



THE
LUTHERAN
WORLD
FEDERATION

A Communion
of Churches

To

LWF Member Churches

Geneva, August 24, 2022

Re: Call for Proposals – COVID-19 Rapid Response Fund and Long-term Projects

Dear respected Church Leaders, dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

The world is facing so many difficult situations, from the continued impact of the Covid-19 pandemic, over the devastating effects of climate change, to deadly conflicts up-rooting people and millions of people facing hunger.

In Matthew 14: 14-21 we read: 'When Jesus landed and saw a large crowd, he had compassion on them and healed their sick. As evening approached, the disciples came to him and said, "This is a remote place, and it's already getting late. Send the crowds away, so they can go to the villages and buy themselves some food." Jesus replied, "They do not need to go away. You give them something to eat." "We have here only five loaves of bread and two fish," they answered. "Bring them here to me," he said. And he directed the people to sit down on the grass. Taking the five loaves and the two fish and looking up to heaven, he gave thanks and broke the loaves. Then he gave them to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the people. They all ate and were satisfied, and the disciples picked up twelve basketfuls of broken pieces that were left over. The number of those who ate was about five thousand men, besides women and children. (NIV)

Like Jesus, we have compassion, and like the disciples we are so aware of our limited resources. The miracle happens when what we have is blessed in gratefulness for the needs of people, when we believe and act, when we share what we have.

I am therefore pleased to share with you this year's call for applications for short-term projects and for long-term projects starting in 2024.

I. Call for proposals – Final round of COVID-19 Rapid Response Fund

The LWF with the generous support of partners has launched a Rapid Response Fund (RRF) for COVID-19 in April 2020. Since then, about 200 RRF member church projects were approved. It has been enriching to see the meaningful difference churches made in their communities.

We are now opening a final round to address the continued social, spiritual and economic impact of COVID-19 on LWF member churches and the communities they serve. The main focus on recovery and livelihoods responds to the harsh economic realities caused by COVID-19.

I draw your attention to the attached document, which gives helpful tips for the application.

Deadline for applications: 16 October 2022

The review of applications will be finalised in the first week of November. Feedback will be provided shortly after with project starts possible from mid-November onwards.

II. Call for proposals – long-term projects

We are calling for **new** member church projects starting in 2024, running a maximum of three years.

Please note that ongoing projects are not automatically extended and must apply for a new cycle. In addition, projects can only be extended once for a maximum of two additional years. Therefore, member churches wishing to extend their ongoing projects ending in 2023 are also invited to submit an application for an extension until 2025.

Deadline for applications: 09 January 2023

All applications for long-term projects will be reviewed during January and February 2023. Initial feedback will be provided shortly after. Shortlisted projects will be invited to submit further details to support their application. The final approval of the projects will be given by the Committee for Member Church Projects in May 2023.

III. How to apply

Member churches can apply for both COVID-19 and long-term grants. Please refer to the attached annex for eligibility criteria and further details.

Please use the following link for applications: https://webportalapp.com/sp/lwf_pcmprogram_en. User guidelines are attached. Please send an e-mail to dtmjprojects@lutheranworld.org if you have any issues with the platform and need support. The member church projects coordination team is there to answer your questions and to help.

May God continue to bless you in your ministry.

Yours in Christ,



Eva Christina Nilsson

Director

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