

May God bless us with just enough foolishness
To believe that we can make a difference in the world,
To bring justice and kindness to all our children
and all our neighbours who are in need.



**Ecumenical Advocacy
Alliance**

www.e-alliance.ch

Photo: Paul Jeffrey; Text: from the "Franciscan Benediction", origin unknown.

Annual Report 2011

The Ecumenical Advocacy Alliance (EAA) is unique. As a specialized instrument for collaborative advocacy on just two issues every four years, its work has sharp and specific focus. The EAA has a distinctively diverse ecumenical profile, with over 80 members covering all of the major church families. The quality and impact of its work over more than 10 years has lent it a high level of recognition and credibility among key United Nations, governmental, civil society and interfaith partners. Since 2009, our current focuses on food security and HIV and AIDS have generated new and exciting opportunities for collaborative action and for focusing attention on the situations of the most vulnerable and marginalized in our global village.

Through cooperation, commitment and quality, the EAA enables Christians from diverse traditions to speak and act together – making us all more powerful agents for justice.

We are the Ecumenical Advocacy Alliance

Seven organizations joined the Alliance in 2011, bringing the total membership to 80 organizations by the end of December 2011

All Africa Conference of Churches; Arise Center for Health Education & Development, India; Australian Lutheran World Service; Brot für Alle, Switzerland; Brot für die Welt, Germany; CABS, South Africa; CAFOD, United Kingdom; Canadian Foodgrains Bank; Canadian Lutheran World Relief; Caritas Internationalis; National Commission for Justice, Peace and Development, Catholic Bishops Conference of India (CBCI); Catholic Relief Services, United States; Christian Aid, United Kingdom and Ireland; Christian Care, Zimbabwe; Christian Community Health Care Foundation, Cameroon; Christian Conference of Asia; Christian Church of Nigeria; Christian World Service, New Zealand; Church Development Service (CED), Germany; Church of Christ in Thailand; Church of Norway; Church of Scotland; Church of Sweden; Church World Service, United States; Churches Action in Relief and Development, Malawi; Churches Health Association of Zambia; CIDSE (Coopération Internationale pour le Développement et la Solidarité); Cordaid, The Netherlands; Council for World Mission; CUAHA International; DanChurchAid; DIFAEM (German Institute for Medical Mission); Economic Justice Network of FOCCISA, South Africa; Ecumenical Pharmaceutical Network, Kenya; EMS (Association of Churches and Missions in South West Germany); Evangelical Lutheran Church in America; Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada; Evangelical Lutheran Development Service, Malawi; Evangelisches Missionswerk in Deutschland, Germany; Fellowship of Christian Councils and Churches in West Africa; Finn Church Aid; Finnish Evangelical Lutheran Mission; Franciscans International; HEKS/EPER (Swiss Interchurch Aid); ICCO and Kerk in Actie, The Netherlands; INERELA+; International Orthodox Christian Charities; Iona Community, United Kingdom; Lutheran Church in Liberia; Lutheran World Federation; Lutheran World Relief, United States; Madras Christian Council of Social Service, India; MAP International; Maryknoll Office for Global Concerns, United States; National Council of Churches in India; National Council of Churches in the Philippines; Norwegian Church Aid; Pax Christi International; Presbyterian Church (USA); Presbyterian World Service and Development, Canada; Primate's World Relief and Development Fund, Canada; Prisma, The Netherlands; Progressio, United Kingdom; RDRS, Bangladesh; Solidarité Protestante, Belgium; St. Paul's University, Kenya; Synodical Board of Social Services, Church of North India; Tearfund, United Kingdom; The Congregation of the Sisters of the Little Flower of Bethany (Bethany Generalate), India, Trócaire, Ireland; UNANIMA International; United Church of Canada; United Church of Christ, United States; United Evangelical Lutheran Church in India; United Evangelical Mission, Germany; World Alliance of YMCAs; World Association for Christian Communication; World Student Christian Federation; World Vision International; World Young Women's Christian Association (World YWCA).

