



Canadian Lutheran
World Relief

Canadian Lutheran World Relief

Annual Report 2016 - 2017





Mission

Inspired by God's love for humanity, Canadian Lutheran World Relief (CLWR) challenges the causes and responds to the consequences of human suffering and poverty. As a specialized agency of the Lutheran community in Canada, CLWR offers Canadians opportunities to understand and serve the needs of others.

Vision

CLWR strives for a world where people live in peace with hope, justice, dignity and equality, empowered to achieve their universal rights to quality of life and to have their basic needs met.

Greetings

Many national and international organizations are privileged to partner with CLWR and we with them. Partnering is one of our core values. You'll find it in our Partnership and Accountability Values statement.

“Christ calls us all to work together to serve others in their need. Partnership is fundamental to CLWR, with the principles of understanding, fairness and trust embodied within all activities it undertakes with its stakeholders. In partnerships, CLWR reflects intentional and respectful collaboration, mutuality, accountability and transparency.”

In this message, I wish to highlight our primary partnership with The Lutheran World Federation's Department for World Service (LWF-DWS) on this 500th anniversary of the Reformation.

The Department for World Service is one of three departments of the LWF. DWS has programs in 24 countries of which CLWR supports six: Jerusalem, Jordan and the Holy Land; Iraq; Ethiopia; Uganda; Democratic Republic of Congo, and the Philippines. We have a seat on the Committee for World Service (presently held by our Program Manager, Patricia Maruschak); and our Executive Director, Robert Granke, serves on the board of the Augusta Victoria Hospital in Jerusalem.

In partnership with LWF-DWS, CWLR shares responsibility and resources with the 145 member churches of the federation and their specialized agencies, e.g., Norwegian Church Aid, Czech Diakonia, Lutheran World Relief (USA), FinnChurchAid, Bread for the World (Germany), Australian Lutheran World Service.

LWF holds partnership status with United Nations organs (UN High Commissioner for Refugees [UNHCR], World Food Program [WFP], and Food and Agricultural Organization [FAO]). It is also partnered with Institutional Partners and Global Networks (see LWF website, lutheranworld.org, for a complete listing).

As you can see, our relationship with LWF-DWS privileges us with many opportunities to serve with others throughout the world.

Thanks be to God!



MARCUS BUSCH
PRESIDENT

“Inspired by God’s love for humanity, CLWR challenges the causes and responds to the consequences of human suffering and poverty. One of the key ways we accomplish our mission is by working through partnerships with Canadian Lutherans like you and organizations that share our vision for the world.”

Working with our partner, The Lutheran World Federation (LWF), we have been able to meet the needs of South Sudanese refugees, like Malang Arok Akol and her grandchildren, who are now living in Uganda (pp.6-7). In Jordan, partnering with LWF means that school children have safer environments in which to learn and play, and their teachers receive additional training (p.5). Here in Canada, a partnership between CLWR, Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada and Lutheran Church–Canada provides new houses to people like Brenda* who lost their homes in the Fort McMurray wildfires (p.14). I invite you to explore all the stories in this year’s annual report to discover how your support has helped make a difference in the lives of people around the world.

This year, we were pleased to form two new partnerships: one with the Humanitarian Coalition and one with the World Council of Churches. During global humanitarian crises, the Humanitarian Coalition, of which CLWR is now a member, unites Canadians to help and to save more lives. We are excited to be part of this leading-edge organization and look forward to the opportunities to meet peoples’ needs through the new partnerships with other members.

As a newly admitted specialized ministry of the World Council of Churches, this partnership offers

opportunities to engage in joint action on refugee rights through the Ecumenical United Nations Office in New York.

For over 70 years, your partnership with us has meant families have received shelter, children have gone to school, hungry people have been fed, refugees have begun new lives in Canada, and so much more. We praise God for your longstanding support. Together we are creating a world where people live in justice, peace and dignity.

*Last name withheld



ROBERT GRANKE
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE & DEVELOPMENT



Transforming Schools Inspires Students

Principal Abeer Al-Muhaisen has worked tirelessly alongside Canadian Lutheran World Relief's local partner, The Lutheran World Federation Jordan, to transform a once struggling school into a lively hub of learning.

