

SOLIDARITY PARTNERS

REPORT ON 2021 GRANTS



Picture caption: January 25, 2022. The annual pilgrimage for Peace of the diocese of San Cristobal de las Casas, Chiapas.

The Solidarity Grants in 2021

--- RACHEL WARDEN, KAIROS

Solidarity Partnerships are part of who we are as KAIROS. They are human rights and environmental organizations, women’s groups, ecumenical networks and peace movements in Africa, Latin America, Israel-Palestine and the Philippines. These partnerships are rooted in mutual solidarity - a solidarity committed to feminisms, human rights, ecological justice, decolonization and transformation. These partnerships ground and inform KAIROS’ advocacy work on human rights, ecological and climate justice, corporate accountability, gender justice and peace. Although these partnerships are about much more than funding, funding is critical. It is a tangible expression of our solidarity and allows partners to do vital work.

KAIROS solidarity fund allows us to fund these partners with small, flexible grants of \$5,000-10,000 to support their priority projects and advocacy work. In 2021 KAIROS supported 11 partners with a solidarity grants budget of \$100,000. This report briefly highlights these partners and history with KAIROS, the projects supported in 2021 and key outcomes. It is an effort to make visible these partners who are part of KAIROS’ identity and movement. We are deeply grateful for their courage, resilience and creativity and privileged to be able to work in partnership to advocate for a world with human rights, ecological justice and right relations with all peoples and the planet.

The Solidarity Partners

Around the World

----- AFRICA, MIDDLE EAST, LATIN AMERICA AND THE PHILIPPINES.

These are the partners we proudly support. The generous donations from our allies and friends in Canada make it possible.

- ❖ The Fellowship of Christian Councils and Churches in West Africa (FECCIWA) FECCIWA / ACCEAO works in 13 West African countries.
- ❖ Héritiers de la Justice (HJ,) Sud-Kivu province in eastern Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC)
- ❖ Oilwatch Africa (OWA) coordinates work across 15 countries in Africa.
- ❖ WoMin African Alliance - an African women-led women rights alliance
- ❖ B’Tselem – The Israeli Information Center for Human Rights in the Occupied Territories.
- ❖ The Department of Service to Palestinian Refugees (DSPR) is a department of the Middle East Council of Churches.
- ❖ Mesa Ecuánica por la Paz – Colombia.
- ❖ Kaji' Ajpop – Guatemala.
- ❖ Acción Ecológica – Ecuador.
- ❖ Centro de Formación Integral Para Promotores Indígenas A.C Diocese of San Cristobal, Human Rights program, Chiapas – Mexico.
- ❖ EcuVoice - The Ecumenical Voice for Human Rights and Peace in the Philippines.



Picture caption: The Department of Service to Palestinian Refugees (DSPR)



The Fellowship of Christian Councils and Churches in West Africa. (FECCIWA)

The Fellowship of Christian Councils and Churches in West Africa (FECCIWA) / L'Association des Conseils Chrétiens et Églises en Afrique de l'Ouest (ACCEAO) is a subregional fellowship of churches committed to the principles of equality and equity as well as the recognition of rights and differences in an ecumenical dynamic of solidarity.

FECCIWA/ACCEAO works in 13 West African countries, including Benin, Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Liberia, Mali, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal, Sierra Leone and Togo, on programming and campaigning in the areas of food security, anti-corruption, climate change and small arms.

KAIROS works with FECCIWA / ACCEAO in the areas of climate change adaptation as well as food security among youth and women.

Key Outcomes: As an outcome of the program, it is expected that youth and women in the ecumenical movement will be more engaged in climate-resilient actions, and the ecumenical green entrepreneurs will be equipped with better management tools.

Solidarity Fund Support

In 2021, KAIROS supported FECCIWA's project to sensitize young people and women in the ecumenical movement in Burkina-Faso, Mali, Niger, and Guinea to lead effective and sustainable adaptation and resilience within their communities.

