



**ANNUAL
REPORT**
2023





Nyadech Ruot comforts her young son Wany at a clinic in South Sudan. Wany was one of more than 2,800 patients treated for malaria by IMA-trained clinicians between May and September 2023 in South Sudan.



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Our Vision

A healthy world forever flourishing
in dignity and justice.

Our Mission

To urgently end poverty, suffering
and injustice wherever they afflict
humanity, with enduring passion,
partnership and expertise.

CORUS INTERNATIONAL unites an array of nonprofit organizations and businesses, each with specialized expertise – from health to technology to economic development to emergency response. Alongside communities and local partners, our dedicated experts integrate disciplines, approaches and resources to overcome poverty and suffering for those living in the world’s toughest and most difficult circumstances. Our approach brings together the comprehensive and multi-dimensional solutions needed to truly achieve lasting change.

Corus features world-class organizations and businesses with more than 150 years of combined experience.

Lutheran World Relief is an international development and aid organization, founded in 1945, and known globally for helping rural communities to maximize their agriculture-based economies and conserve their natural resources, and for responding to natural disasters and humanitarian crises.

IMA World Health delivers solutions to health-related problems across the developing world. Founded in 1960, IMA World Health works with local partners and governments to strengthen existing health systems, prevent and treat diseases, improve maternal and child health, promote nutrition and WASH, respond to sexual and gender-based violence, and contribute to global health security.

Corus World Health was established in 2021 to grow more philanthropic funding to support lifesaving health programs.

CGA Technologies is a technology for development consultancy that develops and applies context-suitable technology to meet the needs of the world’s poorest communities. CGA Technologies is especially known for their work in the education sector in sub-Saharan Africa.

Ground Up Investing is an impact investing firm that makes equity investments in high potential, early-stage companies and provides them with technical assistance to grow their business, increase farmers’ incomes and strengthen local economies.

Farmers Market Brands is a direct-trade company that sells ethically-traded products – including coffee and chocolate – directly to consumers in the U.S.



Natalia Chernenka displays the LWR Quilt she received in May 2023 near her home in Tsyrukun, Ukraine, where she lived through Russian occupation last year. Across Ukraine, Corus has distributed more than 35 metric tons of quilts and personal care, school and baby care kits.

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

This past year reminded us that even in the hardest circumstances, the right partnerships can accelerate progress and transform lives.

At Corus, we remain committed to reducing poverty, improving health and advancing lasting opportunities for families worldwide. As global crises evolved — from conflict and displacement to food insecurity and natural disasters — we drew on the full strength of Corus to meet urgent needs and build more sustainable solutions.

In 2023, Corus expanded one of the largest humanitarian operations in our history to support families in **Ukraine**. Together with local partners, our expert teams from Lutheran World Relief, IMA World Health and CGA Technologies reached communities living at the frontlines of the war with health services, essential supplies and support for restoring family farms.

Our humanitarian teams also rushed critical aid to families in **Türkiye**, where devastating earthquakes left millions without homes. Thanks to the generosity of our supporters, we provided shelter, psychosocial services and safe spaces for women and young people to heal and begin recovery.

In **Yemen**, mobile health teams reached families in remote desert camps with life-saving care, vaccinations and nutrition services. Our staff worked tirelessly to reach women and children in places where health systems were strained or inaccessible.

We advanced innovative partnerships to strengthen economic opportunity, health outcomes and community resilience. In Indonesia, women leaders promoted better sanitation, hygiene and living conditions for families in coffee-growing communities. In **Ecuador**, cocoa farmers built sustainable livelihoods through community-led nurseries. And in **Tanzania**, IMA World Health supported national efforts to eliminate neglected tropical diseases, restoring sight and improving health for thousands.

These are just a few snapshots of our work in 2023. Across dozens of countries, Corus organizations collaborated with communities to strengthen health systems, expand access to economic opportunity, deliver humanitarian aid and build resilience in the face of conflict, poverty and crisis.