The Ecumenical Advocacy Alliance collaborates closely with the World Council of Churches and the ACT Alliance.

Food Strategy Group 2011

- Mr Andrew Kang Bartlett** - Presbyterian Church (USA)
- Ms Minnie Anne Calub** - National Council of Churches in the Philippines
- Ms Carolin Callenius** - Brot für die Welt
- Rev. Malcolm Damon** - Economic Justice Network of FOCCISA (Chairperson)
- Sr Mariola Douza** - Congregation of the Sisters of the Little Flower of Bethany
- Mr Paul Hagerman** - Canadian Foodgrains Bank
- Rev. Dr Tolbert Jallah, Jr** - Fellowship of Christian Councils and Churches in West Africa (FECCIWA)
- Mr Gary Kenny** - The United Church of Canada
- Ms Tanja Korkkainen** - FinnChurchAid



Justin Cooperman/EAA



Christine Campau/EAA

HIV Strategy Group 2011

- Ms Anne-Marie Coonan** - Trócaire
- Rev. Christo Greyling** - World Vision International
- Rev. Gunilla Hallonsten** - Church of Sweden
- Mr Tapiwaniso Hoto** - Christian Aid
- Rev. Natesan Joshua J. Jayaseelan** - Madras Christian Council of Social Services
- Rev. Riitta Laakio** - Finnish Evangelical Lutheran Mission
- Ms Luz Stella Losada** - MAP International
- Rev. J.P. Mokgethi-Heath** - INERELA+
- Ms Karen Plater** - The Presbyterian Church in Canada (Chairperson)
- Rev. Michael Schuennemeyer** - United Church of Christ
- Dr Elisabeth Schüle** - German Institute for Medical Mission (Difam)
- Dr Erlinda Senturias** - Christian Conference of Asia



Kenneth Ross/CAAM



Benny Marais/EAA

The EAA mourned the passing of Mr Marcel van Soest, executive director of the World AIDS Campaign, who had long advised and partnered with the EAA, and championed collaborative civil society efforts in holding governments accountable to their HIV commitments.

Live the Promise

Ten years ago, the global community declared HIV and AIDS an emergency and committed to combat it in a comprehensive manner. In 2011, important progress in saving lives was celebrated – while all acknowledge that far more work must be done to achieve the goals of zero stigma and discrimination, zero new infections and zero AIDS-related deaths.

With its consistency of churches and Christian organizations, the EAA continues to focus on four priority areas:

Tackling the root causes of vulnerability

Addressing the root causes of vulnerability to HIV has engaged churches at the level of their fundamental commitment to social and economic justice. It also connects to a human rights-based approach to the HIV pandemic. Churches have strong theological and historical foundations for promoting God-given human dignity, yet have clearly faced challenges in applying human rights in the context of the HIV response. A widening gap between the public statements of some major religious figures and the perspectives of human rights activists highlights the vital need to build mutual understanding of the common values underlying human rights law and Christian theology and ethics. Such efforts must be based on the practical experience of churches in the HIV response, and engage a diversity of sectors and perspectives.

Theology, Human Rights & HIV - The EAA has begun a dialogue process on theology, human rights and HIV, starting with a two-day consultation convened in Geneva in November 2011. The meeting brought together some 30 theologians, human rights experts, HIV practitioners, and representatives of key affected populations. In order to ensure a 'safe space' for open and frank dialogue, the consultation was conducted according to the 'Chatham House rule'. A list of 25 questions was generated for public dissemination, with a view to continuing a process of 'safe' discussions on these issues, as well as identifying ways to expand the process in 2012.

Fast Facts on HIV

Last year there were 34 million people living with HIV, 2.7 million new infections and 1.8 million deaths due to AIDS-related illnesses.

The scale-up in HIV treatment has begun to deliver results: nearly 50% of the 14.2 million people who need antiretroviral therapy in low- and middle- income countries received it in 2010, an increase of 1.35 million since 2009.

