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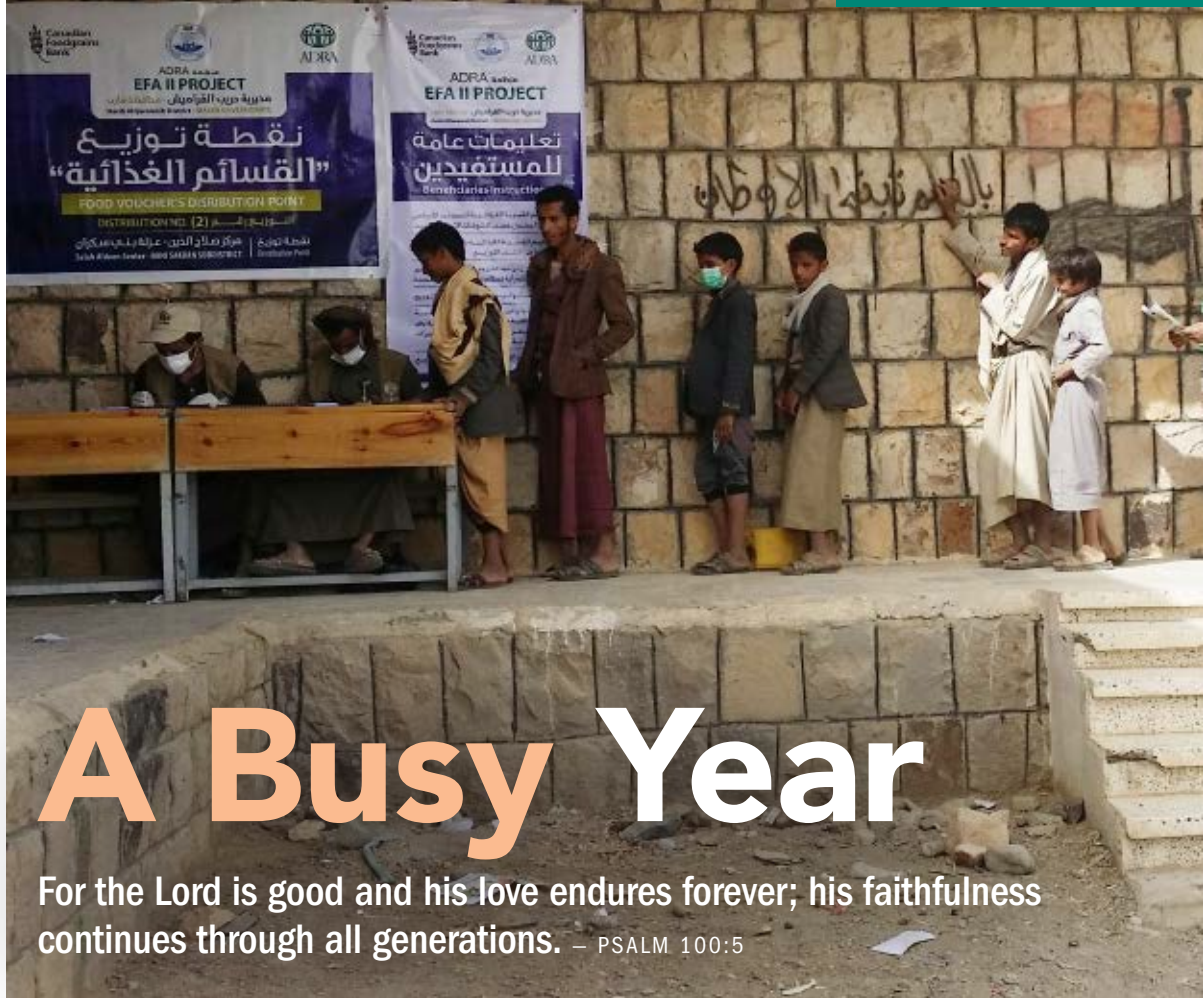
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A Busy Year

For the Lord is good and his love endures forever; his faithfulness continues through all generations. – PSALM 100:5

CRWRF has had another busy year! It is always humbling to see the needs and devastation around the world, and cling to the promise that we serve a good and faithful God. Even in these troubling and difficult times, God remains on the throne and is glorified as we work to serve one another. One of those ways is through our relief branch at CRWRF. Last year, we used the Summer and Winter 2020 newsletters to focus on what relief work is, and to address some frequent questions about CRWRF. Continuing that theme, we wanted to give some insight on how we go about choosing partners to work with and update you on where CRWRF has been responding to crises around the world.

As we have been broadening our partnerships in different places around the world, this has become a more pressing question for us on the Board. While our principles of partnership are laid out in more detail in our *Strategic Plan 2020-2025* (available on the CRWRF website), we want to share some of our basic requirements with you.

