



**2013**

Program and Activities  
Narrative Report



**Ecumenical Advocacy  
Alliance**



# 2013 Program and Activities Narrative Report

## Table of Contents

### Program Overview

Background .....	2
Purposes .....	2
Major Achievements .....	3
Further Information .....	4
Contact Person .....	4

### Coordination and Management

Background .....	5
Staffing and Work Methods .....	5
Activities 2013 .....	6
Coordination and Management .....	6
Advocacy Capacity Development .....	8
UN Human Rights Accountability Mechanism .....	8
Assembly .....	9

### “Live the Promise” HIV Campaign

Background .....	12
Staffing and Work Methods .....	13
Activities 2013 .....	13
Strengthening Religious Leadership in the HIV Response .....	13
Framework for Dialogue between Religious Leaders and People Living with HIV .....	13
Second Round Review of Implementation of Personal Commitment .....	19
Human Rights, Theology and HIV .....	21
Second Round Closed Door Consultation .....	21
Colloquium and Publication on Human Rights, Theology and HIV .....	22
Access to Treatment: Advocacy and dialogue with pharmaceutical companies .....	23
Resource Mobilization and Accountability .....	26
Establishing and supporting a network of FBO reps on CCMs .....	26
Resource Mobilization Advocacy .....	27
Faith-based engagement in policy process .....	28
UNAIDS Program Coordinating Board (PCB) .....	28
Post-2015/SDG process .....	29
Awareness-raising, Outreach and Mobilization: Theological/Advocacy Resources for Advent/World AIDS Day .....	30

### “Food for Life” Campaign

Background .....	32
Staffing and Work Methods .....	34
Activities 2013 .....	35
Promoting agroecology for just, sustainable and resilient food production .....	35
Reducing food waste and promoting just and sustainable consumption, as a matter of Christian stewardship .....	36
Supporting initiatives around the Right to Food .....	40
Faith-based engagement in key policy processes and lobbying .....	44
Awareness-raising, Outreach & Mobilization .....	52



## Ecumenical Advocacy Alliance Program Overview

### Background

The Ecumenical Advocacy Alliance (EAA) was founded in 2000 to facilitate and coordinate the advocacy efforts of churches and Christian organizations on selected focus issues. From its founding until 2008, the EAA operated under the legal framework of the World Council of Churches. In 2009, the EAA became a separate legal entity.

From 2001 to 2008, the EAA's focus issues were global trade, and HIV and AIDS. From 2009, the focus issues have been food, and HIV and AIDS. The Frameworks for Action developed early in 2009 have been the central guide for advocacy and action on the two focus issues during this period.

The EAA's advocacy work is based on the experience and capacities of members, and is primarily carried out through their actions at local, national, regional and international levels. Collaboration and sharing best practices among EAA members strengthens their capacities and the effectiveness of their advocacy efforts. The quality and impact of the EAA's work has created a high level of recognition and credibility among key UN, governmental, civil society and interfaith partners.

By the end of the 2013, membership had risen to 85 churches and organizations. EAA members represent a wide diversity of church families (Roman Catholic, Orthodox, Protestant and Evangelical), organizational structures (including churches, national and regional councils of churches, church-based humanitarian relief and development organizations, church-based advocacy NGOs, educational and theological training institutions, religious orders and other groups) and geographic location.

EAA strives to promote synergy and complementarity in ecumenical advocacy for justice and human dignity, especially through relationships with the World Council of Churches, ACT Alliance, Anglican Alliance, Micah Network, World Evangelical Alliance and other key ecumenical partners.

With a small staff complement, EAA activities are coordinated cost-effectively. The EAA also regularly engages young people and job seekers as interns, who provide important communications functions and additional support for research and coordination work for each campaign. The interns themselves receive valuable professional experience.

On 22-25 August 2013, the General Assembly convened in Geneva, after having been postponed from 2012. Important decisions were taken concerning the possible future trajectory of the EAA, as well as on focus issues for a new cycle of ecumenical advocacy collaboration, and in the election of a new Board of Directors. However, EAA continued to suffer from grave financial challenges, which once again became acute in the latter part of the year, requiring the new Board of Directors and management to develop an urgent action plan involving cost-cutting and income generation measures, and to expedite processes regarding EAA's organizational future.

### Purposes

The focus issues identified by the EAA General Assembly for EAA's work during the period 2009-2012 were **Food**, and **HIV and AIDS**. Frameworks for Action developed early in 2009 defined a series of goals on each issue. In 2012, the EAA Board of Directors extended these two focuses for a further year (2013), pending decisions on future focuses by the next Assembly (postponed from November 2012, and which ultimately took place in August 2013).

#### *'Live the Promise' HIV and AIDS Campaign Goals*

**Goal 1:** The EAA and its members uphold the value, life and dignity of all persons and call for actions that address the *root causes of vulnerability to HIV* and the impacts of the pandemic.

**Goal 2:** The EAA and its members advocate for *Universal Access to comprehensive interventions for HIV prevention, treatment, care and support*.



**Goal 3:** The EAA and its members advocate as, with and for people living with and affected by HIV – for *human dignity and rights* and for an attitude of care, inclusion and solidarity that *eliminates all forms of stigmatization and discrimination*.

**Goal 4:** The EAA and its members advocate that governments, churches, multilateral organizations and the private sector deliver upon commitments they have made in the response to HIV and AIDS, including *mobilizing the resources necessary* to implement these commitments.

### ***‘Food for Life’ Campaign Goals***

**Goal 1:** The EAA and its members advocate for *just food production, trade and distribution systems* that are *participatory and democratic*, are *environmentally, economically and socially sustainable* and *support the right of all people to adequate, healthy and culturally appropriate food*.

**Goal 2:** The EAA and its members advocate for *just, sustainable and healthy consumption of food*.

**Goal 3:** The EAA and its members advocate for the *realization of the right to food* for all people.

### ***2013 General Assembly decisions on campaign focuses***

At the General Assembly held in August 2013 similar focuses were affirmed for the period 2014-2017, with the Assembly deciding that:

(a) EAA members should continue to work together on HIV and AIDS, seeking to eliminate stigma and make a significant contribution to the vision of ‘getting to zero’ – zero new infections, zero discrimination, and zero AIDS-related deaths.

(b) EAA members should continue to work together on eradicating hunger, promoting adequate nutrition, and striving towards just and sustainable food systems, with a particular emphasis on sustainable agricultural practices and the situation of smallholder producers and their access to and control over natural resources such as land, water and seeds.

The Assembly also decided that:

EAA campaigns should be based on faith values and human rights principles, and take into account gender, intergenerational and justice issues. They should also take account of relevant developments and advocacy opportunities in the context of the post-2015 development agenda and Sustainable Development Goal processes.

## **Major Achievements**

EAA activities during 2013 continued to achieve significant progress towards its mandated goals, through supporting the engagement of churches and Christian organizations in advocacy on both focus issues. Highlights from the year include:

### **On Coordination and Management**

- Four new members joined EAA in 2013, namely: Pietermaritzburg Agency for Community Social Action (PACSA), *South Africa*; Empact Africa, *USA*; Franciscan Capuchins, *India*; and World Vision Switzerland, *Switzerland*. At the end of 2013, EAA had 85 member organizations.
- In July 2013, EAA was awarded special consultative status to the United Nations.
- The 2013 General Assembly set major policy directions including decisions on campaign focuses and resource mobilization, and the framework for discussions on ecumenical collaboration with World Council of Churches and ACT Alliance were agreed. New members of the EAA Board were elected.

### **On HIV and AIDS**

- The global launch of the Framework for Dialogue between Religious Leaders and People Living with HIV was held in August with the successful third pilot test of the framework in Ethiopia, and further country roll out in Uganda and Kenya. A country-to-country sharing



meeting captured successes so far and identified commonalities and differences between pilot countries in order to improve framework implementation in other countries.

- The second review of the “Together We Can Do More: My Personal Commitment to Action” demonstrated the strength of commitment by many religious leaders to address root causes of the HIV pandemic in their faith communities.
- A second closed door dialogue on Human Rights, Theology and HIV provided a key opportunity for frank discussion and reflection on the complexities and challenges of addressing these issues, especially with a focus on sexual and reproductive health and rights. The dialogue provided further input into a proposed publication planned for HIV.
- Two more pharmaceutical companies signed agreements with the Medicines Patent Pool, as EAA joins with other civil society partners in efforts to ensure affordable and accessible treatment, particularly for children.
- Continued high recognition of EAA in policy spaces and multilateral organizations, including the post-2015 civil society working group, Free Space Process, UNAIDS Programme Coordinating Board, and Global Fund.

### **On Food Justice and Sustainable Agriculture**

- *Seeds for Life: Scaling up Agro-Biodiversity* was produced to facilitate greater understanding of how seed diversity and agroecological methods of food production improve the resilience of our food systems in the face of climate change and other challenges. The publication highlighted the case studies and accumulation of knowledge-intensive experiences of EAA members.
- Faith-based engagement and collaboration doubled in international processes, such as the work of the Committee on World Food Security (CFS) and the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC).
  - The commitment and recognition by the UN Special Rapporteur on the Right to Food for the work of EAA members was enhanced, demonstrated by regular engagement during country missions, and through awareness raising activities carried out by the annual publication of the Right to Food and Nutrition Watch, the actions undertaken during Vienna+20, and mobilization through the Global Right to Food and Nutrition Network (GRTFNN).
  - Joint action to address micronutrient deficiencies and the double burden of under-nutrition and obesity was ensured in processes leading to the Second International Conference on Nutrition (ICN2) and in parallel with the efforts Scaling-Up Nutrition Movement (SUN).

### **Further information**

Detailed reports for each activity within this core program, together with additional resource materials, are available upon request.

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## Coordination and Management

### Background

Light but effective and inclusive coordination, management and governance systems are the core of the EAA's structure in order to ensure flexible and fast campaign action, accountability in decision making; support for networking and multiple communication channels; development and dissemination of resource materials and information; documentation and sharing of best practices; financial management and fundraising; and planning, monitoring, reporting and evaluation.

The small staff team works closely together to implement program and activities and ensure the efficient management of the secretariat.

The Board of Directors serves as the governing body of the EAA between the face-to-face General Assemblies. The Board is composed of nine members elected by the General Assembly, plus one member appointed from each of the two Strategy Groups. A place on the board is also provided to a representative of the World Council of Churches. The EAA Executive Director serves *ex officio* with voice but without vote. The composition of the Board of Directors represents a broad spectrum of the diversity of the EAA's global membership.

A campaign strategy group of 12-16 members guides the strategy and actions of each campaign.

The EAA Assembly was carried out in August 2013 as planned – a separate report for the Assembly is included in the narrative report. EAA members affirmed and voted to continue campaigning together on Food (focusing on sustainable food systems, and the situation of smallholder farmers) and HIV and AIDS during the next four years (2014-17). The Assembly also mandated the development of a resource mobilization strategy (including a new membership fee model), and highlighted the need for deeper collaboration and coordination with ecumenical partner organizations (especially World Council of Churches and ACT Alliance). Indeed, the Assembly called for exploration of possible structural integration in the WCC.

The ever-decreasing resources experienced by majority of EAA members and partners had continued effect on the EAA in 2013 after the similar experience in 2012. While most activities in 2013 were implemented, and despite significant increases in funding from external donors, major decreases in members' giving seriously affected the EAA's programs and capacity to continue its work in the latter part of the year.

The newly elected Board of Directors met in person in December 2013, and immediately confronted the financial crisis being experienced by the EAA. It has continued to work intensively on addressing the situation and to ensure a future for the EAA's important work.

### Staffing and work methods

The work of the following staff and consultant were allocated across the two campaigns and the coordination and management areas:

- Peter Prove, Executive Director
- Sara Speicher, Communications Consultant (60%)
- Johnny Camaddo, Finance, Fundraising and Reporting Officer
- Lara Epiney Takache, Membership and Administrative Officer (60%)



- Anne-Laure Jan, Advocacy Assistant
- Kassandra Lenters, Webmaster & Communications Assistant (intern)
- Holleh Rahmati, Graphic Design & Communications Assistant (intern)

The EAA Board of Directors has expressed its great appreciation for the work of the staff, and their commitment to the EAA through the turbulent end of the year.

## Coordination and Management activities in 2013

### YN401 – Coordination and Management

#### Specific results

Increased number of member organizations in the EAA, swift action to address financial shortfall and seek long-term actions for organizational sustainability, and maintenance of strong, focused campaign activities.

#### Implementation of plans

Though constrained by financial and organizational circumstances, the Coordinating Office sought to implement the 2013 plans, with the oversight of the EAA Board and Strategy Groups. Activities were undertaken both in accordance with the shorter-term annual plans and with the longer-term perspectives of the campaign Frameworks for Action and the EAA Statutes.

The EAA produced numerous Action Alerts, press releases and regular campaign bulletins for both campaigns. The EAA has continued to use a broad array of effective and cost-efficient means of communication, awareness-raising, campaigning, and collaboration with its members and partners. EAA utilizes the web, email, voice over internet tools, conference calls, and project management tools for these purposes.

The EAA website remains a key point of access for members and partners to resources and current information on the work of the EAA. A new website re-design is on-going to increase its accessibility, flexibility and functionality.

The EAA produced a popular version annual report for 2012 with concise insights into EAA's work. A more detailed narrative and financial report was also produced. The narrative report contains in-depth information on the program implementation and analysis of the outputs and outcomes of activities. The financial report has a detailed financial presentation of each activity with explanatory notes on variances between budget and actual costs. The narrative and financial reports together with the audited financial statements were sent to EAA members and partners in June.

The former Board of Directors had four meetings by teleconference in 2013, and a face-to-face meeting in April 2013, at the Ecumenical Institute in Bossey. At that meeting the Board mostly discussed Assembly preparations. The other meeting highlight was the discussion of various scenarios for the EAA's organizational future, against the backdrop of decreasing resources among EAA members. These scenarios were then presented to members and partners of the EAA for dialogue and discussion in a roundtable setting. A further short face-to-face meeting was held just prior to the General Assembly in August.

The incoming Board of Directors elected at the General Assembly in August

**Achievements and follow-up**

held its first meeting (by teleconference) on 13 September 2013, followed by a face-to-face meeting in Geneva on 4-5 December – when it elected the following members as office-bearers:

*Chairperson:* Rev. Dr Richard Fee

*Vice-Chairperson:* Dr Henk Jochemsen

*Treasurer:* Msgr Robert Vitillo

Two further meetings were held by conference call (on 16 and 20 December 2013).

Both Food and HIV strategy groups met once in February and March to continue to provide oversight to the two campaigns and identify priority areas should the campaign be continued in the next cycle.

The Executive Director continued to profile faith-based leadership and efforts in advocacy, including through participation in a panel debate at the World Economic Forum in January 2013 on “Religion and Politics”.

The EAA has 85 members as of the end of 2013. Four new members joined EAA in 2013, namely: Pietermaritzburg Agency for Community Social Action (PACSA), *South Africa*; Empact Africa, *USA*; Franciscan Capuchins, *India*; and World Vision Switzerland, *Switzerland*.

In July 2013, EAA was awarded special consultative status to the United Nations.

