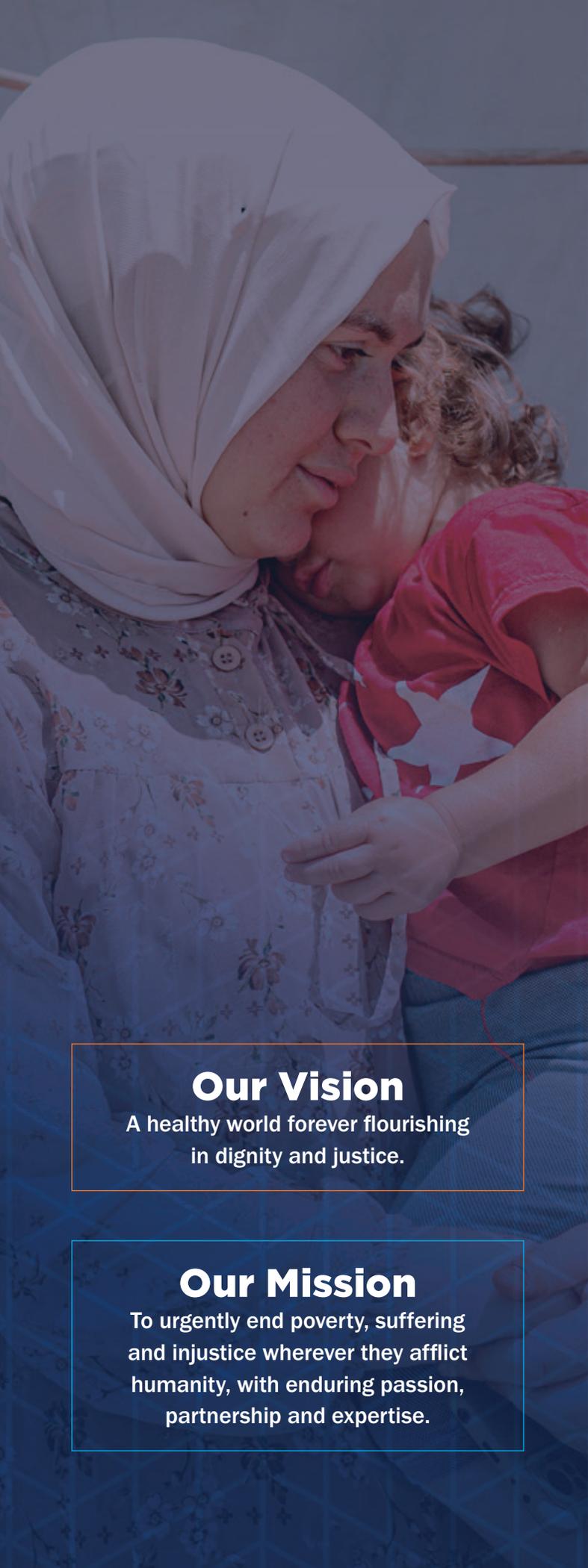




CORUS

2022
ANNUAL
REPORT





Our Vision

A healthy world forever flourishing
in dignity and justice.

Our Mission

To urgently end poverty, suffering
and injustice wherever they afflict
humanity, with enduring passion,
partnership and expertise.



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*Seyda Halal, 25, holds her 20-month-old
daughter Asya in Kirikhan, Türkiye.*



CORUS INTERNATIONAL unites an array of nonprofit organizations and businesses, each with specialized expertise — from health to technology to economic development to emergency response. Alongside communities and local partners, our dedicated experts integrate disciplines, approaches and resources to overcome poverty and suffering for those living in the world's toughest and most difficult circumstances. Our approach brings together the comprehensive and multi-dimensional solutions needed to truly achieve lasting change.

Corus features world-class organizations and businesses with more than 150 years of combined experience.

Lutheran World Relief is an international development and aid organization, founded in 1945, and known globally for helping rural communities to maximize their agriculture-based economies and conserve their natural resources, and for responding to natural disasters and humanitarian crises.

IMA World Health delivers solutions to health-related problems across the developing world. Founded in 1960, IMA World Health works with local partners and governments to strengthen existing health systems, prevent and treat diseases, improve maternal and child health, promote nutrition and WASH, respond to sexual and gender-based violence, and contribute to global health security.

Corus World Health was established in 2021 to grow more philanthropic funding to support lifesaving health programs.

CGA Technologies is a technology for development consultancy that develops and applies context-suitable technology to meet the needs of the world's poorest communities. CGA Technologies is especially known for their work in the education sector in sub-Saharan Africa.

Ground Up Investing is an impact investing firm that makes equity investments in high potential, early-stage companies and provides them with technical assistance to grow their business, increase farmers' incomes and strengthen local economies.

Farmers Market Brands is a direct-trade company that sells ethically-traded products — including coffee and chocolate — directly to consumers in the U.S.



