



# FAITH TO ACTION NETWORK 2021 ANNUAL REPORT

As the faith community we commit to lead in ending violence against women and girls



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## Letter from the CEO



Dear friends, partners and colleagues,

The Faith to Action Network celebrated its 10th anniversary in 2021. It was an exciting and impressive year, with great accomplishments

coming to fruition and new adventures launched, despite the limitations on in-person meetings demanded by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Internally, we began an extensive consultation process to refresh and renew our Strategic Plan. In 2021, we hosted an [international convention](#)<sup>i</sup> with more than 100 participants from 56 faith organisations and 26 countries who shared experiences and envisioned a future of flourishing and harmonious communities, where everybody, regardless of religion, gender, age, culture, ethnicity, race, ability or any other dimension of diversity can enjoy a dignified life. We expanded our thematic and geographical coverage in South East Asia and Middle East. We acquired an office building, and established a trust to strengthen our social and organisational sustainability. We have been growing at a rapid rate, achieving our highest-yet annual income, increasing our staff and doubling our subgrantees sustainably to advance our mission.

Working with our members and partners around the world, we achieved very impressive results in 2021 in all our thematic areas. We launched two large new consortia with 4-5 years' worth of new funding. We produced 21 research, demonstration and evidence products. We contributed to 24 organisational changes and reforms within faith organisations and 21 policy changes at local,

national and international levels. We organized 667 events reaching 15,568 people. We reached 44,650 through traditional media, including faith media and edutainment with messages advancing Network strategic priorities. We ramped up our social media communication, enabling us to reach 1.4 million people.



In 2022, we will focus on finalizing and operationalizing a new Strategic Plan, consolidating the gains resulting from our rapid growth and working with the faith community to ensure success across all its domains.

This annual report shines the light on our top 2021 accomplishments. For more details, please visit our [website](#).<sup>ii</sup> If you would like to engage more directly with our work, please contact the Faith to Action Network team.

With thanks,

**Peter K. Munene**  
Chief Executive Officer

## Who are we?

The Faith to Action Network is a global interfaith network of 110 Bahai, Buddhist, Christian, Confucian, Hindu and Muslim faith organizations. Our members represent a tremendous reach across the world: faith institutions, local and national faith-affiliated organizations, and both national and international networks.

Faith to Action Network members are diverse: hierarchical, vertical, centralized, decentralized, formal, informal, elite, grass-root movements, clergy, laity and others. The Network values this diversity: it enables us to mobilize members based on their wide range of strengths and flexibility.

Faith to Action Network offers a non-hierarchical home for all these forms of faith-based action, and see members as the prime drivers for change. Within the Faith to Action Network, the words and actions of a senior religious leader have the same value as those of a youth leader or a woman leader from a local faith organization. This allows Faith to Action Network to work with many different types of faith organisations and at different levels in faith hierarchies. Its focus lies not on formal representation and hierarchy, but rather on where it is possible to create change for the better. The Network brings together diverse actors who have one thing in common: a desire for progressive and positive transformation. The Network prioritizes grassroots work to drive change, and we bridge local to national to regional to international for cross-fertilization of ideas and momentum.

### Faith to Action Network Vision

A world in which interfaith collaboration advances healthy, inclusive, just and peaceful communities.

### Mission and Approach

The Faith to Action Network mobilizes faith actors for interfaith dialogue and collaboration to advance family health and wellbeing; women's rights and gender justice; and peaceful, just and inclusive communities, consistent with one's faith.

To build an accountable movement that can achieve this mission, we accompany our members in organizational and capacity development, including resource mobilization. We amplify faith voices, conduct advocacy and communicate messages for change, including social and behavioural change. We collect and disseminate evidence, implement demonstration projects and convene safe spaces for learning.

### Principles

The Faith to Action Network approaches its work with the following principles in mind:

- Respect for human rights
- Pluralism, inclusion and appreciation for diversity
- Focus on common ground, fairness and solidarity
- Knowledge-based, oriented to innovation and learning
- Accountability, integrity and transparency
- Professional and solution-oriented
- Transformative, seeking to catalyse meaningful change



## How we produce results

The Faith to Action Network supports and produces research that improves **knowledge and evidence** in support of our thematic priorities: this included **21 research, demonstration and evidence products** in 2021.