To support this critical work, we welcomed **Mahmoud Bah** as our new **Chief Operating Officer**. Mahmoud brings decades of global development and public policy experience, along with a deep commitment to eliminating poverty and improving health worldwide. His leadership is already strengthening our ability to coordinate across the Corus family, drive innovation and deliver greater impact with efficiency and stewardship.

Throughout all of this work, **the Corus Effect** was clear — the unique power of our combined organizations to drive measurable change faster, deeper and at greater scale. Together, we are creating solutions that last, even in the most difficult places.

I am grateful for our global staff, local partners and generous supporters who make this work possible. Thank you for standing with us.

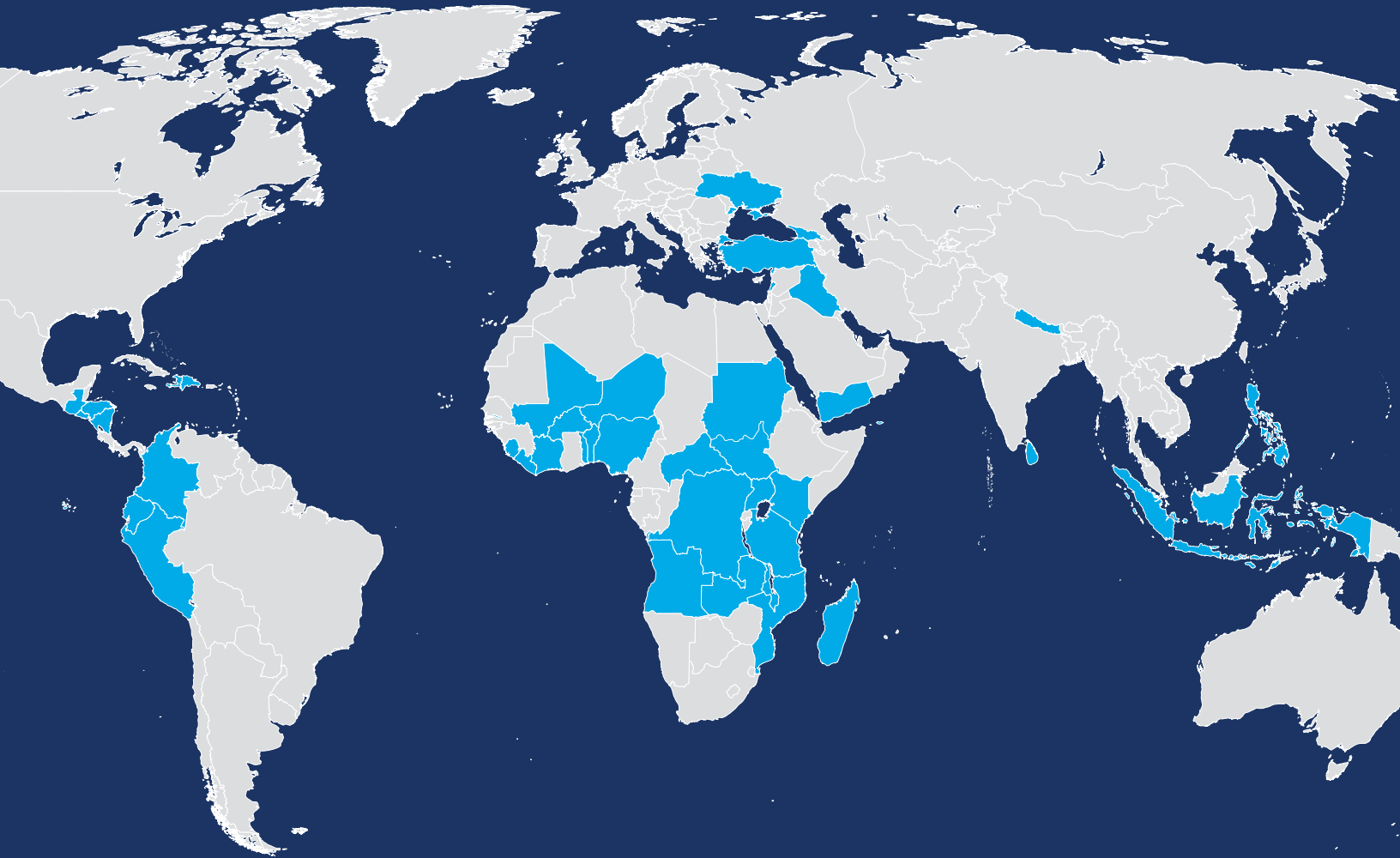


In gratitude and partnership,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Daniel Speckhard". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

**AMBASSADOR
DANIEL SPECKHARD**