One important requirement to be met by the partners that CRWRF chooses to work with is that they are working to meet the daily practical needs of people experiencing various forms of poverty and disaster in the world. We also want to ensure that our partners are operating consistently with biblical principles, are legally compliant, efficient, and transparent with their use of all resources. At CRWRF, we also work to build the capacity of those in need, so that we reduce their dependence on others to meet their needs, and actively work to build up the communities that are receiving resources. Finally, we look for partners who go about implementing their relief work as faithful Christian witnesses, wherever possible.

Finding reputable Christian partners already working in a country in crisis can be challenging. There are the logistical challenges of making new connections. At the time of a disaster, such as an earthquake, flood, or civil war, communications with local organizations and people can be very difficult to

establish, as electricity or internet access is not always stable. Many countries in crisis have security issues due to civil war, gangs, and corruption. Sometimes, their ability to implement any relief work is reduced by the loss of staff, transport, and the necessary tools as a result of the crisis.

These difficulties have been highlighted for us in searching for a way to support locals still living under Taliban rule in Afghanistan. Due to the likelihood of severe persecution of Christians, organizations in certain

Middle Eastern countries are less likely to publicize explicitly that they are Christian, which makes connecting with Christian organizations in these countries very challenging. With the recent Taliban takeover, conditions have been extremely dangerous in Afghanistan. Most organizations with which we have connected are focusing on moving Afghans from the country to safety, rather than getting involved in local relief work. CRWRF continues to monitor the situation, and to search for a partner to assist with relief efforts.



RELIEF UPDATES FOR 2021

We would like to share some of the relief work that continued to be done by our partners this past year, by means of your generous support. These partners make it all possible! They complete assessments on the ground after disasters, they purchase food, building materials, water tanks, and other essentials, and they distribute them to those in need. Sometimes, as is the case in Lebanon, these essentials include milk and diapers for refugee mothers. Other times, essentials such as generators, sleeping mats, or food packages are provided in response to a cyclone in Timor. In all these instances, our faithful partners work to share your gifts with those in need, and we are so thankful for them and their organizations!

Timor

PARTNER: New Hope

PROGRAMS: Cyclone Relief (3 Phases)

Phase 1: Distribution of food & hygiene packages, generators, water tanks and fuel

Phase 2: Distribution of food & hygiene packages, sleeping mats & cooking equipment.

Phase 3: Home repairs or rebuilding of girls dorm, kitchen area

PROGRAM: Food packages and cash transfers distributed because of bush fire

COVID-19 Relief in 2020

Philippines

PARTNER: World Renew of the Philippines Inc.

PROGRAM: Distribution of hygiene kits, farm and fishing supplies following an earthquake

India

PARTNERS: Presbyterian Free Church – Central India and World Renew/ Evangelical Fellowship for the Indian Commission on Relief (EFICOR)

PROGRAM: Distribution of hygiene kits, cash transfer, and support to local healthcare facilities during the COVID-19 pandemic

WHAT CAN YOU DO?

- > Pray for our current partners – thank God for their abilities and courage to implement projects on the ground throughout the world wherever there is need, and often where there is insecurity. Without these partners and their staff, we would be unable to distribute and reach people with your funds and support.
- > Pray for the people of Afghanistan. Pray for a suitable partner to be found.
- > Pray for the Board, as we continue to navigate finding partners in the Middle East, as this is an area of much need.
- > Consider volunteering or donating at a refugee centre near your home, to assist in the short term.

Haiti

PARTNERS: World Renew and L'Eglise Chrétienne Réformée d'Haiti (ECRH)

PROGRAM: Emergency Non-Food Items (e.g., blankets, kitchen sets, temporary shelter) following an earthquake

Yemen

PARTNERS: World Renew and Canadian Foodgrains Bank and ADRA Canada

PROGRAM: Emergency food assistance during this year's famine and ongoing war

Lebanon

PARTNERS: World Renew and Middle East Revive and Thrive (MERATH)

PROGRAM: Milk, diapers, and feminine hygiene product distribution during the ongoing refugee and economic crisis

Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC)

PARTNERS: Mission French Africa Ministries (MFAM)
PROGRAM: Emergency food assistance during flooding and food crisis

Central African Republic (CAR)

PARTNERS: Mission French Africa Ministries (MFAM)
PROGRAM: Emergency food assistance during civil unrest

We praise God for his faithfulness!

Though needs sometimes seem to be endless, we give thanks for what we can do to help. We are blessed to be a part of this work and to show his love to those in need around the world. Thank you also for all of your support, your messages, and your prayers!