

A POSSIBLE FUTURE...

IMAGINE: A Micro-finance Consultation in Africa, June 2012. Various Anglican agencies and churches come together to share their learning. They visit local micro-savings initiatives run by the Anglican Church. The participants remain in touch, sharing skills through field visits and secondments and building a learning network, supported by the Alliance's website. The Alliance collectively funds some research and publishes a report, giving evidence of the effective models and impact of Anglican micro-finance initiatives in poor communities in Africa. This attracts interest from development organisations, including international donors. Church membership has also grown as local people see the churches addressing the needs of the poorest.

IMAGINE: An Emergency Response to Natural Disaster, October 2012.

A Tsunami has devastated a group of islands where the Anglican Church has a significant presence. Within two days, the Alliance participants have identified and sent out two technical experts to help the local dioceses plan their response. (One had worked for the Church in Sri Lanka following the 2004 Asian Tsunami.) These experts help the local Church to organise immediate relief for the victims and also support the church to prepare a funding plan for long-term recovery. The Alliance secretariat circulates the funding plan to Anglican agencies and donors around the world. In partnership with the ACT Alliance, the local diocese is able to respond quickly and effectively. The Church becomes a beacon of hope. The Alliance also funds some research to demonstrate the value of the local church as a key resource in emergencies. This is used to advocate with international agencies on the importance of including churches as partners in emergency responses.

IMAGINE: An Advocacy Campaign on Human Trafficking, 2012-2015:

The Alliance participants identify Human Trafficking as a widespread evil that needs urgent attention globally. Through research, the Alliance is able to provide data on trafficking and case studies of how church communities can monitor and prevent trafficking at source and also identify and protect victims. The Alliance runs a three year advocacy campaign to mobilise the whole Communion against this terrible abuse. The church leadership calls on governments to put effective legislation and structures in place to end Human Trafficking. Inspired by the campaign, a UN donor funds Human Trafficking outreach work in 15 Anglican Provinces.

"This is an opportunity to share our experiences and learn from each other in the Anglican Communion." Participant from DR Congo

"This Alliance can connect me with other people who are engaged in similar issues so we can get better results." Participant from the Solomon Islands, Pacific

"The Church is growing, but poverty and disease are also rising. This work is challenging but crucial." Participant from Nigeria

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Anglican Alliance for Development, Relief and Advocacy



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VISION

To create an Alliance of Anglican churches and agencies to connect and strengthen the development, relief and advocacy activities of the Anglican Communion.

MISSION

The Alliance's vision is grounded in, and shaped by, our understanding of God's integral and holistic mission as expressed through the Anglican Communion's Five Marks of Mission. We believe that we should be proclaiming the Good News of the Kingdom not only by word but also through our response to human need by loving service, by seeking to transform unjust structures of society and striving to safeguard the integrity of creation and sustain and renew the life of the earth. As the Gospel is good news to all, including the poor, participants in the Alliance will work towards a world where poverty and injustice no longer exist and all people live in just and sustainable relationships with each other and all of God's creation.

PURPOSE

The aim of the Alliance is to enhance collaboration and add value to the range of development and relief activities already undertaken by Anglicans around the world as an expression of holistic mission, in churches as well as mission and development agencies. The Alliance participants will come together, mostly at regional level, to prioritise issues for skills sharing and joint capacity building.

ACTIVITIES

Capacity building through sharing knowledge and skills in relief and development across the Communion, based on thematic priorities set by the regions.

Mapping the scale, quality, outcomes, impact and potential of Anglican development, relief and advocacy activities around the Communion.

Promoting best practice by identifying strong Anglican examples to serve as a learning resource for others and to build the evidence and visibility of Anglican work, as a tool for advocating for wider external support.

Communicating learning through regional consultations, website and other materials.

Theological reflection on Anglican understandings of relief, development and advocacy as an integral part of holistic mission.

Coordinating emergency relief to help share skills and support the local church in responding to disasters.

Joint advocacy on issues of shared priority for overcoming poverty and injustice.

BACKGROUND 2008

Lambeth Conference proposed an Anglican Communion development organization

Joint Standing Committee affirmed proposed Alliance

2009

Working group meeting developed concept for Alliance

Primates endorsed recommendation for Alliance at Alexandria meeting

ACC-14 in Jamaica passed a resolution that "affirms the recommendation to form an alliance of Anglican relief and development agencies to improve co-ordination in development, relief and advocacy work across the Communion and to share experiences of best practice"

Consultation document circulated to all Provinces and Dioceses for wider comment

2010

Wider working group meeting in July planned the way forward for making the Alliance a reality

PARTICIPATION

This is a collaborative venture. The Alliance will exist as its participants, working at local, regional and global levels to share skills and jointly build capacity. It will not be a separate entity. The participants in grassroots activities will include:

- provinces and dioceses of the Anglican Communion
- departments of specialised development ministry of a member Church
- Anglican mission, relief or development organisations associated with at least one Church or Province of the Anglican Communion

The international working group has proposed the establishment of light interim structures to facilitate activities while the participants develop the most effective mechanisms for learning from and strengthening grassroots initiatives and promoting regional collaboration. The Alliance participants will be served by a small secretariat of 2-3 people.

"I believe this Alliance could really allow local understanding, and local initiative to grow and flourish with the best skills and capacities we, as a church worldwide, can offer."
-The Archbishop of Canterbury

The Alliance will collaborate actively with other denominational and ecumenical stakeholders and networks, such as ACT (Action by Churches Together), the Ecumenical Advocacy Alliance, the Micah Network and Micah Challenge, and faith-inspired NGOs regionally and globally, to ensure productive partnerships and to leverage influence.

