

ANNUAL REPORT 2017

» WE LIVE
DIVERSITY «





FOREWORD



UEM General Secretary Rev. Volker Martin Dally (middle) and Rev. Chediel Lwiza (dark blue shirt), Dean and Assistant of the Bishop of the East and Coastal Diocese of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Tanzania, at the occasion of the inauguration of a well in the city of Maneromango near Dar es Salaam. With the support of the UEM, the church could start building a well for clean drinking water.

DEAR READERS,

The title of this year's annual report is brief: "We live diversity". In it, we present the diversity of the work of the United Evangelical Mission in the three regions and our holistic understanding of mission in greater detail. Important for facilitating this diversity is common learning, a process in which we realise that our faith is lived differently in different cultures without the unity of the faith being undermined. The apostle Paul described this as nothing less than the strategy of his missionary work: in the Letter to the Corinthians, he recounts how he embarked on this in his encounters with different cultures, in order to proclaim the gospel. "I have become all things to all people so that by all possible means I might save some." (1 Corinthians 9:22, NIV) At the UEM, in the various contexts in Africa, Asia, Germany – and recently even a little beyond Germany – we try to incorporate this idea and to develop, supervise, and evaluate our mutual concepts, programmes and projects in line with the pillars of our work. In the process of this work, the cultural diversity that people in our society always fear has turned out to be a blessing. We find new ideas and solutions when we open ourselves to shared learning and dare to do things that at first seemed unthinkable. Only through this courageously comprehensive thinking has the UEM been able to evolve from a classic mission society to an international

missionary community. Peter Sandner, who died last year at the age of 89, made a decisive contribution to this evolution. In his time as director, he succeeded in overcoming the missionary paradigm of sending and receiving. Today, the UEM is living the dream of an ecumenical fellowship in which all parties have the same rights and obligations.

In the pages that follow, you will read about how this dream is unfolding in practice. Our work in the three regions embodies the pillars of the UEM – Advocacy, Diaconia, Development, Evangelism, and Partnership. The report includes transparent financial accounting and an explanation of how the UEM is structured. You, the UEM members, have contributed to making this great diversity possible through your membership dues, church districts and congregations, initiatives and circles of friends, and many, many private donations. In the name of the UEM, I would like to express my heartfelt gratitude.

Volker Martin Dally
General Secretary of the United Evangelical Mission



»THE CLIMATE ACTION DAY 2017 WAS A GREAT SUCCESS«

(for further information about the Youth Climate Action Day, please see page 12)

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A young man with dark, wavy hair and a white t-shirt is smiling and holding a circular white sign with the word 'Frieden' written on it. A young woman with long, dark, wavy hair and a black blazer over a grey top is smiling and looking towards the camera. They are sitting in front of a window with a view of a building. The text 'WORKING PRIORITIES AT THE UEM' is overlaid on the left side of the image in blue, bold, uppercase letters.

**WORKING
PRIORITIES
AT THE UEM**

Frieden

ACROSS BORDERS

THE UNITED EVANGELICAL MISSION

Think mission is old-fashioned? A relic from colonial times? Not anymore! Today's United Evangelical Mission (UEM) is a coalition of 35 churches with equal rights in eleven countries, including Namibia, Rwanda, Indonesia, and Sri Lanka. The mission community unites various denominations under its roof, such as Lutherans, Reformed, Presbyterians, Methodists, and Baptists. Members in Germany include six Protestant regional churches and the v. Bodelschwingh Foundations Bethel. Most of these churches originated from the work of two German mission societies: the Rhenish Mission (est. 1828) and Bethel Mission (est. 1886). After the churches in Asia and Africa became independent, they continued to maintain close bilateral relations with Germany and the mission headquarters in Wuppertal.

Wuppertal has been home to the mission for over 180 years, an era of many changes and transitions. Long gone are the classic pioneer missionaries of the nineteenth century, for example, who set out into the world from Germany to bring the gospel to the "heathens". UEM staff exchanges go in many directions these days: no longer exclusively from north to south, but also from south to north and from south to south. These bridge builders live and work in various UEM member churches. One Tanzanian theologian worked for three years as a tutor for Ecumenical Education at the UEM Training Centre in Wuppertal. An East Congolese development expert commissioned by the UEM has been advising two churches in the province of Équateur in the west of the country for several years, showing people in this underdeveloped rural region how to improve their situation and overcome their poverty. His work has been a great boon to development. German staff, on the other hand – whether theologians or other specialists – are sent out by the UEM to serve a member church upon request, following a consultation. There are engineers, doctors, management specialists, and theology lecturers, just to name a few.

Young people from Asia (as shown in the picture), Africa, and Germany implemented their ideas on climate protection on the Youth Climate Action Day 2017.



Participants of the first international summer school on the topics of conflict management, mediation, and the protection of human rights in Wuppertal: Annika Huneke, Carla Weitensteiner, John Bosco Kamoga (seen left to right).



The member churches in Africa and Asia, like the German ones, are grouped together into "regions". In this way, churches that previously had little knowledge of each other and a bilateral connection only to "Wuppertal" are being encouraged to engage in dialogue and coordination with their partners in the region. The young adults in the UEM volunteer programme are also building bridges between people of different cultures and origins. (Volunteer programme, see page 21)

In 1996, the German mission organisation of the UEM became an international missionary communion. It took a courageous act of strength to create an equal network out of the former "star-shaped" structure of the mission, a web in which everyone's equal participation in all decisions is more than just a pledge on paper, but actual lived practice.



Chan Ka Keung (right) and Petrus Sugito during the international partnership conference.

WORKING PRIORITIES AT THE UEM

Advocacy, Diaconia, Development, Evangelism, Partnerships

From the beginning, the UEM has pursued a holistic understanding of mission, striving to improve not only the spreading of the gospel but also the educational, diaconal, and medical conditions of the people, and to advocate for justice, peace, and the integrity of creation.

Today, the international UEM communion is involved in five areas of work: its commitment to reconciliation, peace, and environmental protection and its courageous Advocacy for the rights of women and children and for human rights (Advocacy, see page 12 and following) are one, alongside Diaconia (Diaconia, see page 16 and following) and healthcare, and the struggle against poverty and disease. School, training, and continuing education are central elements of the international community, as is a scholarship programme (Development, see page 20 and following) intended to support the next generation in the member churches. Forging congregations and interfaith dialogue (Evangelism, see page 22 and following) also comprises part of this lengthy series of tasks, as do ecumenical partnerships (Partnerships, see page 24 and following).

They are the heart and the foundation of the international communion. About a hundred church districts and congregations in the German member churches of the UEM maintain close partnership ties with churches in Africa and Asia – often they have been connected for several decades. This includes not only regular exchange visits in both directions, but also preparatory meetings, bazaars, and country seminars on the circumstances in the partner country. Despite globalisation, we still know far too little about people's everyday lives in countries like the DRC, Sri Lanka, Namibia, and Indonesia. But much of what we do know (or could know), we owe to the vibrant and local work of these partnership groups. Incidentally, the meetings of these groups, like other UEM meetings as well, have another special feature: they are usually associated with ecumenical worship services that broaden participants' spiritual horizons. The UEM promotes, monitors, and shapes these partnerships and is proud of this ecumenical network in which the global church is vividly present. This too is a goal that the UEM would like to support even more in the future, with partnerships between professionals, schools, and hospitals. Globalisation has shown that we are part of a worldwide network of relationships between foreignness and friendship. With this in mind, it is more helpful to learn from each other in this community than it is to distance ourselves.

The UEM provides many interesting offers for young adults such as training courses, country seminars, and opportunities for international cooperation.



A UEM project combating malnutrition among children and women. For example, women learn how to properly grow vegetables; they also get tools, seeds, and small animals.

The UEM member churches, be they in the Philippines or Sri Lanka, in North Rhine-Westphalia, Hesse, or Botswana, increasingly benefit from this communion through joint projects and programmes. For example, if the Baptist Church in Central Africa (CBCA) in the DRC establishes a centre that offers young people with disabilities and post-traumatic disorders a new chance for vocational training, adding to their prospects for life and giving a sense of independence, then the UEM will be there. People with disabilities are usually marginalized and stigmatized in Congolese society. Their parents are overwhelmed and do not know how to help their child or themselves. (Diaconia, see page 18)

This is just one example out of the many smaller and larger projects that give people new courage. The UEM communion is and remains a spiritual community committed to the liberating message of Jesus Christ. The UEM organises this community while respecting the different cultural influences of all of its members, all of whom participate in full and with equal rights. Admittedly, this is not always easy. But the path is a pioneering one, in a world where conflicts do not automatically disappear as the world grows closer together.

Fundamental information on the UEM such as its constitution, mission statement, etc., is available at www.vemission.org/en/about-uem/downloads.html

ADVOCACY

Projects and Programmes: 810,495 euros

SUCCESSFUL YOUTH CLIMATE ACTION DAY 2017 IN ASIA AND AFRICA

The UEM Africa Region and UEM Asia Region organised the Youth Climate Action Day 2017 with various events and campaigns in Rwanda, Cameroon, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Tanzania, and Indonesia. In several places, UEM member churches conducted activities on the theme of climate protection. Young people collected rubbish and planted trees, and the churches provided information about climate protection in seminars, films, and the children's worship service. Events took place in the run-up to

Youth Climate Action Day in Mbou, Cameroon: 25 primary school pupils visited the Mbou Multipurpose Training Centre of the Evangelical Church in Cameroon (ECC) and learned about renewable energies.



the Climate Action Day on 4 November as well as on the day. This was to ensure that activities on the part of the church youth to protect the environment were not limited to one day, but instead would take place throughout the year.

The Climate Action Day 2017 was a great success in the Africa and Asia regions of the UEM. The Evangelical Church in West Papua and the Christian Churches in East Java and North Central Java participated for the first time. In addition to the church events, church based-institutions also put on regional campaigns to which outside groups such as schools, universities, environmental protection organisations, and members of other religions were invited.

PEACE AMONG THE PEOPLE – INTERFAITH PEACE CONFERENCE

The global phenomena of religiously motivated violence, extremism, terrorism, xenophobia, and racism have also affected the realities for UEM member churches in Africa, Asia, and Germany, and the role of religions has become an issue in many parts of the world. The German government has initiated measures to observe and consider the crucial role of religious actors in peace and development processes. It was against this background that the annual conference of churches, mission societies and church development agencies took place in April 2017 in the conference centre of the Westphalian Church in Villigst. The theme of the conference was “Religion and Development”.

In the context of the aforementioned global trends and related debates on the role of religion, the UEM collaborated with the Rhenish and Westphalian Church and the Catholic office of Justitia et Pax to host a conference entitled, “Peace Among the People: Interreligious Action for Peace and Inclusive Communities” in Wuppertal from 14-16 July 2017. Attending the conference were ninety representatives from Christian churches and from Muslim, Buddhist, and Hindu communities from Sri Lanka, Indonesia, Tanzania, Nigeria and Germany. One of the conference goals was to demonstrate that interfaith action for peace in different cultural contexts and regions has been happening for many years, in contrast to the international media's widespread conflation of violence with religion. The conference has been a unique opportunity to strengthen peace agents from different religions with different cultural backgrounds, and to offer a space for sharing and networking on peace and justice for the future.

