

# The USPs of PMU



## Introduction

PMU is a Christian Relief and Development Agency founded by the Swedish Pentecostal Movement in 1965. The HQ of PMU is located in Stockholm, Sweden.

## Main objectives

PMU is normally working through local churches and organisations, without having own staff implementing the work in the partner countries. PMU is rights- and faith-based in its work, and collaborates with various types of civil society actors, both religious and secular, in Sweden, Europe and globally. As a rights-based organization, PMU works with local partners in accordance with the principles of non-discrimination, participation, transparency and the possibility of liability. A faith-based point of departure means for PMU that the work is characterized by words such as hope and belief in the future, justice, care and reconciliation, and that PMU seeks to consider and relate to the roles and beliefs of religion in analyzing both challenges and solutions for social development. PMU and our partners, churches, Christian and other organisations, are “religiously literate” and can also in challenging issues, such as equality, female genital mutilation and sexual violence, carry on a constructive dialogue with those who have a religious worldview. By mastering a kind of bilingualism, the rights-based and the religious language, and at the same time being based in the local cultures that need to be transformed, local partners do not pose a threat, but are, according to PMU's experience, regarded as a companion in local change processes. Local partners are generally good at collaborating multi-religiously and ecumenically in order to achieve their and society's common goals.

## Areas of expertise in Programming

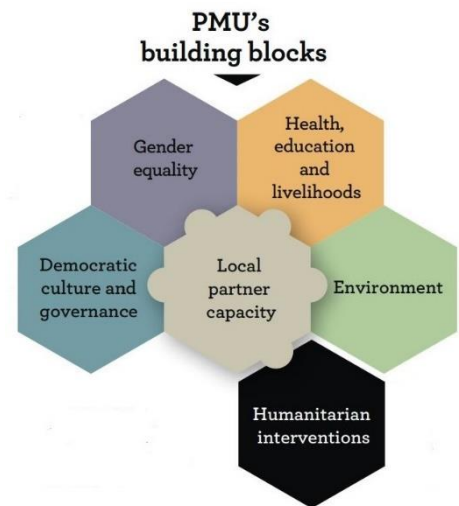
In the development work PMU is **supporting partners in five areas**, called building blocks: Democratic culture and governance, Gender equality, Health, education and livelihood, Environment, and Local partner capacity. PMU believes in integrated programs that link several of these building blocks in the same intervention.

**Humanitarian assistance.** PMU is member of CHS Alliance since its start 2015. When HAP became CHS, PMU was already a part of HAP. PMU has been implementing humanitarian assistance in different settings and with different funding since the organization's foundation 1965.

### Applying a Human Right Based Approach (HRBA), especially in

**religious contexts.** As a faith-based actor, PMU also sees a great importance in addressing moral duty bearers (and not only the state and its institutions), such as parents, religious leaders, traditional local leaders, and business leaders with moral obligations towards their children, congregation, local community or employees.

**Advocacy in North and South.** PMU has had an assigned advocacy trainer since 2005 and has been training local partners of PMU in working with advocacy since then. During many years PMU has been working with and supporting the Nobel Peace Prize laureate 2018 Dr. Denis Mukwege in the advocacy work, mostly in the Western countries, on the situation in DR Congo and especially women and children being subjected to sexual violence.



**Development-humanitarian-peace nexus.** PMU together with local partners have the know-how to work in the nexus between development, humanitarian and peace in several of our different interventions and contexts. Being a multi-mandated organization working with and through local partners gives us the advantage of a holistic and joint context analysis as well as the possibility to work complimentary between humanitarian and development including social inclusion, social cohesion and conflict sensitivity. These synergy effects lead to more sustainable and holistic results.

*Since 2016 PMU has put more emphasis in deepening knowledge in three prioritized areas:*

**Gender issues in religious contexts.** According to PMU gender equality is the key to build sustainable churches, organizations and societies. When we read the Bible we see a beautiful story of creation and salvation, where God intended for women and men to live in equality. Hierarchies, discrimination and inequality is not from God, and as Christian churches and faith based development actors one of our top priorities should be to promote gender equality so that we can reflect the image of God as it was meant to be.

**Conflict sensitivity approach to development, humanitarian assistance and peacebuilding.** Conflict sensitivity is a concept which is relevant when you are engaged in development cooperation and poverty alleviation, whether working in war-torn areas or in regions free from open and violent conflicts.

**Knowledge regarding academic research on Pentecostal/charismatic churches and development.** Researchers have lately been increasingly intrigued by the strong development and the influence that the Pentecostal movements have obtained, particularly in Latin America, Asia and Africa. In an anthology, edited by anthropologist Dena Freeman at the London School of Economics, it is affirmed that the Pentecostal movement has probably, in some respects, done more for Africa in terms of poverty reduction, than all international aid organizations combined. Two of the three Nobel Peace Prize laureates 2018 and 2019, are members of Pentecostal churches (these churches are also PMU partners) in two African countries: Denis Mukwege from DR Congo and Abiy Ahmed from Ethiopia.

## Capacity

**PMU's total revenue 2018:** approx. € 19.3<sup>1</sup> millions.

**The key institutional donors of PMU during 2018:** SMC (Swedish Mission Council)/Sida (Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency) and Radiohjälpen (Swedish Radio Aid).

Since 2019 the Swedish Embassy in Ethiopia is also a major institutional donor.

## Reach

PMU works with partner organizations in 31 countries. During 2018 a total of 141 projects were supported, whereof 107 development projects and 34 humanitarian projects.

**Largest recipient countries regarding development:** Mauretania, Palestine, Sri Lanka, Yemen, Egypt, Benin, Ethiopia, Nepal, Togo and Burundi.

**Largest recipient countries regarding humanitarian interventions:** Yemen, South Sudan, Ethiopia, Mauretania, DR Congo, Burundi, Kenya and Nepal.



<sup>1</sup> Using the exchange rate 1 EUR = 10 SEK

## Value adding areas and areas that might be innovative

PMU has written a book about **gender equality** in a church-related work. The book ***Church and Gender Equality*** gives a theological perspective to gender equality work, provides concrete tools to take action on gender equality in organizations and churches, as well as to provide examples by sharing experiences from our network of faith-based actors. A free copy of the book can be downloaded in pdf format from <https://pmu.se/en/for-partners/> and under the heading “Studies and Resources”.



PMU has developed a tool for **conflict sensitive approaches to development, humanitarian assistance and peacebuilding**, which is presented in the book ***The Conflict Sensitivity Wheel***. The Conflict Sensitivity Wheel is a tool, designed to help development actors to be aware and intentional about how they work and interact in a community, when planning, implementing and evaluating interventions. A free copy of the book can soon be downloaded in pdf format from <https://pmu.se/en/for-partners/> and under the heading “Studies and Resources”.



The document, **Global Pentecostalism and Agenda 2030**, is an overview of the **current research about the global Pentecostal/charismatic movement**. Based on the global poverty map, a special focus is given to Africa. The document will hopefully give an understanding of the Pentecostal movement, and will make it easier to find areas for deepened cooperation between Pentecostals/charismatics and other development actors. A free copy of the book can soon be downloaded in pdf format from <https://pmu.se/en/for-partners/> and under the heading “Studies and Resources”.



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