

**'OUR PARTNERSHIP WITH TEARFUND
MADE US FEEL OUR WORK WAS PART OF
A BIGGER PICTURE – THE GLOBAL CHURCH.'**

Ruth Alvarado, from Tearfund partner Paz y Esperanza

tearfund *Following Jesus where the need is greatest*

www.tearfund.org

Tearfund
100 Church Road, Teddington TW11 8QE United Kingdom
T +44(0)20 3906 3906 E info@tearfund.org

Tearfund Northern Ireland
241 Newtownards Road, Belfast BT4 1AF
T +44(0)28 9073 0060 E ni@tearfund.org

Tearfund Scotland
Challenge House, 29 Canal Street, Glasgow G4 0AD
T +44(0)141 332 3621 E scotland@tearfund.org

Tearfund Cymru Wales
Salem Chapel, Salem Lane, Church Village, Pontypridd CF38 1PT
T +44(0)1437 721 139 E cymru@tearfund.org

Tear Netherlands
Joseph Haydnlaan 2a, 3533 AE Utrecht, Netherlands
T +31(0)30 69 69 600 E info@tear.nl

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DISASTERS TIMELINE

Here are some of the significant disasters that Tearfund has responded to over the last 50 years.

BIAFRA FAMINE
Amount raised: £5,000**



1968*

GUATEMALA EARTHQUAKE
Amount raised: £75,000



1976

ETHIOPIA FAMINE
Amount raised: £850,000

1987

1970



TUNISIA FLOODS
Amount raised: £10,000

1982

CONFLICT IN LEBANON
Amount raised: £200,000

1994



**CONFLICT IN RWANDA,
DRC AND TANZANIA**
Amount raised: £4,553,362

WHERE WE CURRENTLY WORK



*Dates on the timeline mark the beginning of a specific disaster response.

**Amount raised from specific appeals only.

HONDURAS HURRICANE
Amount raised: £4,329,299

1998

**AFGHANISTAN CONFLICT
AND DROUGHT**
Amount raised: £3,121,393

2001

HAITI EARTHQUAKE
Amount raised: £12,099,613



2010

NEPAL EARTHQUAKE
Amount raised: £7,013,450



2015

1999

BALKANS CONFLICT
Amount raised: £7,416,524

2004



ASIA TSUNAMI
Amount raised: £30,709,180

2013



MIDDLE EAST CONFLICT
Amount raised: £9,706,936

2017

**EAST AFRICA
FOOD CRISIS**
Amount raised: £6,689,043

INSIGHTS OVER OUR 50 YEARS

Over our 50-year history we've strengthened our identity and way of working.

- Our faith identity has significantly shaped both the issues that we choose to work on and the way in which we carry out that work.
- The global church, our supporters, campaigners and partners across the world are a crucial part of Tearfund, working collectively to shape and outwork our vision.
- We have seen inspiring transformation through mobilising churches and supporters across the globe to campaign on key and often challenging issues, including HIV and climate change.
- If we want to follow Jesus where the need is greatest, it requires us to learn, adapt and find new ways of working, while holding true to our faith identity.
- Working in collaboration with others has led us to establish global networks of Christian relief and development NGOs to work together and share best practice. This open approach is influenced by our faith and desire to see faith-based programming approaches used as widely as possible.
- We are a learning organisation that values knowledge and seeks to stay committed to thinking and innovation in the development sector.

tearfund

FIFTY YEARS OF FAITH IN

ACTION



FAITH UNDERPINS EVERYTHING WE DO AT TEARFUND – OUR MISSION, OUR VALUES AND THE WAY WE WORK. BUT WHAT DIFFERENCE HAS OUR FAITH MADE IN PRACTICE?

This timeline – covering the 50 years since Tearfund was set up – shows how we've put our faith into action through five main themes:

- Working with the local church
- Changing attitudes and behaviours
- Building networks and movements
- Responding to emergencies
- Learning and adaptation

1960s–1980s

During the 1960s, more than 40 million people were made refugees by war or disaster. There was an outpouring of generosity by UK Christians, leading the Evangelical Alliance to set up what would become Tearfund.