The following are areas needing attention and follow up in 2014:

- Developing and implementing a more financially sustainable structure for the Alliance, maintaining its core objective to provide coordination for diverse Christian advocacy on selected focus issues.
- Implementing revised financial management practices that are more robust and transparent.
- Following the mandate of the 2013 General Assembly, supporting new strategy groups and the development of strategic campaign plans for the next period, in consultation with members.

**Monitoring & evaluation**

Monitoring and evaluation is integrated in all EAA activities. The Coordinating Office staff review progress, problems and appropriate interventions during regular staff meetings. Coordinating Office actions are reviewed and evaluated during Strategy Group and Board meetings.

**List of resource materials**

2013 Audited Financial Statements

2014 Core and Program Activities Plan

2014 Budget

Press release: [Engage and support faith-based development work, Davos participants to be told](#)

Press release: [Alliance Granted UN Consultative Status](#)



**YN401 – WW0326 – Advocacy Capacity Development**

<b>Specific results</b>	Plans developed for enhancing members' capacity to engage in advocacy in their own national and regional context particularly in the post 2015 development agenda process and across campaigns. Links between the HIV and Food campaigns in strategic action made.
<b>Implementation of plans</b>	<p>It was earlier envisioned to have separate advocacy workshops for HIV and Food. This was however revised to have a joint workshop particularly in the post-2015 development agenda process. The aim was to bring together members and partners to strengthen their capacities for effective faith-based advocacy and to inspire new and renewed commitment by key stakeholders – governments, intergovernmental organizations, the private sector, and religious leaders – to the global need to eradicate AIDS and eliminate hunger.</p> <p>Half of the funding was secured from the Finnish Evangelical Lutheran Mission and the other half was proposed to be funded by the Geneva Cantonal Programs. The proposal was not acted upon in time prompting the cancellation of the activity due to the lack of resource to fully fund the project.</p>
<b>Achievements and follow-up</b>	The EAA will follow-up with potential donors and secure funding for future capacity building activities for the campaigns in 2015.
<b>List of resource materials</b>	Concept note: Joint Food and HIV advocacy capacity development workshop

**YN401 – WW0327 – UN Human Rights Accountability Mechanism**

<b>Specific results</b>	Greater awareness and utilization among churches and related organizations about the major mechanisms for global human rights accountability and of the opportunities of influencing the assessment of State Parties human rights compliance.
<b>Implementation of plans</b>	<p>The EAA maintained the website <a href="http://hrap.wikidot.com">http://hrap.wikidot.com</a> as the primary vehicle of the Human Rights Accountability Mechanism activity. Through the website, churches and Christian organizations have access to information about the United Nations Human rights system and how to use human rights tools and processes in their advocacy efforts.</p> <p>The EAA worked particularly closely with the office of the Special Rapporteur on the Right to Food, Mr. Oliver de Schutter, and secured advance notice prior to his country visits in order to link him with churches and church-based organizations on the ground. EAA members and partners in the countries he will be visiting are alerted to the opportunity of interaction with him in the context of his mission.</p>
<b>Achievements and follow-up</b>	<p>The HRAP website maintained.</p> <p>Periodic notifications to EAA members and partners of specific advocacy opportunities in the UN human rights accountability mechanisms, including Universal Periodic Review, Human Rights Treaty Bodies, and Special Procedures of the UN Human Rights Council.</p> <p>Facilitation of contact between EAA members and partners and the UN Special Rapporteur on the Right to Food.</p>

**List of resource materials**

The website <http://hrap.wikidot.com>

**YN401 – WW0358 – Assembly****Specific results**

The 2013 General Assembly set major policy directions including decisions on campaign focuses and resource mobilization, and the framework for discussions on ecumenical collaboration with World Council of Churches and ACT Alliance were agreed. New members of the EAA Board were elected.

**Implementation of plans**

The EAA Assembly planned for 2012 was postponed to 2013 due to a significant funding gap at the second half of 2012. The Board of Directors extended the campaign period through 2013, and the Assembly was scheduled for 22-25 August in Geneva. To ensure maximum participation and discussion before and during the assembly, an online component was developed, encouraging discussion on the Board recommendations, live-streaming of plenary sessions, and active participation in the business. In developing the agenda and the practical aspects of the Assembly, the EAA Board and the Coordinating Office worked to ensure that the widest number of EAA members could consider and be heard on the important decisions in the life and work of EAA.

The Coordinating Office raised further funds to support EAA member representatives from the Global South. There was active online participation in advance of the Assembly. During the course of the Assembly, 22-25 August, there were a total of 61 delegates, 3 member representatives who participated online, and 13 observers from partner organizations. From the official delegates, the EAA was able to provide 18 scholarships.

The program was a combination of inputs from members and guest speakers on selected topics, workshops and group discussion and plenary discussions on workshop sessions. The Assembly conducted its business sessions acting on proposed recommendations and the election of the new members of the EAA Board for 2013-17.

On the occasion of the Assembly, the Framework for Dialogue Between Religious Leaders and Networks of People Living with HIV was formerly launched by EAA, UNAIDS, GNP+ and INERELA+

**Achievements and follow-up**

Overall appreciation was expressed for the organized conduct of the Assembly programs and the logistical support to the delegates – advance on-line consultation, together with the information and support on travel and accommodation. Through the social gathering and organized dinners, delegates were able to know more about each other and network among themselves, which was also highly appreciated.

The Assembly was able to affirmatively act on the following recommendations:

- The Assembly affirms that EAA membership entails a commitment to participating in the collective work of the Alliance, which in turn results in advantages and benefits to EAA members collectively.



- The Assembly mandates the Board of Directors to develop a resource mobilization strategy including proposal/s for a new membership fee system for implementation as from 2015, recognizing the importance of membership fees in fulfilling the mission of the EAA and reflecting the principles of equity, solidarity, fair-burden sharing and transparency.
- The Assembly determines that EAA campaigns should be based on faith values and human rights principles. Take into account gender, intergenerational and justice issues. They should also take account of relevant developments and advocacy opportunities in the context of post-2015 development agenda and Sustainable development Goal processes. (a) EAA members voted to continue to work together on HIV and AIDS, seeking to eliminate stigma and make a significant contribution to the vision of ‘getting to zero’ – zero new infections, zero discrimination, and zero-AIDS related deaths. (b) EAA voted to continue to work together on eradicating hunger, promoting adequate nutrition, and striving towards just and sustainable food systems, with particular emphasis on sustainable agriculture practices and the situation of small holder producers and their access to and control over natural resources such as land, water and seeds.
- The Assembly defines the next program cycle as 2014-2017
- The Assembly mandates the EAA Board of Directors to extend and systematize the EAA’s engagement in strengthening members’ capacity for effective advocacy. This should be undertaken in collaboration with members and key partners.
- The Assembly encourages active interfaith collaboration with partners of other faiths in both of the EAA campaigns, while maintaining the EAA’s primary commitment to working with and strengthening the advocacy engagement of its members and partners from Christian communities and church related-organizations.
- The Assembly amends the Statutes of the Ecumenical Advocacy Alliance by inserting in Article 8.1.c: “A nominated representative of the World Council of Churches shall be entitled to serve as a member of the Board with voice but without vote.” Moreover, changing the stipulated number of Board members for 12 to 13 (e.g. in articles 7.2.b and 8.1.b)
- The Assembly: (a) mandates the Board of Directors to explore further collaboration and coordination with the World Council of Churches and the possibility of integration of the EAA in the structure and work of the WCC in such a way as to preserve the EAA’s identity, unique constituency and working methods after developing fuller picture of the EAA’s financial requirements over the next program cycle, and reverting to the Assembly for appropriate actions (b) asks the Board of Directors and Secretariat to explore and take steps to implement further means of strengthening the collaboration and coordination with ACT Alliance.
- The following 9 members of the Board of Directors were elected:
  - Rev. Dr Richard Fee, General Secretary, Presbyterian Church in Canada



- Dr Thorsten Göbel, Head, Policy Unit, Brot für die Welt – Evangelischer Entwicklungsdienst
- Rev. Christo Greyling, Director, Faith Partnership for Development, World Vision International
- Dr. Henk Jochemsen, Director, Prisma
- Ms. Hendrica Okondo, Global Programmes Manager, World YWCA
- Ms. Isabel Richardson, Executive Secretary, Madras Christian Council of Social Services
- Ms. Kristiina Rintakoski, Advocacy Director, Finnish Evangelical Lutheran Mission
- Dr. Carl Stecker, Director for Diakonia, Global Mission Unit, Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
- Msgr Robert Vitillo, Head of Delegation to the United Nations in Geneva, Caritas Internationalis

**List of resource materials**

Assembly announcement and registrations

Assembly minutes and key documents

Assembly summary of actions & outcomes

Press release: [Christian Advocacy Network Mandates Continued Action on HIV and Food](#)



## “Live the Promise” HIV and AIDS Campaign

### Background

In 2001, the global community declared HIV and AIDS an emergency and committed to combat it in a comprehensive manner at the UN General Assembly. Just ahead of this, the Ecumenical Advocacy Alliance’s HIV and AIDS Campaign was set up as a way to support and guide the response of faith-based communities and to raise awareness of the issues facing people living with and affected by HIV.

After over 12 years of concerted global action, we applaud the efforts that have halted and begun to reverse the spread of HIV; almost 10 million people have now gained access to anti-retroviral treatment (ART), deaths of people living with HIV have decreased, fewer babies are being born with HIV, and research has shown that ART can also prevent transmission. ***But the task is in no way finished:*** there are still over 35 million people living with HIV, and over 18 million who still need treatment. While we have the knowledge to achieve the global vision of zero new HIV infections, zero AIDS-related deaths, and zero stigma and discrimination, we have not been able to get there.

We are at a critical moment in the response to HIV: the tipping point for ending the epidemic is in sight but we need commitment and resolve to move forward. The Strategic Investment Framework on HIV and AIDS shows that an intense scale up in the HIV response now - both through an increase in global funding through 2015 and a focus on evidence-based strategies - could prevent over 12 million new infections, avert over 7 million deaths, and lower the resource needs to mitigate HIV over time. But if we lessen our efforts now, we may never achieve the goal of an AIDS-free generation, much less the Millennium Development Goals.

As a result of its work over the past 12 years, EAA is now recognized as a significant leader in the faith-based response to HIV and, particularly due to its unique constituency, a significant player in the HIV response in general. Relying on many of its member organizations that provide faith-inspired services to people living with and affected by HIV - representing an unrivalled breadth and depth of engagement – EAA has a distinctive perspective and voice to highlight issues relating to HIV.

Notably, EAA has developed a unique set of relationships with UN agencies, governments, pharmaceutical companies and networks of people living with HIV. This has given EAA the platform to demonstrate faith groups’ in-depth experience of community needs and service delivery related to HIV. In addition, EAA has worked to build relationships with key populations most affected by and vulnerable to HIV, always recognizing our common humanity. For example, the EAA is the sole voice of faith in the civil society network of networks called the “Free Space Process”, which recognizes our ability to collaborate with and learn from each other.

In 2013, the EAA’s Live the Promise Campaign focused its efforts in:

- Launching wider use of the Framework for Dialogue at the country-level to deepen dialogue and collaboration between religious leaders and people living with HIV, including joint action to address issues such as HIV prevention and stigma in faith communities.
- Strengthening faith-based advocacy for human dignity and rights as part of the HIV response, and convening dialogue on HIV, human rights and



<p><b>Staffing and work methods</b></p>	<p>theology to identify common values and explore ways to mitigate related challenges, including ending gender-based violence, improving sexual and reproductive health and addressing the additional vulnerability of key populations.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Raising up faith-based voices, particularly those living with HIV, to urge pharmaceutical companies to improve sustainable and affordable access to ARVs in low- and middle-income countries, such as by joining the Medicines Patent Pool, and to urge more affordable and accessible diagnostics and medicines for children.</li> <li>· Coordinating faith-based advocacy for a fully funded international response to HIV, and, at the same time, advocating and building capacity for effective engagement of faith-based service providers in resource mobilization processes, such as Global Fund mechanisms.</li> <li>- Encouraging and supporting members and faith-based partners to be more active in key policy process, offering insights and lessons learned from their practical service delivery experience and knowledge of their communities to keep governments accountable to their political and financial commitments on HIV and AIDS.</li> <li>- Engaging in the post-2015 development processes to call for continued focus on HIV and AIDS.</li> <li>- Raising awareness on the continuing salience of the HIV pandemic and its impacts on human health, community and dignity, and the need for maintaining and strengthening our commitments to reach zero new HIV infections, zero AIDS-related deaths, and zero stigma and discrimination.</li> </ul> <p>The EAA HIV Campaign was supported by a full-time Campaign Coordinator, with the work on Strengthening Religious Leadership in response to HIV supported by an assistant on a 30% basis as well as a part-time consultant. Strategic guidance was provided by the HIV Strategy Group in identifying and analyzing issues and contributing to action plans.</p> <p>A portion of the time of the EAA staff (Executive Director, Administrative Assistant, Communications Consultant, Webmaster and Communications Assistant, Multimedia and Communications Assistant, and Finance, Fundraising, and Reporting Officer) also contributed to the success of the campaign.</p>
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## “Live the Promise” campaign activities in 2013

*Theme: Strengthening Religious Leadership in the HIV Response*

### Activity: Framework for Dialogue between Religious Leaders and People Living with HIV

<p><b>Specific result</b></p>	<p>Strengthened country-level responses from faith communities and religious leaders that meet the needs of people living with HIV through dialogue and use of evidence.</p>
<p><b>Implementation of plans</b></p>	<p><b>A. Global-level coordination, including launch and country-to-country sharing</b></p>



In August 2013, the Framework for Dialogue was launched at the EAA Assembly in Geneva. The finalization, launch and subsequent roll-out of the Framework for Dialogue continued to be overseen by four international partners (EAA, GNP+, INERELA+ and UNAIDS), with EAA playing a coordination role.

Ahead of the launch, the four international partners gathered feedback from the three country pilot tests (Malawi and Myanmar in 2012, and Ethiopia in 2013) and modified the Framework as appropriate. Notably the Framework manual was updated to ensure clearer presentation of the key steps, to include recommendations on how to ensure gender balance, to encourage reflection on whether to use one facilitator or more, and to split step 5 (follow-up and sustained dialogue) into 2 distinct steps (i.e. coordination versus implementation of follow-up).

The international steering group developed a roll-out strategy which included identifying key countries to approach directly about initiating the process over the coming months and years, and they produced general promotional materials for the tool, including a flyer, a new website ([www.frameworkfordialogue.org](http://www.frameworkfordialogue.org)), and a video containing reflections from 3 participants in the Framework for Dialogue process in Malawi. The EAA also circulated a press release following the launch and included a related article in the October HIV bulletin.

In December 2013, a country-to-country sharing meeting was held in Nairobi to facilitate validation and exchange between representatives from the two African pilot test countries (Malawi and Ethiopia), from the recently launched process in Uganda and key partners that will initiate the process in Kenya in 2014. A consultant was hired to support this exchange process and to begin the development of a monitoring and evaluation tool for the Framework for Dialogue as a whole.

