



CWS Update

JULY 2017

FOR YOUR DIARY



31 July Final day for donations to [Operation Refugee](#).

6 August [Peace Sunday](#) and Hiroshima Day

9 August Nagasaki Day

13 August [Sunday of Prayer for the Reunification of the Korean Peninsula](#)

19 August [World Humanitarian Day](#)



17—24 September [World Week of Peace in Palestine and Israel](#)

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Christian World Service is a member of the [ACT Alliance](#) (Action by Churches Together)

Philippines: A Local Economy



Filipinas learn how to make new products from the bananas they grow. Photo: Developers

Typhoon Haiyan in 2013 was a major turning point for Filipinos living in Aklan province where CWS partner Developers is based. Part of the community, Developers has shown how important local partners are in the recovery. Donations to the typhoon appeal and the Special Project of Methodist and Presbyterian women have funded their work. CWS also gave money to the National Council of Churches for relief supplies.

Nearly three years later, Developers has reported on the second phase of their recovery plan. In the first phase, they [used](#) your donations to provide corrugated iron roofing for 3,061 homes— 98% of houses were damaged or destroyed in the super typhoon—and repaired schools. Developers facilitated workshops involving community members of all ages and local government to plan their next steps. Economic recovery, climate mitigation and more disaster preparedness training were their priorities. They asked CWS for funds to replant 12,000 trees and root crops—and members of nearly 1,500 households planted 49,540 - including banana, coconut, cassava and taro. Your donations bought seeds and replaced farming and fishing equipment lost in the storm through a small credit scheme.

Last year Developers organised workshops on disaster planning, economic development and first aid skills in 6 communities. The brand new farmer's market built and run by the people of Cabanigla is cutting out middlemen and keeping money in the local market. Every Saturday they sell produce and goods they have made. Three fishermen come from the coast to run stalls. The next phase is to replant mangroves. CWS has just sent funds to plant the first hectare. Buying [Mangroves](#) is one way to support this work.

Operation Refugee

The 140 participants in this year's Operation Refugee have raised \$55,404 for Syrian refugees—a tremendous effort. Read the [final report](#).



Photo: ACT Alliance/ Paul Jeffrey

Syria: Refugees assisted

Thank you for your gifts to Syrian refugees. In Lebanon, the Department of Service to Palestinian Refugees helped Syrian refugees sheltering in Palestinian camps with emergency cash grants and education programmes. In Sidon for example, they run classes for 14-18 year olds with Syrian teachers as well as offering extra tuition for students in the United Nations run schools which use French as the language of instruction. Last year DSPR organised travel, accommodation, visas and exam entry for more than 300 students returning to Damascus to sit their important Brevet and Baccalaureate exams. In Syria, DSPR supports a school run by volunteer teachers in badly destroyed Yarmouk camp with books and by organising student entry for exams.

In Jordan, DSPR provided food parcels, women's dignity kits, infant clothes, blankets, winter clothes and stoves to 13,700 families as part of its work last year. 17,689 refugees benefited from free medical care, health and nutrition training, mother support groups, women's forums, life skills or livelihood training and children's training. The Operation Refugee [report](#) highlights work directly funded by CWS, matched by the NZ Government.

S Sudan: Hunger Spreads

Nidier [left home](#) with her five children seeking food after losing her crops to drought. CWS is appealing for donations, so ACT Alliance can get relief to some of the 6 million people in need of food. If you can, [please help](#).



ACT/Paul Jeffrey

What do you think?

Please let us know what you think about CWS Update and return the [4 minute survey](#).

Sri Lanka Floods

CWS sent \$7,000 to partner Monlar to enable local people to [respond](#) after May's heavy monsoon. The flooding on top of earlier drought affected nearly 700,000 people in the southwest. Monlar an organization that includes small farmers and agricultural experts will support 300 families with seeds, tools and advice to replant using the eco-agricultural methods they have developed. They will do further work on disaster preparedness, including with government so farmers cope with changing weather patterns.

No Nuclear Treaty

On July 7 a new UN treaty banning the manufacture, possession and use of nuclear weapons was passed by 122 nations. The nine countries with nuclear weapons and their supporters opposed it. The treaty prohibits the direct or indirect use, threat of use, possession, acquisition and development of nuclear weapons.

The treaty requires states to provide assistance to victims of nuclear weapons use and testing, and requires environmental remediation for areas contaminated by radiation. Nations can sign on to the treaty from September 20 and it will enter into force after 50 countries have ratified it. The New Zealand government made the negotiations a high priority. Roland Oldham of Moruroa e Tatou [spoke](#) of harm done by nuclear testing. See [ICAN](#).

CWS includes more information in this year's Peace Sunday resources, "[Hear, a Just Cause, O Lord](#)" for 6 August, Hiroshima Day.

CWS supports Zero Carbon Act

CWS is supporting the campaign to put climate change action into government legislation. This month, retiring Commissioner for the Environment Jan Wright [supported](#) the proposal. Last month experts [warned](#) the world has three years to take measures to stop the worst affects.

Winter Story

Fatima from Syria tells her story in [The War Refused to Leave Us](#). From a woman working at home through DSPR she has found new purpose as a volunteer health trainer assisting other refugee women and their families in Jordan. Please support refugees through our [Winter Appeal](#). Ask [Pam](#) for more copies.

About Update

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