In conversation: Pastor Lusungu Mbilinyi, Sheik Fadhil Suleiman Soraga and Pastor Dr Ipyana Mwamugobole, UEM tutor for ecumenical education (from left)

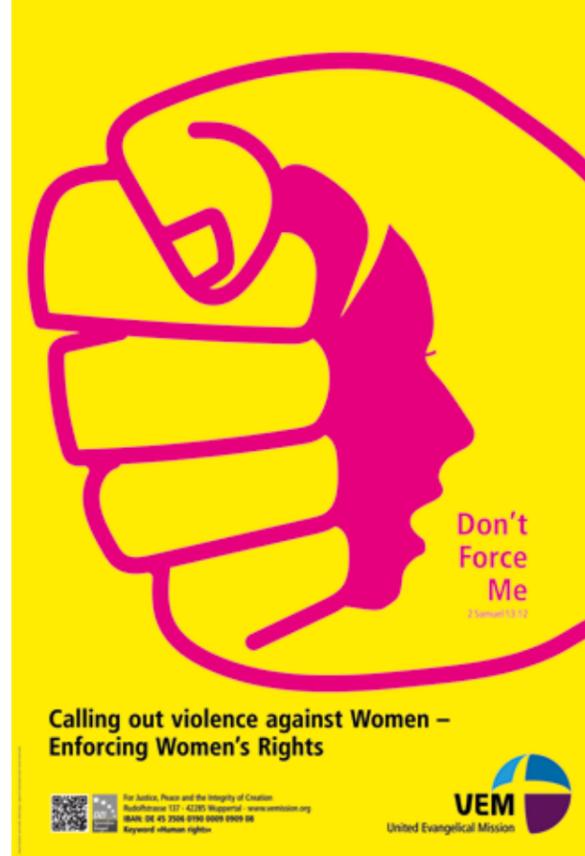


Prior to the conference, the 45 international participants visited a mosque, a synagogue, and a church in Unna and Duisburg in areas where people from different religious communities have worked together in order to build peaceful and inclusive communities on a local level. In a joint message (see www.vemission.org/joint_message), the participants committed themselves to strengthen interfaith action for peace, treat people with other religious convictions with respect, and resist those who discriminate, condemn, or prosecute people because of their faith, conviction, gender, or sexual orientation.

SUMMER SCHOOL

Through its International Training Centre and JPIC department, and with the support of all area and programme departments, the UEM conducted its first summer school for peace, conflict management, and the protection of human rights in Wuppertal from 17-28 July 2017. Twenty-five participants from Asia, Africa, and Germany attended the training. The UEM's summer school curriculum put special emphasis on communicating the interlinkage of peace/mediation and human rights protection. The training empowered participants to get actively involved in conflict prevention and conflict resolution and to protect victims of human rights violations. Attendees also had the opportunity to take part in the peace conference prior to the training.

Following an evaluation of the summer school, there are plans to further develop the training and integrate the knowledge, experience, and resources on peace, conflict, and human rights within the UEM, its Training Centre in Wuppertal, and the programme/area departments. Other ecumenical bodies and mission organisations will also be invited to also send representatives to attend the summer school.



The poster of the UEM Human Rights Campaign 2017/2018

UEM HUMAN RIGHTS CAMPAIGN

For more than twenty years, the UEM has been an advocate for victims of human rights violations and a steward of preserving the integrity of creation. For International Human Rights Day on 10 December 2017, the UEM issued a comprehensive package of materials on the theme, "Don't Force Me". The campaign helped to build awareness in the German Region about human rights, provided information about human rights concerns within the UEM Communion, and raised funds to support human rights projects.

RISING UP FROM DISASTER

In close cooperation with Interregional Women's Programme Officer of the UEM Irene Girsang, trainer for Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE) Nursini Sihombing, and Karo Batak Protestant Church representative Krismas Barus, the Asia Department brought together women and children from disaster-stricken areas in Indonesia for a joint programme. The programme focused on child victims of the Sinabung volcanic eruption and women victims of the Lapindo mud volcano and the flooding in Waisor and Badang. Programme facilitators helped participants to process their traumatic experiences through poetry, songs, and paintings. The results are amazing. Several remarkable songs and poems were produced, as well as ten paintings.

In connection with this joint programme, on 29 July 2017 the UEM organised a fundraising event involving Indonesian singer Glenn Fredly and the Indonesian Minister for Women's and Children's Affairs Prof. Dr Yohana Yembise. Nine paintings were sold at this event. The UEM was able to raise 120.000.000 Rupiah (approximately 7,100 euros) at the evening. Furthermore, the UEM may receive some financial support from the Indonesian government to help children in three areas recover from their trauma: North Sumatra, Java, and Papua.

WOMEN AND THEIR VOICES

An international training course for women, the first of its kind, was organised in Wuppertal from 12-22 October 2017. The twelve participants in this Women's Leadership Training worked on topics such as the challenges and opportunities for women in leadership positions, leadership and socio-economic development, and the biblical perspective on women as leaders.

The participants shared the difficulties and possibilities of leadership in the church and in society, especially with respect to women. Profiles of women in leadership were also a frequent topic of discussion. The women collaborated on issues in church leadership and pastoral counselling based on their personal stories. They also exchanged insights on leadership and entrepreneurial skills.

Participants of the international Leadership Training for women in leadership positions.



DIACONIA

Projects and Programmes: 605,500 euros

THE UEM PROVIDES EMERGENCY AID

DROUGHT IN TANZANIA

When a request for support from the Karagwe Diocese in Tanzania was received in February 2017, the Solidarity Association of the UEM member churches reacted immediately by approving emergency aid. The Protestant Church in Hesse and Nassau, the Evangelical Church in the Rhineland, and the Evangelical Church of Westphalia, as well as German partnership groups and the UEM, appropriated €48,000 in emergency aid. The Karagwe Diocese is using the funds to supply desperately needed food and drinking water to the rural population, especially the schools.

The effects of a prolonged drought in East Africa were being felt for the second year in a row. Northwest Tanzania was affected as well: cataclysmic failures in the coffee, corn, and banana crops had made food scarce and expensive. The region's people and its institutions such as day and boarding schools were struggling to cover the rising cost of drinking water. The lack of water drove livestock and wildlife into populated areas. Reports from the Karagwe Diocese indicated that fields in the Mabira district had been destroyed by elephants.



Students from the Tegemeo English Medium Primary School queue up for fresh water in the Lukajange church district of the Karagwe Diocese.

ATTACK ON A UEM MEMBER CHURCH IN THE PHILIPPINES

An emergency aid request from the United Church of Christ in the Philippines (UCCP) also brought a swift reaction from the Rhenish and Westphalian Church and the United Evangelical Mission. They allocated €30,000 in emergency aid for the Philippine Church.

The church's Dansalan College, in Marawi City in the southern Philippines, suffered a terrorist attack on 23 May 2017. The school's main building burned down in the attack – including the science labs, the library, and the sleeping quarters. Philippine President Rodrigo Duterte imposed martial law over the southern region of Mindanao. The attack was attributed to the Islamist rebel organisation Maute. The UCCP requested aid specifically for the 92 staff members of the school who were affected by the attack by the Maute rebels.

Reuel Marigza, Bishop of the UCCP, asked the UEM Solidarity Association for prayers, solidarity, and support for the affected staff of Dansalan College.



Lecture at the Woodpecker Theological Seminary in Gaborone

FLOODWATERS IN BOTSWANA

The Woodpecker Theological Seminary of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Botswana (ELCB) is located directly on the Notwane River in Gaborone. Heavy rains in the spring of 2017 brought flooding that inundated the seminary campus: guest rooms, seminar areas, and the kitchen were destroyed. Inadequate insurance coverage left the church responsible for the damage. The UEM Africa Region is providing €10,000 for the renovation of the site, so that the guest and teaching operations may be resumed. Without the aid from the UEM Africa Region, the theological seminary would probably have had to close. Woodpecker is the church's only theological institute, training pastors, deacons, and evangelists.



Heavy rains in the spring of 2017 brought flooding that inundated the Woodpecker seminary in Gaborone.

DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO: TRAINING FOR YOUNG PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES

The Rohland CEDIAR diaconal training centre of the Baptist Church in Central Africa (CBCA) is a home and training facility for 52 children and adolescents with disabilities and post-traumatic disorders in the North Kivu metropolis of Butembo. They are trained in the fields of tailoring, carpentry, hairdressing, shoemaking and leathercraft, and horticulture.

The centre also takes in former child soldiers who were traumatized by their experiences in war. The teenagers and their careers at the centre live together like one big family. Everyone participates in the daily household and workshop tasks. Not only do the young people learn a trade at the training centre, but also how to find their way in everyday life. Here they gain preparation to live independently: this includes shopping, cooking, washing, cleaning, and travel on public transport.

The aim is to integrate these young people into their families and village communities after training and give them better prospects, and thus a piece of independence. The social workers at the centre involve the families from the beginning and provide them with counselling. They know that only with the help of the family will these young people be able to cope with everyday life someday and integrate into the community.

At the diaconal training centre CEDIAR in the metropolis of Butembo in North Kivu, young people do not only learn a trade, but also how to cope with everyday life. Kambale Volonté (shown in the picture) is being prepared for an independent life: this includes ironing.

According to the approach of CBCA diaconia director Polisi Kivava, "at the end of their time at CEDIAR (most of them stay for two years), the young people should be as independent as possible and be able to earn their own income using what they have learned". This is why the young people receive a starter pack with various tools after completing their training. Contacts with potential customers, which have already been cemented during training, make it easier for the young people to market the goods they have learned to make.



The school's big band and choir are popular bookings for events and celebrations.



INDONESIA: YAPENTRA, A SPECIAL SCHOOL FOR BLIND AND VISUALLY IMPAIRED CHILDREN

Children born blind or with severe visual impairment face particular disadvantages in Indonesia. Almost no one makes allowances for them in daily life. Blind and visually impaired children are considered a burden, especially in rural areas. Often they are sent to beg on the streets instead of going to school, because the special schools for them are few and far between.

In 1978, near the province capital of Medan on the Indonesian island of Sumatra, the Christian-Protestant Church in Indonesia (GKPI) founded a boarding school for visually impaired and blind children. The school is free to attend. Here, skilled instructors teach 65 children from the primary to high school level. In addition to studying Braille, pupils also learn to use computers that are specially adapted to their needs. After school, the young people pick up certain trades, such as broom-making or massage, which improves their chances of independence and earning their own income. The especially talented pupils among them go on to study at the university.

Music is a focus of the school. All the children can learn to play instruments such as piano, saxophone, guitar, drums, and flute. The school's big band and choir are popular bookings for events and celebrations. Concerts and festivals are held regularly on the school grounds, and the proceeds from these events help to fund the school. These musical successes strengthen the young people's self-esteem.

Visitors are quick to notice the special atmosphere of this school. The pupils and teachers live, work, and study together on the extensive landscaped grounds like one big family. All of the children have domestic and gardening tasks to do. Their chores include cleaning, doing laundry, and preparing meals, as well as cultivating fruits and vegetables. These skills are important in order for them to be able to manage later on, in everyday life, and to not depend on the help of others.