The goals of the project were to raise awareness of adaptation and resilience strategies to climate change in Christian Councils; to build the capacity of youth to develop effective ways of planning and managing green initiatives; and to advocate for the active involvement of West African governments and church leaders in addressing the climate crisis.



Picture caption: FECCIWA members attending a training workshop for national coordinators.



Picture caption: FECCIWA members attending a training workshop for national coordinators.



Picture caption: the women of Heritiers de la Justice SALVIS PDF during their income-generating projects.

Héritiers de la Justice (HJ)

Héritiers de la Justice (HJ) is an ecumenical human rights organization that works to diffuse violence and lay the groundwork for lasting peace in the Sud-Kivu province in the Eastern Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC). Through legal clinics, it provides legal training, information, and mediation to promote peace and justice.

HJ’s team of women’s rights advocates, lawyers, and paralegals endeavour to bring justice for women survivors of war. They document cases of sexual violence, accompany women through the judicial process, and provide education on Congolese and international laws that protect their rights.

More recently, **HJ** has provided collective economic empowerment opportunities to women victims and survivors of gender-based violence. **HJ** has been a funded **KAIROS** partner since 2005. **Héritiers de la Justice** is one of four partner organizations implementing the Women of Courage: Women, Peace, and Security program.

Next Steps: Héritiers de la Justice is an active partner in **KAIROS’** emerging gender, conflict and climate focus and program. **HJ’s** experience in local climate adaptation strategies, as well as their work in women’s economic empowerment and local agricultural income generating projects, will continue to inform **KAIROS’** emerging program – Women Peacebuilders build back with economic and ecological justice.

“We are grateful for what Héritiers de la Justice has done for us for several years. We were vulnerable women working in stone quarries. Our partner came to teach us our rights, and today they accompany us to have financial autonomy through IGAs.” – **Mrs. Espérance Kahondwa, President SALVIS-PDF Nyatende**



Héritiers de la Justice (HJ)

Solidarity Fund Support:

Since 2020 **KAIROS** has funded **HJ’s** women’s economic empowerment program through agricultural income-generating activities that support local collectives to assist women who have survived sexual gender-based violence.

This income-generating project has assisted women in Nyantende, Nyatende, Bideka, and Ibanda-Ngweshe, many estranged from their communities to re-establish themselves with livelihoods to support themselves and their children economically in a collective with the solidarity of other women.

In 2021, the extension phase of the project supported local networks to provide economic empowerment opportunities to women in Kamanyola, at the northern limit of the Ruzizi plain in the territory of Walungu, and in Kalehe-Center of Luzira in the territory of Kalehe.

Activities included training workshops on community organizing and the management of income-generating projects, debriefing meetings with their spouses and male allies and provision of training manuals on agro-pastoral income-generating projects for women.



Picture caption: Oilwatch Africa members advocating against Gassing the African Continent

Oilwatch Africa

Hosted by Environmental Rights Action (ERA) in Nigeria.

OILWATCH AFRICA (OWA) coordinates work across 15 countries in Africa and is hosted by Environmental Rights Action (ERA) in Nigeria. It has built a strong, active network to monitor and respond to the impacts of fossil fuel activities on African peoples and their environment. The **Oilwatch International** network is dedicated to developing global strategies for communities affected by oil operations and supporting their efforts to ensure ecological sustainability.

Oilwatch Africa raises the global environmental conscience by exposing industry impacts on tropical forests and local populations. It establishes the relationship between land use and consumption, climate change, food security, human rights violations, and the destruction of biodiversity.

KAIROS’ partnership with **Oilwatch Africa** started in 2015 and has focused on supporting an enabling environment for sustainable agricultural development in Africa, particularly in Ghana, Mali and Nigeria.

Next Steps: Oil Watch Africa will continue to focus on the distribution of research and resources in South Sudan as well as amplifying these findings in advocacy meetings and international conferences such as the United Nations Climate Conference of the Parties (COP). OWA will be attending the COP27 in 2022 as part of the KAIROS delegation and will present these case studies of resource extraction in Africa.