“Our school has increasingly become a community that fosters integrity, loyalty and acceptance of one another’s opinions,” she says. “These virtues are not confined to the school hours, but pervade the homes and lives of our students.”

When the high school girls enter her office, their admiration for their principal and school is palpable.

“We are so proud of how beautiful our school is, and we are much more motivated to learn here,” explains Majd*, who has been a student in the girls’ school since kindergarten. When she is not studying for her university entrance exams—she hopes to become an optometrist—Majd and her friends love to decorate their classroom and help keep the school clean. A stroll through the grounds reveals freshly painted pastel walls, a cozy refurbished library, newly installed classroom doors and aesthetic displays of student art. When the bell rings to announce a break between classes, students help the custodial staff tidy the bright hallways.



Beyond beautification and hygiene efforts, the school rehabilitation project applies cutting-edge teacher training to support creative and modern education. Doctor Mohammad Khawaldeh, a former family lawyer, is one of Jordan’s leading teacher trainers.

“Jordan is an oasis among conflict-ridden countries,” he says. “To sustain peace, we must be a nation of educated citizens. Excellent teachers are the key to violence prevention.”

Social studies teacher Fatima Al A’amoure found the methodology from the training useful. “I learned many techniques in the training that I can apply to my own classroom. I am now able to foster a high level of discussion among my students.”

Striving to provide an improved physical and psychosocial environment for boys and girls in Jordanian public schools, Canadian Lutheran World

Relief and The Lutheran World Federation Jordan are collaborating to bring infrastructure rehabilitation and education staff training to 75 schools across Jordan by 2019. An estimated 27,750 students will directly benefit from the program’s achievements.

*Last name withheld

Emily Massell is the Project Support Officer for The Lutheran World Federation Jordan

Shelters Provide a Sense of Normalcy for Refugees

It took 12 days for Malang Arok Akol to travel from her home in Jonglei state, South Sudan to Adjumani, Uganda. When she arrived, she reconnected with family members who had previously sought refuge in Uganda. Now the grandmother of 12 lives with her grandchildren on the 30 x 30 metre plot that the Ugandan government provides for refugees.

Three tukuls—round houses—stand on the family's homestead, two of which were built with support from CLWR in partnership with Lutheran World Federation Uganda. The tukuls are deeply appreciated by the family. When some of the children first arrived in 2014, they spent a week and a half sleeping outside under the trees.

“Life was terrible—it was not good, because when we were under the trees, there was nowhere to stay in when it rains,” says 12-year-old Ajok Akoi. “Now we have shelter; our lives have changed. Now we don’t get rained on and life is normal.”

Shelter is a primary concern for many South Sudanese refugees in Uganda, particularly for those who are unable to construct their own homes. With support from Canadians and funding from the Government of





Canada, CLWR has been providing housing for people with specific needs, such as child- or elder-headed households, and others, since 2015.