DEVELOPMENT

Projects and Programmes: 1,089,700 euros

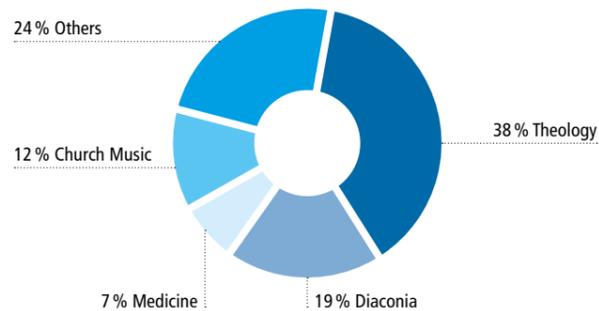
SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAMME

Financial support: 447,112 euros

The UEM scholarship programme is committed to assisting the UEM member churches with higher education by offering scholarship funds. Its budget has been continuously increasing since 2010 while the number and quality of the scholarship recipients has remained constant. As of December 2017, 94 students (44 from Asia, 48 from Africa, and 2 from Germany) were in the programme. Whereas support had previously been focused on theological studies, 62 per cent of the fields of study supported by the UEM are now non-theological in nature, including diaconia, medicine, social science, health service, educational studies, music, IT management, development studies, finances, administration, and management studies.

FIELDS OF STUDIES 2017

94 students (41 women, 53 men)



Dyah Ayu Krismawati, a former UEM scholarship holder from Indonesia, successfully completed her doctorate at the Protestant University Wuppertal/Bethel in 2017.



These disciplines reflect the need of the UEM member churches for qualified staff and their engagement in social concerns within their regions.

After struggling with some gender imbalances in the group in 2017, the UEM had to take measures in order to restore the balance. The UEM General Secretary wrote an official letter asking church leaders to endorse more female candidates in the months ahead. Until the gender balance can be restored, the UEM will be accepting only female students into the scholarship programme.

The UEM scholarship programme organised a meeting from 13-16 August 2017 in Samosir Island, Indonesia for scholarship holders in Asia. Thirteen students studying in Indonesia, Hong Kong, and the Philippines gathered to discuss and share their final projects and academic writing. This meeting aimed to sharpen and broaden the students' academic discourse through an intercultural and international perspective.

THE VOLUNTEER PROGRAMME OF THE UEM

Own contribution from the UEM: 114,489 euros

North-South, South-North, South-South

The UEM offers many opportunities for young adults to have international ecumenical experiences. One of these is the volunteer programme in UEM member churches. Every year, young adults collaborate with staff in member churches in Africa, Asia, or Germany as part of a one-year volunteer programme in which they gain instruction, supervision, and excellent preparation for their future. The volunteers make connections between people and cultures. What began as a North-South volunteer programme for young adults has become a lively and diverse volunteer programme with North-South, South-North, and South-South components. Now hundreds of young people from Germany, Africa, and Asia have spent a year in a UEM member church in different region, becoming intensely involved in life and work in the local churches during their time there. There are many ways to immerse yourself in another country, an unknown culture, and a new language: you can get involved in a youth centre in Germany, for example, or help out on a project for street children in Rwanda, or assist with language teaching at a school in Indonesia.

While the UEM's certified North-South volunteer programme in development policy has been an established figure in German young people's exchange programmes for more than three decades, the South-North exchange of young people from African and Asian member churches (since 2002) has continued to evolve in recent years. Both the North-South and South-North components of the volunteer programme are funded by the „weltwärts“ programme of the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development.

The South-South exchange between young volunteers from African and Asian member churches (since 2008) has been complicated by visa issues. This is why we are currently focusing on exchanges within Africa. But this too constitutes great enrichment in view of the diversity in Africa – people and places in the same country are so different from one another. There really is much to discover and learn from country to country: the culture, society, and people are never the same.

When former volunteers return from the programme, many of them take up duties and responsibilities in their church congregations and ecumenical partnerships, commit to development-focused organisations, and campaign for a more equitable distribution of resources in our one world.



South-North volunteers (left to right) Mandy Sass, Megern de Vries Bock, Kutlwano Tlhoale, and Ana Inciong



EVANGELISM

Projects and Programmes: 366,958 euros

EVANGELISM CONTACT PERSONS (ECPs)

The new concept of the Evangelism Department is being implemented. The recruitment of Evangelism Contact Persons has turned out to be more complicated and time-consuming than expected, as many churches found it hard to locate suitable candidates in the prescribed age group (under 40). As of early March 2017, all seven positions in Africa, six of eight positions in Asia, and one of three positions in Germany had been filled.

Thirteen people participated in the sixteen-day training in May 2017 for the Evangelism Contact Persons. The nominee from the Evangelical Church of Congo was not granted a visa, and the nominee from the Evangelical Church in the Rhineland was sick, so both missed the training. The United Church of Christ in the Philippines, and the Chinese Rhenish Church in Hong Kong have not yet named an ECP.

The training, run by the Executive Secretary for Evangelism in close cooperation with the Training Centre Wuppertal, focused on evangelism theology and on project planning. Work plans were drawn up for the first year: the ECPs will concentrate on getting an overview of evangelism in their respective contexts, building a network of contacts and supporters, and consulting with their respective evangelism departments on identifying the areas where they should work in the coming years.

Most of the ECPs are already very active. The ECPs have a WhatsApp group in which they communicate about their work and share prayer requests.

Training for evangelism contact persons (ECPs) in May 2017

MISSION AND INTERFAITH DIALOGUE

Mission and Interfaith Dialogue is a topic that has been growing in importance over the last twelve months. It has become particularly urgent in Germany, with the large number of Muslim refugees who have come to the country recently. Many congregations on the ground are assisting refugees, and the question of how to share our faith (or not) is frequently asked.

To encourage congregation members in Germany to share their faith in a respectful and dialogue-friendly way, the UEM Evangelism Department teamed up with the Association of Missionary Services (Arbeitsgemeinschaft Missionarische Dienste) and the Centre for Mission in the Region of EKD (ZMIR) to publish a brochure on this theme for use at the grassroots level. The brochure was published in January 2017, to much acclaim from a very diverse spectrum of readers. The first and second print runs of 3,800 and 5,000 copies, respectively, were gone within days; a third run of 10,000 copies was then printed and is currently being distributed all over Germany.



At the Women's Assembly of the East Java Christian Church, men and women attended various workshops to discuss topics such as faith, family, the environment, and social and political responsibility in Indonesia.

HEALING AND DELIVERANCE

This remains an important topic. Within the German Region, the Executive Secretary for Evangelism is occasionally invited to speak on healing and prayer. In the Africa Region, follow-up work to last year's Think Tank on Trauma Healing and Deliverance has been ongoing, with trainings of several hundred multipliers. The Executive Secretary for Evangelism continues her theological work on deliverance and has written a major academic article on the UEM process for an international publication.

CHURCH AND MIGRATION

With many local German congregations actively involved with refugees, and a growing number of Muslim refugees asking to be baptized, particularly those from Iran and Afghanistan, the issue of mission towards Muslims in Germany and the question of how to integrate those who have been newly baptized are becoming ever more urgent. At the same time, there is also a growing need for interfaith dialogue. The Executive Secretary for Evangelism is heading an internal UEM working group on these issues, and has been asked to assist with work in the Rhenish and Westphalian Church on these themes.

WOMEN AND INTERFAITH LIFE

"Building True Sisterhood" was the topic of the international women's gathering of the UEM in East Java, Indonesia, from 3-18 July 2017, hosted by the East Java Christian Church, GKJW. The eight participants from Asia, Africa, and Germany were interfaith: Muslims and Christians from each region were represented. They were very familiar with and involved in inter-religious activities in their respective churches and countries. During the gathering, proceeding from their personal experiences, the women discussed interfaith issues, exchanged views, learned from each other, and observed how important interfaith life is nowadays and how women can practise it in their daily lives. The women also had the opportunity to stay in a Christian as well as a Muslim village in Java.

WOMEN AND PAINTING – GOD'S CREATION

This workshop resulted from a cooperation between the Training Centre Wuppertal and the Interregional Women's Programme and took place in Wuppertal from 10-12 November 2017. It featured a professional painter from Bonn, Maria Dierker. The seventeen participants were taught how to produce their own paint from fruit and vegetables. They then used this same paint for their paintings. By the end of the workshop, over thirty paintings had been produced depicting the subject of women and the influence of God's creation in their daily lives. The participants gave the UEM permission to use the paintings in its work.

PARTNERSHIP

Projects and Programmes: 209,944 Euros

INTERNATIONAL PARTNERSHIP CONFERENCE OF THE UEM

In July 2017, the international partnership conference of the UEM took place in Wuppertal. Following the international partnership conferences in 2007 in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania, and 2012 in Parapat, Indonesia, the discussions in Wuppertal were centred on the shape of the UEM's partnership work in the future. Twenty-four delegates from Asia, Africa, and Germany worked together to develop new ideas for partnership work and to consider how existing partnerships can be strengthened.



The international partnership conference in Wuppertal concluded with a worship service.

First, the results of past international partnership conferences were evaluated. Here special focus was placed on evaluating the action plans from the Parapat conference in the areas of communication, structures, involvement of young people and women, ecumenical learning, partnership guidelines, and projects. Many goals have already been implemented, while others are still in progress.

Following the evaluation, various issues were discussed: Are equal partnerships even possible? How can we further increase our long-distance participation in our projects? How can we involve young people in partnerships? In addition to these issues, there was talk of expanding partnerships in the form of trilateral partnerships and South-South partnerships.



Leah Mongatane (left), from the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Botswana, in conversation with Lena Wallraff, Partnerships Officer for the Germany Region, during the international partnership conference



The international partnership conference in Wuppertal with (left to right) Jenny Keliat (UEM Asia), Dr Muke Nagaju (UEM Africa), and Natan Pahabol (GKI-TP West Papua)

The concluding document, entitled "Enjoy Partnership", is available in German, English, French, Indonesian, and Swahili. It chronicles the diverse results from the various working groups. The title of the document was chosen in reference to Philippians 2:17 – 18: "I am glad and rejoice with all of you. So, you too should be glad and rejoice with me." The delegates and the UEM hope for joyful, creative, and vibrant partnerships.

Lastly, an action plan was developed to govern the additional steps in the partnership work. As an example, the UEM, partnership groups, and churches should develop partnership activities that include a variety of different people in terms of interests, skills, profession, and gender.

