Introduction Woord en Daad
- Christian Development Agency
- Founded in 1973
- Based in Gorinchem, The Netherlands

Main objectives
Woord en Daad is an entrepreneurial and innovative NGO. Woord en Daad staff are motivated by the Christian perspective on justice and compassion to realize a dignified existence for each individual. With our programmes we have been working for sustainable change for 50 years. Together with our loyal supporters and experienced partners, we continue to build on this life-changing work.

AREAS OF EXPERTISE IN PROGRAMMING

1 Education

WD’s education program has three areas of focus: 1) Christian education and sponsorship, 2) International Network for Christian Education (INCE) and 3) Exploited children program. As part of the Christian education project, WD supports 30,000 sponsorship children. INCE is a network of schools and institutions that approaches the entire educational system in certain countries. The aim of INCE is to structurally improve the quality of Christian Education benefitting children and youngsters by sharing the knowledge, experience and identity. Child protection and removing obstacles to education is what is being focussed on by the exploited children program.

The program contributes mainly to SDG 4: Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all.

REACH
Woord en Daad works with 30 partner organisations in 20 countries.
Africa: Benin, Burkina Faso, Chad, Ethiopia, Ivory Coast, Mali, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Sudan, Uganda, Mozambique
Asia: Bangladesh, India, Nepal, Philippines, Sri Lanka
Central and Latin America: Guatemala, Haiti, Nicaragua, Colombia

AREAS OF EXPERTISE IN PROGRAMMING

Woord en Daad (WD) has expertise in:
• Education
• Employment and Training
• Sustainable Water
• Inclusive Agribusiness

CAPACITY
Income 2022: € 36,040,845
• Private individuals: 14,302,257
• Companies: 4,013,818
• Grants: 9,265,351
• Other: 8,459,419
Income 2021: € 34,943,955
Income 2020: € 25,072,386

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Asia: Bangladesh, India, Nepal, Philippines, Sri Lanka
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2 Employment and Training
The Employment and Training program seeks to contribute, in collaboration with relevant sector players, to full, productive and dignified self-employment for the youth workforce in low- and middle-income countries. With our Job Booster-concept we aim at connecting job seekers with employers and matching training but will put more emphasis on influencing the entire employment sector. Read more about our Job Booster-concept in the paragraph ‘Innovative concepts’.

3 Sustainable Water
Our interventions work with a servicing approach, in which we professionalize service providers, mobilize paying end-users and advocate for more inclusive regulation. Within this programme WD focuses on three areas: 1) Drinking water, sanitation and hygiene, 2) Water for Food, and 3) Water Management.

4 Inclusive Agribusiness (IA)
The overall objective of the IA program is to contribute to a sustainable increase of income for entrepreneurs (farmers, business owners) and their employees and hence improved food security at household level.

Specific Areas of Interest to Collaborate with Other EU-Cord Members
We’re open for any collaboration on our areas of expertise (read above) and in the countries of our reach. Cooperation should include focus on sustainability, business-way of working (including business case approaches). Also, system change; partnerships for change rather than single projects are important to Woord en Daad. Value dialogues in collaborations matter. Themes in which WD is specifically interested in cooperation are our policy themes: poor climate resilience, reaching the unreached, systemic change.

Objectives

Our Approach
Project based & consortium building
Woord en Daad aims to sustainably improve lives of vulnerable people, to realize a dignified existence for every individual. As a project based, flexible organization Woord en Daad always seeks to seize new opportunities and collaboration to achieve this goal. Together with our southern partners we work strongly result-focused to sustainable improvement. We believe a system change approach is needed to realize this, so Woord en Daad cooperates as much as possible in multi-stakeholder partnerships with governments, businesses, civil society organizations and knowledge institutes to reach a maximum of impact. Our diversified donor base gives us the opportunity to blend finances, spread risks and work independently.

Woord en Daad utilizes an entrepreneurial approach to project development. According to Norad (2018), the structure of Woord en Daad “allows for development of solid and innovative projects, due in many ways to the process that a project is developed at field level, with relevant actors and stakeholders, before funding is sought.”

Co-creation & adaptive programming
In our role as broker, we draw together focussed teams of thematic experts across organizations in North and South for context analysis to deeply understand the local context, innovation and creating intervention concepts. We enrich these processes with monitoring and learning and documented track record on effective strategies.

We contribute to managing the program implementation by keeping a strong knowledge-base on country-specific sectors, and take a pro-active role in data analysis and -sharing to support the partnerships we work in. Within and across programs we have an explicit learning agenda, which we use to guide our documentation of effective strategies and track record.

Policy influencing – north and south
WD wants both the Netherlands and the EU to increase efforts ensuring people in developing countries get more opportunities to make progress. WD participates in the Dutch partnerships Civic Engagement Alliance, Partos, and Building Change in the European cooperative of Christian NGOs, EU Cord.

Awareness raising
WD has an awareness raising program for over 50,000 supporters of WD, to have a clear and realistic picture of the complexity of development cooperation and to make them aware how their own lifestyle has effects on it. Within the program supporters are motivated and equipped to make lifestyle choices based on Christian values.

What are the main value adding areas where your NGO could contribute to consortia?
- System thinking / system change
- Partnerships building – Woord en Daad has a partnership attitude over working with our own organisations.
- Thematic expertise/trackrecord (e.g. currently manage 7 PPPs, specific models for various themes like sustainable water, agribusiness, youth employment and education)

Guiding Policy Themes
Our strategic positioning is specifically informed by three trends. Global reports observe deeper growing poverty and inequality, and on a smaller scope Woord en daad equally concludes that we are not easily reaching the poorest that we intend to reach with our work. A second observation is that stress on planetary boundaries is growing, with adverse effects on the poor. We hear from our target groups that climate change effects are dramatic for their communities, and reinforce complex webs of causes that keep them in poverty – or push them back. This growing complexity and the persisting inequality issues ask for different approaches that take on more structural and systemic changes. We take on this third trend to explore working in different roles and partnerships to achieve more scale and impact.

Innovative Concept
We develop program- and country-related responses together with partners, in a process of co-creation. In the past this has already resulted in leading innovative concepts. Three examples are:

- Fair Factory
  The Fair Factory Development Fund invests as a shareholder in food processing factories in developing countries. To this end, we seek partners who work according to the same values as us. And by doing this we ensure that all stakeholders – including the farmers and factory employees – benefit from the factory as economic driven. The fund invests in the factory and Woord en Daad ensures the training and coaching of farmers and young people around the factory.

- Job Booster
  WD uses innovative and entrepreneurial approaches that engage with the private sector. We stimulate employment for young people by setting up local Job Booster social enterprises. Job Booster is a broker of employment. We negotiate (large) employment contracts with companies, select training providers via public tenders, and support youth with entrepreneurial ambitions in starting a business. We support youth on an individual basis, for example with finalizing their business plan, and we negotiate with local banks to give youth access to capital. The main objective of this approach is to achieve full, productive and dignified jobs for all.

- Water provision through pre-paid services
  Woord en Daad uses a novel approach in water projects in Uganda and Benin by using a pre-payment and monitoring technology to ensure reliable revenue streams. Households purchase a ‘water credit’ with which they can use a small-scale pipeline system. The income received is used to maintain this pipeline system. A service provider is established to deliver water services at scale which creates a comprehensive business case.