Edward Peter Mwanzyesye is a pyrethrum farmer in Tanzania.

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Our mission is one that can feel overwhelming. The COVID-19 pandemic is largely behind us and economies are reopening, yet we see worsening conflicts, food insecurity, climate change and poverty. At Corus, this reality requires us to constantly evaluate our progress and approaches.

As I reflect on 2022, it is clear that the combined expertise, networks and resources of Corus organizations allowed us to respond to global needs at greater scale and speed than ever before. I am immensely proud of this organization and my expert colleagues who innovate and maximize the good we can do in the world. Through strong local and international partnerships, we amplified our impact and created a ripple effect of positive change, even in the toughest situations.

In February, when millions fled the invasion of Ukraine to seek safety in western parts of the country and Poland, Corus mounted one of the largest humanitarian operations in the history of our organizations. Our efforts blended emergency response, health and technology expertise from Lutheran World Relief, IMA World Health and CGA Technologies. With the generous support of thousands of donors, especially U.S. Lutherans, we raised more than \$13 million to respond to the short-term and early recovery needs of the most vulnerable in Ukraine and refugees in Poland.

With COVID-19 still besieging the Global South, IMA World Health collaborated with our longtime partner the Africa Christian Health Associations Platform (ACHAP) to promote COVID-19 vaccine equity. IMA World Health also continued to expand its health systems strengthening, family planning, reproductive health and gender-based violence response programming through projects like USAID's MOMENTUM Integrated Health Resilience, among many others.

As food insecurity, economic hardship and the effects of climate change intensified, Lutheran World Relief advanced two Food for Progress awards from the U.S. Department of Agriculture. The projects – one in Nigeria known as TRACE, the other in six Latin American countries and known as MOCCA – are designed to improve livelihoods for smallholder cocoa farmers and strengthen rural economies through a market systems approach.

We also celebrated the release of a digital platform developed by CGA Technologies for the Government of Malawi that has the potential to become a cornerstone of the social protection sector in the country.

As we look ahead, we are inspired by the opportunities and the monumental work that lies before us. The challenges facing the world as we emerged from 2022 are complex and interconnected, requiring a comprehensive and collaborative response. Corus International is dedicated to forging new partnerships, fostering innovation, and amplifying the voices of those most affected by poverty and injustice.



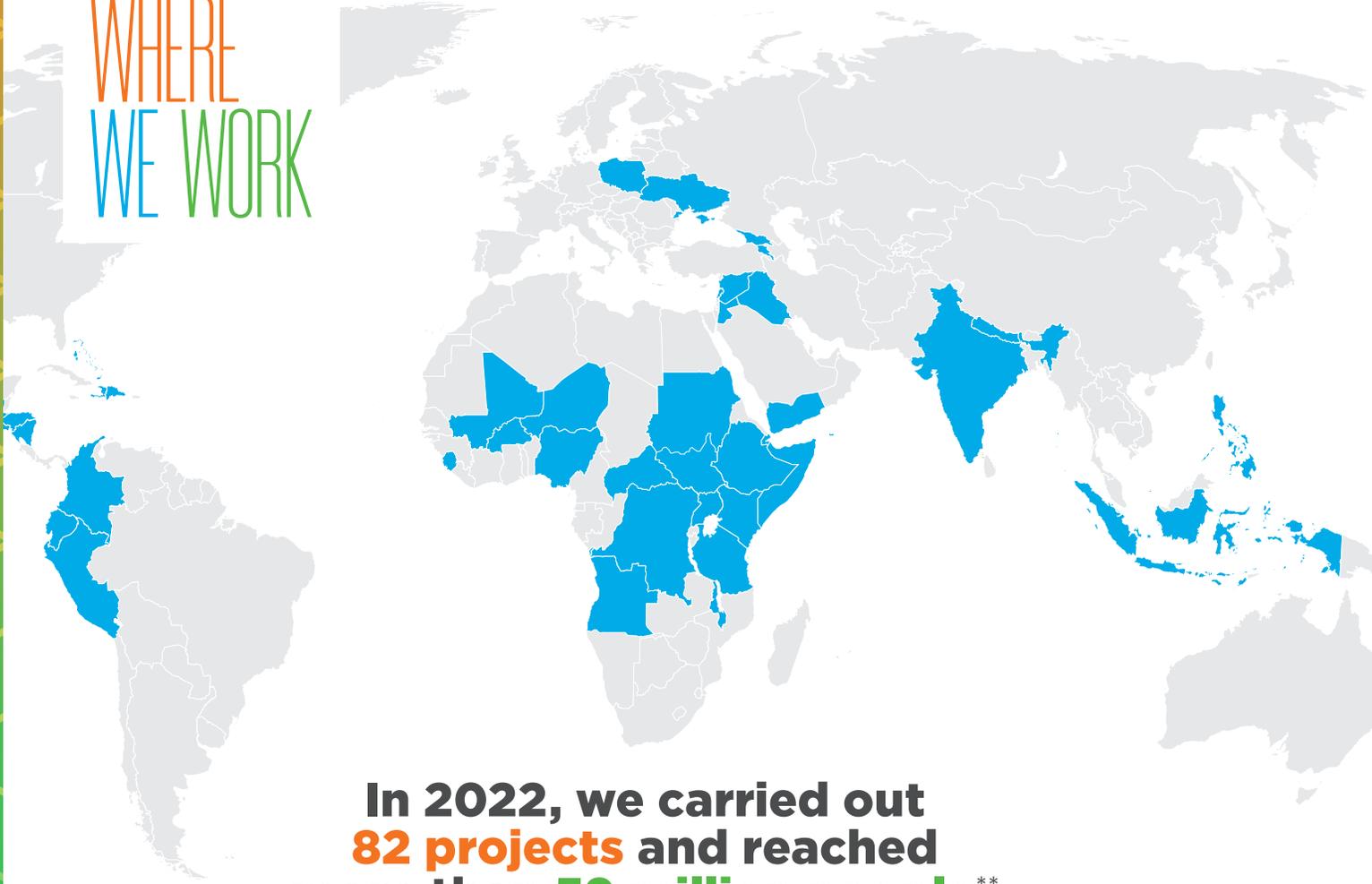
In gratitude and partnership,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Daniel Speckhard".