## **B. Country-level processes**

In 2013, the international steering group provided specific technical and financial support to facilitate the third and final pilot test of the Framework for Dialogue in Ethiopia, and continued to support the follow-up to the 2012 pilot test in Malawi.

### *Malawi*

Over the reporting period, much work has been undertaken to put in place clear and strategic plans and methods for building upon the outcomes of the 2012 pilot test of the Framework for Dialogue between religious leaders and people living with HIV.

The working group that oversaw the June 2012 dialogue meeting formalized its structure and methods of working by developing clear terms of reference. MANET+ was mandated to continue to act as Secretariat for the new Steering Committee, with MANERELA+ acting as chair. In addition to the original members of the working group (MANET+, MANERELA+, Malawi Interfaith AIDS Association (MIAA), Norwegian Church Aid and UNAIDS), Steering Committee membership was expanded to include: ACT Alliance; National AIDS Commission; Malawi Council of Churches; Quadria Muslim Association of Malawi; Anglican Council of Malawi; Pentecostal and Charismatic Representative; Episcopal Conference of Malawi.



The Steering Group met in March 2013 and again in May 2013 to finalize its work plan for the period June 2013 – February 2014. In addition to a resource mobilization element and the development of a monitoring and evaluation framework, key activities include:

1. Development and dissemination of - and training for religious leaders on - a standard HIV policy for adoption across all faith institutions
2. Three regional workshops on anti-SSDDIM<sup>1</sup> and pro- SAVE<sup>2</sup>, including the adaption and dissemination of UNAIDS acceptable language in order to reduce stigma and discrimination in faith settings
3. A second face-to-face national dialogue between religious leaders and PLHIV, with a focus on sexual and reproductive health and rights

To facilitate the implementation of these activities, a Grant Agreement was signed between EAA and MANET+ in June 2013.

### ***Ethiopia***

Following discussions with key partners in Ethiopia, the implementation of the Framework for Dialogue process was initiated in the country in early 2013, with a first face-to-face dialogue meeting taking place in April.

#### ***1. Initiation of the process and setting up of a national working group***

The working group set up to oversee the implementation of the pilot test in Ethiopia included representatives from the Network of Networks of HIV Positives in Ethiopia (NEP+), the Ethiopian Interfaith Forum for Development Dialogue and Action (EIFFDA), the Ethiopian Network of Religious Leaders living with or personally affected by HIV (ETNERELA+) and UNAIDS Ethiopia.

#### ***2. Preparation for the first face-to-face dialogue***

The working group identified participants for the dialogue meeting, with particular focus on ensuring a good balance of faith representation and PLHIV representation. They identified and briefed a facilitator, and also developed an agenda based on the Framework for Dialogue draft agenda but adapted as appropriate to their own country context.

#### ***3. Understanding the evidence and perceptions***

NEP+ prepared a presentation of the PLHIV Stigma Index in Ethiopia from the faith-lens, and there were also several other presentations prepared of evidence gathered by the faith community to-date.

#### ***4. Holding of the first face-to-face dialogue meeting***

The dialogue meeting was attended by some 50 participants, including the Patriarch of the Ethiopian Orthodox Church, and held in Addis Ababa on 24-25 April 2013. An official report was prepared by the working group, and an EAA article about the meeting can be found on page 3 of this [EAA bulletin](#). The dialogue meeting was reported in the media by the major FM stations in the country.

#### ***5. Development of terms of reference and action plan***

The working group developed a terms of reference to coordinate

<sup>1</sup> SSDDIM: Stigma, Shame, Denial, Discrimination, Inaction, Misaction

<sup>2</sup> SAVE: Safer practices, Access to treatment, Voluntary counseling and testing, Empowerment





ongoing dialogue and collaboration and expanded its membership to include representatives of other local and international faith-based organizations for a coordinated FBO response. An action plan with budget was prepared and a grant agreement signed in October 2013 to carry out planned actions and continue and monitor the dialogue process through March 2014.

#### **6. Follow up actions**

One of the major achievements in this process was the development of a sermon guide developed by a consultant from the theological school that was validated by the General Assembly of the Ethiopian Orthodox Tewahdo Church. The guide addresses gender-based violence, prevention of mother to child transmission, and stigma. One thousand copies of the sermon guide have been printed and are being disseminated, with training of religious leaders based on the guide planned.

Four of the religious leaders involved in the dialogue process transmitted anti-stigma messages during the Ethiopian New Year

The dialogue process and actions so far were also shared through ICASA 2013.

#### ***Uganda***

A national working group was set up and it included NAFOPHANU, NACWOLA, UNERELA+, UCAN (Lead Agency), IRCU, UNAIDS, ICCO Cooperation. The Framework for Dialogue Process was initiated in Uganda in Sept. 2013; and the first face-to-face multi-stakeholder dialogue meeting took place on 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> Dec. 2013. The meeting was attended by 30 participants including the Bishop of the National fellowship of Born-Again Pentecostal Churches. During the meeting seven areas were identified as priorities for dialogue and joint action. The terms of reference and action plan for continuing the dialogue process are being finalized in 2014.

#### ***Kenya***

Interest and agreement to begin the Framework for Dialogue process in the country began in November 2013, with the expected face-to-face meeting to be held around May 2014.

#### **C. Country to Country Sharing and Monitoring and Evaluation Framework**

A multi-country exchange between representatives from Malawi and Ethiopia (as pilot-tests of the Framework for Dialogue), Uganda and Kenya took place in Nairobi on 13-14 December 2013. The meeting facilitated sharing between participants from the Malawi and Ethiopia dialogue processes to identify successes and any emerging challenges in the Framework for Dialogue process so far, and reflect on commonalities and differences in the experiences of the countries. Participants from Uganda and Kenya were able to seek advice and learn from the experiences so far in the pilot-test countries.

A consultant, Moono Nyambe, facilitated the meeting and continues to provide technical support in country dialogue processes. Using the input on progress from the country-to-country sharing, she is developing a monitoring and evaluation framework, in cooperation with the international steering committee, support national dialogue processes in Malawi and Ethiopia is



**Achievements,  
challenges and  
follow-up**

building on that can be used at country level, and disseminating collated results and learning.

**D. Further roll-out of the Framework for Dialogue**

The methodology of the Framework for Dialogue has been comprehensively captured in a manual prepared by the international steering committee and finalized in English at the end of 2013. The manual, *Framework for Dialogue between religious leaders and networks of people living with HIV: A tool for dialogue and joint action at national level* is provided to national partners when they have met the minimum criteria of the Framework for Dialogue process as describe on the [website](#). Design and translation of the manual will be carried out in 2014.

Much of the groundwork for the achievement of successful outcomes has been laid. As per the project proposal, these outcomes include:

- Strengthened and sustainable collaboration and mutual understanding between religious leaders, and people living with HIV
- Reduced stigma and discrimination faced by PLHIV in communities, including faith communities in Malawi and Ethiopia
- Improved access to SRHR and treatment services for PLHIV, in particular women and marginalized populations living with HIV
- Strengthened and improved quality of access to faith institutions and places of worship by PLHIV
- Improved quality of life for PLHIV through improved faith-based responses to addressing the needs of PLHIV
- Increased engagement and visibility of religious leaders in the response to the needs of people living HIV

While a clear monitoring and evaluation framework is a priority for the 2014 workplan, some indicators of progress towards these objectives can already be identified as follows:

*Indicator 1: New working relationships institutionalized between PLHIV networks and faith-based organisations and religious institutions*

In both Malawi and Ethiopia, the Framework for Dialogue process has created institutionalized working relationships between PLHIV networks and faith-based groups that did not previously exists. While several of the actors in the national working groups had, of course, been working together in various ad hoc ways, they had not previously come together to address issues of faith and HIV jointly and systematically. In Ethiopia, the role of ETNERELA+ was particularly affirmed during the dialogue meeting in April, with many participants (PLHIV, FBO and others) noting that this was the first time they had met religious leaders openly living with HIV in their country.

The Framework for Dialogue process has also strengthened and deepened the working relationships at the international level between EAA, GNP+, INERELA+ and UNAIDS, with Guidelines for Partnership developed for the roll-out and launch of the Framework and collaboration in other areas fostered too.

*Indicator 2: Identification of clear areas for further joint action and dialogue*



*by religious leaders and PLHIV to address the documented experiences of PLHIV*

In Malawi, the Steering Committee has planned activities to implement 3 of the 9 action points identified as priorities for joint PLHIV and religious leader collaboration during the June 2012 dialogue meeting, as well as plan for a second dialogue meeting focused on sexual and reproductive health, including condom use in the family setting. In Ethiopia, 11 activity priorities were identified during the April 2013 meeting, along with 3 areas for further dialogue (issues concerning gender, youth and most-at-risk populations).

Articulating clear and specific activities for action and issues for ongoing dialogue is often the most difficult step in the process, as this requires some kind of deeper analysis, or even ‘admission’ of existing barriers and obstacles in the faith response to HIV. Up to now, the activities and issues identified through the process in Malawi can perhaps be seen as more specific or ‘to-the-point’, whereas the issues emerging from the process so far in Ethiopia are still fairly general. This may be due to many reasons, including the fact that more preparatory work may have already been undertaken with faith leaders in Malawi, or that perhaps approaches to dialogue are different in each cultural context.

To facilitate more reflection on such issues, and particularly on the similarities and differences between the processes in the two countries so far, a country-to-country sharing experience will be facilitated by the international steering group of the Framework for Dialogue in the last quarter of 2013. This will aim to document experiences and successes so far, and to provide a platform for exchange and mutual support for the follow-up processes in both countries.

*Indicator 3: Reports of religious leaders’ advocacy in response to the HIV*

Several religious leaders involved in the pilot test in Malawi have since given voice to the needs of PLHIV - and the implications for the response of religious leaders - in global policy forums as well as in their local congregations. For example, Rev. Macdonald Sembereka, head of the Malawi Network of Religious Leaders Living with HIV, addressed the UNAIDS Board meeting in December 2012 on the issue of non-discrimination. The working group reports that there has been notable understanding and mainstreaming of HIV and AIDS programs in the religious institutions.

The participation of His Holiness Abune Mattias, the Patriarch of the Ethiopian Orthodox Church, demonstrated the high-level commitment of religious leaders in Ethiopia to work in a more systematic and collaborative way with people living with HIV. It is hoped that as the work progresses in Ethiopia, the circle of religious leaders involved in the ongoing dialogue and actions will be expanded in order to widen the impact and reach of this process.

The global launch of the Framework for Dialogue in August 2013 provided additional momentum and interest from other countries to participate in the process

#### **List of resource materials**

Website: [www.frameworkfordialogue.org](http://www.frameworkfordialogue.org)

Feature: “Doing Things Differently” in Myanmar (reporting on the 2012 dialogue)

Bulletin article in May on Ethiopian pilot test



Report on the first face-to-face dialogue between religious leaders and PLHIV at the national level in Ethiopia (available from EAA Secretariat)

Short video about the Framework for Dialogue process in Malawi so far.

Flyer to promote the Framework for Dialogue (available from EAA Secretariat)

Press release: Global organizations launch dialogue initiative for religious leaders and people living with HIV

Bulletin Article in October on the launch

*Framework for Dialogue between religious leaders and networks of people living with HIV: A tool for dialogue and joint action at national level* (methodology manual available from the EAA Secretariat)

## Activity: Second Round Review of Implementation of Personal Commitment

### Specific result

Increased engagement and visibility of religious leadership in the response to HIV.

### Implementation of plans

“Together We Can Do More: My Personal Commitment to Action” was initially signed by participants in the Summit of High-Level Religious Leaders on HIV held in March 2010 in Den Dolder, The Netherlands. The personal commitment has been subsequently promoted in major religious gatherings and through a dedicated website ([www.hivcommitment.net](http://www.hivcommitment.net)). By the end of 2013, over 450 religious leaders had signed.

A Multi-Faith Working Group, made up of 12 religious leaders from a variety of faith traditions as well as representatives from UNAIDS, INERELA+, GNP+ and World AIDS Campaign, and convened and coordinated by the EAA, was set up to oversee follow-up to the Summit. The Framework for Dialogue process, which the working group identified as a central action coming out of the Summit experience, has since been implemented by the international steering committee made up of EAA, UNAIDS, INERELA+ and GNP+ (see above).

The working group has since overseen the promotion and implementation of the personal commitment. The personal commitment includes the responsibility of the religious leaders to report to each other how they have fulfilled their commitment every 18 months since the Den Dolder meeting. The deadline for the second round of reporting fell in March 2013.

The working group focused on developing a reporting process that would assess the quality and impact of religious leaders’ actions, rather than simply collecting reported activities. The group thus developed a detailed self-assessment questionnaire which was circulated in early 2013 to all religious leaders that have signed the commitment, with in-depth follow-up interviews conducted with a sample of leaders. A consultant, Callie Long, conducted the interviews between June and September 2013, analyzed the survey results and prepared the results. The report was issued for World AIDS Day 2013

In addition to reporting on the personal commitment implementation, the EAA ensured that religious leaders involved in the Summit and who had signed the personal commitment were also encouraged through action alerts



**Achievements,  
challenges and  
follow-up**

and personal contact to participate in HIV-related advocacy actions, particularly World AIDS Day. In addition, resources produced following the Summit to promote religious leadership in the response to HIV, including a brochure of the personal commitment and a DVD of religious leaders’ statements, continue to be shared through the website [www.hivcommitment.net](http://www.hivcommitment.net) website and major events such as the World Council of Churches 10<sup>th</sup> Assembly in Busan, South Korea.

*Personal Commitment report demonstrates strength of commitment*

The results shared in the report demonstrate a high degree of commitment on the part of those who participated in the study in responding to HIV, often in the face of a decrease in attention to HIV by global policy makers and funders. The report surveyed a wider range of religious leaders, and in assessing quality of actions, found a deeper commitment from the leaders to ensure HIV and its root causes were addressed by their faith community. While there were only about 10 additional signatures to the commitment in 2013, this was expected due to the strategic decision by the working group to focus more on quality of implementation, rather than promotion of signatures only.

The final report on the implementation of the personal commitment is due in September 2014.

*Increased awareness and more accurate knowledge of the faith-based response to HIV among governments and multilateral organizations, civil society groups and networks of people living with HIV.*

The personal commitment report, with its accompanying video summary, was an additional tool to promote the efforts and challenges of religious leaders responding to HIV, and received recognition by UNAIDS and GNP+ in particular.

Raoul Fransen, MPH, Executive Director a.i., Global Network of People Living with HIV (GNP+), responded to the report by noting, “What is uplifting is the strength of commitment of many religious leaders from diverse backgrounds, who often face difficulties in their quest to overcome entrenched attitudes. To date, a good deal of work has been done to change faith- and society-held beliefs, but there is still much further to go, and complexities continue to be faced by many when discussing HIV, and the issues surrounding it.”

Direct downloads of the report and views of the video summary were both well over 100, with further reach through the press release and social media.

**List of resource  
materials**

**Press Release:** Religious Leaders Report on HIV Commitments

**Report:** [Together We Must Still Do More: Second Round of Reporting on the Fulfillment of the Personal Commitment to Action on HIV](#)

[Video summary](#) of report.