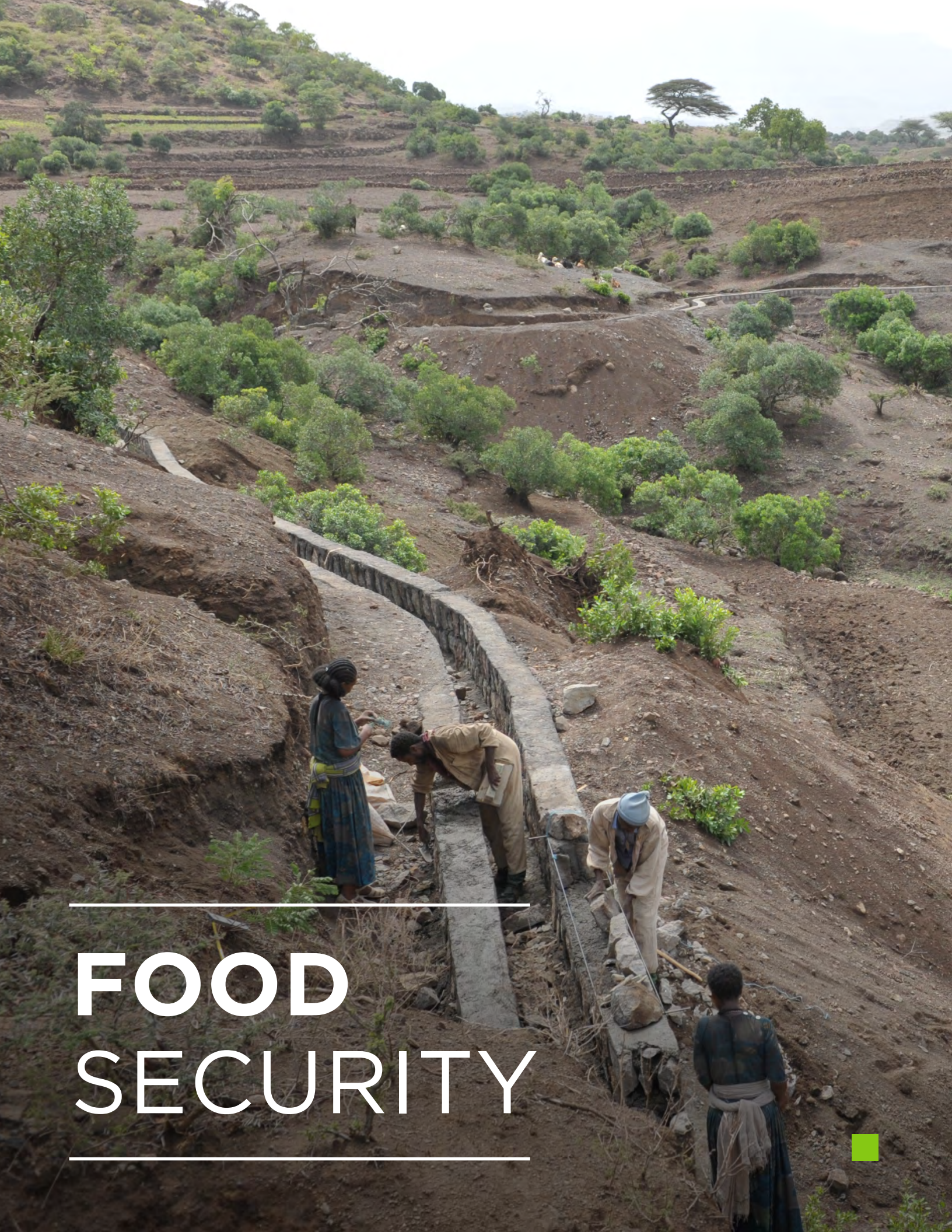
CLWR supports construction training for the youth who build the tukuls, equipping them with employable skills while meeting needs in the refugee settlements and their communities. Over five days, they gain the skills and knowledge required to build or repair tukuls and latrines. Families often watch and wait with excitement during the construction period.

“When a person with specific needs has a shelter, it lifts you up,” says Joseph Anyama, a construction group leader who works with Lutheran World Federation Uganda. “You feel very joyful. It makes you happy and inspires you to work harder.”

CLWR also provides essential items such as mattresses, sleeping mats, cups and plates, utensils and soap. Many South Sudanese refugees arrive in Uganda with very little and the provision of these necessities helps make life a little easier.

“If we were not given these things, we would have no other option,” says Arok Akol. “Thank you [Canadians] because you have given us shelters, mattresses—you have done your part for the children.”

Ellen Pauley is the Communications Manager for Canadian Lutheran World Relief



FOOD SECURITY



How to Create a Forest

When Birzegen Yiman, looks over the construction site, she does not see dust and dirt. She notices the more than 300 women and a few men who carry heavy rocks, build terraces and shovel the dark Ethiopian soil. However, when she closes her eyes she can visualize a forest.

“Where there is a forest, there is life,” Birzegen Yimam says. “We create life for the people. In ten years, this region will be completely covered in green.”

Yimam is the surveyor of a project for food security in one of the village districts run by The Lutheran World Federation (LWF) Ethiopia program. She measures the lengths of terraces and instructs workers where to place the rocks. The project aims to improve the environment, help people adapt to the changing climate and provide short-term relief to those affected by drought.

Lalibela, in northern Ethiopia, is an arid lowland, where water has always been scarce. Climate change and recurrent extended droughts in the past years have made it increasingly difficult for local farmers to continue the rain-fed agriculture they are used to. Left without a livelihood, people started migrating to the cities and even abroad.

