hide from soldiers. CWS also worked with young people, raising awareness of how the materials used to manufacture their mobile phones are fuelling conflict over resources in the Congo. The Lenten Walk for the Planet launched the CWS climate change campaign and CWS provided a unique perspective with a stall on climate change impacts in developing countries at the Earth Hour celebrations in Christchurch in March. Sarath Fernando, from MONLAR in Sri Lanka was a special guest and spoke of the impact of disrupted weather patterns on agriculture and food production. We also produced many publications, responded to parliamentary select committees and advocated with key MPs on partner issues.

Another successful activity is the annual APW/MWF's special project. The women's associations of the Presbyterian and Methodist churches focus on and fundraise for a CWS partner, CWS provides background information and speakers on the issue.

Improved communications

CWS has built its new website over the last year, with the goal of providing an informative and regularly updated site. It features news, partner stories and resources. We hope to add video footage in the coming year. Our thanks to people who have used the online surveys and feedback forms. The Christmas Appeal has also been streamlined, and now features electronic media. Other new media includes a CWS facebook page started by the young people participating in the Global Youth Encounter and a CWS presence on Twitter. These adaptations enable us to reach new audiences and meet the changing needs of current supporters. The traditional paper communications are still available for those who prefer it.

Partner visits

CWS hosted Tet Naraval from Developers in the Philippines, Sarath Fernando from MONLAR, Sri Lanka, as well as four representatives from Church World Service Pakistan/Afghanistan. Such visits are important opportunities to strengthen relationships, especially allowing our partners to learn more about how CWS works and how New Zealanders support their work. They provide the space to discuss development issues and challenges away from the day-to-day demands of their offices, improve understanding and share practical information. Such visitors are also important for letting churches and supporters know how their donations help bring about change and allowing partners to raise issues directly with New Zealand aid officials and politicians.

A goat for your nanny!

Last Christmas, many people wanted to give virtual gifts that assisted our partners' programmes so CWS launched Just Gifts. Based on the excellent feedback, CWS has further expanded this into the 'Gifted' programme with a larger range of 'gifts' and a special magnet as a more lasting reminder of the donation being made on the recipients' behalf. See the back cover for more details.

