



Search:

Printer Friendly Version

[Home](#) > [CWS HomePage](#) > [At Work with our Partners](#) > [Assistance In Emergencies](#)

- [+ About Us](#)
- [+ Christmas Bowl](#)
- [+ Our Work in the World](#)
- [+ At Work with our Partners](#)
  - [+ Assistance In Emergencies](#)
    - [- Action by Churches Toge...](#)
    - [- Injustice Response](#)
    - [- Development and Poverty...](#)
- [+ Partners4Peace](#)
- [+ The Responsibility to Protect](#)
- [+ Protecting Refugees](#)
- [+ Simply Sharing Week](#)
- [+ At Work in Australia](#)
- [+ In Focus Newsletter](#)
- [+ Annual Report](#)
- [+ Living Trust](#)
- [+ Media Releases](#)
- [+ Make Poverty History](#)
- [+ Give](#)
- [+ Support Us](#)
- [+ Contact Us](#)
- [+ Stand Up Against Poverty](#)
- [+ Darfur Appeal 2007](#)
- [+ Download Adobe Acrobat Reader](#)

### Solomon Islands Earthquake and Tsunami Response

An 8.0 magnitude earthquake that triggered a tsunami that measured between two and 10 metres in places, struck the Solomon Islands at 07:40 local time on Monday 2nd April, killing at least 20 people, leaving thousands homeless, and destroying at least 13 villages in the most severely affected Choiseul and Western Provinces.

Ruth Liloqula from the Luru Land Conference based in Choiseul, reported that two metre high waves travelled up to 200 metres inland, causing major property destruction and contaminating drinking water. "It is indeed a very big concern and I just hope that our people got to safer ground," Liloqula said. Her family home, which had already been damaged by the rise in sea level, was swept away by the tsunami.

If you wish to support the affected Solomon Islands communities over the coming months as they rebuild and re-establish their lives, please:

- \* **CLICK HERE TO GIVE ONLINE;**
- \* Call our toll free number 1800 025 101; or
- \* Send a cheque / money order to CWS (Solomon Islands Tsunami Appeal), Locked Bag 199, SYDNEY NSW 1230.

Download a hymn about Tsunamis and Tornadoes written by Peter Holden. [Click here](#)

***Any excess funds raised will be allocated to ongoing development work in the area.***



**is provided to the following countries**

**Solomon Islands, East Timor, Indonesia, Sri Lanka, India, Pakistan, Sudan, Kenya, Lebanon and Gaza**



**by both the NCCA Christian World Service and ACT International.**

#### Current Press Releases

[Gaza - Read our Press Release](#)

#### From Constantine Dabbagh, Executive Secretary, DSPR Programs

**"The situation here is very bad as it is in the region at large. We appreciate very much keeping us in your thoughts and for all the efforts to create awareness amongst your constituency. God bless your endeavour."** More details are available on the ACT International website.

[Lebanon - Read our Press Release](#)

**In Lebanon, the most urgent needs of the displaced and stranded people are mattresses and bedding, water, cleaning and kitchen supplies, first aid kits, medicine for chronic diseases, food and milk for infants. More details are available on the ACT International website.**

[Sri Lanka - Read our Press Release](#)

[Sudan - Read our Press Release](#) - **"See How Women are Making a Difference"**

### Sudan Update

Click [here](#) to read our current media release and see how women are making a difference.

For more details about the emergency crisis in Dafur please click on the image below.



### African Emergencies

Christian World Service, along with other Church Development Agencies, has launched an appeal to support those in Sub-Saharan Africa where food shortages have reached critical levels. The focus of this joint appeal is on Zimbabwe, Zambia and Ethiopia.

Christian World Service is a member of Action by Churches Together (ACT International) and is working with ACT International in these emergencies. Previously, CWS has worked with ACT International to bring relief to emergencies in Mozambique, Sudan, Liberia and Iraq and the Asian countries affected by the Boxing Day Tsunami.

#### Zimbabwe

Food shortages and humanitarian problems in Zimbabwe have been greatly exacerbated by the implementation of Operation Murambatsvina. The UN estimates that 700,000 Zimbabweans (including 225,000 children) were left homeless and destitute following this recent operation by the government. Along with seven other Australian Church development agencies, CWS recently wrote to President Mugabe setting out our concerns. We will continue to do what we can to resolve the humanitarian crisis in Zimbabwe.

Further details of the Zimbabwe appeal are available at the ACT-International website.

#### Ethiopia

In Ethiopia 8-10 million people are at risk of malnutrition. This is the fifth major drought in Ethiopia in just two decades. In addition, a late start to the government's program to provide multi-year support to more than 5 million chronically food-insecure people and inadequate resources to provide food and non-food assistance to 3.8 million people have combined to create an alarming situation.

Check the ACT-International website for further details on the Ethiopia appeal.



**No crop yield due to drought, Mehoni, Ethiopia.  
(Photo: GWillis/CWS)**

## Zambia

Zambian maize production is below previous levels because of prolonged dry spells, especially in the major producing areas in the south, central and parts of the eastern provinces. Almost 50% of Zambia's population is undernourished.