## Theme: Human Rights, Theology & HIV

### Activity: Second Round Closed Door Consultation

#### Specific results

Increased awareness and recognition of human rights as a set of tools for responding more effectively to HIV by religious representatives.

Religious leaders and faith-based groups perceived by others as key partners for a rights-based response to HIV.

#### Implementation of plans

Following the first consultation convened in November 2011, a second closed-door consultation was held in November 2013 in Bangkok as an opportunity for frank discussion and reflection on challenges related to Human Rights, Theology and HIV, with a special focus on sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR). The meeting, held under the Chatham House Rule, confirmed the strong sensitivities around these issues, but also demonstrated the potential for progress in addressing the concerns through dialogue and identified a number of issues and questions to be further addressed.

The meeting was also informed by the dialogue and encounters enabled at the 10<sup>th</sup> Assembly of the World Council of Churches in early November 2013, in which the EAA facilitated short video interviews with a variety of religious leaders and representatives on the issues they see in HIV, human rights and reproductive health, and participated in an intergenerational dialogue. The videos were released each day starting on World AIDS Day (1 December) through Human Rights Day (10 December) in partnership with the World YWCA and the World Council of Churches, and promoted through an action alert and social media.

The consultation and dialogue have highlighted the need for, and provided input to, the proposed publication on HIV, theology and human rights, now planned for 2014.

#### Achievements, challenges and follow-up

*Strengthened partnerships between theologians/ethicists, human rights practitioners, and HIV experts in advocacy from a human rights perspective, especially on sexual and reproductive health issues.*

The input from the second closed door consultation and feedback from participants refined the list of ongoing issues identified in the first consultation and sharpened the issues that need to be addressed. Feedback from participants strongly affirmed the value of the safe space to dialogue together on these sensitive issues and have provided a foundation for future partnerships in dialogue and action.

*Greater awareness among theologians/ethicists, human rights practitioners, and HIV experts of issues that need further exploration and dialogue, and how to move forward.*

Feedback from consultation participants, as well as WCC Assembly participants in the intergenerational safe spaces, have confirmed the immense value of a publication that can bring various perspectives and learning about



<p><b>List of resource materials</b></p>	<p>human rights principles and practices, theological interpretations, and issues raised by HIV – particularly in the areas of sexual and reproductive health. The challenges posed by an often polarized discourse continue to be acute, and the EAA contribution of pursuing this dialogue with respect and sensitivity are widely affirmed.</p> <p>Second Closed Door Dialogue on Theology, HIV and Human Rights: Background Paper (available from EAA Secretariat)</p> <p>Media feature: <u>Launching Intergenerational Safe Spaces to Discuss HIV, Human Rights and Reproductive Health</u></p> <p>Video interviews from the WCC’s 10<sup>th</sup> Assembly on Voices of Faith for Dialogue HIV, Human Rights and Reproductive Health</p> <p><u>The Most Rev. Thabo Makgoba</u>, Anglican Archbishop of Cape Town</p> <p><u>Gloria Kalokhe</u>, Program Director, YWCA of Mumbai, India</p> <p><u>Rev. Osborne Joda Mbewe</u>, General Secretary, Malawi Council of Churches</p> <p><u>Christine Housel</u>, General Secretary, World Student Christian Federation</p> <p><u>Rev. Nyambura Njoroge</u>, World Council of Churches’ Program Executive for the Ecumenical HIV/AIDS Initiative in Africa.</p> <p><u>Samuel Nderi</u>, Central Youth Committee, Presbyterian Church of East Africa</p> <p><u>The Most Rev. Diarmuid Martin</u>, Roman Catholic Archbishop of Dublin, Ireland</p> <p><u>Nyaradzayi Gumbonzvanda</u>, General Secretary, World YWCA</p> <p><u>Metropolitan Geevarghese Coorilos</u>, Syrian Orthodox Bishop of Niranam, India</p> <p><u>Shyreen Mvula</u>, Malawi Coalition of Women Living with HIV and AIDS</p>
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**Activity: Colloquium and Publication on Human Rights, Theology & HIV**

<p><b>Specific results</b></p>	<p>Refined plans for preparation of publication on Human Rights, Theology and HIV</p>
<p><b>Implementation of plans</b></p>	<p>In light of dialogue responses, the previously proposed “working group” on Human Rights, Theology and HIV will be redefined as the editorial committee guiding the process of developing the framework for the publication on Human Rights, Theology and HIV, identifying authors and peer reviews, organizing a colloquium and overseeing the final editing, design and publication. A consultant will oversee the process. This work is planned for 2014.</p>
<p><b>Achievements, challenges and follow-up</b></p>	<p>The value and need for the publication have been reaffirmed, and the work will take place in 2014.</p>
<p><b>List of resource</b></p>	<p>Terms of Reference for the Editorial Committee (available from the EAA)</p>



materials

Secretariat)

## *Theme: Access to Treatment*

### **Activity: Advocacy and dialogue with pharmaceutical companies**

#### **Specific results**

In 2013, an increased number of pharmaceutical companies have reached agreement with the Medicines Patent Pool, and faith-based concerns particularly on access to treatment for children are more known.

#### **Implementation of plans**

Building on face-to-face meetings held with key pharmaceutical companies at the last four International AIDS Conferences, the EAA’s Access to Treatment Working Group engages in dialogue, and, where appropriate, in more direct campaigning, with pharmaceutical companies to propose ways for improving access to testing and treatment. Such work focuses on improving treatment and testing for children (treatment coverage for children lags significantly behind that of adults) and supporting initiatives to reduce the prices of medicines, specifically the collective generic licensing instrument of the Medicines Patent Pool (MPP).

In 2013, the Access to Treatment working group responded to two agreements between pharmaceutical companies and the Medicines Patent Pool. In February EAA welcomed the agreement between ViiV Healthcare and MPP that will permit generic manufacture of the pediatric drug abacavir. In December, EAA welcomed the agreement between Bristol-Myers Squibb and the MPP for the drug atazanavir (ATV), a preferred second-line treatment for adults living with HIV and also used for children over the age of six. The major concern with both agreements, however, is the exclusion of middle-income countries, which allows a dangerous gap in treatment coverage. With the total number of pharmaceutical companies with agreements with MPP now 3, EAA has also continued to push other companies, such as Johnson and Johnson and Merck, to conclude agreements

Wherever possible, the Working Group ensured that faith-based advocacy contributed to and amplified wider civil society advocacy efforts. In order to do this, close working relationships were maintained and developed with key actors in the access to treatment field, particularly the Medicines Patent Pool itself.

Throughout the year, the working group monitored emerging issues and contributed analysis through Bulletin articles to raise awareness and engage faith-based actors in advocacy activities.

In other efforts, A groundbreaking international consultation to strengthen the joint efforts of governments and faith-based health service providers to ensure no child is born with HIV took place in Zambia, 28 February – 1 March 2013, co-organized by UNAIDS, Ecumenical Advocacy Alliance (EAA), and Caritas Internationalis. The meeting was part of efforts to implement UNAIDS’ “Global Plan towards the elimination of new HIV infections among children by 2015 and keeping their mothers alive”.

The consultation brought together over 70 representatives from 12 priority countries of the Global Plan, including from governments, Christian Health Associations, other protestant and Catholic Church-related health services, Islamic health providers, networks of women living with HIV, the World





Council of Churches, the International Network of Religious Leaders Living with and Affected by HIV (INERELA+), UNAIDS and other international organizations.

Participants developed a number of recommendations to strengthen partnerships and enhance the complementarity between governments and faith-based health services. These included establishing memorandums of understanding between parties that would include accountability around funding flows; addressing the issue of task shifting with appropriate resources, including remuneration of volunteers; and involvement of faith-based health services in policy decisions.

As the Child’s Right to Health was a central theme during the March 2013 session of the UN Human Rights Council, the EAA co-organized a side event with Caritas Internationalis and the Elizabeth Glazier Pediatric AIDS Foundation (EGPAF) to look at pediatric HIV from a human rights perspective.

Panellists at the event:

- presented some stark figures demonstrating the very large disparities in access to treatment in many countries, including the the inequity between adults and children accessing ART /
- spoke about personal experience growing up with HIV.
- presented a range of national programs aimed at improving access to HIV treatment.
- noted the importance of partnering with faith-based organizations due to their reach to rural and marginalized communities in countries with lowest rates of treatment for children.
- stressed the need for more child-friendly diagnostics and drugs.
- highlighted strengthening health systems and greater community engagement as key to improving treatment for children.

The event during the Human Rights Council helped to raise some awareness among the diplomatic and human rights community in Geneva about the need to address paediatric HIV as a human rights issue. However, we need to do more to see all stakeholders, including pharmaceutical companies, preventing infection in children in the first place, but also upholding the human rights of children who are infected by increasing their access to appropriate treatment and care

### **Achievements, challenges and follow-up**

*Increased awareness and engagement of faith communities in efforts to increase universal access to medicines and comprehensive testing and treatment for all.*

EAA is being increasingly recognized by the MPP as an important moral voice adding pressure to pharmaceutical companies to ensure affordable access to HIV treatment in low and middle-income countries. MPP have reached out to EAA and the Access to Treatment working group to keep us informed of ongoing negotiations. As one of the MPP staff has said, “We are ... very much aware that anything we have achieved is thanks to the help and support of many, and the EAA has always been such a key supporter.”

Following the UNAIDS/Caritas Internationalis/EAA consultation on the Global Plan, Dr Luiz Loures, UNAIDS Deputy Executive Director said at UNAIDS of the consultation, “Faith-based service providers partnering with



government to deliver HIV services to remote and hard to reach communities are examples of the innovation required to ensure access to treatment for people living with HIV and ending new HIV infections in children.”

In addition to the continued challenge of including first-line treatment medicines in the patent pool and expanding coverage to middle-income countries, future advocacy efforts may need to encourage the implementation of agreements in the MPP by generic manufacturers, to show that this is a viable and effective methodology for patent holders and for people needing treatment.

*Timely response by churches and church-related organizations to emerging situations relating to access to medicines.*

The working group has been able to provide swift analysis and reaction to announced MPP agreements through the press releases.

### **List of Resource Material**

Bulletin article in May on ruling in Indian Supreme Court regarding Novartis case

March Bulletin Article on DIFAEM input in the WHO guidelines

October Bulletin Article on WHO guidelines

March Bulletin Article on TB/HIV co-infection and children

Press release: Patent agreement improves treatment access for children with HIV

Press release: Faith-based groups and governments join forces to end new HIV infections in children.

Press release: New Drug License to Help Meet Growing HIV Treatment Needs



## *Theme/Activity Area: Resource Mobilization and Accountability*

### **Activity: Establishing and supporting a network of FBO reps on CCMs**

<b>Specific results</b>	Strengthened involvement and support of faith-based representatives in Global Fund processes.
<b>Implementation of plans</b>	<p>The EAA has established an expert Working Group on Resource Mobilization &amp; Accountability to provide leadership and direction for EAA’s efforts in the areas of strategic advocacy to supse areas.</p> <p>In 2012 the Resource Mobilization &amp; Accountability Working Group designed and circulated a survey to FBO representatives on Country Coordinating Mechanisms (CCMs) to identify how it could support them in their work and facilitate country-to-country learning and exchange and thus strengthen faith-based engagement in Global Fund processes at both national and international levels. The CCM research was well received, with 46 FBO representatives on CCMs responding to the survey of which 13 participated in in-depth telephone interview. The report was finalized in January 2013. Based on the 2012 survey results, the Working Group aimed to establish a network of FBO representatives on CCMs.</p> <p>The working group monitored and provided feedback to the Global Fund throughout the development of the Global Fund’s New Funding Mechanism and kept EAA members involved in this development through meeting with Global Fund staff and representing EAA members on conference calls in particular.</p> <p>In early 2013, the working group presented its survey results to Mark Dybul, Executive Director of The Global Fund, who suggested that through the New Funding Mechanism (NFM), the role of the CCMs would change and the greater need would be to link faith-based representatives to the country dialogue process.</p> <p>EAA conducted a mapping of key FBO service providers in the pilot countries for the NFM and provided this to the Global Fund so that they could be contacted in-country for the country dialogue meetings.</p>
<b>Achievements, challenges and follow-up</b>	<p><i>Faith-based input into Global Fund processes increases and becomes more strategic.</i></p> <p>The Resource Mobilization and Accountability Working Group has built on direct contacts with the leadership of the Global Fund and provided strategic input into the development of its new funding mechanism and the capacity and opportunities faith-based organizations could provide in terms of dialogue and services.</p> <p>The newly appointed HIV Strategy Group and the Resource Mobilization &amp; Accountability Working Group will need to reassess its focus in 2014 based on the development of a new campaign strategic plan.</p>
<b>List of resource</b>	Report on Faith-based Representation on CCMs (Available from EAA)



**materials**

Secretariat)

Bulletin article in May to raise awareness about the Global Fund’s New Funding Mechanism

**Activity: Resource Mobilization Advocacy**

**Specific results**

In 2013, faith-based representatives were involved in strategic and coordinated advocacy efforts to ensure sufficient and accountable resourcing of the HIV response.

**Implementation of plans**

In the current global economic and political environment, resource constraints and diminishing political commitment are serious obstacles to realizing the promise of new scientific discoveries that offer the prospect of the end of the pandemic. Faith-based advocacy for sufficient and accountable resource mobilization for the HIV response increases, with specific focuses on Global Fund replenishment and PEPFAR reauthorization.

The Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria is the leading multilateral instrument for financing the global HIV response, and the EAA has historically been active in advocacy for the establishment and full funding of the Global Fund.

The EAA engaged actively with the Global Fund Advocacy Network (GFAN) in order to share information and actions with EAA members on Global Fund resource mobilization efforts. The campaign coordinator attended the January meeting of GFAN in Amsterdam and the EAA supported the call to action and the Here I Am campaign (<http://www.hereiamcampaign.org/>), including the use of social media tools. Action alerts and bulletin articles raised awareness of the replenishment process and encouraged joint action.

The concerted action generated the good result of USD12 billion pledged to the Global Fund. PEPFAR was also reauthorized in December 2013. .

**Achievements and follow-up**

*Increased faith-based advocacy for sufficient and accountable resource mobilization for the HIV response*

Faith-based advocacy in supporting the Global Fund replenishment process has become more coordinated and strategic with other civil society partners, leading to a greater impact and contributing to the good result in 2013.

**List of resource materials**

Bulletin article in October on Global Fund replenishment, and an earlier one in March.

Action alerts regarding Global Fund replenishment were issued in March and October



*Theme/Activity Area: Faith-based engagement in policy processes*

**Activity: UNAIDS Program Coordinating Board (PCB)**

**Specific results**

Strengthened and increased ecumenical input into policy discussions and decisions at twice yearly PCB meetings.

**Implementation of plans**

The EAA sought to encourage and support its members and faith-based partners to be more active in key policy processes, offering insights and lessons learned from their practical service delivery experience and knowledge of their communities, as well as leveraging the moral influence that religious leaders can have to keep governments accountable to their political and financial commitments on HIV and AIDS.