Things have to change if the people are going to survive generation after generation in this region. LWF projects make use of tools and fertilizers already available to the farmers, like hoes, sickles and manure from local livestock. A team of LWF experts is teaching them how to get the most out of the land and how to prevent exhaustion of the soil.





Many of the people under Birzegen Yimam's supervision use the cash-for-work program on community land for extra income as the recurrent extended droughts in Ethiopia make it difficult for them to rely on the produce of their own farms. Yimam herself left school after grade seven. During the past years, she developed from an unskilled worker to becoming one of the project supervisors.

In almost three years, the workers in Lalibela have built channels capable of irrigating land to benefit 120 farmers and their families. Community land has been

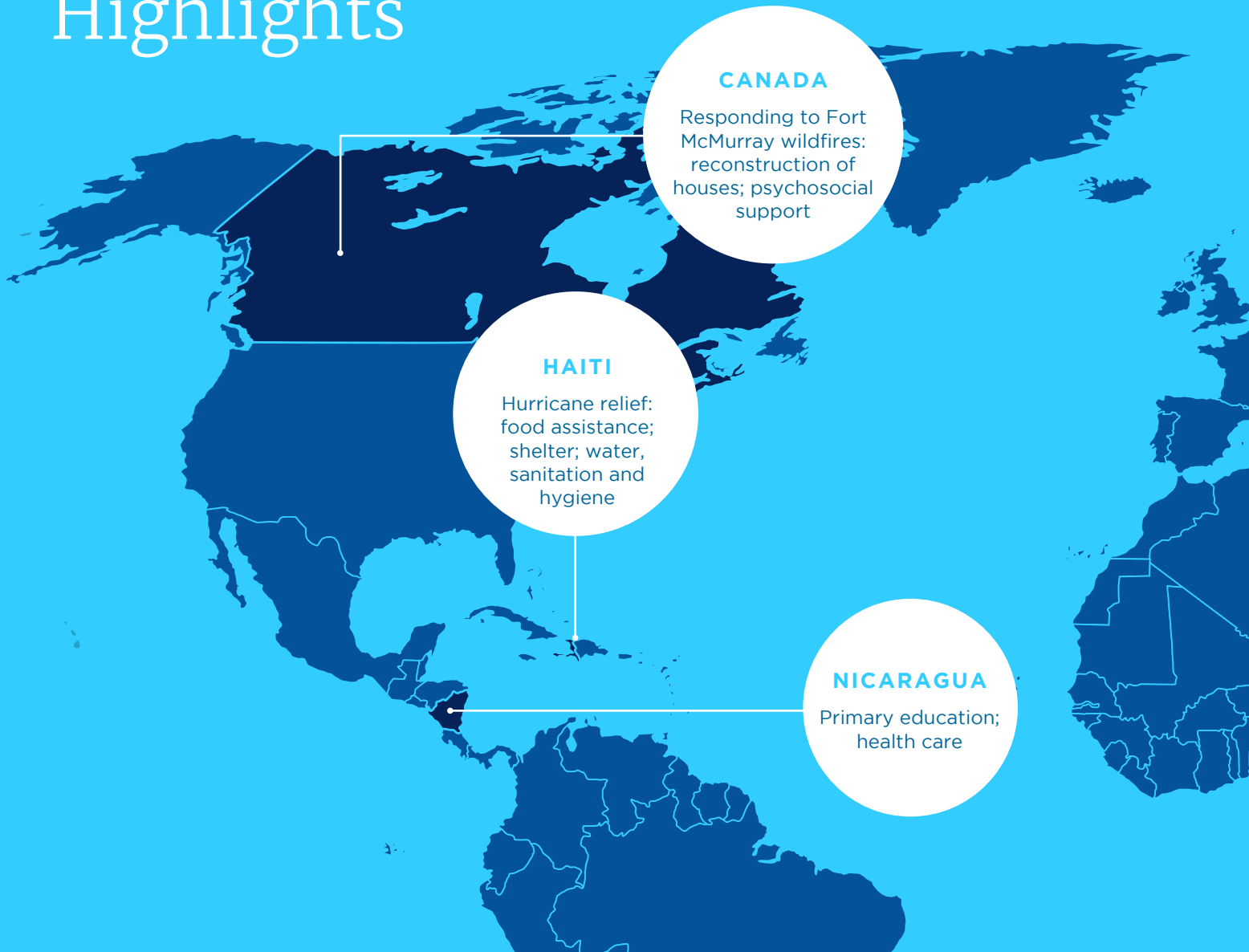
covered with terraces for soil and water conservation, and trees.