UEM SUPPORT FOR ALL PARTNERSHIP GROUPS

Partnership groups in Germany are very committed to participating and are open to new ways of improving partnership relations that would be beneficial at a grassroots level. As one example, the head of the UEM Africa Region, Dr John Wesley Kabango, presented a lecture at the Friedenskirche of the Protestant church congregation in Aachen on 25 March 2017. Approximately eighty people attended this evening event focused on Rwanda. Other speakers besides the head of the UEM Africa Region included Angélique Uwumuremyi, a UEM instructor of the Kinyarwanda language; Johanna Wicke, a former UEM North-South volunteer in the Shyogwe diocese; and Penina

Umwaniwabo, a UEM South-North volunteer from the Butare diocese of the Anglican Church in Rwanda. The topics of the evening were many: nature and the climate, aspects of colonial history and genocide, languages in Rwanda, education, religion, economics, politics, health, and nutrition. John Wesley Kabango presented projects in the East African countries (Tanzania and Rwanda) that have received support from the United Evangelical Mission. The speakers and attendees chatted over a buffet of East African specialties like samosas and African chai, as well as other home-made finger foods such as quiche, hummus, and meatballs. The evening was organised by Maria Neussl, a former UEM North-South volunteer in the Kigeme diocese of southern Rwanda. The purpose of this event was to give the guests deeper insight into the East African country of Rwanda.

Materials about partnership work see www.vemission.org/en/topics/partnerships-within-the-uem.html

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EDUCATIONAL WORK



AFRIKA
DEUTSCHLAND





Many discussions were held at the first Ecumenical Leadership Training for Young Adults.

THE UEM TRAINING CENTRE WUPPERTAL

Grant from the UEM: 376,700 Euros

globales lernen in ökumenischer perspektive

First Ecumenical Leadership Training for Young Adults in Tanzania

Ecumenical Leadership Trainings (ELT) have a long history in the training centre. They have been offered to adults and young adults alike. Over time, the idea developed to also offer these programmes internationally and to invite young adults who already have some experience with leadership. With this in mind, 19 young adults aged 19 to 33 were invited to Dar es Salaam and Zanzibar to take part in the first international training (16–27. March). Both high school graduates and employees with graduate degrees were present, and the origins of the young people could not have been more diverse: they came from Indonesia, the Philippines, Germany, Namibia, Botswana, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Rwanda, Cameroon, and Tanzania. The participants discussed different styles of leadership by linking together the theoretical contents of the training with talks with leaders, as well as by reflecting

on their own experiences at a meta level. They learned about methods of project management, which they then used to develop their own projects. The UEM regions for Germany, Africa, and Asia collaborated closely on this training programme. The leadership team consisted of staff from each of these departments.

Study Trip to Tanzania

Pastoral identity was the topic that led one group of pastors in training (Vikare) to visit Lushoto from 16–30 June 2017. There they met young pastors from the North-Western Diocese of the Evangelical Church in Tanzania. A lively debate ensued on lifestyle, pastoral identity and gender, social development and pastoral identity as well as on the subject of peaceful coexistence in a multifaith society and other challenges facing congregations. The informal encounters on the trip helped participants to understand themselves and one another. A special highlight for the participants from Germany was the housing provided by the congregations of the Tanzanian participants. This allowed the German visitors to experience the normal everyday life of a pastor in Tanzania. The personal encounters facilitated intercultural experience and a change of perspective. Through these experiences, both unknown and familiar, the participants reflected upon their own pastoral identity.

Interfaith Learning Modules for Students of Jewish, Christian, and Muslim Theology

As part of the JCM cooperation, the Kirchliche Hochschule Wuppertal / Bethel, the Institute for Islamic Theology of Osnabrück University, and the Abraham Geiger Kolleg for rabbinic studies in Berlin signed a cooperation agreement in 2016, after many preliminary discussions. In 2017, this cooperation first took shape in the form of study modules for the students of these institutions. A total of nineteen students took part in the fourteen days of training, in several topical block seminars. Seminar topics included interfaith dialogue, rituals, the image of God, and the social responsibility of religions. All participants also took part in the annual JCM conference. The topic of the 2017 conference was “Migration – A New Normal”. For many of the students, this was their first intensive interfaith encounter ever. One Jewish woman who attended said that “the personal encounters opened up a new world for all of us. I was able to ask the Muslim women everything I wanted to know.” As one Christian participant said, “the intimacy that developed during the course of the training led us to talk openly not just about theological facts, but also about the feelings we have with regards to certain religious and political topics”.

It is clear that the opportunities for face-to-face encounters within the framework of this cooperation lead to experiences and lessons that no classroom or book, however well written, can offer. The participants can carry out extensive work on theological themes, without fear of controversy. “In the safe space that exists during these seminars, we are able to speak about our religious beliefs with unusual openness. Here we can deal with our differences in a fair way”, said one student rabbi. A Muslim student summarized his experiences thusly: “No university course on interfaith dialogue, not even ten of them, could have given me what I got during this conference.” The abundant positive feedback shows that the training led to a lasting change in attitude for many of the participants. One foreign participant spoke of the “strong relationships built, that have changed participants’ lives in a very positive way!” He said what many of them felt.

Some of the participants also reported that the interfaith seminars had advanced their intercultural learning process. “Unexpectedly, I gained a lot of understanding of German society and of life in Germany”, said one foreign participant. This shows that the training surpassed its original goals and promoted a change in perspective, as well as increased tolerance of ambiguity and improved intercultural communication.

The UEM Training Centre Wuppertal Receives the Quality Seal

In April the Training Centre received a certification for its adherence to the quality standards for further education of the Gütesiegelverbund Weiterbildung e.V. The external examiner came to the conclusion that the satisfaction of the training participants is the main goal of the training centre’s efforts to maintain and further develop the quality of its work. The planning of programmes is geared towards the interests of the target groups and needs of society. The UEM Training Centre Wuppertal also ensures that its speakers and trainers have sufficient professional and pedagogical skills and that the venues, material, and media available for the seminars are appropriate for successful learning.



They have earned their master's degrees in diaconic management.

THE UEM TRAINING CENTRE BIELEFELD-BETHEL

Grant from the UEM: 443,300 Euros

GLOBAL LEARNING IN ECUMENICAL PERSPECTIVE

International Diaconia

In spring 2017, the UEM Training Centre Bielefeld-Bethel (TCB) and its International Diaconia programme moved to its new venue, Haus Terach, also within Bethel. The new location is far more centrally situated in Bethel, which will help to increase the visibility of the UEM and the options for diaconic cooperation with nearby educational and diaconic institutions. Renovation works of the building are still ongoing. At the same time, the concept of the International Diaconia programme was further developed and diversified. Its main focus will now be to offer international qualified training programmes in diaconia as well as to provide a forum for diaconia experts to share and exchange views.

The foundation for the new international study programme, "Diaconia and Social Studies", was established in November 2017 at a meeting of church-owned universities in Africa, Asia, and Germany. The basic study programme on diaconia will have a special focus on education, public health, poverty reduction, and reconciliation. Modules of the study programme will be open to employees in churches and church-based organisations, for the purpose of continuing education. The study programme is set to begin in 2020, after the contracts of cooperation have been signed, detailed description of modules developed, and successful accreditation and sustainable funding ensured.

Experts from all regions met in November 2017 for a symposium on "Healing through the Arts" in Rwanda. The interdisciplinary and international setting, with university lecturers in theology and psychology and therapists in music, visual arts, and theatre, made for an inspiring and fruitful exchange of experiences. Together the participants developed the main features of a common study module on trauma healing and reconciliation.

The MA in Diaconic Management, a joint programme with the Institute for Diaconic Science and Diaconic Management of the Protestant University Wuppertal/Bethel and three other international universities, is ongoing. The sixteen students on the third course had their last section and wrote their dissertations in 2017 (with graduation in January 2018). The UEM was able to get scholarships for all of them. The course will continue to be offered, and a network for alumni has been established as well. Most graduates of the MA programme are already in leading positions in their churches (one has even become a bishop). The UEM is pleased at the establishment of a cooperation with the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) and the acquisition of funding for the alumni meeting in Namibia in 2017. The close links between alumni facilitate collegial counselling among graduates and support the implementation of programmes by member churches and the UEM in the regions where alumni are present.

Experts on diaconia, including professors on the subject and specialists on music therapy, have been sent by the TCB to different universities as guest lecturers or included in projects to advise and improve upon the services provided by the churches.

YOUNG ADULT'S NETWORK ADULTS' NETWORK

Financial support: 65,000 Euro

The Young Adults' Network continues to grow. For some members, the UEM is their only connection to church – the network is like a congregation for young people. The members of the young adults' network supported the German UEM members regularly in various events during 2017, ushering at conferences and assisting in seminars.

The Young Adults' Network is becoming more and more international overall, especially with regard to the South-North volunteers' involvement in network activities. Young people from UEM member churches who come to Germany to study have also supported the network; their participation is highly welcomed and should be strengthened and continued.

"KIRCHENTAG" IN BERLIN

The Young Adults' Network was very active in the June 2017 "Kirchentag" in Berlin. With their highly visible violet t-shirts, the 46 young people who participated created a lively UEM presence through music and various actions and workshops, as well as a large international youth worship service that reached and inspired many young people. The Young Adults' Network also had significant representation at the UEM stall during the event.

"ADULTS' NETWORK"

Based on the good experiences from the very active young adults' network, the UEM is forming an "Adults' Network" to provide opportunities for international voluntary civic engagement in the German context. The foundation has already been laid, and the UEM will now be starting the information-and-recruitment phase.

If you are interested, please get in touch with us. Come and meet our network meetings, subscribe to our monthly newsletter or simply take part in the next action.

Young Adult's Network
www.vemission.org/en/join-us/young-adults-network.html

Adults' Network
www.vemission.org/en/join-us/adults-network.html



Miriam Albrecht (Germany), Ruth Claire Perdon (Philippines), and Paulin Mugisho (Democratic Republic of Congo) (seen right to left) took part in the "Youth for Children Camp" in Sri Lanka while at the same time preparing the UEM International Youth Project for 2018. The group painted a mural on "Peace, Reconciliation, and Rights for Children" with children from a Sri Lankan special-needs school. This put a little colour on their faces!

AUDIT CERTIFICATE

VEREINTE EVANGELISCHE MISSION GEMEINSCHAFT VON KIRCHEN IN DREI ERDTEILEN WUPPERTAL

Zu dem vollständigen Jahresabschluss haben wir den folgenden Bestätigungsvermerk erteilt:

Bestätigungsvermerk des Abschlussprüfers

An den Vereinte Evangelische Mission Gemeinschaft von Kirchen in drei Erdteilen, Wuppertal

Wir haben den Jahresabschluss – bestehend aus Bilanz, Gewinn- und Verlustrechnung sowie Anhang – unter Einbeziehung der Buchführung der Vereinte Evangelische Mission Gemeinschaft von Kirchen in drei Erdteilen, Wuppertal, für das Geschäftsjahr vom 1. Januar bis 31. Dezember 2017 geprüft. Die Buchführung und die Aufstellung des Jahresabschlusses nach den deutschen handelsrechtlichen Vorschriften liegen in der Verantwortung der gesetzlichen Vertreter des Vereins. Unsere Aufgabe ist es, auf der Grundlage der von uns durchgeführten Prüfung eine Beurteilung über den Jahresabschluss unter Einbeziehung der Buchführung abzugeben.