The PCB, the governing body of UNAIDS, met in June and December in Geneva.

Throughout the year, the EAA liaised with the PCB NGO Delegation to follow and input into preparation for the two Board meetings via email and briefings over skype. The EAA also actively identified and encouraged suitable faith-based representatives to apply for open positions on the PCB NGO Delegation as they presented themselves during the year.

EAA staff and members participated in the physical PCB meetings, with live updates from the proceedings communicated to EAA Twitter feed followers, and summary articles included in subsequent HIV Bulletins.

During the June meeting, the EAA co-drafted and co-signed two oral statements, one on community systems strengthening and one on the post-2015 agenda. The latter statement was delivered orally by the EAA’s HIV Campaign Coordinator.

**Achievements, challenges and follow-up**

*Increased visibility of faith-based response for HIV within UNAIDS PCB meetings; Closer collaboration between FBOs and other civil society actors in PCB processes*

Several EAA documents were posted to websites belonging to organizations outside the EAA membership. For example, the EAA’s written statement to the UNAIDS PCB was posted along with other observer statements on the NGP PCB delegation’s website; and the EAA’s response to the health consultation was posted in full on the World We Want website and was also summarizing in an online Daily Digest as part of a review of statements submitted by faith-based organizations.

**List of resource materials**

Statement of Intervention by Coalition of NGO Observers on Post-2015 Agenda addressed by Ruth Foley, EAA

Bulletin article to report on June PCB and to raise awareness of December meeting.

March Bulletin article on 2012 Dec meeting



## Activity: Post-2015/SDG process

<b>Specific results</b>	Active engagement of faith-based voices and representatives in the post-2015 development process.
<b>Implementation of plans</b>	<p>Having had a prominent place in the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), HIV may be at risk of a much decreased prominence in the post-2015 development agenda which is presently in the process of being articulated. The Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) process mandated at the Rio+20 Summit in June 2012 also provides a context in which HIV should be adequately recognized as a key challenge to sustainable development.</p> <p>From late 2012 into 2013, the UN put in place a series of nine thematic consultations on the post-2015 development agenda. The EAA facilitated coordinated faith-based input into the consultation on health, with a view to ensuring that HIV remains a key component of the post-MDG development agenda and that the lessons learned from the HIV response thus far are applied, where appropriate, to the wider health agenda.</p> <p>The EAA’s HIV Campaign Coordinator served as the faith-based representative on the Post-2015 civil society working group developing a common response and action plan to ensure that the HIV response continues as a global priority.</p> <p>Awareness raising of the process, EAA input, and analysis of the report of the High Level Panel were provided through the website at <a href="http://www.e-alliance.ch/en/s/hiv aids/eaa-and-the-post-2015-agenda/">http://www.e-alliance.ch/en/s/hiv aids/eaa-and-the-post-2015-agenda/</a>, bulletin articles and a press release.</p> <p>The EAA was deeply concerned by the very weak language on HIV included in the report of the High Level Panel on the post-2015 development agenda (available at <a href="http://www.post2015hlp.org/">http://www.post2015hlp.org/</a>) released in May 2013, which risked undermining previous political commitments to universal access to HIV prevention, treatment, care and support. However, the number and strength of references to HIV and AIDS in the Special Event in September in New York were more encouraging.</p> <p>A planned advocacy capacity workshop on the post-2015 development process was planned for December 2015, but was cancelled due to lack of sufficient funding.</p>
<b>Achievements, challenges and follow-up</b>	<p><i>Increased participation of faith-based actors with experience in the HIV response – together with civil society partners – in national, regional and international meetings on the post-2015 process</i></p> <p>Faith-based representatives have actively participated in the post-2015 thematic consultations and in some of the 56 national consultations that have taken place. EAA’s place in the post-2015 civil society working group was a recognition of EAA’s broad network and effective action.</p>
<b>List of resource materials</b>	<p>Bulletin articles in <a href="#">March</a>, <a href="#">May</a> and <a href="#">October</a> on post-2015 processes</p> <p>Press release: <a href="#">"Aim even higher": Proposed post-2015 global development agenda draws mixed response</a></p>



## *Theme/Activity Area: Awareness-raising, Outreach & Mobilization*

### **Activity: Theological/Advocacy Resources for Advent/World AIDS Day**

<b>Specific result</b>	Strengthened and increased ecumenical input and engagement in the response to HIV in and around World AIDS Day.
<b>Implementation of plans</b>	<p>Awareness-raising on the continuing salience of the HIV pandemic and its impacts on human health, community and dignity remained a key priority, to ensure that churches and related organizations maintain their commitment to this challenge at a time when many governments and other institutions are reducing theirs.</p> <p>EAA produced materials and information resources for the purpose of awareness-raising, outreach to and mobilization of a grassroots church constituency for further engagement in the HIV response.</p> <p>World AIDS Day, December 1, remains an important occasion for raising awareness of HIV - both challenges and opportunities - among people of faith and the wider community. The proximity of World AIDS Day to the beginning of Advent within the Christian liturgical calendar provides an opportunity to encourage theological reflection on HIV.</p> <p>In 2013, the EAA commissioned a liturgy that was circulated, via the website, bulletins and Action Alerts, in English, French, Spanish and German, along with a range of worship resources and advocacy ideas gathered from EAA members and partners to encourage reflection and action, under the global theme of ‘zero AIDS-related deaths, zero new infections and zero discrimination’.</p> <p>The EAA also facilitated the translation into French and Spanish of the online Advent Calendar first produced in English in 2012 as a devotional resource for individual and collective reflection on HIV. The calendar includes daily devotions written by EAA members active in the response to HIV. Its use in 2013 in French, Spanish and English was widely promoted by the EAA and its members.</p> <p>To commemorate World AIDS Day in Geneva, a service based on the EAA liturgy was organized by the EAA at the Ecumenical Centre in Geneva. In collaboration with other HIV-related organizations based in Geneva, including UNAIDS and the International AIDS Society, the EAA’s logo was also included on a poster calling for zero discrimination that was placed on a Geneva tram during the month of December.</p> <p>The occasion of World AIDS Day was also used by EAA to raise the profile of several of its key activities. Notably, the report on the fulfillment of the personal commitment was launched by way of a press release for World AIDS Day (see Activity: <i>Second Round Review of Implementation of Personal Commitment</i>) and the first of a series of 10 daily videos promote discussion on HIV, theology and sexual and reproductive health was posted on the Live the Promise Campaign facebook page (see Activity: <i>Promoting Dialogue on HIV, Theology and Sexual and Reproductive Health</i>).</p> <p>In addition to promoting issues and resources around World AIDS Day, the EAA encouraged participation in regional and international AIDS Conferences and the visibility of faith-based efforts in the wider HIV</p>



**Achievements,  
challenges and  
follow-up**

response.

*Increased understanding of HIV among Christian congregations and communities; increased participation of Christian theologians and religious leaders in HIV response*

37 EAA members’ work on HIV was featured in the Advent Calendar, and – based on a web search - at least 19 EAA organized activities around World AIDS Day. These activities included circulating the EAA liturgy, holding worship services, posting testimonies from people living with HIV, holding workshops, making statements and highlighting their work related to HIV.

The World AIDS Day webpage page remained the most popular among the HIV-related webpages. The traffic to the page spiked dramatically in November, with some 1,700 people visiting the page in total and remaining on it for almost 3 minutes.

**List of resource  
materials**

World AIDS Day Liturgy and related action ideas online in 3 languages.

Advent Calendar translated from English to French and Spanish and made available online and via daily emails to subscribers during Advent.

Two Action Alerts to promote resources and activities: Oct 2013 and Nov 2013.

Bulletin article in May to highlight opportunities for engagement in regional AIDS conferences

Report from South Africa AIDS conference shared in the October Bulletin

Action alert re. AIDS 2014





## “Food for Life” Campaign

### Background

*We have the means, we have the capacity, to wipe hunger and poverty from the face of the earth in our lifetime – we only need the will.* This has been the basic starting point for every food conference since the first World Food Congress in June 1963. However, today governments are still unable to gather the political will necessary to end world hunger.

G8 governments made a Hunger Pledge in the wake of the 2007-2008 food crisis, which resulted in the L’Aquila Food Security Initiative in 2009. This later evolved into the New Alliance for Food Security and Nutrition in Africa in 2012. UN Agencies have united under the umbrella of the *Zero Hunger Challenge* and through initiatives such as *Save and Grow*. The international community came together under the Millennium Development Goals, which are soon to be replaced by the Post-2015 Development Agenda and will hopefully merge with the Sustainable Development Goals. Considering all these efforts, one has to wonder why we have not yet managed to reduce the number of people that go to bed hungry.

It is estimated that the world currently produces enough food to feed 9 billion people yet 842 million people – 12% of global population, or 1 in 8 – are suffering from chronic hunger. These numbers do not reflect those who experience ‘seasonal hunger’, nor do they consider that the daily caloric intake required by physically demanding jobs, such as those that are regularly undertaken by the poor. And caloric intake alone says nothing about nutritional status and the 165 million children that are so malnourished that they will not attain their physical and cognitive potential. Poor diets are also to blame for the rise in the number of people overweight and obese, leading to a rise of non-communicable diseases, such as heart disease, intestinal cancers and type-2 diabetes.

Agriculture incentives have managed to assist larger farms and landholders but have created inequality in rural areas, forcing small-scale, subsistence farmers and landless into the cities in search of employment. With fewer rural farmers able to feed their communities, some countries have increased their dependency on food imports, resulting in a surge of cheap, highly processed rich food that have a longer shelf-life but less nutritional value.

Increasingly, we witness an imbalance of power in our food chains, with multi-national corporations playing a growing role in how our food is produced, processed, marketed, and distributed. This shift has led to the prioritization of industrial models of agricultural that rely heavily on external inputs such as fertilizers, water, pesticides and genetically engineered seeds. This approach to agriculture fails to address the social and environmental aspects of sustainability. Food production is estimated to account for between 17% (direct emissions) and 32% (including indirect emissions from land use changes, synthetic fertilizers, etc.) of global greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions.

According to the FAO, rearing animals for human consumption accounts for 18% of GHG emissions in CO<sub>2</sub> equivalent, not including the additional emissions from land-use change and deforestation. Livestock production consumes fertile land, accounting for 70% of all agricultural land and 30% of the land surface of the entire planet. When one considers the additional agricultural lands that are being used for biofuel production, it begs the



question of why our governments choose to prioritize actions that deplete our natural resources in order to meet our unsustainable consumption patterns.

Inefficiency in our food systems is another reason why an estimated 30-50% of all food produced globally is wasted due to losses along the food supply chain. Losses and waste occur throughout the supply chain, from the point of production (especially due to lack of storage, processing and transportation facilities, particularly in developing countries) to the point of consumption (mainly due to consumer behaviors and quality standards, particularly in developed countries). In developed countries, consumers waste almost the same amount of food (222 million tons) as the entire net food production of sub-Saharan Africa (230 million tons). At a policy level, we have been successful in documenting and understanding where food waste occurs; however, there are still a lot of steps that need to be taken before any real progress can be made.

In light of these trends, EAA’s Food for Life Campaign prioritized focusing the collective knowledge and energy of EAA members and partners to:

1. Rebuild local food systems using an ecosystem-based model of agriculture, which considers aspects such as soil health and crop varieties, and combines traditional knowledge with modern technologies that are well adapted to the needs of smallholder farmers and respect the local context. This includes ensuring that farmers have access to and control over the natural resources that they need (land, water and seeds) to produce food.
2. Advocate for the rights of food producers so that they can earn decent wages for their work, have consistent and reliable local markets for their produce, and have adequate social protection schemes in order to purchase food. Acknowledging that small-scale farmers and plantation workers are among the most vulnerable to price shocks and food scarcity.
3. Educate and empower consumers with the knowledge to make healthy food choices. We need to switch from product-based nutrition to programming aimed at improving diets based on local foods.
4. Ensure the meaningful participation of small-scale food producers and marginalized communities in the relevant policy development and implementation at the national, regional and international levels.
5. Promote greater investment in storage, packaging and processing facilities to reduce food waste.

In 2013, EAA’s Food for Life Campaign activities responded to the above-mentioned goals that most notably resulted in the following:

- Facilitated greater understanding how seed diversity and agroecological methods of food production improve the resilience of our food systems in the face of climate change and other challenges. *Seeds for Life: Scaling up Agro-Biodiversity* was produced to highlight the case studies and accumulation of knowledge-intensive experiences of EAA members.
- Doubled faith-based engagement and collaboration in international



**Staffing and work methods**

processes, such as the work of the Committee on World Food Security (CFS) and the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC).

- Enhanced commitment and recognition by the UN Special Rapporteur on the Right to Food for the work of EAA members. This has been showcased through regular engagement during country missions, and through awareness raising activities carried out by the annual publication of the Right to Food and Nutrition Watch, the actions undertaken during Vienna+20, and mobilization through the Global Right to Food and Nutrition Network (GRTFNN).
- Greater understanding of nutrition and nutrition sensitive interventions, while advocating for a switch from product-based nutritional interventions to programming aimed at improving diets based on local foods. Ensured joint action to address micronutrient deficiencies and the double burden of under-nutrition and obesity in processes leading to the Second International Conference on Nutrition (ICN2) and in parallel with the efforts Scaling-Up Nutrition Movement (SUN).
- Sharper vision, mandate and strategic plan for the future advocacy work of the EAA Food for Life Campaign. The 2013 General Assembly of the EAA called on members to “*work together on eradicating hunger, promoting adequate nutrition, and striving towards just and sustainable food systems, with a particular emphasis on sustainable agricultural practices and the situation of smallholder producers and their access to and control over natural resources such as land, water and seeds*”.

The EAA Food Campaign Coordinator was mainly responsible for the coordination of the activities. This was made possible through the guidance of the Food Strategy Group in identifying issues and action plans.

EAA members developed the liturgy and background papers for the Week of Action.

A portion of the time of the EAA staff (Executive Director, Administrative Assistant, Communications Consultant, Webmaster and Communications Assistant, Multimedia and Communications Assistant, and Finance, Fundraising, and Reporting Officer) also contributed to the success of the campaign.

## Food for Life Campaign activities in 2013

### Theme/Activity Area: Promoting agroecology for just, sustainable and resilient food production

**Specific results**

Increased awareness among EAA members and partners of agroecological concepts and practices, and of the potential for scaling up agroecological food production for sustainable food security



**Implementation of plans**

At the end of 2012, the Food for Life Campaign, produced a leading publication: *Nourishing the World Sustainably: Scaling up Agroecology*. This report provides the latest research on agroecology and the recommendations offer guidance on the policies needed for it to be scaled up. The case studies from our members featured in the report demonstrate the positive impacts of agroecology, in terms of both yield and environmental sustainability.

The principles addressed in this report laid the groundwork and became core to the policy positions that EAA adopted in 2013.

**Achievements and follow-up**

*EAA Agroecology Working Group*

To guide EAA’s future work on agroecology, an ad hoc Working Group was established with members representing faith-based organizations, small-scale food producers, church leaders, researchers and academics. The aim of this collaboration was to shape a clear strategy for increasing EAA’s effectiveness in its advocacy for scaling up agroecology, starting with the mapping of the church and faith-based organizations working on agroecology at grassroots level. The working group will be revived in 2014.