We **strengthen the capacity** of faith actors by providing a safe space for them to learn about the faith and cultural underpinnings for their views about our thematic priorities. Our capacity strengthening methodologies – such as the Organizational Capacity Assessment tool, faith-based gender audit and Interfaith Caravan – are adapted to faith organizations' institutional cultures. Drawing on this evidence and other sources, **we convene faith actors and decision-makers for mutual learning** and sharing. Our learning approaches take participants out of their own context, exposing them to other cultures, opinions and approaches. This helps promote empathy for the feelings and needs of people with differing opinions, and prompts internal reflection on beliefs and evidence. In 2021, we contributed to **24 organisational changes and reforms within faith organisations**, half related to sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR) and half to women's rights and gender justice.

Likewise, we **bring faith actors to decision-making spaces** to improve dialogue and understanding of faith support for Network priorities among secular duty-

bearers. Faith organizations exert influence as strong advocates vis-à-vis authorities, impacting legal, health and education systems. Gaining their support can have a positive snowball effect on policies in many sectors. F2A Network campaigns start with context and conflict sensitivity assessments and baselines. We analyse power relationships, build inter-faith consensus and package evidence in formats tailored for specific audiences. We simplify scientific, medical and legal knowledge, drawing on religious and cultural teachings and traditions and translating to local context, experience and languages (e.g., French, Arabic, isiNdebele, Shona, chiChewa, Portuguese and Kiswahili).

We create opportunities to engage in policy discussions at international, regional level, national and sub-national level. Our external advocacy helps faith actors raise their informed voices to influence government policies, budgets and implementation frameworks. In 2021, **we contributed to 21 policy changes** at different governance levels, mostly related to SRHR and health (72%) and peace and freedom of religion and belief (FORB, 28%). We **mobilized 29 faith leaders and faith-inspired decision maker champions** to create public pressure to defend and improve policies, mainly related to SRHR and women's rights.

The Network magnifies its impact by promoting news, evidence and inspiring messages through external



communications, including international events, reports and social media. In 2021, we **organized 667 events reaching 15,568 people; reached 44,650 through traditional media**, including faith media and edutainment; further reached **1.4 million people through social media**.

External evaluations consistently report Faith to Action Network success in advancing sensitive topics in complex environments. United Kingdom government (FCDO) annual reviews in 2020 and 2021 both rated the Network’s SRHR program as A+, with outputs exceeding expectations. As an organization we endeavour to consistently innovate and adapt, hence in response to Covid-19, we helped scale up faith-health facility



in-reaches using the “Booked-in client” approach to reduce facility congestion; strictly monitored integrated outreaches in sparsely populated areas

and scaled up door-to-door activities awareness-creation on Covid-19 and SRHR. We also supported the faith community to adapt to technology by organising virtual meetings, conferences and other consultations, a major adaptation from the usual approach of face to face interactions.

## Diversity and Inclusion: From Rhetoric to Collective Faith Action: Faith to Action Network Convention

Our 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary [international convention](#) hosted in Nairobi and online around the world involved more than 100 participants from 56

faith organisations and 26 countries who shared experiences and envisioned a future of flourishing and harmonious communities, where everybody, regardless of religion, gender, age, culture, ethnicity, race, ability or any other dimension of diversity can enjoy a dignified life. At the Convention, the faith actors co-created and unanimously signed an [Interfaith Statement](#) on human dignity, diversity and inclusion. A

press conference we organized on-site attracted five media houses with speakers drawn from the Bahai, Muslim and Christian communities speaking on women’s rights. A publication in Muslim Times Newspapers and social media platforms advocating for FORB reached 4,141 people with this information.

## Family Health and Well-being – Advancing Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR)



Interfaith work is crucial to improving family health and SRHR and members invest in family health and wellbeing because it enables people to develop and enjoy full and fulfilling lives. Religion is interwoven into African and Asian life and shapes social norms and morals linked to sexuality and gender.

In 2021, to advance family health and well-being, including sexual and reproductive health and rights, we mobilized:

- 18 public policy changes
- 12 faith institution policy changes
- 10 faith champions.

We reached:

- 13,404 people through events
- 51,303 through social media
- 20,000 through other forms of communications outreach

The Network focused on improving access among very marginalized, hard-to-reach populations: poor rural women, adolescents and people with disabilities in remote, unstable, environmentally harsh regions. We work in local communities characterized by insecurity, long distances between health facilities, high illiteracy levels and occasional droughts. These are places where weak, unstable public service infrastructure and poor road network compound poverty and fragility.

### Helping girls and women in remote, marginalized communities access family planning

Through its “Deliver Equitable and Sustainable Increases in Family Planning” (DESIP) project, F2A Network and its faith-based consortium members trained religious leaders on their role and faith-based advocacy for family planning.