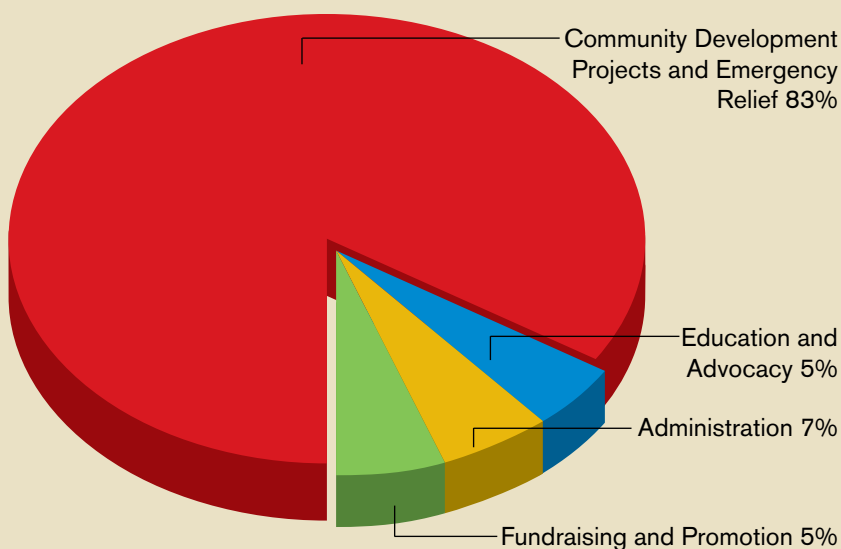


Annual Report 2008-2009

Summary Statement of Financial Performance

Income	\$
2008 Christmas Appeal	560 572
<i>Grants from the Government's Overseas Development Assistance</i>	
-Subsidies under the KOHA-PICD Scheme	2 370 000
-Humanitarian Action Fund (Emergency) grants	548 297
<i>Special Appeals for</i>	
-Sudan	41 005
-Burma	8 414
Methodist 2% grant	9 931
William Walters Trust	5 568
Christchurch Anglican Diocese	6 500
Association of Presbyterian Women/ Methodist Women's Fellowship (for Brazil – House of Passage Programme for Children and Youth)	56 662
World Day of Prayer (Nat. Committee Church Women United Aotearoa-New Zealand)	23 000
Quaker Peace and Service Aotearoa/New Zealand	10 500
Regular Contributors	129 864
Direct Mail Appeals	179 535
David Ellison Trust	7 000
Other donations from individuals, groups and parishes	300 751
Interest	179 641
Total Income for the Year	4 437 240
Expenditure	
Funding for Community Development Projects and Emergency Relief	3 610 625
Education and Advocacy	231 641
Administration	289 529
Fundraising and Promotion	221 894
Total Expenditure for the Year	4 353 689

CWS expenditure 2008-2009



Please contact CWS if you would like a copy of the audited financial report.



July 08: Young people in New Zealand got a firsthand account of peace and justice issues in Fiji, Timor Leste and Sri Lanka during the Global Youth Encounter. It was a good opportunity to share the common issues and difficulties facing young kiwis while opening their eyes to experiences elsewhere.



November: Craft activities are such a popular part of the Women's Programme on Lauru, in the Solomon Islands, that male boat drivers are asking to be involved! Income from the sale of crafts enables women to be more independent and meet increasing financial demands such as their children's school fees.



March: The focus was the environment, with CWS supporting the Lenten Walk for the Planet and participating in Christchurch's Earth Hour events. The only development agency to be represented, CWS highlighted the plight of poor communities as climate change further challenges their vulnerable existence.



August: CWS launched a special appeal for Darfur with Caritas, focusing attention on a forgotten crisis with vigils on 1 August. An impressive display of Darfur images showed the reality facing over 2 million people displaced from their homes. The images have since toured churches and cathedrals around the country raising funds for Darfur.



September: CWS staff met with the Church of Uganda, who last year trained 240 volunteers as home carers for people living with HIV and AIDS. Where there is limited or expensive public transport, bicycles help them reach the families they care for. Other projects include income generation, livestock and reforestation.



October: CWS supported an international campaign to highlight conflict in the Democratic Republic of Congo and funded ACT International relief programmes for people displaced by the ongoing fighting. Nearly 6 million people have died since 1996 in the war over resources, half of them children under 5 years.

Photo: ACT International



December: Tet Naraval, from Developers in the Philippines, was one of several partner representatives hosted by CWS. These visits are important for raising issues with government officials, letting churches and supporters know how their donations help bring about change and enable partners to reach a larger audience with their concerns.



January 09: The Gaza crisis. CWS partner, the Middle East Council of Churches was directly affected when its mother and child health clinic was destroyed. Despite this, the Department of Service to Palestinian Refugees managed to provide medical care for injured civilians, food and water, and ongoing trauma counselling.

Photo: ACT International



February: Youth Topics 15 was released. It examines what peacemakers do at the grass roots level – the courageous, determined people working tirelessly to resolve the differences at the heart of conflict in their communities. This was just one of the many publications CWS produced during the year to educate and advocate on justice issues.



April: A visit to Timor Leste showed the struggling new nation is putting civil unrest behind it and approaching the future more optimistically. CWS staff saw lots of energy and commitment for building a better future, with CWS partners helping women's groups improve their income, some by mattress and pillow making.



May: Fighting between the Pakistani Army and Taliban forces displaced over one million people in Pakistan's North West. People, many of whom had never left their communities before, were forced to go at short notice, with few belongings. CWS launched an appeal to assist with shelter, food, water and medicines.

Photo: ACT International



June: A visit to Haiti highlighted amazing determination. Women received seeds to help restart their farms following a hurricane. But heavy rains destroyed their new crops. Not giving up, the women are being assisted by CWS partner ICKL. They were thankful someone from NZ came to see them when their own politicians never have.



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Spring 09

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CWS, the development, justice and aid agency of New Zealand churches, acts to end poverty and injustice throughout the world. We fund groups working for better lives and livelihoods in their local communities, support humanitarian relief in times of disaster, campaign against the causes of global poverty and educate within Aotearoa New Zealand. CWS responds to people's needs regardless of race or religion.

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