*Highlighting sustainable food systems within the G8*

According to EAA members, the G8 New Alliance for Nutrition has become a vehicle to open up African markets to agricultural inputs (commercial seeds, fertilizers and pesticides) under the veil of reducing hunger across Africa.

In response, EAA published *Whose Alliance? The G8 and the Emergence of a Global Corporate Regime for Agriculture* in collaboration with member CIDSE. The report critiques the vision and approach of the G8’s New Alliance for Food Security and Nutrition in Africa for ignoring human rights and root causes of hunger and instead seeking to solve food security through a market orientation. This publication was used by several members as a supporting document to their own policy engagement, especially in New Alliance pilot countries.

Feedback was received by Christian Aid, Association of Reformed Evangelical Churches of Burkina Faso – AEERB and was used as a reference in related documents by those in EAA networks, such as FIAN.

*Promoting agroecology in print*

EAA was invited to contribute an article to the Right to Food and Nutrition Watch 2013 publication about why scaling up investment in agroecology is essential to the achievement of the Right to Food. Further contributions were also requested for FAO’s World Food Day USA website, Greenpeace International, and Presbyterian Hunger Program - World Food Day edition.

EAA plans to devote the 2014 Churches Week of Action on Food to further mobilization, enhanced dialogue and cross-fertilization among EAA members and allies on the advantages and feasibility of scaling up agroecological methods of food production. A statement from religious leaders on just and sustainable food systems and Christian stewardship of creation will also be created.

**List of resource materials**

**Publications:**

May 2013: *Whose Alliance? The G8 and the Emergence of a Global*



*Corporate Regime for Agriculture (EN, FR, SP)*

October 2013: *Agroecology – An Alternative Way to Ensuring Food Security (EN, FR, SP)*

16 October 2013: *Fighting World Hunger: Who deserves our praise?*

October 2013: *Small-scale sustainable solutions to global hunger*

**Press Release:**

31 May 2013: *G8's "New Alliance" ignores root causes of hunger, new report claims*

**Theme/Activity Area: Reducing food waste and promoting just and sustainable consumption, as a matter of Christian stewardship**

**Specific results**

- Churches and individuals increasingly made commitments to assess their own levels of consumption and waste, and make changes to their own lifestyle patterns, eating habits, and review what can be done to reduce their contribution to food waste and minimize post-harvest losses
- Increased interest by members of EAA and other churches and church-related organizations to change behavior and consumption patterns that are inconsistent with environmental sustainability and just food production
- Broader engagement by churches and church-related organizations and their members in issues of food waste in both their advocacy efforts and in the practices of their own communities

**Implementation of plans**

i) *Encourage member participation in Fast for Life 2013*

Since 2010, EAA has promoted an annual ‘Fast for Life’ observance on Ash Wednesday and during the Lenten period – as a time for encouraging individuals, churches and communities to learn more about the effect of unequal consumption patterns on global food security and justice, and to take steps to change how and what they consume. In 2013, EAA asked our members to reflect on their personal contribution to food waste and to call on our decision makers to act to reduce food losses using a variety of methods, such as greater investment in post-harvest infrastructure.

ii) *Facilitate the participation of churches and Christian organizations in the 2013 World Environment Day, under the theme ‘Think.Eat.Save; Reduce your footprint’*

The theme for the 2013 World Environment Day, held on 5 June, was *Think.Eat.Save*. *Think.Eat.Save* is a global anti-food waste and food loss campaign that encourages individuals to reduce their global ‘foodprint’. The United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) recognizes this opportunity and has devoted the 2013 World Environment Day to raising awareness about the amount of food produced each year that is wasted. EAA raised awareness about this global opportunity and invited members to join in solidarity.



**Achievements and follow-up**

- iii) *Promote the potential of reducing food waste and post-harvest losses to the leaders of the G8 and G20 in order to help meet the challenge of feeding the world*

Recently, global leaders have been focusing their food security policy discussions on increasing food production without addressing the issue of waste in the food production, distribution and consumption chain. EAA used the 2013 meetings of the G8 and G20 to call on leaders to shift to more sustainable food production and distribution systems and to prioritize the elimination of waste along the food chain. Such an approach results in a reduction in the amount of food needed to be produced and accounts for the natural resources required for future decades with increasing populations.

- i) *Churches and individuals increasingly make commitments to assess their own levels of consumption and waste, and make changes to their own lifestyle patterns, eating habits, and review what can be done to reduce their contribution to food waste and minimize post-harvest losses*

a) *Fast for Life 2013*

EAA encouraged members to get involved with the chain of people involved in getting food from the ground to the table and provided *Waste not, Want not Questionnaires* to provide a starting point for dialogue. The EAA Secretariat joined in this action by running a series of interviews with Swiss-based actors, from managers of large supermarket chains to food distribution centres, to see where food is being lost. A summary of these discussions, including lessons learned, were featured in food bulletins and through social media.

The *Waste Tracker* was revised to help families track how much food they wasted each day and was picked up by both faith and non-faith actors such as the co-Director of *Partage*, Vincent Gall.

The *Fast for Life Pledge*, which commits people to doing what they can to reduce waste along the food chain throughout the Lenten period, was made available as an online resource for our members. Almost 40 new participants signed on in 2013. Additional printed copies were made available during the *2013 Fast for Life Worship Service*, in which more than 50 individuals attended and committed to the challenge.

EAA member The National Council of Churches in the Philippines (NCCP) scaled up their engagement in the Fast for Life activities in 2013, including with the preparation of this year’s liturgy ‘We are the Light of the World; We are the Salt of the Earth’. According to the online statistics, 72 people downloaded the Meal Planner, not including those who accessed it through social media and directly from the link sent out in Action Alerts. This liturgy was also used during the *Fast for Life Worship Service*, held at the Ecumenical Centre in Geneva on 13 February and involved the active participation of four other ecumenical partners coming from the ACT Alliance, the World Council of Churches, the Lutheran World Federation and Ecumenical Water Network.

An additional resource added in 2013 was the *Meal Planner*. This tool was to encourage individuals to make a shopping list and plan their food purchases before heading to the farmers market or grocery store. Sticking to a list helps reduce the risk of impulse buys or buying unnecessary large quantities, which



then usually turn into waste. According to the online statistics, 42 people downloaded the *Meal Planner*, not including those who accessed it through social media and directly from the link sent out in Action Alerts.

Positive feedback was received directly from members across the globe, such as in West Africa via FECCIWA and from churches across central Canada via Canadian Foodgrains Bank. Members were encouraged to upload achievements on EAA’s Global Good Practices map.

Building on the lessons learned in 2012 and 2013, EAA will showcase the shared experience of our members in key policy processes, such as the Committee on World Food Security (CFS) and the 2014 roundtable discussions/negotiations on ‘Food Losses and Waste in the Context of Sustainable Food Systems’. On the basis of its active membership in the Civil Society Mechanism (CSM) of the CFS, and following its participation in successive CFS sessions, the EAA plans to scale-up its engagement with policy discussions in that context, and to facilitate greater participation among smallholder farmers, religious leaders and other representatives of food insecure communities in those forums. At the 41st session of the CFS (in October 2014), the EAA plans to organize side events and other advocacy initiatives to sharpen the focus on the reduction of post-harvest food losses. EAA will collaborate with the CSM and with EAA members participating in the CFS session as its key partners for this purpose, as well as with interfaith and civil society partners. EAA will also assist in the preparation of related CSM statements, press releases and further highlight this issue through social media.

EAA hopes to provide support for and facilitate the active participation of (at least 2) smallholder food producers and representatives of food insecure communities in the developing world, and ensure that opportunities are provided for them to express their views to delegates and other partners in these processes.

*b) World Environment Roundtable: Think.Eat.Save. Reduce your footprint*

On 5 June 2013, EAA extended its reach to non-faith actors at the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) organized event *Reduce your footprint*. EAA members took the floor at this event to share the work that they have been engaged in through *Fast for Life* and to voice their willingness to join with other alliances to meet this global challenge. Panelists from the FAO, WFP, OHCHR, government and the private sector, were receptive to the invitation, as were several participants from the audience. EAA also used this opportunity to expose the ‘missed opportunities’ by listing some of the unresolved wasteful practices that take place in Switzerland to Dominique Kohli, Deputy Director of the Swiss Federal Office for Agriculture, that were learned by way of interviews.

EAA has continued to build on the relationships established at this event and to further explore opportunities for closer collaboration with UN agencies.

Social media was used to promote this activity and to give a summary of the outcomes.

- ii) Increased interest by members of EAA and other churches and church-related organizations to change behavior and consumption patterns that are inconsistent with environmental sustainability and*



*just food production*

Throughout 2013, members continued to highlight the need for mindful living through their communications work and practice. Most notably was the response by our Catholic members to the message delivered by Pope Francis in his General Audience address on 5 June, which called for a response to the “Culture of Waste”.

Other actions were taken to draw the link between environmental protection and global consumption patterns in the run up to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change in Warsaw in November 2013. Most notably was in March 2013, when EAA made a joint submission with MISEREOR, IATP, the Gaia Foundation and IDEX to the UNFCCC “*under Workstream 2 of the Ad Hoc Working Group on the Durban Platform for Enhanced Action (ADP): Item 8: Implementation of all the elements of decision 1/CP.17,(b). Matters related to paragraphs 7 and 8*” in an effort to encourage the global community to reduce excessive meat consumption. The submission noted the paradigm shift needed in the livestock sector, which currently produces 40 percent of the world’s methane, 65 percent of the world’s nitrous oxide and accounts for an estimated 18 percent of human-caused greenhouse gas emissions.

- iii) *Broader engagement by churches and church-related organizations and their members in issues of food waste in both their advocacy efforts and in the practices of their own communities*

On the occasion of World Environment Day 2013 (June 15), EAA members sent a letter to the leaders of the G8 and G20 focusing on food waste. The action was timed in advance of the “Hunger Summit” (8 June in London) and prior to the UK-led G8 Summit (17-18 June). The letter noted that the extremes of hunger and obesity are sharpened by the reality that 30-50% of all food produced for human consumption is wasted each year, “due to inadequate infrastructure, wasteful practices by retailers and consumers, and the lack of proper policies and regulations.” Faith based actors noted that G8 countries have a specific responsibility since their citizens consume a disproportionate amount of the world’s resources, including food, land, water and energy. Also that G8 and G20 countries have the financial resources to tackle the problem, both at home and in developing countries where waste most often stems from lack of adequate post-harvest facilities – including storage and processing facilities, technology and training, and gave clear recommendations for action.

Official responses were received from Guillaume Lambert, Le Chef de Cabinet du President de la Republique Ministry of Canada and from Christian Paradis, Minister of the International Development and Minister for La Francophonie.

**List of resource materials**

**Action Alert:**

16 January 2013: *Ash Wednesday "Fast for Life"*

30 January 2013: *Fast for Life! Take time to pray and commit to reducing food waste and injustice*

31 May 2013: *Tackle food waste on World Environment Day*





**Press Release:**

13 February 2013: *Christian campaigners call for action against food waste*

5 June 2013: *Reducing food waste: "A key part of the solution" to global hunger*

**Web resources on Fast for Life**

Fast for Life Liturgy ([EN](#), [FR](#), [SP](#))

Fast for Life Pledge ([EN](#), [FR](#), [SP](#)) and available online

Waste Tracker ([EN](#), [FR](#), [SP](#))

Weekly Meal Planner ([EN](#), [FR](#), [SP](#))

**Theme/Activity Area: Supporting initiatives around the Right to Food**

**Specific results**

- Strengthened collaboration with the Special Rapporteur on the Right to Food among EAA members and partners
- Enhanced engagement by the Special Rapporteur on the Right to Food with faith communities and FBOs, especially in the context of his country missions
- Increased awareness among EAA members of the Right to Food and of the issues raised in the Right to Food and Nutrition Watch

**Implementation of plans**

- i) *Consistent commitment and support by the Special Rapporteur and the human rights community for the activities carried out by faith based organizations*

As the growing body of work carried out by EAA members receives greater international recognition, the credibility of faith-based organizations as key actors in this field increases. This has resulted in an increase in the number of invitations being sent to EAA for contribution and participation in events, as well as additional support being offered in return.

Core areas of work for 2013 were Vienna+20 (June), the establishment of the Global Right to Food and Nutrition Network (launched in June), and supporting Sofia Monsalve (FIAN) for the position of next UN Special Rapporteur on the Right to Food.

- ii) *EAA members gain a better understanding of the opportunity to engage with the Special Rapporteur during country missions*

Since 2010, EAA has liaised closely with the office of the UN Special Rapporteur on the Right to Food, Mr Olivier De Schutter ([www.srfood.org](http://www.srfood.org)). EAA solicits advance notice of country missions planned by the Special Rapporteur, and endeavors to link him to the expertise of the churches and church-based organizations in those countries, in order for him to gain better access to the perspectives of grassroots communities.

In 2013, EAA has gone one step further to educate our members about the importance of this opportunity by describing how best they



## Achievements and follow-up

could contribute and explaining how their views can influence decision making and hold their governments accountable to their human rights commitments.

### *iii) Contribute to the promotion of the Right to Food and related efforts and publications*

The Right to Food and Nutrition Watch is the only international periodical that monitors the actions of states and other actors related to the realization of the right to food and nutrition. EAA has dedicated time and energy to this publication because it provides a platform for human rights experts, civil society activists, social movements, the media, and scholars to exchange information on how best to promote the realization of the universal right to food. EAA members view this publication as a powerful tool for them to use in their work to influence policymakers at the national and international level to take the human right to food and nutrition seriously into account.

### *i) Increased awareness of and engagement with the Special Rapporteur on the Right to Food among EAA members and partners*

#### *a) Vienna +20 – Advancing the Protection of Human Rights*

The Second World Conference on Human Rights was held in Vienna, Austria from 14 to 25 June 1993. The main result of the conference was the Vienna Declaration and Program of Action, a human rights declaration adopted by consensus. Twenty years later, there is reason to revive this consensus, to rebuild it and, where necessary, to face the new challenges in an environment of multiple crises.

On 25-26 June 2013, the Vienna+20 CSO Conference brought together more than 140 people from various civil society networks from around the world in Vienna on the occasion of the 20th anniversary of the 1993 World Conference on Human Rights. This gathering was to produce a Vienna+20 Civil Society Declaration to strengthen the human rights movement globally and to renew the pressure upon all states to progress in human right standards.

In preparation for this conference, EAA participated as one of the members of the thematic group Food and Nutrition to ensure that the concerns of faith based actors were prominent in the final text. During the conference, EAA served as one of six civil society organizations to be part of the drafting committee responsible for compiling the final Vienna+20 CSO Declaration. Updates and summaries of this work were featured in EAA’s communication work.

The end result of this work was to note the important work that has been achieved over 20 years, including the establishment of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights. Of equal importance was to raise awareness of the shortfalls of the Vienna 1993 Programme of Action to address today’s challenges in respecting, protecting and fulfilling human rights obligations.