Yimam's youngest child is tied to her back, protected from the sun under her long coat. Only two little feet stick out beside her hips. The nine-month-old girl is named Workinesh, "Gold."

Yimam hopes she will play in the forest one day.

Cornelia Kästner is the Journalist for World Service at The Lutheran World Federation

Program Highlights



CANADA

Responding to Fort McMurray wildfires: reconstruction of houses; psychosocial support

HAITI

Hurricane relief: food assistance; shelter; water, sanitation and hygiene

NICARAGUA

Primary education; health care

You are making a difference in the lives of people around the world. Thank you!

In 2016-17, we provided over \$6.9 million of assistance in 24 countries. Our work this year focused on:



Meeting the immediate and short-term needs of refugees, internally displaced people and those affected by natural disasters



Strengthening communities through renovating schools, training educators, supporting employment training



Feeding families through agricultural support, training and infrastructure development



Partnering with Canadian Lutherans to sponsor and resettle refugees



ISRAEL/PALESTINE

Supporting Augusta Victoria Hospital and the Elder Care and Palliative Medicine Institute; Lutheran World Federation Vocational Training Program

JORDAN

Improving learning environments: school rehabilitation, education staff training

IRAQ

Supporting displaced Iraqis: non-food items; shelter; water, sanitation and hygiene; psychosocial support

ETHIOPIA

Supporting small-scale farmers: Agriculture and livelihood support; food security; water, sanitation and hygiene; refugee support; environmental protection

UGANDA

Supporting South Sudanese refugees and members of communities hosting them: shelter; water, sanitation and hygiene; vocational training for youth; non-food items

* Totals include international programs and We Care humanitarian aid shipments.



EMERGENCY RELIEF



Partnership provides life-changing support for Fort McMurray residents

In Fort McMurray, Alberta, support from Canadian Lutherans and others is helping residents as they resettle and rebuild more than a year after wildfires caused widespread devastation in the region.

CLWR is partnering with the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada (ELCIC) and Lutheran Church-Canada (LCC) to help meet the physical and psychosocial needs of community members. CLWR is grateful to Rev. Dr. Larry Kochendorfer, Bishop of the Synod of Alberta and the Territories (ABT), and Rev. Dr. Glenn Schaeffer, President of the Alberta-British Columbia District (ABC), for their counsel and guidance during this response.

“I just can’t believe it,” says Brenda*, speaking about her new house. Built through CLWR’s partnership with Mennonite Disaster Service (MDS), Brenda’s new home is one of three built for people who lost their houses in the fire. MDS is a volunteer network of Anabaptist churches that responds in Christian love to those affected by disasters in Canada and the United States.

Through a partnership with Waypoints, CLWR is helping address the psychosocial—emotional and

mental health—needs of those affected by the fires. Waypoints is a social for-profit organization that has been working to end domestic violence, sexual assault, abuse and homelessness in the Wood Buffalo region since 1982.

CLWR has provided a two-year grant to Waypoints to expand the reach of their domestic violence services in Fort McMurray and the surrounding rural communities. The funding has resulted in increased visits to the rural communities, raising awareness about the services Waypoints offers. Increased staffing, along with more visits to the surrounding communities, has provided both adults and children with access to counselling in the community as travel to Fort McMurray is not always possible.

*Last name withheld

Ellen Paulley is the Communications Manager for Canadian Lutheran World Relief

“I would like to thank each and every one of you who have helped me overcome my biggest hurdles and challenges this year,” she says. “It means a lot to me and my family, what you have done. It seems that thank you is not enough, but thank you from the bottom of my heart.”



We Care...

