



tearfund

Netherlands

Doing justice together!

Tearfund helps people to lift themselves out of poverty and injustice. Tearfund strives for a world in which everyone thrives.

Inspired by God's love we are committed to eradicating poverty and injustice, everything that hinders people from thriving. Together for justice is what we stand for!

Our vision is to see people freed from poverty, living transformed lives and reaching their God-given potential.

We understand poverty to be rooted in broken relationships. Poverty is holistic: it is not just economic or physical but is also social, environmental and spiritual.

Overcoming poverty requires a restoration of relationships: with self, God, others, and wider creation. Whole life transformation is evident where we see individuals and communities resilient to shocks and stresses; they are able to plan and implement solutions to address their own issues and those around them; and they have been able to move from striving and surviving, to a fuller sense of thriving.

For deeper transformation to take place there needs to be a transformation of self, others, groups and societies. This takes place at the local, national and international levels.

We work through a network of local organisations and engage the local church where possible. Our approach is based on connecting with people's own possibilities for improving their standard of living regardless of their nationality, ethnic origin, gender or religion.

In the Netherlands we raise awareness among churches and Christians, encouraging them to stand up against poverty and injustice.

Tearfund Netherlands is part of the Tearfund family. The Tearfund family share common values in the fight against poverty and injustice, such as a shared Christian identity and the importance of the role of the Church in society, developing partnerships by working with and through local Christian organisations and pursuing excellence and accountability in all that we do.

Tearfund Netherlands was founded in 1973 and our headquarters is located in Utrecht, The Netherlands.



Tearfund Netherlands encourages churches and Christian organisations to work together with their environment for the development of the community. In the picture: pastor Yusuf teaches the church (Lwengo, Uganda).

Our objectives

To achieve our vision, we have four main objectives:

Churches mobilised

The Church is envisioned, empowered and equipped to play its role in transforming the poorest communities and changing society.

Communities transformed

Communities are resilient to shocks and stresses, working for peace and unity and contributing to a better future for themselves and others.

Emergency needs met

When crises and natural disasters hit, affecting community structures and mechanisms, we respond quickly to meet immediate needs.

Societies are transformed

Social, economic, political and environmental systems work for the well-being of all ensuring access to basic needs, equality and sustainable growth.

Our areas of expertise

Humanitarian Response

We respond quickly to disasters and crises. We focus on people who need help the most. From the outset of our assistance, we aim to work on building resilience. After the acute emergency relief phase our attention shifts to reconstruction and rehabilitation.

Community Development

We strive to build resilient communities. We support local communities in developing their community and environment using their own resources and relationships. We aim to equip them so that they are more self-reliant in the future.

Advocacy and Influencing

To achieve sustainable change it's important to influence governments, organisations, decision makers and public opinion. Through campaigns and lobbying we strive to influence at local, national and international level to tackle the root causes of poverty and injustice. We mobilize churches and civil society to be agents of change.



Programmatic approach

Church and Community Transformation is Tearfund NL's outworking of asset based community development. Self-help groups are an organisational structure set up and facilitated at local level. In the picture above a self-help group from South Sudan.

Working with Faith Based Actors

Tearfund works through local faith based actors and advocate for the added value they bring to development cooperation.

Where we work

Tearfund Netherlands works across five geographical regions:



Tearfund Netherlands has 9 focus countries for long term development and disaster response. They are:

- **Asia:** Nepal and Bangladesh
- **East-Mid and West Africa:** Democratic Republic of Congo, Ethiopia and South Sudan
- **Latin America:** Haiti
- **Middle East:** Syria
- **Southern and East Africa:** Uganda and Zimbabwe

We also work in other countries based upon needs and opportunities.

Localisation

We are committed to increase local ownership, leadership, sharing of power, and decision-making with local and national actors in both humanitarian and development interventions. We do this through our work with churches and local partners.

Thematic expertise



Church &
Community
Transformation



Environmental &
Economic
Sustainability



Peace &
Reconciliation



Protection & Gender
Based Violence

Our corporate priorities

Within our work in humanitarian relief, community development and advocacy and influencing we focus on four corporate priorities:

Church & Community Transformation

Tearfund Netherlands encourages Churches to work in partnership with their communities for community development. Church & Community Transformation (CCT) is at the heart of what Tearfund Netherlands does. Through CCT we equip and empower local churches to help communities identify their needs and deploy locally available resources to bring about change.

Reconciled and peace-filled societies

We work in areas experiencing increasing vulnerability, conflict and violence. In our work in these contexts, we seek to mitigate the immediate impacts while addressing the root causes wherever possible to bring about lasting change and peace. Situations of violent conflict are our particular focus where we look to address both the impact and causes of that violence to bring sustainable peace. By reconciled we mean the restoration of relationships between those in conflict. Peace-filled expresses a longing for more than just the absence of direct physical violence. We draw on the biblical concept of shalom which encompasses justice and the ability to thrive. We talk about societies because it takes us beyond the local or community level and incorporates the idea of structural or societal level change.

Environmental & Economic Sustainability

Many communities we work with are facing issues of climate change and natural resource depletion and growing social and economic equality. We strive for a world where people can meet their basic needs themselves, extreme inequality is no longer accepted, and everyone lives within the limits of what the earth has to offer.

Crisis to Resilience

We are building resilient, hopeful communities, able to prepare for and respond to the humanitarian needs and crises they face. Our approach to supporting people affected by disasters is holistic, with a focus on strengthening resilience. We support and accompany communities, local churches and partners to anticipate and prepare for crises as well as respond to them.

Key consortia with other peer NGOs

Dutch Relief Alliance: Help a Child, Dorcas

Christian Relief Cluster: Woord en Daad, Help a child, Dorcas and ZOA

Integral Alliance: Medair

Income 2023: 16,426,000 Euro

Key donor awards: Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Netherlands through Dutch Relief Alliance and Power of Voices, European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (ECHO), and Private Donors, Churches and Foundations in the Netherlands

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