Wir haben unsere Jahresabschlussprüfung nach § 317 HGB unter Beachtung der vom Institut der Wirtschaftsprüfer (IDW) festgestellten deutschen Grundsätze ordnungsmäßiger Abschlussprüfung vorgenommen. Danach ist die Prüfung so zu planen und durchzuführen, dass Unrichtigkeiten und Verstöße, die sich auf die Darstellung des durch den Jahresabschluss unter Beachtung der Grundsätze ordnungsmäßiger Buchführung vermittelten Bildes der Vermögens-, Finanz- und Ertragslage wesentlich auswirken, mit hinreichender Sicherheit erkannt werden. Bei der Festlegung der Prüfungshandlungen werden die Kenntnisse über die Geschäftstätigkeit und über das wirtschaftliche und rechtliche Umfeld des Vereins sowie die Erwartungen über mögliche Fehler berücksichtigt.

Im Rahmen der Prüfung werden die Wirksamkeit des rechnungslegungsbezogenen internen Kontrollsystems sowie Nachweise für die Angaben in Buchführung und Jahresabschluss überwiegend auf der Basis von Stichproben beurteilt. Die Prüfung umfasst die Beurteilung der angewandten Bilanzierungsgrundsätze und der wesentlichen Einschätzungen der gesetzlichen Vertreter sowie die Würdigung der Gesamtdarstellung des Jahresabschlusses. Wir sind der Auffassung, dass unsere Prüfung eine hinreichend sichere Grundlage für unsere Beurteilung bildet. Unsere Prüfung hat zu keinen Einwendungen geführt. Nach unserer Beurteilung aufgrund der bei der Prüfung gewonnenen Erkenntnisse entspricht der Jahresabschluss den gesetzlichen Vorschriften und vermittelt unter Beachtung der Grundsätze ordnungsmäßiger Buchführung ein den tatsächlichen Verhältnissen entsprechendes Bild der Vermögens-, Finanz- und Ertragslage des Vereins.

Münster, 15. Juni 2018

Solidaris Revisions GmbH
Wirtschaftsprüfungsgesellschaft
Steuerberatungsgesellschaft
Zweigniederlassung Münster

(Original unterschrieben von)

Peter Tönies
Wirtschaftsprüfer

Stefan Lödding
Wirtschaftsprüfer

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT 1 JANUARY UNTIL 31 DECEMBER 2017

IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE HANDELSGESETZBUCH (HGB - GERMAN COMMERCIAL CODE)	2017 EUR	2016 EUR
1. Revenues	1,177,374.15	1,039,051.89
2. Other operating income		
a) Freely available donations	1,536,256.41	1,735,456.76
b) Member contributions	5,864,650.00	5,823,070.00
c) Dedicated donations	1,800,622.03	1,367,348.48
d) Other operating income	2,212,131.60	3,379,492.52
Interim result	12,591,034.19	13,344,419.65
3. Cost of materials		
a) Costs for consumables, supplies, and goods and of purchased merchandise	248,331.06	254,315.73
b) Costs for purchased services	299,545.14	408,530.00
	547,876.20	662,845.73
4. Personnel expenses		
a) Wages and salaries	4,319,775.07	4,518,771.36
b) Social security, post-employment and other employee benefit costs of which: pension scheme	1,112,938.72	1,183,556.23
270,103.98 EUR (previous year 346,260.46 EUR)		
	5,432,713.79	5,702,327.59
Interim result	6,610,444.20	6,979,246.33
5. Write downs of intangible assets of fixed assets and tangible fixed assets	537,986.72	515,266.71
6. Other operating expenses	8,645,056.97	9,313,493.65
Interim result	-2,572,599.49	-2,849,514.03
7. Income from investments	2,447.34	4,007.34
8. Income from other long-term securities	2,094,225.95	1,838,877.90
9. Interests and similar income	146.77	800.96
10. Interests and similar expenses of which: interest expenses from compounding the accruals	205,581.88	317,145.61
49,223.00 EUR (previous year 50,716.00 EUR)		
Result	1,891,238.18	1,526,540.59
11. Earnings before taxes		
Annual net surplus /-annual net loss	-681,361.31	-1,322,973.44

ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENT 2017

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2017

ASSETS	31.12.2017 EUR	31.12.2016 EUR
A. Fixed Assets		
I. Intangible assets	4,403.28	788.34
II. Tangible fixed assets		
1. Land, property rights and buildings, including buildings on third-party land	7,081,375.42	7,462,139.65
2. Technical equipment and machinery	101,137.85	118,675.87
3. Other fixed assets and office equipment	522,750.73	318,077.84
4. Advance payments and assets under construction	-	26,300.00
	7,705,264.00	7,925,193.36
III. Financial assets		
1. Equity investments	450,001.00	450,001.00
2. Cooperative shares	69,977.22	69,977.22
3. Long-term securities of which to UEM Foundation 7,074,559.73 EUR (previous year 7,074,559.73 EUR)	38,439,068.64	38,103,202.41
4. Other loans of which to UEM Trust 1,500,220.54 EUR (previous year 1,500,220.54 EUR)	1,814,225.61	1,717,752.09
	40,773,272.47	40,340,932.72
B. Current Assets		
I. Inventories		
1. Raw, auxiliary and operating materials	4,370.11	9,319.68
2. Advance payments	17,075.12	1,716.00
	21,445.23	11,035.68
II. Receivables and other assets		
1. Trade receivables	894,307.65	444,343.22
2. Other assets	883,340.88	1,001,105.75
	1,777,648.53	1,445,448.97
III. Cash-in-hand, bank balances	2,457,032.82	4,402,276.13
C. Prepaid expenses	250,669.42	325,052.96
	52,989,735.75	54,450,728.16

LIABILITIES	31.12.2017 EUR	31.12.2016 EUR
A. Equity		
I. Agreed capital	7,925,024.16	7,925,024.16
II. Endowment UEM Foundation		
1. Initial capital	200,000.00	200,000.00
2. Endowment contributions	7,078,274.51	7,078,274.51
III. Reserves	27,041,430.73	27,041,430.73
of which to UEM Foundation 188,944.13 EUR (previous year 188,944.13 EUR)		
IV. Net profit/net loss	- 1,938,588.25	- 1,257,226.94
of which annual net loss to UEM -709,145.69 EUR (previous year - 1,322,372.34 EUR)		
of which annual net loss to UEM Foundation 27,784.38 EUR (previous year - 601.10 EUR)		
	40,306,141.15	40,987,502.46
B. Accruals		
1. Accruals for pensions and similar obligations	1,230,980.00	1,325,107.00
2. Other accruals	1,857,232.78	2,178,628.22
of which to UEM Foundation 1,900.00 EUR (previous year 1,700.00 EUR)		
	3,088,212.78	3,503,735.22
C. Liabilities		
1. Liabilities	150,233.42	337,439.67
of which with a remaining term of up to one year 150,233.42 EUR (previous year 337,439.67 EUR)		
2. Liabilities towards affiliated companies	0.03	0.03
of which with a remaining term of up to one year 0.03 EUR (previous year 0.03 EUR)		
3. Other liabilities	9,364,333.29	9,485,102.33
of which with a remaining term of up to one year 9,148,560.87 EUR (previous year 9,223,497.71 EUR)		
of which with a remaining term of more than one year 215,772.42 EUR (previous year 261,604.62 EUR)		
of which taxes 267,023.44 EUR (previous year 307,918.74 EUR)		
of which relating to social security 58,504.42 EUR (previous year 59,809.76)		
	9,514,566.74	9,822,542.03
D. Deferred income	80,815.08	136,948.45
	52,989,735.75	54,450,728.16



SITUATION REPORT

ECONOMIC SITUATION

The revenue situation was influenced by the following factors in 2017:

MEMBER CONTRIBUTIONS

Right now the UEM depends heavily on member contributions. In the reporting year, German members paid €5,753,000, Asian members paid €64,000, and African members paid €47,000 to the UEM.

DONATION DEVELOPMENT

Donation volume has been steady over the past few years at around €3,000,000. The German donation market is trending away from open donations to earmarked donations. Donors prefer to donate to a single targeted project rather than to the organisation as a whole. This is primarily associated with the feeling of determining for oneself what one's own money will be used for. At the same time,

donations of this type are meant to preclude money going to the overhead of an organisation. It is often important to donors that every cent of every euro donated go to the project. This is also true of the donations received by the UEM.

The UEM faces two challenges:

1. We have diminishing revenue from donations to finance our overhead, that is, our administrative costs. But this overhead is fundamental for the successful completion of projects, because no money comes in without accounting, for example.
2. The distribution of earmarked donations varies widely across regions. Often the projects and regions with strong partners in Germany receive disproportionately more earmarked donations than other projects and regions. So we balance the funds with financing from the budget in order to avoid inequalities and even envy within the UEM community. Earmarked donations have no effect on the outcome, since they are forwarded to the specified project on a 1:1 ratio.

INTEREST DEVELOPMENT / REVENUE FROM INVESTMENTS

The UEM's investments, which had a book value of €38,439,000 (of which the UEM Foundation had €7,075,000) at the annual closure, are allocated according to strict sustainability criteria. The zero interest-rate policy of the European Central Bank has hit us hard. Long-term investments have matured in recent months. Hardly any interest can be generated from new investment. This is why interest income decreased from €1,676,000 in 2016 to €692,000. We had to compensate for this shortfall by selling capital investments. At the moment it remains to be seen whether the economy in the eurozone will see positive development and the key interest rate of the European Central Bank will be raised again.

PROPERTY REVENUES

We are seeing the first successes from the property strategy introduced in mid-2016. The UEM currently rents out 96 flats and houses. More than €400,000 has been invested in modernizing these properties. The goal is to manage the property portfolio in such a way that the revenues can be used to support the budget of the UEM. By 2017, the surplus from rented units was already €33,483. In 2018, €60,000 is expected. The goal for the next few years is €200,000 per year.

OVERHEAD

Overhead is what we term the administration and committees of the UEM. Various processes of modernization and cost savings were initiated for both in 2017. By 2020, administration should see savings of €420,000 compared to the 2016 level. This is to be achieved through rational restructuring, renewal of IT systems, documentation and analysis of work processes, and avoidance of redundant working steps. At the 2017 closure, €200,000 per year in savings had already been registered.

CONCLUSION

The association closes the financial year with a net loss of -€681,000 (previous year: -€1,323,000). Adding in the legally required reimbursement of the KZVK renovation contribution booked in the reporting year (€440,000), plus interest (€75,000), results in an adjusted annual shortfall of -€1,196,000.

The UEM has a total of €32,703,000 available in equity capital. It can therefore be concluded that the financial situation of the UEM currently poses no threat to its continued existence. Nevertheless, the situation should be described as serious, since valuable reserves are being drawn down year after year. We are striving to have a balanced budget by 2020: concepts have been worked out and are already decided.

LINKS TO FURTHER INFORMATION

More operating numbers and information can be found in the report by the auditor (in German), which is available here at the website:

www.vemission.org/ueber-uns/downloads.html

More information on the sustainability filter used for UEM investments can be found here:

www.kd-bank.de/verantwortung/Nachhaltigkeitsfilter.html (only in German language)

RISK ASSESSMENT

STRENGTHS OF THE UEM

Internationalisation in action

The UEM is an international communion with members in Germany, Africa, and Asia. Its members meet as equals. Decisions are taken in international committees. Any member may receive funds from the UEM, regardless of what has been paid in.