#### *b) The launch of the Global Right to Food and Nutrition Network*

Since 2012, EAA has joined forces to build deeper relationships with human rights activists, social movements and food producers through the



establishment of the Global Right to Food and Nutrition Network (GRTFNN).

Under the guidance and support of Oliver De Schutter, the GRTFNN was launched at Vienna +20 with the aim to serve as a flexible instrument to hold governments accountable to the right to adequate food. Three EAA members spoke at the panel for this event.

Since the launch, EAA has continued to serve as a member of the coordinating committee, and as a member of one of the related working groups on sustainable food production systems and nutrition. This opportunity has opened the doors to unique opportunities for the EAA and has allowed its members to delve deeper into key international processes.

*c) Support for Sofia Monsalve (FIAN) as the next UN Special Rapporteur on the Right to Food*

Recognizing the strength and depth of the Alliance, EAA was approached by Sofia Monsalve for support for her nomination to the next round of selections for the position of Special Rapporteur on the Right to Food. Mrs. Monsalve led a worldwide consultation process in the development of the VGGTs to ensure that the voices of all relevant stakeholders were heard. Monsalve’s candidature was also verbally supported by the current Special Rapporteur on the Right to Food, someone who intimately understands the challenges and opportunities that come with such a role. Therefore it was an honor for EAA to be recognized and approached for support, and the EAA agreed due to her past work.

In 2014, EAA will continue to work with Sofia Monsalve and with the relevant allies within the Human Rights Council in hopes to have her goal achieved. If granted, this would enable EAA members to build further on the relationship with the Special Rapporteur that they promoted, and ensure that their concerns are heard within the OHCHR.

*ii) Enhanced engagement by the Special Rapporteur on the Right to Food with faith communities and FBOs, especially in the context of his country missions*

Prior to the UN Special Rapporteur on the Right to Food mission to Malawi (12-22 July 2013), EAA reached out to members in-country to ensure close collaboration among faith-based actors. This mapping of our members was also shared with the office of the Special Rapporteur and to his support staff to ensure that all EAA members were given the chance to be involved. As a result, Churches Action in Relief and Development (CARD) ELDS Malawi, Anglican Diocese of Upper Shire, Caritas Malawi (CADECOM) and Trocaire Malawi were invited to comment on the proposed agenda of this mission.

To increase the engagement of EAA members in the country mission to Malaysia (9-18 December 2013), EAA sent out a letter to in-country members to explain how their involvement in this action would enable them to express their concerns of the overall assessment of Malaysia's food situation with a UN independent expert, who would then deliver their message to ministers and governments officials through the Human Rights Council and General Assembly.

*iii) Increased awareness among EAA members of the Right to Food and*

*of the issues raised in the Right to Food and Nutrition Watch*

Building on the contributions made by EAA members over the past three years, EAA continued its work with the consortium of 15 civil society organizations (including 3 EAA members), to highlight issues underlying hunger, malnutrition, and the denial of the human right to food.

EAA members were deeply engaged in the production of the 2013 publication and devoted efforts to almost every article from the Preface to the Summary and Conclusions. In numbers, EAA members were involved in 8 of the 10 sections, authored or co-authored 3 full articles and provided guidance and legitimacy to 8 additional articles, including one on agroecology from the EAA Secretariat.

To promote Watch 2013 at national level, members organized launches, conducted interviews with local media, and made regular updates using social media. During the 'Rome launch' at CFS40, EAA served as co-organizer and as the communication focal point.

Considering this increase in support, EAA will continue to enable member engagement in the 2014 publication and will continue to serve as a member of the Consortium and of the Editorial Board.

**List of resource materials****Publications:**

October 2013: *The Right to Food and Nutrition Watch 2013 - Alternatives and Resistance to Policies that Generate Hunger* ([EN](#), [FR](#), [SP](#))

**Press Release:**

24 June 2013: *Global network for the right to food and nutrition launched*

8 October 2013: *Stop Policies that Cause Hunger: Human Rights Check Needed on Food Initiatives*

**Letters and Statements:**

26 June 2013: *The Vienna+20 CSO Declaration – Strengthening the Human Rights Movement Globally*

**Feature:**

Dec 2012: *Human Rights Day: Christian campaigners link right to food with climate justice*

**Theme/Activity Area: Faith-based engagement in key policy processes and lobbying****Specific results**

Doubled faith-based engagement in key policy processes on food security and nutrition, such as the Committee on World Food Security (CFS) and the United Nations Framework on Climate Change (UNFCCC), and achieved closer ecumenical collaboration to ensure coherent and constructive decision-making in international processes.

**Implementation of plans***i) Accompany faith-based participation within Committee on World Food Security (CFS)*

Since the 2009 reform, the Committee on World Food Security (CFS) has proven its ability to become the primary global reference for coordination and coherence in decision making on food and agricultural issues. There are few, if any, policy spaces where you can bring together governments, the private sector, civil society, social movements and other relevant stakeholders to debate crucial issues such as global food security and reach agreements on issues that have life or death implications for millions of people around the world. Despite the non-binding nature of the CFS, the Voluntary Guidelines have led to the creation of legal norms in country and have set pathways for governments to follow.

Civil society actors continue to engage with the CFS in its platforms at the global and regional level, and in country-led food security and nutrition actions because they have witnessed their voices being heard and their concerns being addressed.

*ii) Foster constructive dialogue on nutrition through the Second International Conference on Nutrition (ICN2)*

The Second International Conference on Nutrition (ICN2) will be held at FAO Headquarters, in Rome, 19-21 November 2014. The scope of ICN2 will be global in perspective, but focus particularly on nutrition challenges in Low and Middle Income Countries (LMICS). It will seek to address all forms of malnutrition and improve nutrition throughout life, focusing on the poorest and most vulnerable households, and on women, infants and young children in deprived, vulnerable and emergency contexts. The key objectives of the ICN2 will be to review progress made since the ICN1, especially of country level achievements to improve nutrition, as well as relevant policies and institutions in agriculture, fisheries, health, trade, consumption and social protection. Based on the review, the aim would be to strengthen institutional policy coherence and coordination to improve nutrition, and mobilize the necessary resources, both at country level as well as through international and inter-governmental cooperation. Various faith-based organizations and social movements with an interest in food and nutrition will participate in the ICN2 processes to provide feedback on the progress that has been achieved in the last decade and to showcase preferred nutrition sensitive solutions.

*iii) Enable greater ecumenical collaboration within the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)*

The mention of ‘agriculture’ within the UNFCCC can be found in the original text of the Convention, drafted in 1992. However it wasn’t until 2008 that the UNFCCC Secretariat produced a technical paper on the challenges and opportunities for mitigation in the agricultural sector for the Ad hoc Working Group on Long-Term Cooperative Action under the Convention (AWG-LCA) – the temporary working body that aims to discuss how Parties can address climate change over the longer term. Since then, none of the Conference of the Parties (COP) have been able to establish a specific work programme on agriculture under either the COP or the AWG-LCA so current debates are housed in the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice (SBSTA). Despite this, issues that impact agriculture are being addressed in



several other workstreams of the UNFCCC, such as adaptation, mitigation and Loss and Damages. EAA continues to track this process to ensure that decisions taken within the UNFCCC do not negatively impact global food security. Our undertaking is also to present solutions to address food security needs in a climate-constrained world and present viable solutions through sustainable food systems and seed diversity.

Considering the lack of progress taking place within the UNFCCC on agriculture, alliances such as the Climate Smart Agriculture Alliance are taking shape. This raises unease within our membership because actions taken outside of the auspices of the UN put in question previously agreed legally-binding commitments.

- iv) *Build a strong faith-based voice within the discussions around the Global Thematic consultation on hunger, food security and nutrition in the Post-2015 Development Agenda*

2013 was a key year with respect to influencing the global development agenda following the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). There were many ways that faith communities were engaged to help shape these conversations and share their experiences, expertise, and vision for how best to tackle hunger, especially through the relevant thematic group.

The ‘end point’ for post-2015 deliberations in 2013 was the United Nations (UN) General Assembly meeting in September, when a one-day Special Session was held to review progress on the MDGs and map out a forward-looking agenda. This meeting was not the end of the post-2015 discussions, however, it was nonetheless vital that the outcome of that meeting set out the best plan possible for a new, ambitious and comprehensive framework for arriving at global and national development goals that will supersede the MDGs.

- v) *Raise awareness around food and agriculture initiatives undertaken by the G8 and G20*

In the wake of the 2007–08 food crises, G8 donors made a Hunger Pledge which resulted in the L’Aquila Food Security Initiative in 2009. This pledge was expected to mobilize US\$22 billion over three years in support of “country-led plans for agriculture, with a coordinated and comprehensive strategy.” In May 2012, with only half the L’Aquila pledges having been disbursed, US President Barak Obama unveiled plans for the New Alliance for Food Security and Nutrition in Africa.

The New Alliance is a partnership between the G8, the African Union, the New Partnership for Africa’s Development (NEPAD), its Comprehensive African Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP), the governments of six African countries, and roughly 45 companies (comprising mostly multinational corporations and a few African businesses). The initial Camp David launch in May 2012 included Tanzania, Ghana and Ethiopia, and was shortly followed by Mozambique, Côte d’Ivoire, and Burkina Faso. Over time it is expected to expand to any other African country willing to join.

The aim of the initiative is to drive “sustained and inclusive growth” for Africa’s agricultural sector, with emphasis on “accelerating the flow of private



## Achievements and follow-up

capital” to African agriculture. Mechanisms used to accomplish this include: designing cooperation agreements with host States, developing new tools to mobilize private capital and manage risk, shaping national investment plans and engaging and leveraging the capacity of private sector partners.

The following major achievements were made in 2013:

- a) *Achieved greater recognition of faith actors within the activities of the Committee on World Food Security (CFS)*

One of EAA’s major achievements in 2013 was the doubling of faith-based engagement in CFS and the closer coherent and constructive decision-making amongst the ecumenical family. The first signal of this was the consistent email correspondence from members who were interested in taking part in this process, from first-time participants to those experts who were invited to serve as part of their country delegations. Additional strategizing occurred the weekend prior to the 40<sup>th</sup> CFS during the annual EAA-organized luncheon. More than 20 members filled the restaurant to meet newcomers and refine their action plans for the week. Throughout the week, EAA members combined their efforts to i) track the progress of the negotiations, ii) assist in formulating joint statements, iii) report back key information from their country delegations, iv) organize side events, and v) raise awareness on the specific issues that are of concerns to faith-based organizations.

EAA’s presence at the CFS was further acknowledged with an invitation by the FAO to speak at the official Zero Hunger Challenge (ZHC) side event. As one of two representatives of civil society organizations on the panel, EAA described how the efforts of our members are contributing to the achievement of the ZHC goals but also explained the main obstacles that the global community needs to confront in order to realize this potential.

### *Biofuels and Food Security*

The topic of one of the two 2014 roundtables was to examine the potential impact of biofuel production on global food security. Since land-use and consumption issues have been key areas of the Food for Life campaign, EAA invested heavily in this process.

As stakeholders in this process, EAA invited our members to provide guidance on the HLPE first draft (‘zero version’) of these reports by way of online submissions to ensure that the final report is comprehensive and gives clear recommendations to national policy makers working on these issues. Involvement at this stage is crucial also because the draft Decision Boxes which will be negotiated and agreed at the 40<sup>th</sup> CFS are created using the findings of the final reports.

As a member of the Civil Society Mechanism (CSM) of the CFS, EAA members joined the CSM Working Group on Biofuels to form a unified position with a broad spectrum of civil society actors, social movements and food producers most affected by this issue. Several teleconferences were held in order to reach consensus on the main concerns and to develop talking points that we felt should be included in the final negotiating text. EAA supported this work by compiling the suggested amendments from CSM



members into one document.

Due to EAA’s commitment to this process, EAA was invited to serve as one of the four civil society organizations (CSO) on the CFS Task Team to prepare the Draft Decision for the CFS roundtable on Biofuels and Food Security. Using the established CSM arguments, EAA participated in the three negotiation sessions to develop the draft Decision Box with the aim to ensure that the CSM priorities remain through each stage, appearing in each round of the revised negotiating text. This effort also involved several bilateral discussions with country delegates and stakeholders.

Once the draft Decision Box was approved, the next key moment for CSO mobilization was at the CSM Forum, which is held the weekend prior to the start of the session. During this event, EAA collaborated with Oxfam and the College of the Atlantic in the preparation of an internal briefing paper for participants to learn what was currently at stake in the biofuels and food security debates. The brief provided useful tips about the process leading up to the CFS, government positions, what CSOs could do during the 40<sup>th</sup> CFS and which key governments should be targeted. As a result of these efforts, EAA members were well equipped to advise their country delegations throughout the week-long negotiation process. EAA and member Canadian Foodgrains Bank also made use of this opportunity to meet with the Canadian delegation – one of the target countries – to discuss contentious issues.

During the formal negotiations, EAA was chosen to serve as one of three key negotiators on behalf of the CSM. This role also included drafting official CSM statements to be delivered in the plenary to give an update on their view of the process and tweeting the latest CSM agreed key messages.

It became apparent mid-week that most of the key CSM red-lines were failing to make their way into the Decision box due to the heavy influence imposed by specific country delegates. In a last attempt to shift that balance, EAA joined 80 organizations from around the world in signing an open letter urging the CFS to take action, and spoke out from the plenary, in social media and in press work.

*b) Inspired a new wave of EAA members to unite in their efforts to combat malnutrition*

In recent years, EAA members have been increasing their engagement in the international policy spaces that deal with ensuring the right to adequate food and nutrition for all.

*Committee on World Food Security*

Within the Committee on World Food Security (CFS), EAA members have been working within the Civil Society Mechanism (CSM) since 2012 to raise the profile of nutrition in the CFS agenda. The whole area of agriculture and food and nutrition is a hot topic these days, but members are concerned that discussions are primarily taking place in forums other than the CFS. These discussions are not always fully transparent and parties are not held accountable for their actions.

In 2013, awareness-raising activities at the 40<sup>th</sup> CFS included side events, position papers and joining forces with the CSM Working Group on Nutrition. The first CSM related event ‘A Greater Role for Nutrition in the CFS’ brought together key UN experts, such as Olivier De Schutter (UNHCR) and David





Nabarro (SUN) to explore ways in which the capacities of the CFS could be leveraged in order to provide guidance to other bodies working on these issues. The discussion was further elaborated later in the week at a second CSM event ‘*Realizing the Right to Food and Nutrition*’. Representatives from grassroots farmers’ organizations and from the FAO presented practical actions that can be taken to provide nutritious diets through sustainable and diverse agricultural practices. Both of these events were organized by EAA and member ICCO, with additional contributions from the EAA by way of moderating sessions, reporting from the events on social media, and doing publicity work, such as designing and printing of flyers.

EAA members working on these issues have at times requested clarity on what ‘nutrition sensitive’ approaches mean in practice. In 2014, EAA will work to unpack the various issues related to nutrition. Through this, we will gain a better understanding of the definitions and concepts – malnutrition, food and nutrition security, dietary adequacy, food systems – and present the full dimensions of malnutrition (under nutrition, over nutrition, double burden of malnutrition). While we explore the terms that surround “nutritional wellbeing” and of basic nutrition concepts, we will also identify key actors and their appropriate roles in undertaking this challenge.