Key outcomes: Outcomes include producing a review of oil policies and the legislative environment in Ghana and South Sudan, a briefing paper to underpin policy meetings as well as deploying an **OWA** delegation visit to South Sudan to facilitate learning and exchanges.

Although some of the outcomes were shifted due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the meetings and exchanges facilitated the production of a lobbying and advocacy manual. Not only is the manual meant to serve as a tool for empowerment and advocacy within South Sudan, but it will also provide better insight and understanding of citizens’ focused management of oil revenues.

“Strengthening the collaboration between Ghana and South Sudan is seen as a good way towards a human-centred approach in natural resources governance in Africa and the subsequent transformation of the continent. The approach aligns with the vision of the African progress panel report while connecting with the desire of the Christian faith where peace, love and harmony with one another are desired for human progress.”

Noble Wadzah, coordinator of Oilwatch Africa

Solidarity Fund Support:

Since 2020, KAIROS and Oil Watch Africa’s partnership has focused on improving governance standards in the oil and gas sector in Africa, including South Sudan. In 2021 the project aimed to complement emerging efforts to conduct an environmental audit of the hydrocarbon sector in South Sudan, one of Africa’s largest oil producing states.





WoMin African Alliance.

WoMin was launched in October 2013 as an African ecofeminist alliance, working alongside organizations of women, peasants, and impacted communities and in partnership with other sympathetic organizations.

WoMin works thematically in the areas of fossil fuels, energy and climate justice, consent and democratized socio-economic decision-making, as well as extractivism, militarization and violence against women. The organization supports work in participatory action research, feminist political education, building solidarity, and going beyond extractivism and the right to say “No”. Through its work, **WoMin** addresses the devastating effects of the climate crisis on the African continent.

Key Outcomes: **WoMin** has taken significant steps to build the Africa Climate Justice Group (ACJG) and, in 2021, hosted the Francophone Climate Justice Gathering in Cote

d’Ivoire from 18-20 May. The event represented the first of the sub-regional gatherings for the ACJG and was part of a broader strategic effort to build a climate justice movement across the region, with a strong focus on gender and building a contingent of women.

As well, **KAIROS** has supported **WoMin’s Right to Say No** campaign, a collaboration with other pan-African, regional and international partners, based on the internationally recognized law of FPIC (Free, Prior and Informed Consent) for communities threatened by proposed projects on their lands. As an outcome, grassroots women and their communities have strengthened organizing and resistance against large-scale fossil fuels, infrastructure and energy projects. Women have put forward their stories, perspectives, visions and dreams for a just energy alternative (the YES of their NO) which forms part of a wider development transition.

Solidarity Fund Support

Since 2020, KAIROS has supported WoMin’s “Women building power for energy and climate justice” program, which aims to deepen the women’s movement for energy and climate justice and create a Pan-African platform which centralizes women’s perspectives, leadership, and voice.

Next steps: WoMin’s “Women building power for energy and climate justice” program area and its “Right to Say No” campaigns will continue to inform and strengthen KAIROS’ work on a gendered approach to corporate accountability and climate justice. WoMin will be critical in plans to create a MERE (Mother Earth and Resource Extraction) HUB Africa as well as in the advocacy related to COP27 (Egypt 2022).

WoMin continues to inform **KAIROS’** research and program development on the nexus between the Women, Peace and Security agenda and women-led climate change resistance.



Picture caption: WoMin “Right to say No” Campaign



The Department of Service to Palestinian Refugees. (DSPR)

The Department of Service to Palestinian Refugees (DSPR) has a mandate to provide humanitarian assistance to Palestinian refugees in Lebanon, Syria, Jordan, the West Bank and Gaza. DSPR reflects the Christian core values in its witness and Diakonia in partnership with local and global actors. It fosters and advances socio-economic conditions for Palestinians by providing health, education, environmental, economic, social and humanitarian programs with the realization of basic human rights. DSPR also advocates for the refugees’ right to return and for an end to the Israeli Occupation of Palestinian Territories.