In addition to the monetary support provided for projects and programmes on all three continents, numerous joint programmes are carried out. These are shared events on a variety of topics, as well as encounter trips and solidarity visits. They strengthen the community and its affinity with the idea of the UEM.

Strategic decisions are taken by the General Assembly. The Council has an international membership of 14 persons. There are also regional committees in each region, ensuring that communication between the UEM management in Wuppertal and its members is sufficiently guaranteed and that interests can be taken into account.

The pending membership applications from churches in Africa and Asia indicate that the UEM can be expected to grow in the coming years. There are currently three membership applications pending, two from Africa and one from Asia.

Diversity management

Programmes are organised not only by Germany, but additionally and to a large extent by the regional offices in Africa and Asia and directly by the members. There are also numerous South-South encounters. This internationalisation of decision-making processes, coupled with the international staff teams involved, offers creative and committed potential to further develop the work of UEM.

Like the committees, the UEM staff is also international in its composition. About one third of the team comes from Africa and Asia, and two thirds from Germany. The number of staff members not of German origin is rising. The equal hiring of men and women for positions is a

matter of course, as is the preservation of a good mix of various generations. This very heterogeneous composition of the workforce greatly promotes creative potential and also supports the credibility of the UEM's aspirations to be a truly international communion.

The fact that the UEM cultivates the idea of a communion and is more than a classic aid organisation means that our connection to members is unlike that of almost any other mission. This allows us to work and support each other at a level of community that large organisations hardly ever achieve. We know what moves our members and where their needs are, because our members are also a part of the UEM. It is a great strength that decisions about what the people in the global South need are not taken in Germany. Instead, the communion is based on exchange and equality among members. The people in the South are equally involved in deciding which projects in Germany are funded, just as people in the North collaborate on decisions about which projects will be funded in the South.

WEAKNESSES OF THE UEM

A vibrant community needs flexible and effective administration. Such administration is expensive and must be constantly updated and modernised. One current project is the modernisation of the IT landscape in the regional offices.

International decision-making bodies are at the heart of the idea of the UEM. Since neither last-minute meetings of the Council nor spontaneous member gatherings are possible, strategic decisions require lengthy preparation and can then only be decided during official meetings. This can be a weakness in the face of rapid change. Additional decision-making powers were granted to the Management Team in 2008 in order to mitigate this effect and enable them to act.

OPPORTUNITIES

The great opportunity of the UEM lies in its particularly close relationship with its members. This opens up possibilities for action in fields such as international media that sometimes remain hidden from public attention. But general needs in the regions can also be quickly tabled and dealt with through the committees and contacts.

One example from 2017 is a conflict between the government and the rebels in an area of eastern Congo, where tens of thousands of people had to leave their home villages to seek shelter in a larger city. The UEM community was able to quickly provide assistance in this situation and relieve the people's suffering in cooperation with the member church, unhindered by bureaucracy. Regional offices and their ongoing close contact with member churches also have a special role here. #

RISKS

It is evident that about 90 per cent of the financial resources are still coming from Germany. This is true for both donations and member contributions. The ratio does not reflect the economic development of some members in Africa and Asia. For example, Indonesia is one of the "Tiger Cub Economies," as the rapidly developing countries in Asia are called. It has become clear that a strong middle class is forming in some Indonesian regions, a class which also includes the Christians in the country. Similar developments are occurring in some regions in Africa. Regional congregations exist there that have members from a financially comfortable middle class.

This is why the "United Action" campaign was launched back in 2012: it is bringing the member churches of the United Evangelical Mission even closer together. The idea is to keep pace with the growing self-confidence of the churches in Africa and Asia. The special donation campaigns under the label "United Action" were conceived for this purpose and gather donations from all three regions. The theme of the campaign is "Children in Need"; the donations received go to projects for children in need. Annual donations are expected to reach €500,000 by 2018. Despite these successes, there is also a risk if the work and decision-making processes of the UEM are internationalised but the financial resources for this work continue to exhibit a very strong North-South divide.



OUTLOOK

The UEM is clearly a vital communion. The consistent progress of its internationalisation also means that the community is perceived as a real gain for its members' own church-related work. It is important to ensure that the working structures are effective so that the UEM communion can continue to serve its members. In a decision of principle, it was stipulated that the budget for 2020 must be balanced.

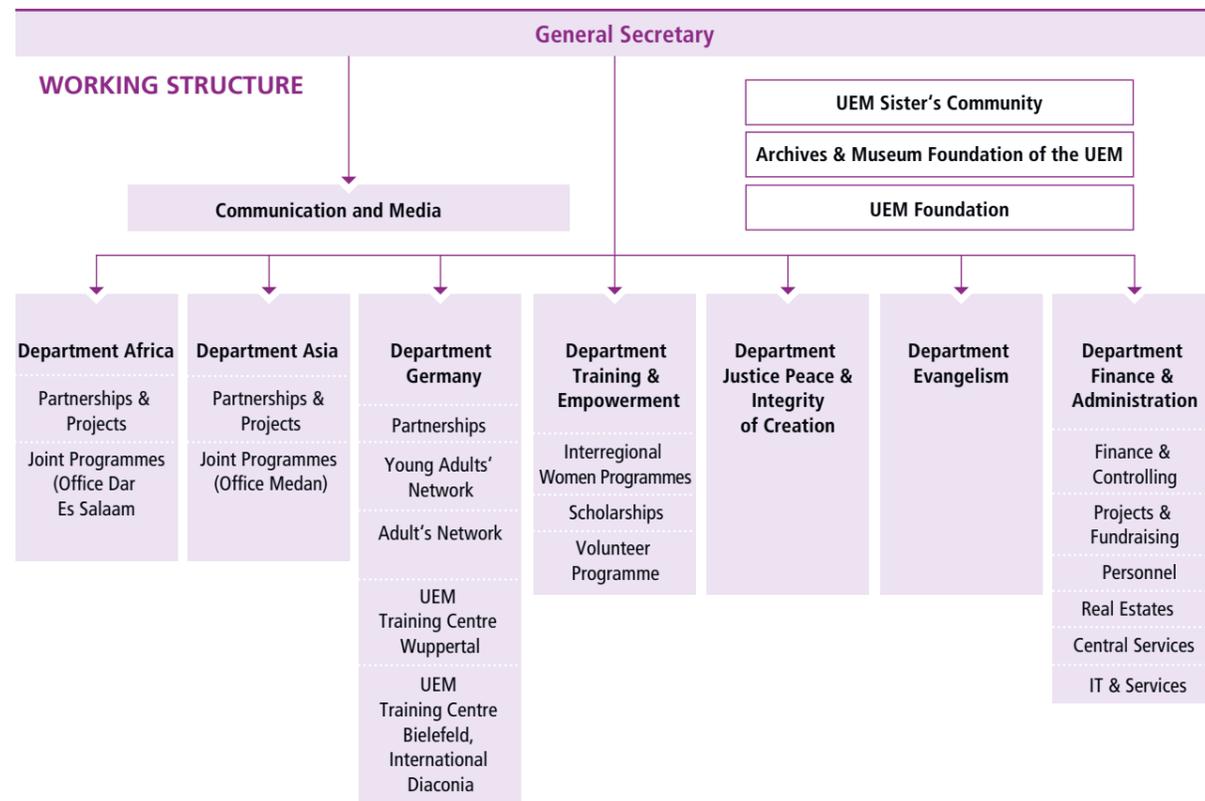
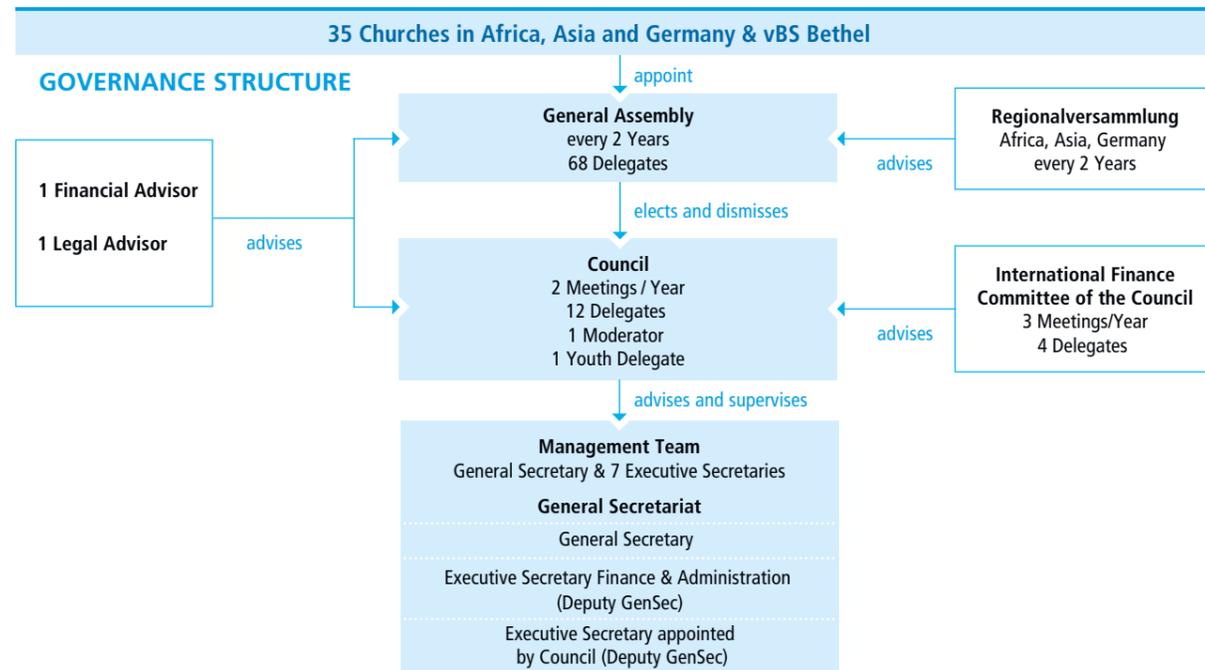
Wuppertal, June 2018

Timo Pauler
Executive Secretary for Finance and Administration



ABOUT US

GOVERNANCE STRUCTURE OF THE UEM



MEMBERS OF THE UEM

AFRICA

Botswana

Evangelical Lutheran Church in Botswana (ELCB)

Democratic Republic of Congo

Church of Christ in Congo (ECC)
 Baptist Church in Central Africa (CBCA)
 Community of the Disciples of Christ in Congo (CDCC)
 Association of Evangelical Churches of the Lulonga River (CADELU)

Cameroon

Evangelical Church of Cameroon (EEC)

Namibia

Evangelical Lutheran Church in the Republic of Namibia (ELCRN)

Rwanda

Anglican Church of Rwanda (EAR)

- Butare Diocese
- Cyangugu Diocese
- Kigeme Diocese
- Shyogwe Diocese

Presbyterian Church of Rwanda (EPR)

Tanzania

Evangelical Lutheran Church in Tanzania

- Karagwe Diocese (ELCT/KAD)
- North-Eastern Diocese (ELCT/NED)
- North-Western Diocese (ELCT/NWD)
- Eastern and Coastal Diocese (ELCT/ECD)

ASIA

China

Chinese Rhenish Church Hong Kong Synod (CRC)

Indonesia

Nias Christian Protestant Church (BNKP)
 Karo Batak Protestant Church (GBKP)
 Evangelical Christian Church in Tanah Papua (GKI-TP)
 Christian Church of Northern Central Java (GKJTU)
 East Java Christian Church (GKJW)
 Christian Protestant Angkola Church (GKPA)
 Christian Protestant Church in Indonesia (GKPI)
 Protestant Christian Church in Mentawai (GKPM)
 Pakpak Dairi Christian Protestant Church (GKPPD)
 Simalungun Protestant Christian Church (GKPS)
 Batak Christian Community Church (GPKB)
 Batak Protestant Christian Church (HKBP)
 Indonesian Christian Church (HKI)

Philippines

United Church of Christ in the Philippines (UCCP)

Sri Lanka

Methodist Church in Sri Lanka (MC-SL)

GERMANY

Evangelical Church in the Rhineland (EKiR)
 Evangelical Church of Westphalia (EKvW)
 Evangelical Church in Hesse and Nassau (EKHN)
 Evangelical Church of Hesse-Waldeck (EKKW)
 Evangelical-reformed Church (Synod of the Evangelical Churches in Bavaria and Northwest Germany – ErK)
 Church of Lippe (LL)
 v. Bodelschwingh Foundation Bethel (vBS Bethel)

REMUNERATION STRUCTURE

The executive board of the UEM consists of the General Secretary and his two deputies. The deputies are paid at salary level EG15 BAT-KF, and the General Secretary is paid at salary level A16. The gross total for all three salaries in 2017 was less than 300,000 euros.