Yet in 2010 global funding for the AIDS response fell by 10%. AIDS-related deaths among children are down by 20% since 2005. But, some 330,000 children were newly infected during 2010 and only 21% of all infected children had access to the treatment they need to stay alive beyond their second birthday.

Although 59% of people living with HIV in sub-Saharan Africa are women, less than 50% of pregnant women living with HIV have access to treatment to keep themselves healthy and to prevent transmission of HIV to their babies.

Food for Life

The persistence of hunger is an appalling reality in our world, especially because it is unnecessary. There is enough food to feed everyone. Hunger today is not due to the physical limits of our planet, but to the social and economic limits in the ways we have chosen to produce, share, buy and sell food.

Through the Food for Life campaign, EAA members tackle the systemic injustices that cause hunger in this world.

Advocating for just and sustainable production

Land-grabbing - The EAA collaborated with the Ecumenical Water Network (EWN) of the World Council of Churches in addressing the lack of adequate and secure access to land and natural resources for rural and urban poor. In a letter signed by members and partners of both networks, the EAA and EWN called on the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) to respect and integrate food and land rights of communities – taking due account of the right to water and the right to a clean environment – in its deliberations on the Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land, Fisheries and Forests. The final version of the Voluntary Guidelines, while still lacking adequate reference to water resources or human rights, contains important principles that governments and others should refer to when administering land, fisheries and forest rights.

Agro-ecology, Food security and climate change - As government representatives gathered in Durban, South Africa, in December for the 17th Conference of the Parties (COP17) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and the 7th Session of the Conference of the Parties serving as the Meeting of the Parties (CMP7) to the Kyoto Protocol, EAA members followed the negotiations closely to see whether or not agriculture would be granted the special consideration that it deserves to address holistically all the areas that it encompasses, such as mitigation, adaptation, the rights of smallholder farmers and food security.

A side event convened jointly by the EAA and ACT Alliance called for increased attention to agro-ecological methods of food production to meet the challenges of both climate change mitigation and adaptation, as well as long-term sustainable food security.

Several at COP17/CMP7 raised their voices to highlight this issue, including the former President of Ireland and former UN High Commissioner for Human Rights Mary Robinson, who said that "success in Durban would be a work programme on agriculture in the Convention".

Despite such pressure, COP17/CMP7 did not establish an adequately comprehensive work programme on agriculture. Instead, much narrower scientific examination of agriculture will take place under the UNFCCC Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice (SBSTA). Though this is the first time that the UNFCCC has adopted an official decision on agriculture, the risk is that the SBSTA will focus solely on the emissions from the agriculture sector rather than also providing scientific recommendations for adaptation. EAA will continue to coordinate input and advocate on the linkages between food security and climate change, and to promote a comprehensive approach to the challenges of agricultural adaptation and mitigation.

Promoting just and sustainable consumption

Churches' Week of Action on Food - The 2011 Churches' Week of Action on Food took place on 10-17 October. Churches and related organizations around the world marked this week – and World Food Day (16 October) which it encompassed – with prayer, reflection, solidarity and actions for food justice.

The October Week of Action is now established as an important annual occasion for churches and others to organize reflection and action on food production and consumption issues that are most critical in their own contexts, from a focus on food and farming for the future in the United States, to food price volatility in Cameroon. To assist planners, the EAA provides resources for action, study and worship. This year, the Food Strategy Group prepared regional summaries of the critical issues facing different parts of the world, and resources provided included a "Waste Tracker" so that families could track their own food waste. In Geneva, the winner of our "Food for Life" Sermon Competition, Rev. Dr Randall K. Bush, preached at the Ecumenical Centre on 17 October, on a text from the book of Ruth.

Fast for Life - Ash Wednesday and the Lenten period are an important moment in the church calendar for reflection on questions of consumption and waste, and committing to do what we can to overcome hunger and contribute to global food justice. In promoting the Fast for Life in 2011, the EAA expanded its worship resources and devotional materials.