Historically KAIROS has supported vocational training and health care programs in Gaza and land reclamation and water projects in the West Bank.

Key Outcomes: In 2021, DSPR secured the completion of a 13.5 km agricultural road in the West Bank that is benefitting over 7000 farmers in seven different rural communities in Israeli-controlled Area C in the Tulkarem district in the northwest of the West Bank.

There was also an artisanal well dug in Atteel in Area C, which provides water for over 800 dunums of land. In a video produced by DSPR, farmers who are participating in DSPR’s agricultural program talk about the significant impacts of the rehabilitation of agriculture roads in the West Bank and how it is enabling farmers to access their land, enhancing agricultural production and productivity, contributing to food security and empowering vulnerable women to become more economically sustainability. <https://youtu.be/n8xFaq-TyVE>

“Before the development of the road, our movement was very difficult, and I could not access the piece of land where I cultivate. After rehabilitation of the road leading to my land, our land is now accessible by car, and now it is easy to also access the market with vehicles which we could not do before.”
Mariam Al-Ashkar from Baqa Al-Sharqiyeh village.

Solidarity Fund Support:



Picture caption: Miriam Al-Shaqra, a farmer from Baqa Al-Sharkiye village, West Bank. She is a beneficiary of the agricultural roads rehabilitation project and is now able to access her land and the market.

KAIROS has supported DSPR’s West Bank water and agriculture program for over 10 years. The program seeks to strengthen agricultural conditions for farmers in the West Bank by improving vital water supplies such as water pipelines and reservoirs to farmers, construction and rehabilitation of agriculture roads, provision of greenhouses with irrigation systems, and some processing machinery for farmers.

The agricultural sector is considered the cornerstone of Palestinian economic development, but it has not been able to play its strategic role because of the dispossession of

land and the denial of access to agricultural areas, water resources, and domestic and external markets as a result of the Israeli occupation system.

These projects are contributing to DSPR’s goals to support Palestinian communities to better manage and preserve natural resources and protect the environment by enhancing ownership and access to water resources. They are also strengthening women’s empowerment, enhancing their skills with access to resources to better sustain themselves economically.



Picture caption: Armed Israeli settler accompanied by soldiers threaten farmers near a-Tawani, South Hebron Hill, April 18th, 2020. Still frame from a video shot by volunteer Basel-Al-Adrah.

B'Tselem

The Israeli Information Center for Human Rights in the Occupied Territories.

Since 1989, B'Tselem – The Israeli Information Center for Human Rights in the Occupied Territories has distinguished itself among Israel’s most prominent human rights defenders. B'Tselem was established during the first Intifada by Israeli academics, lawyers, authors and Knesset members to inform the Israeli public about the human rights impact of Israel’s occupation of the Palestinian territories. It has become a highly respected human rights organization internationally and continues to document and advocate for the rights of the occupied population.

B'Tselem strives to end Israel’s occupation, recognizing that this is the only way to achieve a future that ensures human rights, democracy, liberty and equality to all people, Palestinian and Israeli, living between the Jordan River and the Mediterranean Sea.

The organization works to expose the injustice, violence, and dispossession inherent to the regime of occupation, to deconstruct the apparatuses that enable it, and challenge its legitimacy in Israel and around the world. It provides a unique, principled Israeli perspective which is based on careful research and bold analysis that significantly contribute to understanding Israeli policies in the occupied territories.

Next Steps: KAIROS will continue to support B'Tselem’s work, even within an increasingly hostile environment, to enable the organization to continue to publish current and credible documentation and to advocate for international action towards a just peace in Israel and Palestine.

“Despite significant difficulties (in 2021), B'Tselem continued to publish current and credible documentation and analysis of Israeli policies in the occupied territories and advocated for international action to end the occupation. B'Tselem published 72 short research reports about the human impact of the Israeli occupation. B'Tselem published another 60 updates about attempts to expel Palestinian communities from Area C through demolitions, confiscations, and displacements for military training on its Facing Expulsion blog and launched a new blog on settler violence backed by the state to convey its scale and severity, and published 161 posts. B'Tselem published a comprehensive research report, Violence and Dispossession in al-‘Esawiyah, and two position papers, on the ICC, the Israeli Attorney General’s memorandum, and on annexation, The Annexation That Was and Still Is.”