The position of the moderator is an honorary position and not paid. Travel expenses can be reimbursed upon presentation of receipts.

Members of the Council and delegates of the General Assembly can claim a flat-rate expense allowance of up to 90 euros per meeting. Travel expenses can be reimbursed upon presentation of receipts.

The UEM pays its staff according to the BAT-KF salary structure. The classifications of employees for the year being reported can be found between EG2 and EG14, and those of officials (excluding pastors) can be found between A13 and A16.

The members of the board (Management Team) are paid additional allowances of up to 500 euros per month. No arrangements for bonuses exist.

The staff members of the UEM



COUNCIL AND MANAGEMENT TEAM OF THE UEM

35 churches in Africa, Asia and Germany and the v. Bodelschwingh Foundation Bethel

General Assembly
68 delegates (voluntary)

Council
voluntary, governing body, 13 delegates and Moderator

Moderator
Willem Simarmata (HKBP, Indonesia)

African Region

- Jane Ewoule (EEC, Cameroon)
Deputy: Elik Bonanga (CDCC, Democratic Republic of Congo)
- Daphne Guriras (ELCRN, Namibia)
Deputy: Mothusi Lethlhage (ELCB, Botswana)
- Dr Jered Kalimba (EAR, Rwanda)
Deputy: Kavira Nganza (CBCA, Democratic Republic of Congo)
- Dr Abednego Keshomshahara (ELCT/NWD, Tanzania, Vice-Moderator)
- Deputy: Alex Malasusa (ELCT/ECD, Tanzania)

Asia Region

- Tetty Banowaty Aritonang (GKPI, Indonesia)
Deputy: Yohana Pains (GKJTU, Indonesia)
- Rosmalia Barus (GBKP, Indonesia, Vice-Moderator)
Deputy: Hermin Rumber (GKI-TP, Indonesia)
- Reuel N. O. Marigza (UCCP, Philippines)
Deputy: Esron Lingga (GKPPD, Indonesia)
- Martin Rumanja Purba (GKPS, Indonesia)
Deputy: K. K. Chan (CRC, Hong Kong)

Germany Region

- Thomas Fender (ErK, Germany)
Deputy: Birgit Krome-Mühlenmeier (LL, Germany)
- Dr Ulrich Möller (EKvW, Germany, Vice-Moderator)
Deputy: Barbara Rudolph (EKiR, Germany)
- Dr Helga Rau (EKHN, Germany)
Deputy: Bernd Müller (EKKW, Germany)
- Marion Unger (EKiR, Germany)
Deputy: Annette Salomo (EKvW, Germany)

Youth Delegate

- Diotim Meyer (EKvW, Germany)
Deputy: Brades Sijabat Pimpinan (HKI, Indonesia)

International Finance Committee of the Council

- Jane Ewoule, Cameroon
- Reuel N. O. Marigza, Philippines
- Dr Ulrich Möller, Germany

Financial Advisor

- voluntary
- Anna Tenga Mzinga, Tanzania

Legal Advisor

- voluntary
- Antje Hieronimus, Germany

Management Team

- full-time
- Volker Martin Dally (General Secretary)
- Timo Pauler (Executive Secretary, Finance and Administration, Deputy General Secretary)
- Dr Jochen Motte (Executive Secretary, Justice, Peace and the Integrity of Creation, Deputy General Secretary)
- Dr John Wesley Kabango (Executive Secretary, Africa Region)
- Sonia Parera-Hummel (Executive Secretary, Asia Region)
- Dr Andar Parlindungan Pasaribu (Executive Secretary, Training and Empowerment)
- Angelika Veddeler (Executive Secretary, Germany Region)
- Dr Claudia Währisch-Oblau (Executive Secretary, Evangelism)

The Management Team of the UEM



LOCATIONS OF THE UEM

In addition to its headquarters in Wuppertal, Rudolfstraße 137 (42285 Wuppertal, Germany) the UEM has further locations worldwide.

THREE REGIONAL OFFICES

Regional Office Africa

Luther House
Sokoine Drive
PO Box 75240
Dar es Salaam
Tanzania

Regional Office Asia

Jln. Selamat Ketaren 100
Medan 20371
Sumatera Utara
Indonesia

Regional Office Germany

Rudolfstraße 137
42285 Wuppertal
Germany

TWO EDUCATION CENTRES

UEM Training Centre Wuppertal

Global Learning in Ecumenical Perspective
Missionsstraße 9
42285 Wuppertal
Germany

UEM Training Centre Bielefeld-Bethel

Global Learning in Ecumenical Perspective
International Diaconia
Grete-Reich-Weg 9
33617 Bielefeld
Germany



THE ABCS OF THE UEM

Carbon Offsets for Flights

In 2017, the UEM again offset its unavoidable emissions through its climate collections (Klima-Kollekte) and compensated for the amount of carbon dioxide emitted from business flights by UEM staff, General Assembly members, the Council and the regional assemblies. The UEM transferred fifty thousand euros to its climate collections in 2017. Projects funded by the climate collections include projects in the field of environmental protection. This is a way for the UEM to voluntarily do something to combat climate change.

www.klima-kollekte.de

The UEM Training Centre Wuppertal Receives the Quality Seal

In April 2017 the Training Centre received a certification for its adherence to the quality standards for further education of the Gütesiegelverbund Weiterbildung e.V. The external examiner came to the conclusion that the satisfaction of the training participants is the main goal of the training centre's efforts to maintain and further develop the quality of its work. The planning of programmes is geared towards the interests of the target groups and needs of society. The UEM Training Centre Wuppertal also ensures that its speakers and trainers have sufficient professional and pedagogical skills and that the venues, material, and media available for the seminars are appropriate for successful learning.



PARTICIPATION STAKES:

The "On the Holy Mountain" International Protestant Conference Centre GmbH in Wuppertal

The UEM holds a 60 per cent participation stake in the "On the Holy Mountain" conference centre. The centre has seventy guest rooms and twelve conference rooms and has had the privilege of hosting high-quality events by clients from the church realm, as well as increasingly from industry.

Maendeleo Bank

The UEM has a € 650,000 stake in the Maendeleo Bank in Tanzania. The UEM therefore holds a stake of 20 percent of the bank's total capital. One focus of the Bank is in financing small businesses and credit cooperatives. In addition, they can invest the money from church congregations and finance church congregations' construction projects through low-cost loans.

www.maendeleobank.co.tz



Around 1,700 people participated in the “Walk a Mile” campaign in North Sumatra on 16 April 2017, for a good cause. This fundraising walk for children in need raised the equivalent of approximately 4,500 euros. The Christian Church in Indonesia (HKI) issued the call for this walk.

Umbrella Organisation of the UEM

The Association of Protestant Churches and Missions in Germany (EMW) is an umbrella and professional association of Protestant churches, Protestant free churches, and regional missions, as well as individual missionary organisations and institutions with head offices in Germany. The umbrella organisation advises its members on many legal and personnel-related issues, provides them with the means for exchanges at various professional levels, and pools and communicates their political interests.

DZI Seal of Approval

Since 2006, the UEM has carried the German Central Institute for Social Issues' (DZI) renowned seal of approval for donations. This means that the DZI has certified that the UEM uses the money entrusted to it in a way that is in line with its constitution and that its accounting is transparent. More information on the DZI can be found here: www.dzi.de



Energy Use Improvements at the Wuppertal Mission House

The old heating system of the Mission House in Wuppertal, the headquarters of the UEM, was replaced with a modern and environmentally friendly combined heat and power unit. In the long term, this investment will not only save the UEM money, but also will protect the environment by significantly reducing CO₂ emissions.

The improvements to energy use at the Mission House continue. Half of the lighting in the house has already been changed to LEDs. The alterations to the lighting installations in combination with the new heating and power unit have reduced electricity costs by 57 per cent. In comparison with annual costs for 2015, the increased gas costs of the heating and power unit have been almost completely offset by the remuneration for power fed into the grid and the reimbursement of energy taxes.

Fair Trade

The UEM is convinced that fair trade is an important building block for a more just and sustainable world. This is why the UEM actively supports fair trade by offering only fairly traded coffee and tea at UEM locations. The UEM also operates a small world shop with products from around the world at the mission house in Wuppertal.

Volunteer Programme

Since the 1980s, the UEM has offered young people the opportunity to spend a year working as volunteers in development service in one of its member churches in Asia or Africa – an exchange from North to South. The programme continues to develop, and in 2002 young men and women began coming to Germany from African and Asian UEM member churches – an exchange from South to North. The Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) has funded the UEM's North-South volunteer programme since 2008 as part of the “weltwärts” programme, and the UEM's South-North volunteer programme since 2014. Since 2008, young volunteers from African and Asian member churches have also been creating a connection between people and cultures in Africa and Asia – an exchange from South to South. www.weltwaerts.de/de/programm.html



Property

An important financial pillar of the UEM is its property portfolio. The UEM has a total of 31 properties, with 96 rented units, plus the conference centre and the service contracts for conference services and IT support. In 2017, three housing units were thoroughly renovated and successfully rented in order to ensure the properties' survival and the income from them in the long term.

The state of housing in Wuppertal is largely up-to-date and is divided into about a third each in the “better”, “normal”, and “lesser” categories. Rents on the whole are slightly above the rent index average.

A maintenance project on the Mission House was started in the fall of 2017. The project will last for four years. The glazing on the Mission House windows is being replaced over several phases before painting of the wooden windows and construction is carried out sequentially. The continual upkeep in the past allows for the sustainable use of the existing window installations, which are now being updated to match the energy improvements. Investment will be amortised over the life of the windows.