#### *The Second International Conference on Nutrition (ICN2)*

The second critical area of nutrition related work is in preparation for the ICN2, which will be held in November 2014. The aim of the work at this stage is to: i) look at the issues that the CSOs are interested in, ii) see how best these concerns might be articulated and pursued in the context of shaping the objectives and outcomes of ICN2, and iii) guarantee the meaningful participation of all relevant actors in the conference, including the preparation of the agenda.

In October 2013, EAA members met in Utrecht in order to prepare CSO involvement in the ICN2 prep-meeting, which was held the following month in Rome. At this meeting, EAA members joined with others from the Global Right to Food and Nutrition Network to agree on key messages for the ICN2 prep-meeting, identify speakers to present our recommendations from plenary, and find ways to strategize with possible likeminded groups. EAA used the strength of its diverse membership to reach out to others who weren’t yet involved in this group to promote harmonization of actions during the event in Rome. One of the main objectives of this networking was also to gather support for a ‘CSM like’ mechanism for the ICN2 process, which was eventually delivered to the Steering Committee of the ICN2. While sending a joint letter may not be seen as a huge achievement, this simple action helped to link organizations that have opposing views on nutrition sensitive approaches and open up a dialogue between these individuals.

In 2014, EAA will continue to work with the experts from the Utrecht meeting in the creation of a Nutrition Report to reflect CSO concerns and will help to facilitate the next a face-to-face meeting of this group in November 2014, back-to-back with the ICN2 meeting. The objective for this work is that all recommendations that are agreed during that conference are coherent with or further advance CFS agreed decisions.

#### *Strengthened relations with Dr David Nabarro in his role as Special*



*Representative of the UN Secretary-General for Food Security and Nutrition and SUN Movement coordinator*

In January 2013, EAA was contacted by the office of the Special Representative of the UN Secretary General in regards to the conflict of interest issues around the Scaling-Up Nutrition (SUN) movement. Although nutrition had not yet been a focus area for the Food for Life campaign, EAA has established a relationship with David Nabarro over the years and, because of this, his office turned to our Alliance for advice.

This invitation sparked an investigation through our membership and beyond to answer i) who the nutrition experts are, ii) what policy forums do they focus on, and iii) what their position is towards the work for the Scaling Up Nutrition Movement (SUN). This has also set the groundwork for further networking with individuals within the SUN movement, including with the Civil Society Network (CSN) Coordinator of SUN and its interim chair.

In 2014, EAA will create a platform for dialogue among EAA members with the aim of unpacking nutrition issues and formulating a ‘code of good practice’ on nutrition interventions for its members. Through this, we will gain a better understanding of the definitions and concepts – malnutrition, food and nutrition security, dietary adequacy, food systems – and present the full dimensions of malnutrition (under nutrition, over nutrition, double burden of malnutrition). While we explore the terms that surround “nutritional wellbeing” and of basic nutrition concepts we will also identify key actors and their appropriate roles in undertaking this challenge.

c) *Showcased climate-resilient solutions within the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)*

Building on previous faith-based submissions and side events on the effects that climate change will have on agriculture and food security, EAA continued to follow the related work under the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice (SBSTA). This work involved analyzing country positions in advance of the negotiation session, strategizing with alliances, and meeting regularly with agriculture negotiators and UN agencies to advance common objectives.

Due to the G77 decision to postpone further the agriculture work under the SBSTA, EAA was able to meet one-on-one with several key governments, such as the entire US delegation, the Canadian delegation, the EU delegation, Annex 1 agriculture negotiators as a group, the India delegation and the Bangladesh delegation. These discussions provided a safe space for dialogue among Parties and civil society, easing frustrations and suspicions and raising the legitimacy of faith-based actors in this process.

During the official UNFCCC workshop on agriculture and climate change (6 Dec), EAA was responsible for minutes and led a follow up discussion with the CAN-agriculture group. EAA used its presence at this event to speak from the plenary and highlight the importance of seed diversity and sustainable agriculture practices to build community resilience in the face of climate change. The EAA-Gaia-ABN publication ‘Seeds for Life: Scaling up Agro-Biodiversity’ was made available in the venue of the workshop and promoted



in two official side events.

EAA members met daily during COP19 and participated in the Interfaith fast with the WCC and with the Interfaith Community on Climate Change, in support of Yeb Sano, the Filipino negotiator. EAA also serves as a member of the ACT Alliance Climate Group (AGCCA), bringing in the food security and agriculture elements. Active EAA members working on this area in 2013 include Brot fur die Welt, Church of Sweden, Canadian Foodgrains Bank, Christian Aid, and CIDSE. Additional security badges were secured by the EAA and were awarded to members who needed assistance accessing the negotiations.

In 2014, EAA will work to increase member engagement on this topic with the aim to increase the opportunity for bilateral discussions with country delegations. EAA will also continue to serve as a member of the AGCCA and the CAN-Agriculture Group, and will coordinate the climate-agriculture related actions of our membership.

*d) Cultivated forward momentum within the Global Thematic consultation on hunger, food security and nutrition in the Post-2015 Development Agenda*

Building on EAA’s two submissions to the e-Consultation on Hunger, Food and Nutrition Security towards the Post-2015 Development Agenda and Framework in 2012 (as EAA and in collaboration with The Beyond 2015 Campaign) EAA continued its engagement in the Post-2015 development agenda process in 2013.

In February, EAA was invited to facilitate one of the discussions in the six working groups at informal consultation organized by WFO and FAO in Rome with the stakeholders of the Committee on World Food Security (CFS). EAA was the only NGO representative invited to participate in this capacity. Since it was not originally on the CSM Secretariat’s schedule, a notice was sent by the CSM to CSOs interested in working together to develop a common position for this meeting, which EAA agreed to formulate. These points were enriched by the CSOs who participated in the event, and then submitted to the co-lead of the Global Thematic Consultation to be included in the final outcomes of the consultation, as well as in the web site on Post 2015 Development Agenda.

Despite the effort to unite CSOs through the CSM, several participants felt that the informal thematic consultation process on hunger did not respect the CFS modalities for consultation, which recognize the autonomy of civil society and give priority voice to organizations representing those most affected by food insecurity. Therefore the CSM Secretariat drafted a letter in reaction to the Post-2015 agenda, which EAA supported. Responses were received from the FAO and WFP.

When the efforts of the thematic consultation culminated in May with the release of the High-Level Panel report, EAA issued a press release to highlight some of the mixed reactions felt by our members. Campaigners noted that the report missed opportunities to address some of the underlying causes of long-term food insecurity.



In 2014, EAA members will work in collaboration with other faith-based actors to monitor governments’ progress toward fulfilling their obligations, raise public awareness of the results and to hold their governments to account if progress is not being made, or hold up their example as an inspiration where there are achievements.

- e) *Dispelled false solutions being proposed by the G8 and G20 and propose alternatives*

#### *Critique of G8 New Alliance for Food Security*

In advance of the “Hunger Summit” (8 June) and the UK-led G8 Summit (17-18 June), EAA and member CIDSE launched a report sharply criticizing the vision and approach of the G8’s “New Alliance for Food Security and Nutrition in Africa”. The report, “*Whose Alliance? The G8 and the Emergence of a Global Corporate Regime for Agriculture*” condemns the G8 attempt for ignoring human rights and root causes of hunger and instead seeking to solve food security through a market orientation.

This report was widely appreciated by our members. For example, Christian Aid sent the report as a reference document to all of their partners in Africa. Those outside of the membership were also promoting the report in their newsletter, such as Christian Concern for One World (UK), the People’s Reporter (India) and Vatican Radio. Responses were also received from senior church leaders living in Burkina Faso, one of the pilot countries of the G8 Alliance activities.

EAA has continued to reach out to our members in G8 country in hopes to influence the drafting process of the G8 Framework for individual countries.

#### *Potential of reducing food waste*

EAA sent a letter to the global leaders of both the G8 and G20 to denounce their focus solely on increasing food production without addressing the issue of waste in the food production, distribution and consumption chain. The letter was sent on World Environment Day, which the 2013 focus was on food waste, and in advance of the G8 Summit. Responses were received from France and Canada.



**List of resource materials**

**Publications:**

May 2013: *Whose Alliance? The G8 and the Emergence of a Global Corporate Regime for Agriculture* ([EN](#), [FR](#), [SP](#))

**Press Release:**

13 February 2013: *[Christian campaigners call for action against food waste](#)*

31 May 2013: *[G8's "New Alliance" ignores root causes of hunger, new report claims](#)*

4 June 2013: *["Aim even higher": Proposed post-2015 global development agenda draws mixed response](#)*

5 June 2013: *[Reducing food waste: "A key part of the solution" to global hunger](#)*

16 October 2013: *[Food Systems Won't Adapt to Climate Change Without Seed Diversity - Report warns that urgent action needed to revive disappearing diversity and knowledge](#)*

**Feature:**

Dec 2012: *[Human Rights Day: Christian campaigners link right to food with climate justice](#)*

**Official Submissions:**

7 January 2013: *[Submission by the Ecumenical Advocacy Alliance for the e-Consultation on Hunger, Food and Nutrition Security](#)*

*[Part of the Post-2015 Development Agenda and Framework](#)*

1 March 2013: *[Submission to the UNFCCC under Workstream 2 of the Ad Hoc Working Group on the Durban Plat-form for Enhanced Action \(ADP\): Item 8: Implementation of all the elements of decision 1/CP.17, \(\(b\) Matters related to paragraphs 7 and 8. \(ADP\)](#)*

**Contributions to related publications:**

January 2013: *[BEYOND 2015 POLICY - Food and Nutrition Security: A Central Issue for the Post-2015 Development Agenda Global Thematic Consultation](#)*

**Theme/Activity Area: Awareness-raising, Outreach & Mobilization**

**Specific results**

Increased awareness and engagement by churches and individuals at the congregational level in support of food justice



## Implementation of plans

### *i) Raise awareness around the root causes of hunger during the Churches Week of Action on Food*

The Churches Week of Action on Food is an opportunity for Christians all over the world to act and speak out together on food justice issues. It is a time to raise awareness about food production and distribution systems, examine our own food consumption, and call for policy changes that will ensure the right to food for everyone. Our faith calls us to feed the hungry and care for Creation – this we can do as individuals, as churches, and as global citizens.

In 2013, EAA chose the theme “Seeds for Life” since access to and control over natural resources, including seeds, is an essential aspect of supporting small-scale food producers, maintaining the health of our soils, safeguarding biodiversity and, ultimately, addressing hunger. The week of action was held from 13-20 October and incorporated the International Day for Rural Women (October 15), World Food Day (October 16) and the International Day for the Eradication of Poverty (October 17).

### *ii) Highlight faith-based concerns to a wider community*

World Food Day (WFD) is a moment of global mobilization to raise awareness around the issues of hunger and malnutrition and to align our work with others with the same objective. 2013 was exciting for EAA due to the increased number of requests they received to take part in joint actions.

## Achievements and follow-up

### *a) Churches Week of Action on Food*

Educational resources, worship material and activities were produced to enable our members to engage in the Week and gain a better understanding of the sacredness of the seed. The liturgy was prepared by the Commission on Justice, Peace and Creation, National Council of Churches in India, with special thanks to Andrew Donaldson, World Council of Churches, and was delivered during worship at the Ecumenical Centre during the Week. Additional resources were made available online in the forms of prayers and bible studies.

Awareness raising activities were undertaken through Facebook and Twitter for the 30 days leading up to the Week, including a daily menu posting of a recipe using traditional and local seed varieties. The hashtag #protectourseeds was also created so that members could track each other’s related posts. Online mentions of the Week appeared on a dozen member pages.

At the end of the Week, the two most active members were awarded the title of ‘Champion seed defenders’ -- FECCIWA in Africa and ICCO Europe. This resulted in a series of press releases and statements by church leaders in West Africa and members across the world congratulating the winners on their achievements and further raising the profile of this issue.

During the week, EAA launched the report *Seeds for Life: Scaling up Agro-Biodiversity*. This report highlights the need for urgent action to ensure that farmers today and tomorrow can grow resilient nutritious food for us all, in the face of climate change and other challenges. At the core of such action must be strategies to revive the diversity of seed that has been lost from the world's fields, and to support the knowledge and diversity that remains. Farmers' complex farming knowledge and their right to save, adapt, exchange



and sell seed must be recognized and protected in policy and practice. These strategies are critical for us all today - as well as to ensure that the generations to come after us can also farm and eat.

Several case studies were received from members, with the work of two members – Lutheran World Federation and Bread for the World -- showcased in the final report. In order to expand the audience of this information, members made contributions to translate the report into French, Spanish and Portuguese.

International news agencies and national newspapers, such as Reuters and The Guardian picked up the report due to the timely nature of the topic and its relevance to building climate resilience. This action also helped EAA strengthen its relationship with the co-producers – Gaia Foundation and the African Centre for Biodiversity – and extend our reach to others working on seed diversity.

*b) World Food Day 2013*

On World Food Day, EAA and member World Vision International brought together a panel of experts in the Palais des Nations in Geneva to explore how we can prevent and mitigate future food crises by encouraging partnerships that link humanitarian response with longer-term development and nutrition solutions.

The well-attended event, Partnering for Sustainable Food Systems, Food Security and Nutrition, featured experts from the Food and Agriculture Organization, the World Health Organization, the Asian Farmers Association for Sustainable Rural Development, and the World Agroforestry Centre, as well as the private sector. The event was supported by the Swiss Development Cooperation Agency (SDC) and the Government of Malawi, and organized in collaboration and with the financial assistance of the FAO.

The relationships that were able to leverage through this event has opened the door to further engagement with both the FAO and SDC in 2014.

EAA was also invited to contribute World Food Day articles for FAO’s World Food Day USA website, Greenpeace International, and Presbyterian Hunger Program - World Food Day edition.



**List of resource materials**

**Publications:**

October 2013: *Seeds for Life: Scaling Up Agro-Biodiversity* ([EN](#), [FR](#), [SP](#), [PT](#))

16 October 2013: *Fighting World Hunger: Who deserves our praise?*

**Action Alert:**

17 June 2013: *Save the date to take action for food justice!*

20 September 2013: *Promote “Seeds for Life” During Churches’ Week of Action on Food!*

25 September 2013: *Call for Seed Stories*

**Press Release:**

5 June 2013: *Reducing food waste: “A key part of the solution” to global hunger*

14 October 2013: *On World Food Day, Food Security Experts Explore How to Prevent Future Crises by Linking Humanitarian Response with Development and Nutrition*

16 October 2013: *Food Systems Won’t Adapt to Climate Change Without Seed Diversity - Report warns that urgent action needed to revive disappearing diversity and knowledge*

**Web resources on Churches Week of Action on Food**

October 2013: *CWAF Liturgy* ([EN](#), [FR](#), [SP](#))

October 2013: *Seeds for Life Prayer*

October 2013: *Gospel of Salvation in a Continent of Hunger*