Canadian Lutheran
World Relief®

**WE
CARE**



Shipment Overview

Thanks to the generous support of Canadian Lutherans, four humanitarian aid shipments were sent to Mauritania, Nicaragua, Lesotho and Swaziland, containing quilts and blankets, baby bundles, We Care kits, and other items such as dehydrated soup mix, carpentry tools and sewing machines. The shipments supported CLWR partner organizations who are responding in communities affected by drought, working with schools and social service organizations, and supporting refugees and those living in adverse conditions.

Over 34,200 kilograms were shipped in total, worth over \$314,000.

Over 3,025 boxes of donations given by 273 congregations across Canada.



4,042

BABY
BUNDLES
SHIPPED



3,990

WE CARE
BAGS
ORDERED



11,525

WE CARE
KITS
SHIPPED



2,186

WE CARE KIT
BACKPACKS
ORDERED



10,204

QUILTS &
BLANKETS
SHIPPED



3,439

WE CARE
QUILT TAGS
ORDERED



REFUGEE RESETTLEMENT



Refugee Resettlement

WELCOMING THE STRANGER

For St. Peter's Evangelical Lutheran Church in Winnipeg, Manitoba, sponsoring a refugee family was a tangible response to Christ's call to help and welcome the stranger.

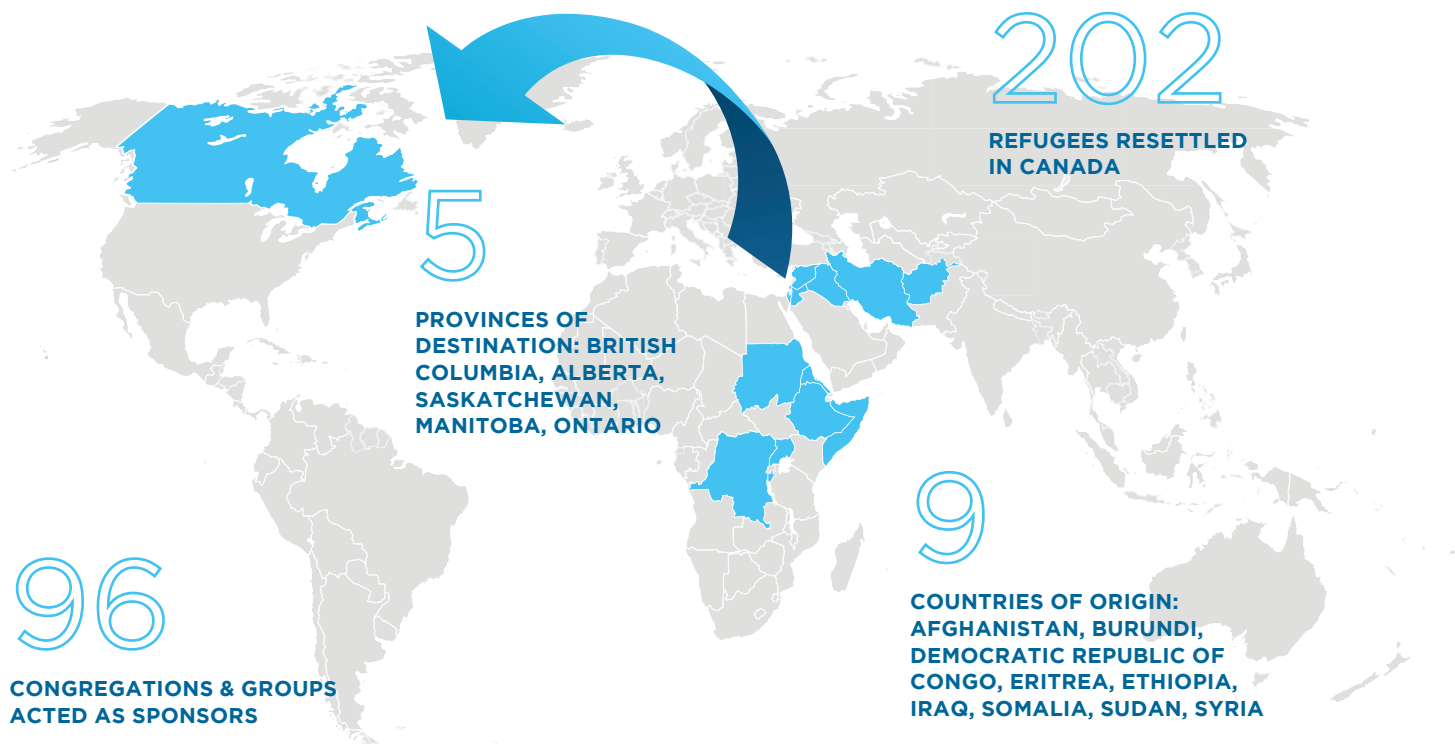
"In the New Testament, we hear the commandment to practice hospitality and be welcoming to the stranger," says Pastor Bjoern Meinhardt. "We are called to provide for those in need who are less fortunate—this is a piece of solidarity that grows out of our faith."