**AMBASSADOR
DANIEL SPECKHARD**
President and CEO



WHERE WE WORK



**In 2022, we carried out
82 projects and reached
more than 59 million people**
across 40 countries.**

Bahamas
Burkina Faso*
Central Africa
Republic
Colombia
Democratic
Republic of Congo
Ecuador
El Salvador
Ethiopia
Guatemala*
Haiti*

Honduras
India
Indonesia
Iraq
Jordan*
Kenya
Lebanon*
Malawi
Mali*
Nepal
Nicaragua
Niger*

Nigeria
Peru*
Philippines
Poland*
Sierra Leone*
Somalia
South Sudan*
Sudan
Tanzania*
Uganda
Ukraine*
Yemen

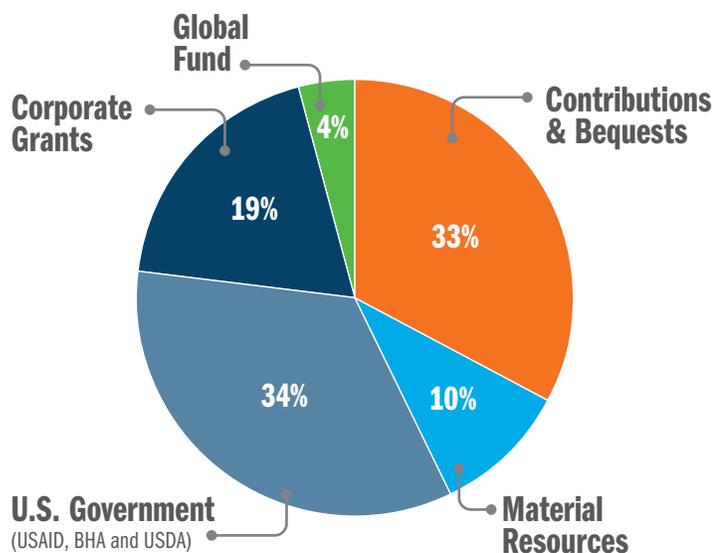
MATERIAL RESOURCE DISTRIBUTION

Armenia
Angola
Dominican
Republic
Djibouti
Georgia
Syria

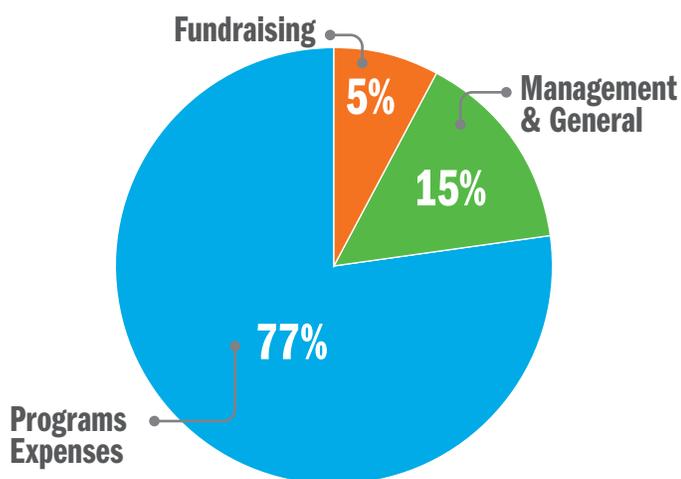
* Material Resource distribution in addition to program work

** Project participants that benefited directly from project activities, including material resource distributions, and people indirectly served and received secondary benefits from those activities. Direct reach is cumulative and includes multi-year projects. Data contained in this report are from fiscal year 2022, which ran October 2021 through September 2022, unless otherwise noted.