President and CEO

WHERE WE WORK



Benin
Burkina Faso
Central African
Republic
Colombia
Democratic
Republic of Congo*
Ecuador*
El Salvador
Guatemala*
Haiti
Honduras*
Indonesia

Iraq
Ivory Coast
Kenya
Lebanon
Madagascar
Malawi
Mali*
Mozambique
Nepal
Nicaragua
Niger
Nigeria

Peru
Philippines
Sierra Leone
South Sudan
Sudan
Tanzania*
Togo
Türkiye*
Uganda
Ukraine*
Yemen
Zambia

MATERIAL RESOURCE DISTRIBUTION

Angola
Dominican Republic
Georgia
Liberia
Sri Lanka
The Gambia

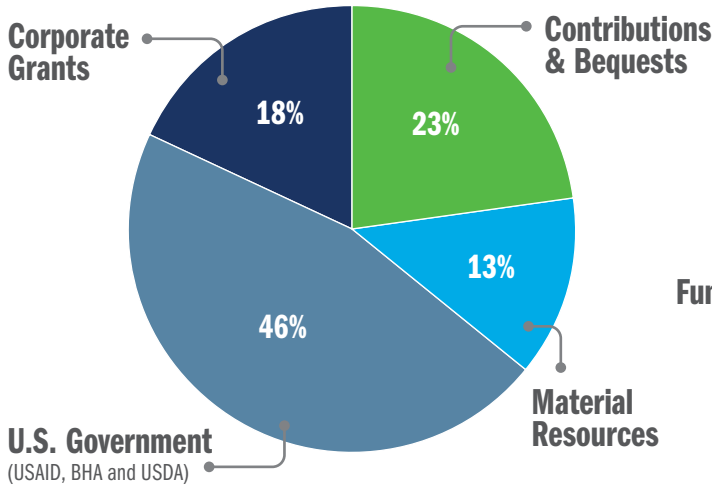
** Material Resource distribution in addition to program work*

Unless otherwise noted, data contained in this report are from fiscal year 2023, which ran October 2022 through September 2023.

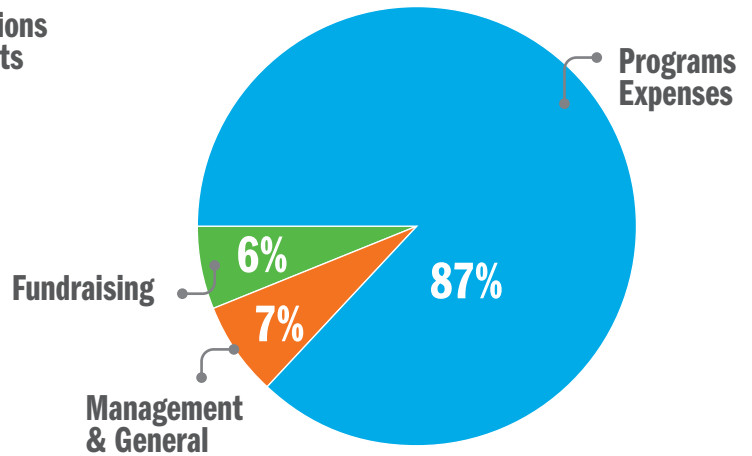
REVENUE AND EXPENSES



Sources of Funding - \$158,811,181



Expenses - \$159,413,445



Program Expenses - \$138,854,643

Health	\$98,534,306
Emergency Response & Material Resources	\$24,582,833
Agriculture	\$9,346,562
Climate	\$1,563,161
Impact Investing	\$663,349
Livelihoods	\$4,164,432