From B'Tselem 2021 report

Solidarity Fund Support:

Digital Security Project

KAIROS is supporting B'Tselem’s efforts to maintain and improve its digital security.

B'Tselem continues to experience ongoing threats to digital security. B'Tselem has worked within an increasingly hostile environment that has threatened staff, office, and data since 2009 when the civil space for human rights work began to constrict in Israel. B'Tselem seeks to improve its ability to store and protect the vast amounts of information, media and documentation from attacks that aim to silence criticism of Israel’s occupation of the Palestinian territories. These measures will help B'Tselem protect and secure documentation, research and analysis of the Israeli occupation of the Palestinian territories collected and produced over its 30 years of history.





Picture caption: In-person meeting with National Animation Team. Usemi House. Oct. 9-10, 2021. Medellín-Antioquia.

Mesa Ecuménica por la Paz

Colombia

Based in Bogota, **Mesa Ecuménica por la Paz (MEP)** is a socio-religious actor that, through its Christian identity, brings together processes and people who are committed to the defence of life, peacebuilding, and enduring democracy in Colombia.

MEP has been a funded **KAIROS** partner since its creation in 2012. In April 2012, different ecumenical groups, church leaders and representatives from across Colombia came together to create a unified message for peace in Colombia and to increase the participation and prophetic voice of the Colombian churches in the current peace process. This first ecumenical forum on peace in the country was convened by a group of church leaders and representatives, including those from the Mennonite, Methodist, Evangelical Lutheran, Anglican, Presbyterian and Catholic churches.

Relevant outcomes: on November 13-14th, the **IX National Meeting** was held virtually. Although it had been proposed with a mixed modality (virtual-face-to-face), the pandemic conditions, in addition to the protest (social outbreak), especially in Cali and Bogotá did not allow for it.

Next Steps: In 2022, **MEP** has plans for a yearly National Ecumenical Meeting, and several regional thematic hearings focused on the threats and persecution of social leaders by armed actors and armed conflict in rural and urban communities throughout Colombia. From October to December 2022, the results of these national and regional meetings will be announced publicly in an advocacy and international solidarity campaign.

“The deep reflections during 2021-22 from the MEP and the different national and international spaces provided a deep awareness of the humanitarian crisis, especially in respect and defence of life. It could not be in a worse moment of threat and persecution for those who are opposing the status quo of the Colombian state. Amid these reflexive spaces, the national and international Campaign: **A Cry for Life** was born.”

(MEP 2021 narrative report)



Solidarity Fund Support:

MEP organized a series of regional and national meetings involving more than 40 social organizations, including local churches, and 150 people to increase awareness and participation in the liberating religious project that the MEP represents and to strengthen

ecumenical advocacy for peace through a lens that centers on social and ecological justice and structural change. These meetings sought to clarify medium- and long-term strategies aimed at consolidating and expanding the social base of the MEP.



Picture caption: Elected representatives to the Municipal Council - COMUDE (August 30th, 2022)

Kaji' Ajpop

Guatemala

Kaji' Ajpop (<https://kaji-ajpop.org/en>) is an Indigenous-led association that promotes the creation of conditions that support vulnerable communities in Guatemala, especially Maya communities, in accessing the basic means to live a dignified and whole life in harmony with Mother Nature.

The association’s priorities include autonomous communities, strengthened civic participation in community decision-making spaces, accompaniment of communities and organizations resisting the extractive economic model, and a focus on women, youth, and Indigenous communities.

Founded in 2019, Kaji’ Ajpop works with Maya Kaqchikel women in and around Sololá, Guatemala, to enhance and increase their (1) **participation** in decision-making spaces and (2) **capacity to generate proposals and undertake advocacy** in women’s groups and committees.

Kaji' Ajpop was formally approved as a solidarity partner in 2021.