Sources of Funding - \$136,240,790



Expenses - \$131,224,751

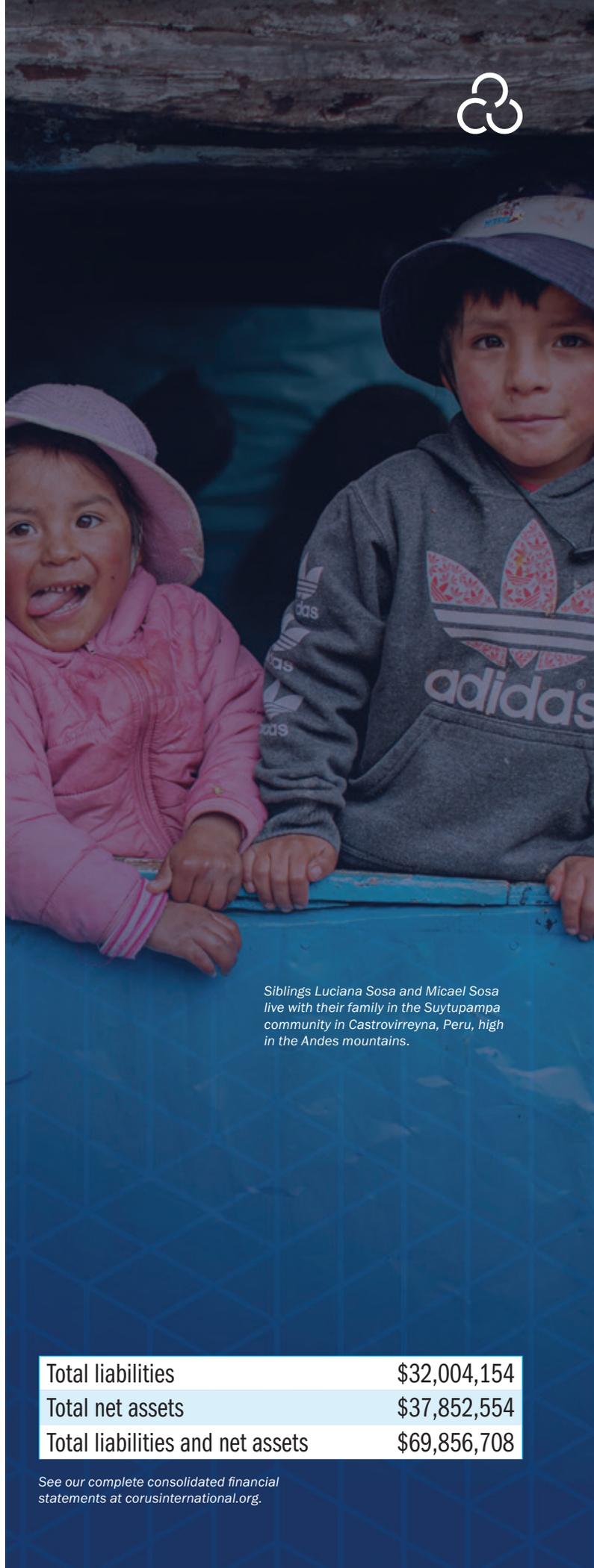


Program Expenses - \$103,541,024

| | |
|---|--------------|
| Health | \$70,576,888 |
| Emergency Response & Material Resources | \$20,321,631 |
| Agriculture | \$8,387,009 |
| Climate | \$1,044,575 |
| Impact Investing | \$58,017 |
| Livelihoods | \$3,152,904 |

| | |
|----------------------------------|--------------|
| Total liabilities | \$32,004,154 |
| Total net assets | \$37,852,554 |
| Total liabilities and net assets | \$69,856,708 |

See our complete consolidated financial statements at corusinternational.org.



Siblings Luciana Sosa and Micael Sosa live with their family in the Suytupampa community in Castrovirreyra, Peru, high in the Andes mountains.



HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE: WAR IN UKRAINE



Kamins'ka Ludmyla and her six-year-old son Sviatoslav are Ukrainian internally displaced persons (IDPs) seeking shelter at the Morshyn sanatorium in Morshyn (Morshin), Lviv Oblast, Ukraine.

KAMINS'KA LUDMYLA and her 6-year-old son **SVIATOSLAV** fled their home in Donetsk because of nearby fighting.

“Because I feared for my child’s life, I decided to leave rather than stay there,” Kamins’ka recalled.

Kamins’ka and Sviatoslav found refuge at a Corus-supported housing center in Lviv in western Ukraine. She said the center, where they are able to live and eat for free, welcomed them “with open arms.”