Realizing the Right to Food

Through increased collaboration and coordination, EAA members are having a stronger voice in advocating for the Right to Food with national governments, contributing to discussions on the application of the International Assessment of Agricultural Knowledge, Science and Technology for Development (IAASTD), participating in working groups related to the work plan of the Committee on World Food Security, and promoting food justice locally, nationally and internationally.

Right to Food and Nutrition Watch - The lack of accountability is the "missing link" between people's struggle for their rights and the increased recognition of the right to food in political agendas, according to the 2011 Right to Food and Nutrition Watch, prepared by a Consortium of leading NGOs, including the EAA. The EAA co-organized the 2011 Watch launch in Geneva, which coincided with the Food Week of Action.

Special Reporter on Right to Food - The EAA worked particularly closely with the office of the Special Rapporteur on the Right to Food, Mr Olivier De Schutter, in order to be able to provide advance notice to members and partners of the Special Rapporteur's country visits, and to link him to churches and church-based organizations in those contexts. Mr De Schutter has expressed appreciation for this partnership, recognizing the value of the grassroots knowledge and experience of churches and related organizations at the country level.

Accra Workshop on Food Advocacy Right to Food and Nutrition - Following the successful EAA workshop on food advocacy held in Nairobi in November 2010 for members and partners in southern and eastern Africa, the EAA, the Fellowship of Christian Councils and Churches in West Africa (FECCIWA) and the ACT Alliance collaborated in holding a workshop on church-based advocacy for food justice in West Africa, in Accra on 13-16 November. The workshop brought together over 45 participants from almost every West African country, as well as from several different church-based constituencies, including FECCIWA members, the ACT Alliance sub-regional forum, the Caritas family, Anglican Alliance and United Evangelical Mission.

The workshop started with a visit to a local irrigation farm to get a better understanding of the challenges that smallholder farmers face in Ghana. Specific work plans and strategies were created at national, regional and international levels, and networks were strengthened for mutual support. In using an appreciative enquiry methodology, participants were encouraged to share their stories and find solutions to the food justice challenges they face. Their testimonies were recorded and an email group established to enable participants to share their views, plans, questions and resources with others in the group and highlight upcoming regional food and agriculture-related events.

Speaking out for justice

EAA members were deeply concerned by the tragic food crisis that affected several countries in the Horn of Africa during 2011. Many churches and related organizations – in the affected countries and internationally – were directly involved in responding to the emergency situation. Drawing on the knowledge and experiences of its members and partners, EAA showed how the crisis served to highlight the underlying unaddressed structural issues that led to the famine through a highly-regarded press feature, "Famine Highlights Long-term Injustices". The EAA collaborated on this initiative with senior church leaders and a dozen EAA members around the world.

Fast facts on hunger

One in seven people in the world – nearly one billion – experience chronic hunger, which doesn't include those who face hunger due to "short-term" emergencies such as natural disasters or war.

Around 1.5 billion people experience the unhealthy consequences of over-consumption and obesity.

Women make up a little over half of the world's population, but they account for over 60 percent of the world's hungry.

The vast majority of people suffering from hunger and malnutrition are living in rural areas – where food is produced. 1.3 billion tons of food – or one-third of global food production – is wasted each year.

Annually, 15 million children worldwide die of hunger.

Strengthening Advocacy Capacity

The EAA is working to increase the capacity and effectiveness of churches and Christian organizations as advocates for justice, peace and a sustainable world.

Skills-building through sharing - Through workshops, electronic forums and web resources, the EAA is creating opportunities for members and partners to share their experiences, identify best practices, strengthen each other's engagement in witnessing for justice, and build a community of practice.

During 2011 the EAA held advocacy capacity strengthening workshops in the contexts of both the HIV campaign (workshop to enhance faith-based engagement in Global Fund processes, March, Chiang Mai, Thailand) and the food campaign (food advocacy workshop, November, Accra, Ghana). In the Accra food advocacy workshop, the EAA trialed an 'appreciative enquiry' methodology specifically adapted to identify and build on the skills, capacities, achievements and potentials of the participants.