Relevant outcomes: Already in 2021, the project has resulted in the organization of 12 legalized women’s committees from the communities of Tablón, Chiquel and Vasconcelos Xajaxa. The legal representatives of these committees can now participate in the Municipal Development Council -COMUDE and can also be part of the women’s commissions at the level of their communities.

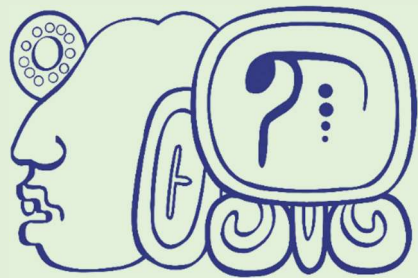
There is now an organization of young people from a village in El Tablón to strengthen citizen participation. Forty-six women participated in a movement of women with constituent power and enhanced knowledge of State decision-making structures as well as the laws and legislation in the country. These women also participated in self-care workshops.

“We seek to strengthen the functions of the women's committees and the importance of their participation in the different spaces.”

Natalia Atz Sunuc

Solidarity Fund Support:

Kaji' Ajpop carried out a series of workshops to increase the political participation, knowledge and skills of Indigenous women from the communities of Sololá. This project supports and enhances Indigenous women’s political representation and participation in several of these local, community committees.



Kaji’ Ajpop

Next steps: Kaji' Ajpop plans training for 80 women members of the Boards of Directors of Sololteca women's committees; the exchange of experience with another municipality on women's entrepreneurship and development; strengthening knowledge of women's rights by commemorating International Women's Day and November 25 on non-violence against women; as well as legal support to other women's committees interested in legalizing their organizations.



Acción Ecológica

Ecuador

Headquartered in Quito, **Acción Ecológica** was founded in 1986 and is widely recognized as one of the leading environmental organizations in Ecuador. The group works with Indigenous, Afro-descendant, and farming communities on issues related to the defence of human and environmental rights and territories, especially in the context of resource extraction. **Acción Ecológica** is a powerful and influential policy development voice at a national and international level.

Acción Ecológica has been a funded KAIROS partner since 2001 and continues to be a key partner for KAIROS' programming on the gendered impacts of resource extraction and climate change.

Key Outcomes: Through training on fossil fuels and global warming, community organizations that face the expansion of the oil industry have increased knowledge, strengthened resistance and greater capacity to form community vigilance and monitoring committees. A podcast series on keeping the Oil in the Ground was developed that focuses on stories of an “Ecuador without Oil” exploitation and use.

Next steps: Continue with the campaigns “Ecuador without Oil” and “Quito without Mining” through the different spaces, podcasts and workshops.

Solidarity Fund Support:

KAIROS provided support for the climate justice program by strengthening the Amazonian peoples' resistance to oil expansion and making visible through networks the importance of leaving oil in the subsoil.



Picture caption: delivery of the demand for climate change against the China Petrooriental company by Waorani communities in the Amazonian region on Ecuador.



Picture caption: January 25, 2022. The annual pilgrimage for Peace of the diocese of San Cristobal de las Casas, Chiapas.

CENTRO DE FORMACIÓN INTEGRAL PARA PROMOTORES INDÍGENAS A.C

Diocese of San Cristobal, Human Rights program, Chiapas - Mexico

Through its Human Rights Program in Chiapas, Mexico, the Diocese of San Cristobal de las Casas trains human rights promoters to work across the diocese to defend human rights, especially those at the intersection of Indigenous rights and ecological justice. The program has been pivotal to the region's continued mobilization and political consciousness. Key accomplishments include the rejection of national and transnational resource extraction projects in Indigenous territory; the strengthening of the [Movimiento en Defensa de la Vida y el Territorio](#) (MODEVITE, Movement for the Defense of Life and Territory); and the creation of community governments in the municipalities of Chilón and Xitalha' in the state of Chiapas. The program is rooted in the historic work of the Diocese of San Cristobal in human rights and social justice and is associated with the legacy of Bishop Samuel Ruiz.