Between April and July 2022, we funded **more than 58,200 bed stays** for internally displaced persons (IDPs) in six housing centers across Ukraine. Residents also received personal care supplies and hot meals. Housing center staff received training to prevent and protect residents from gender-based violence (GBV).

This critical support is part of our large-scale response in Ukraine, which brings together our experts from Lutheran World Relief, IMA World Health and CGA Technologies to meet the short-term and early recovery needs of the most vulnerable in Ukraine and refugees in Poland.

Across Ukraine — including in newly liberated areas and areas still under attack — we distributed wood-burning stoves, industrial level flashlights and thousands of Lutheran World Relief quilts, personal care kits, baby care kits and school kits.

We delivered enough **medical equipment and supplies to hospitals in Kyiv and Chernigiv to care for 7,500 people**. The shipments included medicine and supplies like stethoscopes, thermometers, gloves, syringes, surgical and wound care kits, insulin and morphine.

We also launched mobile clinics staffed with medical teams who reach areas where there is a critical shortage of health care. The teams provide specialized services for people who need treatment for cancer, cardiovascular issues, diabetes and more. They also help people in urgent need of mental health care for PTSD and trauma.

In the first several months of operation, more than **3,700 people** in eastern Ukraine **received over 12,860 medical services and 2,700 mental health and psychological support services** at the mobile health clinics. At the same time, 54 family physicians received the training they needed to complete their required Continuing Medical Education credits.

We provided technical assistance to the Ukraine Ministry of Social Policy to increase functionality of their eDopomoga electronic platform. eDopomoga, which translates to “there is help,” allows Ukrainians in need of cash assistance to self-register. CGA Technologies increased the platform’s system integration options, allowing for more international partners to channel funds through the system.

In Poland, Lutheran World Relief and CGA Technologies partnered with Lutheran World Federation to launch and accompany the implementation of multi-purpose cash distribution and protection services. **Nearly 70,000 Ukrainian refugees received emergency cash support** at 10 refugee enrollment centers. It was the second-largest Ukraine refugee cash operation.

Throughout our entire response operations, Corus is mainstreaming protection and gender-based violence prevention and mitigation mechanisms to ensure Ukrainians can safely get the care they need. We also are playing an active role on the Regional Gender Task Force, analyzing gaps across the regional humanitarian response and suggesting recommendations to policymakers and practitioners for gender sensitive and transformative response efforts.

As the war continues in Ukraine, so too does Corus' integrated humanitarian assistance for those most in need. ○



The Corus Mobile Medical Unit (MMU) travels across war-torn areas along the front-lines in Ukraine to provide necessary health care services to communities with no other way to meet their medical needs.



Dr. Vitalij Olkhovyk, an OB/GYN and ultrasound specialist, examines patient, Iryna Martynenko, in the Corus MMU in Balakliia, Ukraine. Dr. Olkhovyk is able to perform specialty medical services such as colonoscopies, pap smears, and screenings of the thyroid, abdominal cavity, mammary glands, and pelvic area.



LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF LAUNCHED USDA-FUNDED PROJECT TO IMPROVE NIGERIA COCOA VALUE CHAIN

The U.S. Department of Agriculture awarded Lutheran World Relief \$21.3 million under its Food for Progress Program to launch a cocoa productivity and marketing project in Nigeria.

Despite Nigeria consistently ranking among the world's top five producers of cocoa, many Nigerian cocoa farmers operate at a subsistence level and struggle to make a living income. Known as Traceability and Resilience in Agriculture and Cocoa Ecosystems (TRACE), the 5-year project is strengthening Nigeria's cocoa value chain and improving the livelihoods of its farmers.

Lutheran World Relief is implementing TRACE in Nigeria's cocoa-producing states of Abia, Akwa Ibom, Cross Rivers State, Ekiti, Ondo, and Osun in coordination with the federal and state governments of Nigeria, the International Institute of Tropical Agriculture, the Cocoa Research Institute of Nigeria, Ecometrica, and C-Lever.org.

Programming includes training for farmers in climate smart agricultural techniques and business development, so they can produce the highest quality cocoa, better access goods and services, offer buyers complete traceability, and expand into international markets. Lutheran World Relief and our local TRACE partners also advocate for improved policy and regulatory frameworks affecting sustainable cacao development and disseminate market information through a multi-channel communications campaign.

TRACE comes at an opportune time when the government and private sector's resurgent interest in Nigerian cocoa is intersecting with growing consumer awareness of human rights abuses, including child labor, fair income for smallholder farmers, and the pressure of deforestation and climate change in tropical agriculture. ○



Dr. Erica Koima, Pharmacy Head at Mbagathi Hospital in Kenya, dons personal protective equipment donated by IMA World Health ahead of interacting with COVID-19 patients.