BORN IN A CRISIS

Throughout the 1970s and 1980s, Tearfund gave grants to local churches and Christian organisations to respond to disasters or run health and agricultural projects.

As Tearfund grew we took time to reflect on what a distinctly Christian approach to humanitarian and development work would look like.

CHANNELLING COMPASSION

During these early years, Tearfund was key in helping the UK evangelical church to translate their care for people living in poverty into practical action. Part of our mission was to connect congregations with issues of global poverty and give them an opportunity to respond.



1990s–2005

Tearfund adopted a new way of looking at faith and development: seeing poverty as the result of broken relationships – between people and God, people and each other, and people and the environment.

The mission of the church is to follow Christ and bring restoration to these relationships.

SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES

Tearfund's projects covered a wide variety of sectors, including agriculture, education, health, and water and sanitation.

Tearfund built the capacity of local Christian partners to carry out development in their own communities. Over the years, we've helped many small partners grow into sustainable organisations.

We developed a process called 'church and community mobilisation' (CCM). This is where local churches work with their communities to improve their situations, using their own resources – turning the church into a catalyst for lasting change.

During the global HIV epidemic, Tearfund led the way in mobilising the evangelical church to recognise its responsibility to act. This challenged stigma towards people living with HIV and mobilised congregations to respond.

RESPONDING TO DISASTERS

Tearfund's humanitarian relief work grew and became well respected. We worked with local partners to improve their ability to respond. Being embedded in the community enabled partners to act quickly, effectively and sustainably.

In large-scale disasters, partners could lack the capacity to respond, and may have been affected themselves. In these situations Tearfund set up operational teams to respond directly.

ADVOCACY AND CAMPAIGNING

To challenge large-scale issues underpinning global poverty and inequality, Tearfund began advocacy and campaigning. Every campaign had a biblical basis and was carried out according to Christian values. We campaigned on a range of issues, including trade and livelihoods, ethical tourism and HIV.

During the Jubilee 2000 campaign, Tearfund's supporters joined with others to call for G8 governments to cancel more than US\$130 billion of debt crippling the world's poorest countries.

By 2006, Tearfund had 12,000 campaigners, carrying out 50,000 campaign actions.

STANDING TOGETHER

Working alongside the church was crucial as we developed our faith-based approach. Tearfund built a network of 3,000 UK churches supporting us through prayer, donations and volunteering.



KENYA

MOBILISING THE CHURCH TO BE THE CHANGE

In 2002, the Anglican Church of Kenya became one of Tearfund's first partners to pilot church and community mobilisation (CCM). This is where local churches are mobilised to work with their communities to improve their situations, using their own resources.

Inspired by Bible studies, churches worked with their communities to tackle the issues they faced. The results were transformative. People felt empowered and began to see possibilities rather than problems. Together, churches and communities have built schools and health clinics, introduced innovative farming techniques, established new marketplaces, and more.

2005–2015

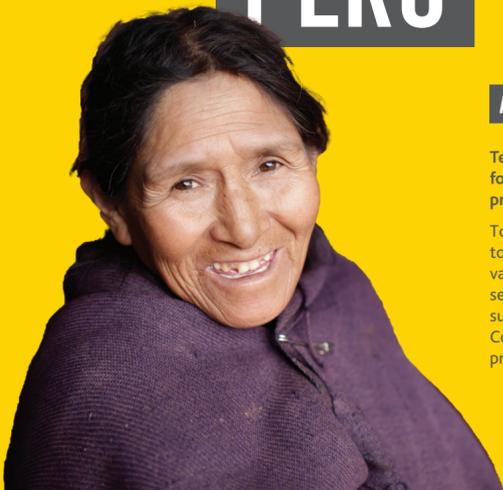
Tearfund strengthened its commitment to a faith-based approach, keeping the church at the centre of its work wherever possible. We helped churches to see their mission as both social and spiritual.

THE POWER OF PRAYER

We believe that prayer makes a difference. Tearfund's staff meet regularly to pray about our work as well as world events.

The prayers of our supporters are invaluable. We offer prayer resources to both individual supporters and churches – uniting the UK church in prayer for an end to extreme poverty.

PERU



ADVOCATING FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

Tearfund and Paz y Esperanza have worked together for over 30 years, mobilising the church to help promote peace and justice in Peru.