Relevant outcomes: Several talks were given by the Bachajón Mission to high school youth on reconciliation from the Tzeltal worldview. The Mayan altar is a sensitive sign of the Tzeltal worldview and spirituality. These young people were invited to meet and collaborate with the work of peacemakers in the Tzeltal region.



A series of workshops were held for the reconcilers (jchapanwanej), and training was done to document cases in their communities to replicate them in the traditional meetings (ts'umbaliles)

"It has been hard these last years. The cartels are fighting for territory and control over our communities and people. The federal and local governments do not step up for the people. We are making small steps, making a difference in everyday life of people through various programs, working with Indigenous women, mediators and communities looking for peace and autonomy."

Fr. José Avilés Arriola

Solidarity Fund Support:

A project that strengthens the paths of reconciliation and harmony of the Tzeltal communities through training that promotes the work of community reconcilers in the ecclesial and civil spheres. The critical advance of organized crime and drug trafficking in the territory of the diocese of San Cristobal as in Chiapas and the Mexican Republic in general has significantly disrupted community structures. As well, an increase in migratory flows, mainly of young Tzeltals, together with the community division generated primarily by the presence of political parties, have weakened the intra- and inter-community social fabric. The project addresses this complex reality primarily with the positions of Chahpanwanej, (Community reconciler), who, together with the Ulaltaywanej (Visitors) and jMuc'ul chahpanwanej (Senior Vicariate Reconcilers), facilitate reconciliation processes within the ecclesial and social structure, attending to issues that disrupt intra-intercommunity relations. The chahpanwanej (reconcilers) are growing and gaining recognition in communities and even civil authorities.





Picture caption: EcuVoice meeting with members of Rise Up for Rights and Life, an organization of families of victims of killings related to the “war on drugs”.

EcuVoice

The Ecumenical Voice for Human Rights and Peace in the Philippines

The Ecumenical Voice for Human Rights and Peace in the Philippines (EcuVoice) is a network of faith-based and human rights organizations that are working together to promote peace and people’s rights for the defense of life, land, and God’s creation.

EcuVoice has been a partner of KAIROS since the early 2000s. KAIROS has supported EcuVoice to bring the true picture of the human rights situation in the Philippines – including the situation of women, Indigenous people and other victims of rights violations – to various government bodies, including the Canadian Parliament, the US Congress and inter-governmental bodies like the UN Human Rights Council since 2007.

Relevant outcomes: The project not only further empowered human rights defenders despite COVID-19 restrictions (one of the harshest and longest in the world) but also raised the capacity of families of victims of the “drug war” to become effective human rights defenders. The UPR-related advocacy and lobbying are ongoing.

Next steps/future plans: EcuVoice will continue to build the capacity for peace and human rights advocacy of families of victims of politically related rights violations as well as drug-related killings, focusing on empowering women to defend their rights and the rights of others. It will also assist farmworkers in Negros Island affected by rampant militarization.

“In the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic and even before, KAIROS Canada is not just a partner of EcuVoice but also of the hundreds of human rights defenders, community workers and Filipino people in their struggle for human dignity and rights. KAIROS supports us through continued solidarity and commitment to struggle for a society where peace, justice and human dignity thrives. Padayon, KAIROS Canada! Mabuhay kayo!”



Solidarity Fund Support:

Since 2020 KAIROS has supported the Human Rights and Gender Rights Project, which seeks to uphold and promote people’s rights and protect human rights defenders engaged in the defense of life, land, the environment and community. There is a special emphasis on empowering women in this work to eventually become active participants in peacebuilding, human rights defense and development processes. The project consists of four (4) main project components: research and advocacy; service provision and emergency assistance (direct services); capacity building (education and training); and, networking and alliance building. These activities are implemented by EcuVoice and its member organizations.

In 2022, the advocacy and lobbying efforts in relation to the Universal Periodic Review (UPR) on the Philippines by the UN Human Rights Council are being supported.



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KAIROS Partnerships Team