Total liabilities	\$42,390,609
Total net assets	\$38,171,456
Total liabilities and net assets	\$80,562,065

See our complete consolidated financial statements at corusinternational.org.



Corus reached people and communities in 41 countries in 2023, including in the Democratic Republic of Congo, where nurse Eugene Basa-Mbongo manages the maternity ward at Dekese General Reference Hospital. In 2023, she and her team received lifesaving emergency and obstetric training, led by IMA World Health.



MAHMOUD BAH APPOINTED CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER TO DRIVE GLOBAL IMPACT


In May 2023, **Mahmoud Bah** joined Corus as our Chief Operating Officer.

Bah brought to Corus more than 20 years of experience in international development, project finance, financial management and advisory services across both public and private sectors. He came to Corus after 13 years with the Millennium Challenge Corporation, where he held multiple leadership roles, including presidentially appointed deputy chief executive officer and acting CEO.

“Mahmoud’s business acumen, global development expertise, and deep commitment to eliminating poverty and improving health are a powerful combination to help transform more lives more deeply in the years ahead,” said Corus President and CEO Daniel Speckhard. “Mahmoud brings to bear all perspectives — public and private sector, host government and community leadership, and, most of all, the families we serve — in a vision that ensures measurable progress.”

Bah has already advanced Corus’ mission to deliver greater impact with efficiency and stewardship.

“Corus is a leader in innovation and disruption of traditional international development,” Bah shared. “That speaks to my personal and professional mission of poverty alleviation, to help more people throughout the world transform their lives for the better.”

A native of Guinea, Bah grew up in Togo and is fluent in French, Mina and Fulani. He is a non-practicing certified public accountant and holds an MBA from the University of Maryland’s Robert H. Smith School of Business. 





Corus expanded support for Ukraine's farming families



Nadia, a 63-year-old farmer from Kharkiv, Ukraine, harvested and canned vegetables to last her through the winter thanks to seeds, tools and training provided by Corus — support she says has “lifted her life” after surviving daily shelling.

As the war in **Ukraine** entered its second year, the need for both emergency relief and sustainable recovery grew. In 2023, Corus expanded our response to help smallholder farmers in Kharkiv Oblast restore food production and rebuild their livelihoods.

Kharkiv, one of the first provinces targeted by the Russian offensive, has seen widespread devastation. With Ukrainian forces reclaiming thousands of square kilometers, the region's farmers faced the urgent challenge of restarting agricultural activity.

Corus launched new programming in May 2023 to coincide with the planting season. The initiative reached farmers, returnees and residents who remained in Kharkiv, and families displaced by the conflict. Support included both material resources and technical assistance to restore or establish small farms.

Participants received essential inputs based on their needs, such as vegetable seeds, fertilizer, gardening tools, processing equipment, canning kits, chicks, chicken coops and feeders. Local agricultural advisors provided training in small-scale, sustainable farming techniques, including composting, planting, harvesting and winterization preparedness. Farm restoration grants helped families who lost assets during the war restart or expand their production.

Internally displaced people living in group shelters in Kharkiv also received support to establish kitchen and backyard gardens, providing families with more sustainable food supplies and additional income as they awaited resettlement.

“This program is critical because a year of war has decimated Ukraine's agricultural sector and, with it, the livelihoods of people working in the country's rural economy,” said Corus President and CEO Daniel Speckhard. “More than a third of smallholder farmers are no longer producing crops and nearly half of Kharkiv's rural population has reported a drop in income. By working directly with local organizations, we can support families as they revive agricultural production, and we can help to reestablish capacities of agricultural advisory services that were disrupted by the war.”