Together they have developed a biblical approach to advocacy that combines law, hope and Christian values. Significant change has been achieved, including seeing more than 1,000 innocent prisoners freed, and successfully lobbying for a Truth and Reconciliation Commission, which led the way for reforms to promote peace and prevent conflict.

SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES

Tearfund developed more church-based approaches like church and community mobilisation (CCM), under the umbrella term of 'church and community transformation' (CCT). Research was showing CCT to be effective, so Tearfund extended its training to more partners around the world. By 2016, Tearfund had inspired more than 10,000 churches to take on CCT approaches. The simple idea of partnering with churches to overcome poverty has become a global movement.

RESPONDING TO DISASTERS

Tearfund looked at the role of churches in responding to disasters. Being well-respected institutions with local understanding helps churches to lead in this area.

Tearfund developed training resources for pastors, outlining practical ways to respond in crises. These resources are now being used in more than 20 countries.

We were forerunners in 'beneficiary accountability' – a way of ensuring communities are treated as equals in recovery programmes.

ADVOCACY AND CAMPAIGNING

As well as campaigning in the UK, Tearfund continued to invest in advocacy training for its local partners.

We produced toolkits and developed a theology of advocacy to convince Christians worldwide that advocacy for justice was something they should engage with. By 2015, around 125 partner organisations around the world were regularly carrying out high-quality advocacy.

BEING THE CHANGE

Tearfund encouraged supporters to 'be the change' by making ethical, environmentally friendly choices. Our church network is the lifeblood of our work: giving, acting and praying to transform lives around the world.

'THIS CORD OF JUSTICE, WHICH IS NOW PART OF MY DNA, STRENGTHENS MY FAITH AND MAKES ME MORE CONTENT.'

Josh Evans, Tearfund campaigner

2015 ONWARDS

Our vision is to see all people freed from poverty, living transformed lives and reaching their God-given potential. We won't stop until poverty stops.

To bring us closer to realising this vision, from 2015 we began focusing on three priorities: church and community transformation, work in fragile states, and environmental and economic sustainability.

IRAQ



RESPONDING TO EMERGENCIES

In 2014, Tearfund set up an operational team to deliver emergency assistance to displaced families facing dire living conditions and emotional trauma. This included improving shelter and sanitation, distributing kitchen sets and winter clothing, and giving out cash for people to buy what they needed.

Motivated by our Christian values, Tearfund made significant investment in the area of beneficiary accountability to ensure beneficiaries were treated as participants and equals. This involved informing people about their entitlements, enabling them to give feedback, and treating them with kindness and respect. An evaluation found that people felt that Tearfund always treated them with dignity.

CHURCH AND COMMUNITY TRANSFORMATION

We are passionate about 'whole-life transformation' – seeing people and whole communities flourish in all aspects of life, spiritual and emotional as well as material.

One way we seek to achieve this is by scaling up our church and community transformation (CCT) work. Through this work we're bringing about change in areas not typically measured. These include increased feelings of empowerment, improved relationships and better emotional health.

FRAGILE STATES

In our aim to serve the most vulnerable, we are increasing our work in 'fragile states' – countries that are vulnerable to violence, conflict, chronic underdevelopment and political crises.

Guided by our values, we're working to address the root causes behind cycles of violence. This includes helping disempowered young people, building relationships between faith groups, and supporting individuals to become peacemakers.

SUSTAINABILITY

Climate change threatens the progress we've made together in the last 50 years. Our response is to promote environmental and economic sustainability to ensure people can live full lives despite the changing climate, and that natural resources are reused not wasted.

Our goals are based on biblical teaching: living within our environmental limits; ensuring that everyone can meet their basic needs; and addressing issues of inequality. Together, we can make lifestyle choices that are environmentally friendly, as well as pray and hold our governments to account on climate change.

'CCM CHANGED ME, AND CHANGED MY LIFE – FINALLY I UNDERSTAND THAT THE CALLING OF THE CHURCH IS BEYOND ITS FOUR WALLS.'

Camila, CCM facilitator, Peru

You can find out more by visiting www.tearfund.org/faithinaction