IMA WORLD HEALTH AND LOCAL PARTNER ACHAP BOOSTED COVID-19 VACCINE EQUITY AND DEMAND IN AFRICA

From April 2022 to March 2024, longstanding partners IMA World Health and the Africa Christian Health Associations Platform (ACHAP) are implementing the Promotion of COVID-19 Vaccine Equity through Faith-Based Networks in Africa (CoV-FaB) project with the support of The Osprey Foundation and the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA). The project responds to the significant lag in vaccination rates throughout Africa. Initial delays in vaccine deliveries, human resource constraints and other bottlenecks in public health infrastructure slowed deployment, particularly in rural areas, which gave disinformation and misinformation more time to become entrenched.

The CoV-FaB project is addressing these inequities and building vaccine confidence by contributing to national COVID-19 response strategies through additional resources and targeted approaches to reach the most underserved populations. This work leverages the important role of faith-based networks, leaders, health workers and infrastructure.

CoV-FaB is supporting ACHAP member Christian Health Associations (CHAs) in coordinating with the Ministries of Health in their respective countries to build vaccine confidence, accelerate outreach and administer vaccinations in low-coverage communities. The work is primarily focused in Sierra Leone and Zimbabwe and supports CHAs in the Ivory Coast, Liberia, Central Africa Republic, Tanzania, Zambia and Madagascar through a small grants process.

INCREASING VACCINE UPTAKE

CoV-FaB's baseline surveys conducted in Sierra Leone and Zimbabwe in 2022 identified the primary drivers of vaccine hesitancy and specific approaches and communications likely to address concerns in each country. For example, the survey found that the speed of vaccine development was a major impediment, leading to speculation it was ineffective or fears of serious side effects, such as infertility or death. Program strategies in response to these findings, as well as the continually evolving challenges and opportunities in each country, are developed by CHAs with ongoing management and technical support from ACHAP and IMA World Health.

Such strategies include:

- deploying mobile vaccination teams;
- strengthening health care worker capacity through trainings;
- and combating misinformation to create vaccine demand.

The project is closing gaps in last mile service delivery by micro-planning alongside the local ministry of health officials, engaging faith leaders as champions for vaccine uptake, and developing evidence-based media and communications strategies to address misinformation with technical support from project partner, Internews. The “shots-in-arms” resulting from CHA engagement are contributing to national targets for achieving full vaccination among their populations (70% in both countries, as per WHO recommendations) and both public and faith-based health systems are being strengthened for future health emergency responses.

CoV-FaB builds on IMA’s work with ACHAP initiated in the earliest days of the pandemic that accompanied CHAs through the rapidly evolving health emergency and ensured access to up-to-date operational guidance, technical assistance, and tools for localized responses in coordination with national ministries of health.

HEALTH EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

As national ministries of health move to integrate COVID-19 specific vaccinations into routine health services, IMA World Health and ACHAP are working through the project to assess more general health emergency preparedness needs.

The project is also strengthening ACHAP’s collaboration with a sister organization, the Ecumenical Pharmaceutical Network (EPN), which led to EPN developing a health care worker (HCW) training curriculum on health emergency preparedness that is being offered to participating CHAs in CoV-FaB and streamlined through EPN’s online learning platform.

Emergency preparedness planning is also addressing needs and gaps in vital supply chains to position faith-based health networks as critical players in preparing for future health emergencies, with an end goal to realize coordinated, rapid response and standardized care where infectious disease outbreaks occur. ○



FUTURE PROOFING SOCIAL PROTECTION PROGRAMMING IN MALAWI

A digital platform developed by CGA Technologies for the Government of Malawi has the potential to become a cornerstone of the social protection sector in the country.

TARGET MIS, a management information system (MIS), was developed to the specifications of the Malawi Ministry of Gender, Community Development & Social Welfare (MoGCDSW) to support the national Social Cash Transfer Program (SCTP). It supports the delivery of bi-monthly unconditional cash transfers to more than 300,000 poor households and has the functionality for vertical and horizontal expansion. This means it can accommodate an ever-increasing number of recipients, be easily adapted to support programmatic evolution — without the need for heavy coding or cost of building a new system — and host any number of different social protection programs.

EFFICIENT OPERATIONS

With funding from KfW, CGA Technologies has supported the MoGCDSW since July 2020 to manage the SCTP. Part of that work has been to maintain the legacy MIS created to support the operations of the original SCTP while development of the new MIS with improved functionality was underway.

The design of the upgraded MIS was built in close collaboration with the MoGCDSW to ensure it supports current SCTP operations efficiently and has the capability to be adapted for future SCTP expansion. The TARGET MIS ensures each operational step (including targeting, payments and recipient management) is robust with high data and security assurance, including different levels of approval, automated processes to send and receive data, and offline data collection functionality.