The congregation partnered with CLWR to sponsor a refugee family from Eritrea who arrived in Winnipeg in August 2016.

Their arrival marked the beginning of a new life for them, filled with new experiences, friendships and opportunities.

"I think [CLWR's] ministry is wonderful in many ways, including as a resource to help with groups, congregations and Lutherans who are wanting to be involved in refugee sponsorship," says Tom Lurvey, a retired pastor and member of the refugee family caregivers group at St. Peter's Evangelical Lutheran Church. "The resources, information and help [CLWR] gave with the whole process is fabulous."

Ellen Paulley is the Communications Manager for Canadian Lutheran World Relief



Financial Highlights

INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMS*



AMERICAS

3 countries

\$96,994 budgeted **1.5%**



MIDDLE EAST

3 countries

\$3,404,684 budgeted **53.2%**



AFRICA

14 countries

\$2,883,414 budgeted **45%**

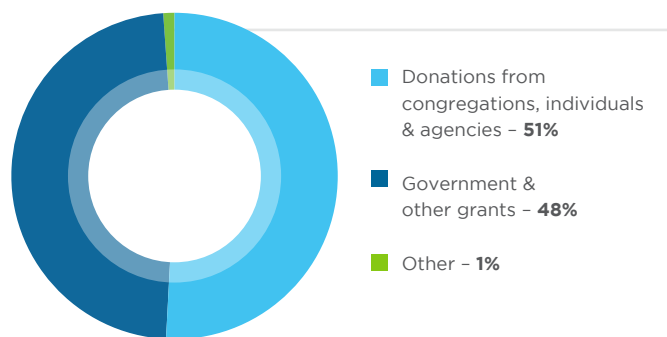


ASIA

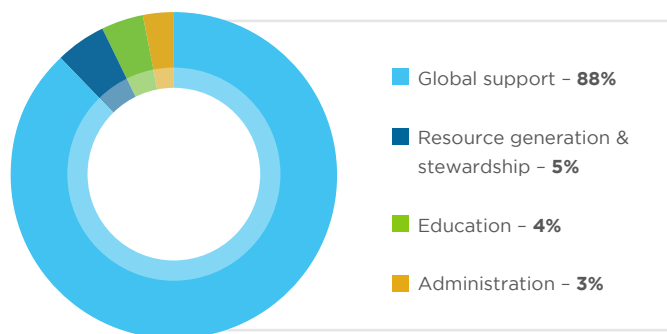
3 countries

\$20,294 budgeted **0.3%**

WHERE OUR SUPPORT CAME FROM



WHAT WE DID WITH YOUR SUPPORT



* Totals do not include domestic emergencies, We Care shipments, small church projects, program reviews and evaluations, and other miscellaneous support.

Thank you

CLWR gratefully acknowledges the support we receive from the following:

- Government of Canada (Global Affairs Canada)
- Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada
- Lutheran Church-Canada
- Lutheran congregations and individuals across Canada
- Our volunteers
- Canadian Foodgrains Bank
- Manitoba Council for International Cooperation
- Saskatchewan Council for International Cooperation
- The Lutheran World Federation
- ACT Alliance
- Humanitarian Coalition

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2016-17

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Canadian Lutheran
World Relief

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CLWR carries out international development programming, emergency relief and refugee resettlement on behalf of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada and Lutheran Church-Canada.

CLWR is a member of: ACT Alliance, Canadian Foodgrains Bank and the Humanitarian Coalition.