Further details of the Zambia appeal are available in the ACT-International website.

**Any excess funds raised by this appeal will be allocated to ongoing development work in these areas.**

---

## Indonesia Update

ACT members continue to provide critical assistance to quake survivors

Geneva, May 31, 2006--As full-scale relief operations get underway in response to Saturday's strong earthquake that hit south of Yogyakarta on Indonesia's island of Java, members of the global alliance Action by Churches Together (ACT) International are continuing their life-saving efforts for the region's residents whose homes were destroyed or who were injured.

Bernd Baucks, a staff member visiting the region from Germany-based ACT member Diakonie Emergency Aid (DEA), reports that aid is coming into the area and is starting to make its way to the affected areas, although there are pockets that have not received any assistance yet. ACT members in Indonesia have been distributing emergency relief supplies since Saturday and have been assisting in the treatment of injured patients at hospitals and through mobile clinics.

- Yayasan Tanggul Bencana Indonesia (YTBI) operates from two crisis centers in Klaten and has distributed food and non-food items, including tents, mattresses, kitchen utensils and women's hygiene items to a total of 847 households (more than 2,800 people).
- Expecting to assist an additional 500 households and to open another crisis center if necessary.
- Some food distributions are carried out through public kitchens established by YTBI, help is offered by 40 volunteers from the Javanese Christian Churches and ten from the Islamic University of Indonesia. Some survivors are also assisting in the food distribution.
- YTBI reports that earthquake survivors need more supplies to fulfill their basic needs and that their widespread locations makes reaching many of them difficult.
- Church World Service (CWS) has distributed 9,600 bottles of mineral water, 117 packages of biscuits, 1,125 hygiene kits, 270 blankets and 40 tents in Jetis and Imogiri sub-districts of Bantul district.
- YAKKUM Emergency Unit (YEU), operating under the YAKKUM foundation (Yayasan Kristen untuk Kesehatan Umum - Christian Foundation for Public Health), has been responding to emergency needs largely through hospitals in the area that are also under the YAKKUM umbrella. YAKKUM's biggest hospital, Bethesda, in Yogyakarta has become the center of relief operations for the quake-hit region and is overflowing with patients injured in the quake.

According to DEA's Baucks:

- "The Bethesda Hospital is full - far beyond its normal capacity. He said lack of sterilization is a critical issue at the hospital, making surgeries difficult. In general, however, Baucks noted that the medical services provided by the hospital since Saturday are very effective.
- In Yogyakarta he said "many buildings are still standing, but many shops, hotels and other businesses are closed - either the water doesn't function or the electricity is out of order because the building is somehow damaged. The damage in Yogyakarta is probably bigger than at first glance.
- In the Bantul area and in the small village of Garjoyo, outside Yogyakarta, the situation is much worse, the destruction is quite bad. "People are staying near their houses under plastic sheeting, which doesn't really give much protection from the rain," which has been falling at night. People are still in a state of shock, he said. "Putting up plastic sheeting was about all they could do."

On May 29, Rev Dr Samuel Kobia, General Secretary of the World Council of Churches (WCC), one of ACT's founding members, has sent a message of solidarity and support in a letter to the

**Communion of Churches in Indonesia and WCC member churches in Indonesia saying "As you are aware, the WCC member churches also share your grief in this tragedy, and all of us are committed and ready to contribute in any possible manner to overcome the catastrophic impact of this natural disaster and in alleviating the sufferings of the affected victims." Kobia also sent a letter on behalf of the WCC to Indonesia's president conveying condolences to the people of Indonesia.**

### **East Timor Update**

**Yasona, NCCA CWS' partner in East Timor has already distributed emergency supplies in various camps in Dili since the early days of unrest in the country. Displaced East Timorese families who now live in camps within Dili, outside Dili and the districts of Aileu, Ermera, Liquisa, Baucau, Lospalos, Manatuto (Natarbora), Ainaro and Same have received 17.5 kg of rice, two pieces noodle/person, two bottles of oil/family, 10 pieces kien/family, 1 tent/family (for families in need), two bars of soap/person, three boxes of milk/baby and firewood.**

**These photos below show camps located in Balide and Obrigado.**



**Yasona staff and volunteers distributing rice in Aileu**



**Food distribution in Same**

**Give online through our Secure Site**



**Telephone: 1800 025 101 or Send a cheque or money order to**

**Christian World Service (indicating the appeal you wish to support)**

**Locked Bag 199  
SYDNEY NSW 1230**

**Click here to give to the Gaza, Lebanon, Sudan, Indonesia Earthquake or East Timor Appeals.**

**Any excess funds raised by these appeals will be allocated to ongoing development work in these areas.**

**Visit the [ACT-International website](#) for more information.**

---

[Christian World Service](#) | [Indigenous](#) | [Faith & Unity](#) | [Gender](#) | [Social Justice](#) | [Youth](#) | [Decade to Overcome Violence](#)  
[Site Map](#) | [Privacy Policy](#) | [Archives](#)