The project actively engaged 393 religious leaders who together with other demand creation agents, reached over 27,855 community members with FP messages. The Network provided family planning services through 336 static health facilities and conducted 2,610 outreach activities.

***We succeeded in reaching 170,236 women, of whom 10% (17,091) were adolescents, with a family planning method. In the first year, the project achieved 180,519 couple years of protection (CYP), 105% of our target.***

Such communities are also highly patriarchal with real and perceived cultural and religious barriers to family planning uptake.



Through scripture clarification trainings, faith-based demand creation, training of healthcare workers and distribution of commodities, the Network has broadened access and uptake among people where we work. We strengthened public and faith-based partnerships for family planning demand creation and service delivery through multi-stakeholder reproductive health and commodity security technical working groups; training and mentorship; joint supportive supervision; performance reviews and quality improvement.

We developed and implemented faith-based social and behavioural change communication (SBCC) activities including preaching about family planning in worship places, informing through congregational groups, community talks, radio talks and community-based distribution. We established interfaith referral systems that directed people to needed services. We conducted data audits to improve systems for documentation, data management and reporting; equipment commodity management and replenishment; and distribution of healthcare workers across system-users. We supported faith leader advocacy and secured their participation in county technical working groups; performance review meetings with data quality assessments; and commodity

management and service provision working groups.

These actions measurably increased the number of young, rural, and marginalized girls and women who can safely plan their pregnancies and improve their sexual and reproductive health and rights. Our work has helped reduce maternal, new-born and child mortality and increased the modern Contraceptive Prevalence Rate (mCPR) in places we work.

To engage faith actors with decision-makers for family health and well-being, the Network co-chaired the steering committee of the regional stakeholders' taskforce in support of sexual reproductive health bill in the East African Community (EAC). Faith to Action Network strengthened the capacity of 50 faith leaders to present issues and concerns in the bill based on the Christian and Muslim theological rationales and mobilized over 100 civil society organizations (CSOs) to lobby the East Africa Legislative Assembly (EALA) on the East Africa Sexual Reproductive Health bill 2021. In 2022, after public hearings, the bill will be subjected to a second and third reading before being agreed by Heads of State.

The Network helped co-organize with AmplifyChange, Human Sciences Research Council (HSRC), Réseau Africain pour l'Éducation et la Santé (RAES), Aahung a global online conference called [Talking about life skills, more comprehensively](#),<sup>iii</sup> which gathered civil society and grassroots activists, implementing partners, faith actors, funders, policy makers and other key stakeholders from across the world who shared their strategies and perspectives on how to ground activism for comprehensive sexuality education in real world contexts. At this conference, the Network mobilized three Network member organizations to [organize sessions and talking points](#).<sup>iv</sup>

At the 19<sup>th</sup> International Dialogue on Population and Sustainable Development in November 2021, the Network organized a break away session/ working group for technical exchange on **“Cooperation with religious actors to foster the acceptance of young people’s**

*"I went to the (Network) training without any knowledge on family planning; I even thought family planning is a sin...The training gave me more understanding and courage to talk to church members about child spacing."*

**Pastors Martin Ombok and Rhoda Akacha from Homabay County**

**diversity and SRR - overcoming barriers".** Network members moderated and provided key speakers. The Network's faith-based partners [shared stories of change](#)<sup>vi</sup> through faith leaders in their implementation respective counties.



While supporting diverse faith actor lobbying, the Network submitted a written statement to the 54<sup>th</sup> UN Commission for Population and Development calling

upon UN Member states to agree to comprehensive structural solutions for women's socio-economic justice and SRHR, including gender-responsive universal social protection systems, and changing discriminatory laws and social norms.

In partnership with Young Women for Awareness, Agency, Advocacy and Accountability (YW4A) and Mensen met een Missie, the Faith to Action Network ran 16 days of activism campaign in December 2021 culminating in a hybrid event for rich and deep discussions on what the faith community has done to end Gender Based Violence (GBV). Here are some specific examples of the activities organized by Network Member Ibrahimia Media Center (IMC) to support the campaign:

- launched an online campaign supporting women against GBV
- hosted a three-cinema club broadcasting in communities
- aired films / cinemas supporting women rights discussions with faith leaders on issues such as child marriages, VAW/G and inclusion in political positions
- five faith leaders (2 women and 3 men) held radio programs in Meru and Migori counties on local FM stations (Thiiri FM and Milambo FM) during the morning prime time slot
- faith leaders promoted national toll-free lines for access to SGBV related services.