In addition, the EAA has gathered an important collection of resources and materials on advocacy (including on monitoring and evaluation of advocacy initiatives) from its members and partners, and developed additional tools for advocacy, which are made available on its website.

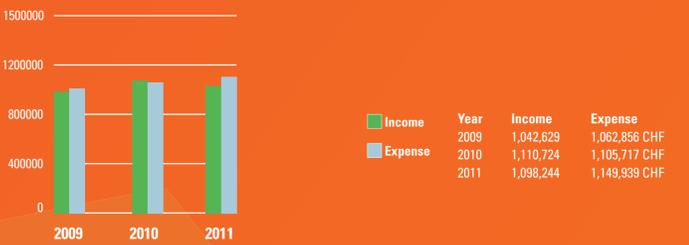
UN Human Rights Mechanisms - Another important advocacy tool provided by the EAA is the Human Rights Accountability Project at <http://hrap.wikidot.com>. Through the redesigned website, churches and Christian organizations are provided with more accessible information about the United Nations human rights system and how to use human rights tools and processes in their advocacy efforts. The website is managed by the EAA on behalf of the ACT Alliance Rights and Development Group in collaboration with the World Council of Churches and The Lutheran World Federation.



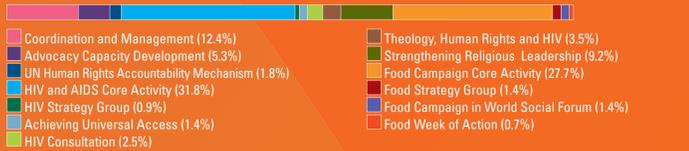
Photo: EAA

Effective Use of Financial Resources

Income and expense 2009-2011



Expense by Activity 2011



Sources of Income 2011



EAA's income base has diversified. Funding from 'APRODEV' agencies in Europe – organizations related to the World Council of Churches – which has in past years been the source of most of EAA's funding – is now just under 42 percent of EAA's total funding in 2011.

Income by Designation 2011



The audited accounts of the Ecumenical Advocacy Alliance are available upon request to info@e-alliance.ch

Coordinating office staff as of December 2011

- Johnny Camaddo** - Finance, Fundraising and Reporting Officer
- Christine Campau** - Food Campaign Coordinator
- Ruth Foley** - HIV and AIDS Campaign Coordinator
- Anne Laure Jan** - Advocacy Assistant
- Parker Martin** - Webmaster and Communications Assistant
- Justin Nusca** - Multimedia and Communications Assistant
- Peter Prove** - Executive Director
- Sara Speicher** - Communications Consultant (part-time)
- Lara Eyniy Takache** - Administrative and Membership Officer (part-time)

Board of Directors 2011

- Fr Nithiya Sagayam Antony OFM Cap** - Pax Christi International/Federation of Asian Bishops Conferences
- Rev. Andy Bowerman** - Tearfund (Treasurer)
- Dr Mathews George Chunanaka** - World Council of Churches
- Ms Georgine Kengne Djoutane** - World Student Christian Federation (Vice Chairperson)
- Rev. Dr Richard Fee** - Presbyterian Church in Canada (Chairperson)
- Rev. Christo Greyling** - World Vision International (HIV and AIDS Strategy Group Representative)
- Ms Maria Immonen** - Finnish Evangelical Lutheran Mission
- Dr Prawate Khid-Am** - Church of Christ in Thailand
- Rev. Dr Rebecca Larson** - Evangelical Lutheran Church in America/ACT Alliance
- Rev. Jürgen Reichel** - Evangelischer Entwicklungsdienst (EED)
- Ms Isabel Richardson** - Madras Christian Council of Social Services
- Ms Ester Wolf** - Bread for All (Food Strategy Group Representative)
- Mr Peter Prove** - EAA Executive Director, ex officio