North-South volunteer Jonathan Geisler supports the teaching staff of the Amity Foundation school in Yumen, Gansu, in northern China.

Cooperation

We cooperate with the following organisations, alliances, and networks:

- Abraham Geiger College University Potsdam
- ACT Alliance
- Action against AIDS Germany
- Amity Foundation China
- Arbeitsgemeinschaft Missionarische Dienste (AMD)
- Arbeitskreis Welt-AIDS-Tag Wuppertal
- Association of Protestant Churches and Missions in Germany (EMW)
- Bread for the World – Protestant Development Service Protestant Agency for Diaconia and Development e.V.
- China Information Office EMW
- Clean Clothes Campaign
- Climate Alliance Germany
- Ecumenical Network Central Africa (ÖNZ)
- Eukumindo
- Evangelische Akademie Villigst im Institut für Kirche und Gesellschaft der Evangelischen Kirche von Westfalen
- Evangelische Hochschule Rheinland-Westfalen-Lippe
- Evangelisches Erwachsenenbildungswerk (EEB) Nordrhein
- Evangelisches Erwachsenenbildungswerk (EEB) Westfalen und Lippe
- Evangelisches Forum entwicklungspolitischer Freiwilligendienst (eFeF)
- Fachhochschule der Diakonie in Bielefeld (FHdD)
- Forum Menschenrechte (FMR)
- Fresh X
- Gemeindedienst für Mission und Ökumene (GMÖ)
- Gerechtigkeit jetzt! Die Welthandelskampagne
- German Action Network Human Rights – Philippines
- German Institute for Human Rights (member of the registered association)
- German Platform for Peaceful Conflict Management
- Institut for Mission, Ecumenical Affairs and Global Responsibility (MÖWe)
- Institut für Aus-, Fort- und Weiterbildung (IAFW) der Evangelischen Kirche von Westfalen
- Institut für Diakoniewissenschaft und Diakonienmanagement (IDM) der Kirchlichen Hochschule Wuppertal/Bethel
- Institut für Islamische Theologie an der Universität Osnabrück
- International Coalition for Papua (ICP)
- Kirchliche Hochschule Wuppertal/Bethel
- Lutheran Mission Cooperation Tanzania
- Lutheran World Federation (LWF)
- Netzwerk Kirchliche Aids-Seelsorge
- Ständige Konferenz von Juden, Christen und Muslimen in Europa (JCM)
- Südwind – Institute for Economics and Ecumenism
- Tanzania-Network.de e.V.
- Theologisches Zentrum Wuppertal (ThZW)
- West Papua Network (WPN)
- World Council of Churches (WCC)

Sustainable Financial Investments

The capital of the UEM is invested in sustainable investment funds, using a sustainability filter that has been specially adapted to the requirements of the UEM for this purpose. For example, no investment can be made in companies that are active in weapons or in genetic engineering. Government bonds of countries with the death penalty also are not to be bought. Only companies and countries that meet high standards in labour rights and the environment may become part of the funds.

Preventing and Fighting Corruption

The UEM has actively pledged to adhere to a “Code of Conduct” to combat corruption: it applies to staff of both the UEM and its members, in all three regions. The aim is to prevent and fight corruption at all levels.

Quifd Seal

The nationwide growth in the “weltwärts” programme (see page 21) means that quality standards for volunteer services have been developed. The sending organisations are expected to support these standards in order to be able to evaluate their performance and continuously improve. In recognition of the volunteer organisations’ compliance with this level, the external agency Quifd (Agency for Quality in Voluntary Services) assigns a seal of quality. Following an extensive certification process, the UEM was awarded the Quifd seal of quality, thus confirming the high quality of the North-South programme.

www.quifd.de



Resource-Efficient Public Relations

The UEM uses FSC-certified paper for all of its print media, and in some cases even organic ink. UEM promotional giveaways are produced exclusively from sustainable and fairly traded materials, for instance pens from recycled or sustainable material and bags and T-shirts from fairly traded cotton. All information and working materials are available electronically and can be downloaded from the website. Electronic communication channels used by the UEM such as e-newsletters, websites, Oipod, YouTube, Facebook, and Instagram, offer resource-efficient opportunities for public relations.

The paperless UEM stand at the Kirchentag in Berlin.



The Sisters Community in the UEM

The Sisters Community within the UEM is comprised of women who have either worked overseas or are close to the work and objectives of the United Evangelical Mission. The sisters are very involved in Germany and in the partnership work and have a series of basic principles: (1.) Fostering the spiritual life of individuals and the community comes first and foremost. Such work includes Bible readings, prayer, and retreats. The sisters keep in touch with one another and assist their members with practical matters where possible. (2.) They regularly engage in intercession for one another and for the UEM community. (3.) Given their intercultural experiences, sisters participate actively in their environment as much as they are able, for example in their church congregations, in the work of the United Evangelical Mission, or with refugees. (4.) They make the worldwide communion in Christ perceptibly come alive for others.

The sisters meet for social exchange and prayer in their respective “regions” throughout the year, as well as at the central Sisters’ Day once a year. The various regions elect their own regional authorities. There are five regional groups in Germany and one in Indonesia. A general directorate is elected every four years, consisting of the three sisters in the steering committee and the regional authorities from the German regional groups. Currently serving on the steering committee are Erika Bogatzki, Stephanie Franz, and Renate Reuter. In addition to the personal involvement of the sisters in their communities and within the UEM, there are also group trips and retreats.

Prevention of Sexual Harassment

The UEM does not tolerate sexual harassment. This taboo subject that is widespread in all cultures has been addressed by the UEM in a leaflet that includes directives and appropriate rules to apply.

“United Action” – Africa and Asia Donate to Children in Need

United Action is the name of the programme that the churches in Africa and Asia are using to collect donations for the “Children in Need” (“Kinder in Not”) organisation. There are more and more people in Africa and Asia with the means to make a financial contribution for the good cause of mission. For many it is a concern to no longer be exclusively dependent on Germany, but rather to confidently take part in the shared task of the UEM. And they have been successful: the sum that the churches collect through United Action is growing each year. New for the German churches is that now German projects from Africa and Asia are being co-financed.

UEM Sunday

The first Sunday in June every year marks UEM Sunday, which is held in the member churches of Africa and Asia. The collections gathered from the Sunday are used to fund UEM projects.

UEM Foundation

The UEM Foundation was founded in 2005 to ensure the financial sustainability of the UEM. At the end of 2017, the capital of the foundation is 7,278,274.51 million euros. The significant growth in the past year resulted from the conveyance of properties that were sold and benefited the foundation.

Advertising

The UEM uses the following forms of advertising: mailings (fundraising letters), newsletters, e-mail newsletters, advertisements, inserts, leaflets, posters, legacy marketing, and solicitations for large donations.

- cactus crew, Potsdamer Strasse 23, 64331 Weiterstadt
- HUTH Druckerei & Etikettenwerk, Vohwinkeler Strasse 65, 42329 Wuppertal
- Joh. van Acken GmbH u. Co. KG, Magdeburger Strasse 5, 47800 Krefeld
- Ley und Wiegandt, Möddinghofe 26, 42279 Wuppertal
- Limberg Druck GmbH, Industriestrasse 17, 41564 Kaarst
- MediaCompany GmbH, Auguststrasse 29, 53229 Bonn
- netzrepte.de GbR, Eichenstrasse 15, 27313 Dörverden
- Profi Center Werbeagentur GmbH, Friedrich-Engels-Allee 265, 42285 Wuppertal
- unikat Werbeagentur GmbH, Hauptstrasse 76, 42349 Wuppertal



Picture above: Anja Wulf (right) explains the medical equipment to the staff.

Group photo of the two midwives from Germany, Anja Wulf (third from left) and Michaela Pfeiffer (second from left), with the staff of the Mtoni Diaconical Centre.



THANK YOU

PROJECT EXAMPLE: HELP FOR WOMEN AND BABIES IN TANZANIA

The Protestant church district of Unna collected half a ton of medical equipment from Westphalian birthing centres for the maternity unit at the Mtoni Diaconical Centre in Dar es Salaam.

In 2016, a delegation from the Protestant church district of Unna visited their partner church district in Dar es Salaam. The programme included a visit to the Mtoni Diaconical Centre. In many areas of this diaconal centre for the Eastern and Coastal Diocese of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Tanzania, the medical equipment was sorely lacking. Anja Wulf, one of the delegates and an independent midwife from Frömmern, took a special interest in the new birthing centre, where some of the examination equipment was not working properly or was missing altogether. She wanted to help.

Back in Germany, Wulf negotiated with the Katharinen Hospital in Unna, the St Vincenz Hospital in Menden, and the St Johannes Hospital in Dortmund. All three hospitals wanted to help. This is how half a ton of equipment and medical devices in good working order came to be collected for the Mtoni Diaconical Centre in Dar es Salaam; the donations include an operating table, two suction cups, an emergency rucksack, two blood pressure monitors, and lamps for the operating table, as well as scales and cots for babies. Wulf ensures that “all equipment is

tested, in top condition, and ready to be used and maintained on-site. We’re making it so that many women and infants can really be helped at birth.”

The medical equipment then just had to be packed safely for transport and the customs and shipping declarations prepared. The cargo was shipped to Tanzania in mid-July 2017. Three months later – in October – Wulf and her colleague Michaela Pfeiffer were on-site to help with unpacking the donations and connecting and operating the devices. Staff from the Mtoni Diaconical Centre helped with the assembly as well. It soon became clear how urgently this equipment had been needed.

Many donations helped to make the idea of collecting medical equipment for a birthing centre in Dar es Salaam a reality. The sources included individual church congregations, the Unna church district, private individuals, and the Lions Club in Bergkamen. The Tanzanian working group of the Unna church district welcomes additional donations. As Dietrich Schneider, the chair of the working group, put it: “This is the hallmark of a partnership: that help is given where help is needed. We are glad to be able to participate in this good project. Thank you to everyone who made this possible.”

IMPRINT

Published by
United Evangelical Mission
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www.facebook.com/VEMission



www.instagram.com/unitedinmission



www.youtube.com/user/vemission

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Cover photo
Jutta Maur / cactus crew

Photos
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John Wesley Kabango / UEM (p. 3)
Sophia Anggraita / UEM (pp. 4, 8)
Sarah Vecera / UEM (pp. 6, 7, 26, 27, 49, 53)
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Assunta Jäger / UEM (p. 47)
Jonathan Geisler / UEM (p. 51)
Dietrich Schneider / UEM (p. 54)

Layout
wppt: kommunikation GmbH

Print
Bonifatius Druck, Paderborn 2018

Circulation
400 Exemplare

© United Evangelical Mission, Wuppertal, June 2018

For reasons of readability, exclusively masculine language is occasionally used in the 2017 Annual Report of the United Evangelical Mission. Any usages of male word forms are expressly meant to also include women.

The United Evangelical Mission follows a resource-efficient and sustainable production method for prints.



KD-Bank eG
IBAN: DE45 3506 0190 0009 0909 08
SWIFT/BIC: GENODED1DKD



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IBAN: DE45 3506 0190 0009 0909 08
SWIFT/BIC: GENODED1DKD