We also delivered essential supplies — including hygiene kits and medical equipment — to health centers in Kharkiv.

This work was funded by the Center for Disaster Philanthropy and Lutheran Disaster Response. Additional support came from the generosity of individuals and congregations in the U.S. through Lutheran World Relief.

This work is part of our comprehensive response in Ukraine, which brings together expertise from **Lutheran World Relief**, **IMA World Health** and **CGA Technologies**.



Supported by the Corus International family of organizations, teams of medical workers visit camps for internally displaced people to provide free health care services and medicine.

Mobile clinics delivered life-saving health care to Yemen's displaced families

In **Yemen's** desert camps for displaced families, access to basic health care was scarce, and the needs were overwhelming.

"Health is a dire need," said Dr. Muhammad, who led mobile health services reaching families in camps that many other groups cannot access. Driving under a blazing sun, he carried critical supplies: antibiotics, antidiarrheal medicine and treatment for high blood pressure.

The families he served fled war and poverty. "Food is not available all the time," said Amal Mohammed, who coordinated health services at the camps. "There are a lot of infectious diseases and bad hygiene at sites [for internally displaced people]. They are living in a desert."

Our health project in Yemen strengthened local health systems by training and equipping care providers like Dr. Muhammad to deliver medical services. Nurse Sausan Abdullah, herself displaced by the conflict, provided vaccinations, first aid and care for infections in the camps for five years. With millions in Yemen facing malnutrition, assessing children's health became a critical part of her work.

"A lot of children die of hunger," Sausan said. She recalled one child, just 12 months old, weighing only 16 pounds — far below the healthy average. With nutritional support provided through the project, the child's condition improved within two months.

The health system has come a long way. "The situation was very bad at the beginning. They only provided first aid, and then referred people to the hospital far away," Amal said. "There were only one or two health workers for a population of hundreds." With our programming, reactivated health units and mobile teams were treating more than a thousand people every month.

Sausan also remembered the challenges from the early days. She once assisted in delivering a baby but lacked the proper tools to complete the delivery safely. The case had to be transferred to the city — fortunately, the baby survived. The health unit is now equipped with the resources it needs to handle emergencies like that one.

"Sausan is a hero," Amal said. "She takes medicine everywhere. She's living in a desert... there are no services, limited phone connections. Her work is amazing."

Sausan, Dr. Muhammad and other health workers continued to deliver life-saving care in Yemen's most difficult conditions. Every success fueled their determination to keep going.

"To take away a child's pain — it's a wonderful feeling," Dr. Muhammad said. 

WOMEN TRANSFORM COMMUNITY HEALTH AND HYGIENE IN INDONESIA



Libranita is a proud community leader, helping to improve sanitation and health in Cinta Rakyat, Indonesia.

In Cinta Rakyat, **Indonesia**, a farming community in North Sumatra's Karo Regency, Libranita br Tarigan became a driving force for change. After bringing her children to school each morning, she supported community activities and worked on her family farm.

Libranita and her family cared deeply about improving health and wellness in their community by addressing sanitation and hygiene challenges.

"I have a principle that it is important to work in order to support the community," Libranita said.

Libranita took part in the Multisectoral Collaboration for Inclusive Health and Opportunities for Women (MECIHO) project, supported by The Starbucks Foundation. Through MECIHO, Corus organization Lutheran World Relief expanded women's leadership and civic engagement while improving community health and living conditions.

The project complemented Indonesia's national nutrition and stunting reduction efforts and responded to significant needs in coffee-growing communities in Karo Regency, where one in four households lacked clean water. In these communities, public health was threatened by poor sanitation, and women were often excluded from local decision-making.

