



THE
LUTHERAN
WORLD
FEDERATION



With Passion for the Church and for the World

LWF Strategy 2019-2024 (abridged)

Vision	03
Who We Are	04
Values	05
Our Strategic Priorities	06
Ways of Working	09
Partnerships	10
Organizational Sustainability and Effectiveness	11

VISION

Liberated by God's grace, a communion in Christ, living and working together for a just, peaceful, and reconciled world.



WHO WE ARE

Established in 1947, we are a global communion of 148 member churches with 75 million members in 99 countries. We share a common Lutheran heritage, shaped by the diverse contexts in which we experience and witness to God's liberating grace.

We are an internationally recognized faith-based actor, expressing faith through advocacy, development, and humanitarian engagement. We are partners with the United Nations, through many of its agencies. We are accredited by the United Nations Economic and Social Council (UN ECOSOC).

VALUES

Dignity and justice because every person is created in God's image

But let justice roll down like waters, and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream (Am 5:24).

Compassion and commitment

because we are inspired by God's love for humanity

But a Samaritan while traveling came near him, and when he saw him, he was moved with pity (Lk 10:33).

Respect for diversity because we value and seek to understand our differences in culture, history and context

For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ (1 Cor 12:12).

Inclusion and participation

because we are committed to enable full and equitable participation

"Go therefore into the main streets, and invite everyone you find to the wedding banquet" (Mt 22:9).

Transparency and accountability

because we want to be a responsible steward of the resources and responsibilities God has entrusted to us

"... 'Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me' " (Mt 25:40).

An illustration of the strategic priorities and their basis

PROMOTING
HUMAN DIGNITY,
JUSTICE, AND PEACE

SUPPORTING
CHURCHES' PRESENCE
AND VIBRANT WITNESS

LIVING
AND WORKING
TOGETHER AS A
COMMUNION

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

Supporting churches' presence and vibrant witness in the world because we are passionate about the churches holistically witnessing to Christ in their contexts. As a communion we work together to

- jointly develop theological reflection that articulates our understanding of being Lutheran churches in communion
- live out the communion relationships among member churches
- work together to further God's holistic mission
- ensure promotion of gender justice at every level
- ensure the meaningful participation of youth in church and society
- engage ecumenical partners and build relationships to respond to the call to unity and joint witness
- engage in interfaith dialogue and cooperation to build mutual understanding and promote collaboration

Promoting human dignity, justice, and peace as we seek to respond to suffering and address its root causes. As a communion we will work together to

- respond to people in emergency situations, with a focus on refugees, returnees, internally displaced people, their host communities, and communities at risk
- support local communities in sustainable development efforts to achieve life with dignity and full enjoyment of their rights
- collaborate with ecumenical partners, interfaith actors, and religious leaders on issues of human dignity, justice, and peace
- equip member churches to engage in diaconal action
- strengthen efforts for climate justice
- strengthen local and global advocacy to promote human rights and protect the rights of marginalized communities

At the core of our work is our vocation to **live and work together as a communion of churches in ongoing reformation**. This is not a static reality, nor is it an end in itself: We live and work together, as we continue responding to God's call and partake in God's mission in the world. In doing so, we focus on supporting each other to witness vibrantly in our diverse contexts and promoting human dignity, justice, and peace.

WAYS OF WORKING

Theological reflection and discernment which brings together theological perspectives for regional and global reflection

Accompaniment with member churches where we walk with and support each other to participate in God's mission

Convening and facilitation where we work together on local and global issues

Direct implementation in humanitarian and development work

Advocacy through and with member churches and country programs

Connecting local to global rooting global work in local realities

Working with others for mutual value and synergy to achieve common goals

PARTNERSHIPS

Member churches and related organizations,
including theological institutions and networks

Ecumenical partners and partners from other faiths

Local communities, civil society, development and humanitarian organizations, and state actors

The UN system with their specialized agencies



ORGANIZATIONAL SUSTAINABILITY AND EFFECTIVENESS

Strategic leadership at all levels reflects the rich diversity of the communion, maintains gender balance, and ensures youth representation.

Strong financial management and resource mobilization so that we are responsive to new opportunities and funding challenges.

Alignment of structures and systems to increase efficiency and quality in our structures and processes, and ensure coherence in the programmatic work of the communion office.

Investment in people to maintain a highly competent workforce.

Effective internal and external communication to build relationships and tell our story in a way that informs, educates, and moves our audience to action.



THE
LUTHERAN
WORLD
FEDERATION

*Liberated by God's
grace, a communion
in Christ, living and
working together for
a just, peaceful, and
reconciled world.*

LWF Strategy 2019-2024

strategy.lutheranworld.org