UNDERSTANDING WHO GETS WHAT

In addition, the MIS uses tools and data already available. It has been designed to be interoperable with existing national digital platforms, such as the Unified Beneficiary Register, the social protection sector GRM MIS, or Financial Service Providers. The aim is that the TARGET MIS can become a key tool for the Malawi government to identify any vulnerable household or individual in need, provide them with adequate support and track who gets what at all times, bringing efficiencies across the entire social protection sector.

FUTURE-PROOFING TARGET MIS

Where the legacy system was designed for a specific process, TARGET MIS, under the specifications of the MoGCDSW, is designed to be a flexible and secure general case social protection system that not only digitizes processes but transforms them to build efficiencies and improve results.

It has functionality for any number of programs, with any criteria, any payment mechanism and any subset. For instance, Malawi is feeling the impact of climatic shocks. The lean season has increased and recently it suffered the devastation of Cyclone Freddie. The MIS has the ability to target vulnerable households and ensure anticipatory and responsive programming before disaster strikes.

It is a digital platform capable of meeting exciting future developments in Malawi and of supporting programs that address the needs of the most vulnerable people anywhere in the world. ○

Above: Staff from the Social Cash Transfer Programme (SCTP) conduct a retargeting activity in Malawi, bringing the community together to identify who among them is the most in need of cash transfers. Those eligible are then enrolled on the SCTP app, which has offline functionality and is used to confirm recipient eligibility and collect photos for enrollment.



Roselvina De León González shows off her oyster mushroom greenhouse module.

ADDRESSING ROOT CAUSES OF MIGRATION

Poverty, food insecurity, unemployment, climate shocks and the threat of violence are pushing an estimated 378,000 people in Central America to make their way to the United States every year, according to a recent joint report.

To address root causes of migration, Lutheran World Relief partners with private companies and local non-governmental organizations, including farmer cooperatives, in El Salvador, Honduras, Guatemala and Nicaragua to advance rural development through programs in agriculture, youth entrepreneurship and climate resilience.

AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT FOR INCOME GENERATION

In the San Marcos region of Guatemala, where chronic malnutrition and poverty persist at devastating levels, Lutheran World Relief collaborates with local partner FundaSistemas in the Improving Health and Nutrition in Guatemala's Western Highlands project. Applying innovative behavior change methodologies, the project utilizes home visits, technical assistance and an arts-based community development (ABCD) curriculum to promote healthy food consumption, agricultural diversification, maternal and child health, women's leadership, and water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) best practices.

"The goal is to no longer have to think about migrating," says **Roselvina De León González**, a community promoter from Tacaná who received technical training from the project and now leads an oyster mushroom microenterprise. The mushrooms are not only highly nutritious but also provide income for local families because of their high market value. Roselvina proudly leads a women's agriculture group and has helped the community to see that "women can also work and generate income for our families."

Rosaura, a community agriculture promoter who works alongside Roselvina, adds, "We already know we can generate income here so that we no longer have to emigrate. Our goal is to be a large company and not only sell here in the municipality, but perhaps to export one day." With support from the project, the next generation of producers in San Marcos are strengthening their capacity to grow small agricultural enterprises, allowing them to improve nutrition and earn an income within their community.

PRIVATE SECTOR COLLABORATION

Lutheran World Relief's engagement with the private sector is also overcoming the economic causes of migration. Lutheran World Relief leads cacao programming for the six-country USDA-funded Maximizing Opportunities in Coffee and Cacao

in the Americas (MOCCA) project, helping farmers sell more at better prices, improving farmer production, engaging younger generations of farmers and enhancing sector coordination to drive competitiveness and growth. As a part of MOCCA, Lutheran World Relief partners with companies that invest in improving cocoa quality and yields, and in the systems that make those improvements possible for the future, including more direct, feasible and profitable supply chains for smallholder farmers.

In Guatemala, MOCCA trains over 900 cocoa producers, of whom 40% are women. One of the associations of smallholder cacao farmers that we partner with through MOCCA in the Alta Verapaz region is the Association of Integrated Development “OX EEK” Santa Maria Cahabón (ADIOESMAC). ADIOESMAC, whose members are indigenous Q’eqchi’ Maya, champions inclusive leadership with women, men and youth involved in all areas of cacao production, from business administration to community production processes.

Pedro Tiul Caal, a cacao producer and ADIOESMAC agriculture promoter in Guatemala, said that the technical support farmers in his association receive from MOCCA is essential for long-term growth. ADIOESMAC established a network of youth community trainers who provide technical assistance to partner families so they can share the cooperative’s progress. “The association can prepare for the future, for future generations. We, as parents, are grasping for something to share with our children ... I believe that young people are being given an opportunity to stay close to their families,” he said.

LOOKING FORWARD

Recognizing that livelihood creation for youth in Central America will depend heavily on the agriculture sector, Lutheran World Relief continues to focus on private sector collaboration and youth-led enterprises. By championing co-creation with local partners to strengthen market-based agricultural development, Lutheran World Relief is committed to addressing the root causes of migration, poverty and malnutrition through a holistic approach that advances community resilience and long-term food security. ○



Pedro Tiul Caal, a cacao producer and ADIOESMAC agriculture promoter, prunes a cacao tree.