The partnership between The Starbucks Foundation and Lutheran World Relief began in 2018 with the Kopi Nande:

Women-Led Community Health and Hygiene project, which supported more than 5,000 women. MECIHO, which means "clean," reached more than 4,500 additional women.

In 2023, Libranita participated in waste management training led by women from a neighboring community who had taken part in the Kopi Nande project. Inspired by their success, she helped launch a garbage bank in her own community to improve sanitation and generate income.

A garbage bank is a collection center where trash can be recycled or sold — if it has economic value. Libranita was elected to the management committee of the new garbage bank, which became one of the most active in the area. The management committee has been successful in raising awareness about waste management and advancing women's leadership.

"When I am involved in the garbage bank, I feel happy and proud. We are also protecting our environment and serve as an example for others," Libranita shared.

Through their efforts, the community became cleaner, healthier and more organized. Libranita was proud to support her community and uplift other women and families.

"All of the people here in my community are hard workers. All of them are strong." 



IMA World Health delivered sight-saving surgeries for NTDs in Tanzania

Trained as a surgeon, nurse Hawa Rashid Msangi of the Mkuranga District Hospital near Dar Es Salaam, Tanzania, performs trachoma surgeries to prevent blindness. (Gregg Brekke for LWR)



In January 30, 2023, in collaboration with regional and district health authorities and the Tanzanian NTD Control Program, Corus organization IMA World Health conducted a surgery camp in the Mwanza region of **Tanzania** to commemorate World Neglected Tropical Disease (NTD) Day.

NTDs affect nearly one in six people worldwide, primarily those living in poverty without reliable access to hygiene and sanitation. NTDs disproportionately affect women and children, leading to physical disability, stigma, social isolation and a reduced quality of life. They also prevent children from learning and growing to their full potential and prevent adults from earning a living to support their families.

For more than 20 years, IMA World Health has worked to prevent and treat NTDs in Africa, Asia and the Caribbean. Efforts have focused on the five preventive chemotherapy NTDs: lymphatic filariasis (LF), onchocerciasis (River Blindness), trachoma, schistosomiasis (SCH) and soil-transmitted helminths (STH). IMA has also addressed visceral leishmaniasis (VL), known as kala-azar, in South Sudan and, previously, in India.

In Tanzania, IMA World Health supported national efforts to eliminate NTDs in close partnership with the Tanzanian NTD Control Program and local health teams. Through the Sightsavers-funded SAFE project, IMA implemented evidence-based strategies to eliminate trachoma, the world's leading infectious cause of blindness.

The SAFE project provided surgery, antibiotics, and promoted hygiene and environmental cleanliness to reduce the spread of trachoma. IMA World Health teams conducted door-to-door screenings in Mtwara, Pwani, Rukwa, Kagera, Simiyu and Mwanza regions, reaching **more than 750,000 households**. To ensure access for those in need, outreach camps were organized near target villages. Program-trained surgeons performed **more than 12,000 trachomatous trichiasis operations** to prevent blindness caused by trachoma.

To strengthen health systems and ensure sustainability, IMA World Health provided on-the-job training to local medical professionals and community case finders. Over the life of the project, **3,658 community case finders**, along with **57 screeners**, **76 assistant surgeons**, and **23 surgeons**, were trained to support trachoma elimination efforts in their communities.

Throughout 2023, IMA World Health remained committed to addressing NTDs globally through partnerships with communities, governments and development organizations. ○

STRENGTHENING SUSTAINABLE COCOA PRODUCTION IN ECUADOR



Cocoa farmers from San Isidro, Ecuador work together in their community nursery that has boosted local cocoa production and empowered farmers.



Kerliy Quiroz, a cocoa producer from San Isidro, Ecuador, proudly holds a young cacao plant in the community nursery.

The Maximizing Opportunities in Coffee and Cacao in the Americas (MOCCA) project, funded by the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Food for Progress Program and led by Technoserve, aims to help more than 100,000 farmers overcome barriers to rehabilitating and renovating coffee and cacao plants across Guatemala, El Salvador, Honduras, Nicaragua, Ecuador, and Peru. Corus organization Lutheran World Relief leads cocoa programming for MOCCA, promoting cocoa production through agroforestry, improved crop yields, stronger producer organizations, and market connections.

During 2023, Lutheran World Relief collaborated with trade associations, producer groups, exporters and research institutions to build resilient farms and market systems. MOCCA focused on increasing cacao production and quality through renovation and rehabilitation, while expanding agricultural trade and boosting sales.

In **Ecuador**, Lutheran World Relief partnered with ofi Ecuador to advance sustainable cocoa production. Together, they supported **650 cocoa producers** in the coastal region with technical training and business management tools.

One of the project's key innovations was the creation of community-run plant nurseries. Built to last with concrete bases, metal supports, and modern irrigation systems, the nurseries focused on growing cacao plants without synthetic chemicals. Farmers managed the nurseries themselves, producing Nacional cacao — a rare, highly prized Ecuadorian variety.

In the small community of San Isidro, farmers came together to build their own nursery. With support from MOCCA and partnership between Lutheran World Relief and ofi Ecuador, **30 farmers** worked to grow **11,000 cacao plants**. They used improved farming techniques like grafting, which led to a **92 percent success rate** for new seedlings.

The healthy plants were shared with other local farmers, all working toward the shared goal of producing 22 tons of cocoa by 2026.

“By getting involved with the nursery, I found a training space,” said cocoa producer Kerliy Quiroz. “After having exchanged experiences and knowledge, I feel able to put them into practice and improve the management of my cocoa. It motivates me to see my neighbors committed to a long-term project that will improve our lives and income.”

The initiative also established a clonal garden next to the nursery, ensuring that future generations of cacao plants are healthy and high quality.

Through MOCCA, Lutheran World Relief and ofi Ecuador helped farmers grow their incomes while strengthening community ties around cocoa production. ○



Türkiye earthquake response provided shelter, psychosocial support and education



After surviving one of Türkiye's most devastating earthquakes, Çağla and her children are rebuilding their lives in a prefabricated home provided by Corus, offering safety and stability as they recover.

When a series of powerful earthquakes struck **Türkiye** and Syria in February 2023, survivors described the devastation as “apocalyptic.” Entire cities were reduced to rubble, leaving millions homeless and grieving.


Among them was Çağla Sağlam, who lost her husband, mother, and pregnant sister in a single night. “In the disaster of the century,” she said, “I lost my dearest ones.”

Our humanitarian action team responded to urgent needs in Hatay Province, one of the hardest-hit areas, where families continued to face challenges securing safe shelter, food and emotional support. We provided immediate relief, including tents, tarps, winter clothing, solar lights, ready-to-eat food, hot meals, sleeping bags and mats.

Within weeks, we supported the development of a prefabricated container housing community, providing safe shelter as recovery efforts progressed. Çağla and her family moved into one of the homes as soon as it was available. The 226-square-foot home came fully furnished, with electricity, plumbing, heating, and air conditioning, as well as a small kitchen, bedroom and bathroom.

The response also focused on psychosocial support and education, with special attention to women and young people, helping the most vulnerable survivors care for their mental and emotional well-being.

We provided funding for a women’s center, offering a safe, private space where women could shower, access hairdressing services and connect with one another. A youth center provided psychosocial programming to help young people build social skills, emotional resilience and confidence. Educational enrichment opportunities, including coding and robotics, were also offered.

These humanitarian efforts were made possible by the generous support of individuals and Lutheran congregations in the U.S. through Lutheran World Relief. 



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On the Cover: Not long ago, Sunita Devi Mahato was struggling to survive on her small family farm in a flood-prone area in Nepal. With support from Corus organization Lutheran World Relief, her community now has a flood early warning system, and her family has learned to grow flood tolerant crops, including a more resilient type of eggplant.