Boma health worker Khamisa John and Joice John, who is pregnant, walk together to a health clinic in South Sudan.

ADVOCATING FOR COMMUNITY CHANGE: ADDRESSING GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE IN SOUTH SUDAN

IMA WORLD HEALTH leads the 5-year, USAID-funded **MOMENTUM INTEGRATED HEALTH RESILIENCE** project, which is part of a suite of innovative MOMENTUM awards designed to holistically strengthen voluntary family planning, reproductive health, and maternal, newborn and child health around the world. The project's focus on health resilience reduces chronic vulnerabilities and promotes more inclusive health development by addressing risks and responses to shocks and stresses.

Through MOMENTUM Integrated Health Resilience, IMA World Health is operating in South Sudan to address gender-based violence (GBV) and improve health outcomes for women and children. Teams work directly with community members and local leaders to effectively reach the most vulnerable and to shift social norms that perpetuate GBV.

Wenepaida Epafura, a 42-year-old mother of three, is both a traditional birth attendant and a Boma chief from Timbiro Boma of Yambio County, South Sudan. She is a powerful changemaker who advocates against GBV, which is widespread in her community.

In South Sudan, a Boma is a small administrative unit designated by at least four villages. Wenepaida rose through the ranks of her local royal family from royal observer to women's leader, and now to the elected position of chief of her Boma. Wenepaida serves as a mediator to resolve household conflicts, supporting community dialogues and negotiations. Not only is she leading the community, but as a birth attendant, she refers pregnant mothers for antenatal care and often conducts late-night emergency deliveries in her home, later accompanying the mothers and infants to the hospital for postnatal care.

Through community mapping, Wenepaida was recognized as a critical partner for social and behavior change, as she and other leaders worked to prevent GBV and challenge harmful practices, which include intimate partner violence and early and forced marriages. Utilizing a GBV response referral system developed by the MOMENTUM Integrated Health Resilience Project in collaboration with other local initiatives, Wenepaida and other local leaders can report cases of GBV to appropriate authorities and medical services.

By providing feedback on MOMENTUM Integrated Health Resilience’s South Sudan Social Norms Assessment, Wenepaida also helped to guide project work and programs across South Sudan. Her contributions to community action planning are supporting social and behavior change activities that champion youth engagement, health service provider coordination and community mobilization efforts. When MOMENTUM Integrated Health Resilience organizes community dialogues and outreach efforts to address GBV, Wenepaida ensures that they are inclusive and that at-risk families are in attendance.

Wenepaida joined the project because she wanted to be part of a community-led initiative that designed solutions to the root causes of local issues.

“... I can say that MOMENTUM Integrated Health Resilience’s programs are very transparent, they bring new ideas that we did not hear before, they don’t promise us what they cannot do, they don’t coerce our support,” she said. “I needed support to address the issues that young people and married partners are facing in my community. MOMENTUM Integrated Health Resilience’s ways of doing things are different; they ask communities to identify their own problems, develop and implement plans. This is a good way for this community; it empowers us to do things without thinking someone in Juba [South Sudan’s capital city] should do it for us.”

Wenepaida holds regular meetings with her headmen, women groups and youth leaders on GBV prevention, mitigation and response. She inspires others to be agents of change, particularly when it comes to advancing positive masculinity in their homes. Furthermore, by addressing the cultural distance between young people and older adults with intergenerational dialogues, she is optimistic about how bridging generational gaps is effective in addressing GBV.

There are other reasons to be optimistic. Even though shifting social norms and behaviors is a long-term initiative, activities to address GBV in Timbiri Boma and Yambio County are showing promising early outcomes, including:

- Improved parent-adolescent communication on GBV prevention
- Improved access to sexual and reproductive health and family planning services
- Increased equity in couples’ communication and balanced decision-making in households
- Greater denouncement of GBV in local, traditional laws to ensure that GBV perpetrators face punishment
- Strengthened capacity for communities to challenge traditional beliefs and norms that condone GBV and drive poor sexual and reproductive health outcomes

“Everyone should stand up and voice support for all women and girls experiencing gender-based violence in any form, regardless of their ethnicity or social status, to end violence and harmful traditional practices against women and girls,” said Wenepaida. “I urge communities to take responsibility for transforming negative social behaviors against young girls, women and the disabled to enable them to participate fully in the development of our society.” ○



Wenepaida Epaifura is a Boma chief from Timbiri Boma of Yambio County, South Sudan, who advocates against gender-based violence in her community.



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On the Cover: Deba Souka is a 46-year-old mother of five and grandmother of one who lives and works in the Ségou Region, Mali. (Jake Lyell for LWR)