An estimated 10,000 people listened to both radio programs.

## Gender Justice

Believing that all people are created equal, Faith to Action Network seeks to promote positive communication of sacred texts to reflect the dignity of all human beings. We encourage our members to reflect on their internal norms and practices, revisit harmful traditions and amplify life-giving norms and practices. Drawing on our moral and physical resources, we champion women's rights and gender equality in laws, policies, societal norms and people's behaviours. To advance women's rights and gender justice in 2021, the Network:

- achieved 12 changes in faith institution policies or frameworks
- mobilized 15 champions

We reached

- 1,626 people through events
- 70,070 through social media
- 20,000 through other communications activities



We **pioneered a ground-breaking faith-based gender assessment methodology** that facilitates a transformative organisational change process of embedding gender equality within faith organisations. We developed a consultation guide in English and French and held 18 consultative sessions and 21 dialogues on women's rights in Christian communities.



We also facilitated conversations on women's rights and gender equality from a Muslim perspective through the development of 12 theological papers and nine practice papers on [Women's Rights in Islam](#).<sup>v</sup> The consultations provided faith institutions with dedicated space and time to reflect on their own experiences of gender discrimination and the role of religion in perpetuating cultural norms; to ask difficult questions related to religion and human rights; to improve theological literacy on women's rights and knowledge of key legal instruments; to support faith actors' ability to draw from the faith scriptures and teachings to promote women's rights in different parts of the world; and deepen faith actors investment in promoting women's rights. The consultations were launched through a webinar with 123 viewers from across the world that reached more than a million people on social media.

Our demonstration projects in Egypt, Kenya, Palestine and South Sudan with Network Members and partners<sup>vi</sup> show how partnerships between young women, women's rights organisations and faith actors can strengthen young women's participation and amplify their voices to influence decision-making towards gender-just laws, policies, norms, and practices. In these countries, girls and women face high levels of intimidation, threats, discrimination, harassment and sexual and gender-based violence, in the home and in public life. A patchwork of laws, regulations and commitments on women's rights

fail to protect these girls and women largely due to patriarchal norms and cultures that put men in positions of power and dominance over girls and women, including through violence. From the local level on up, women are precluded from decision-making autonomy at home, prevented from exercising leadership in the workplace and in places of government decision-making, and stigmatized when they seek redress for rights violations.

*viii, ix, x, xi, xii, xiii, xiv, xv, xvi, xvii, xviii, xix, xx, xxi, xxii, xxiii, xxiv*

Here are some specific examples of Network efforts in 2021.

- In its 2021 work in Palestine and Egypt, the Network engaged major Christian and Muslim institutions and faith leaders. Working with two Judges (Muslim and Christian), Faith to Action helped map and assess religious family laws with legal pluralism and international obligations; researched women's participation within religious courts; and examined the legal framework for women's participation in religious court decision-making. We developed curricula addressing women's rights in Islam and Orthodox Christianity through holy texts. We produced films addressing religious personal status laws, on women's rights and social norms that seek to inspire other faith institutions. The policy mapping research, which includes input from champions working in Shari'a courts and Christian ecclesiastical courts, will inform training and advocacy for faith-based actors and women rights champions.
- In collaboration with partners, we trained 20 women's rights champions from faith organisations in South Sudan to strengthen knowledge and skills on women rights and gender equality from a human rights and faith perspective; equipped champions with the skills and knowledge to conduct the gender assessment; and provided advocacy skills to enable change within participants' faith organisations. Training included peer-to-peer learning and identification of barriers to women's leadership. It resulted in an interfaith WhatsApp group to stir up debate and help transform social and cultural norms in the community. Network

partners in South Sudan drafted and validated an interfaith declaration on women's rights and women's participation in community decision-making. A joint Interfaith media advisory commemorating the 16 Days of Activism campaign against GBV was attended by 108 senior interfaith members, women's rights champions, women's rights organizations and other faith institutions. The interfaith members believe that working towards a more inclusive society requires collective responsibility to take actions now as enshrined in the Biblical and Quran's teachings. (Bible: Galatians: Chapt. 3:28, Genesis: Chapt. 1:27 - 28). In Quran, Sura 4:1, and Sura 49:13).

- In Kenya, our work helps shift social norms and practices by faith-based organizations towards promoting young women's rights to dignity, bodily integrity, and equal participation in decision-making. To this end, Network partner Evangelism One Accord held a one-day interfaith dialogue meeting with 51 interfaith leaders using the Faith to Action Network Facilitators Guide that raised awareness among leaders about gender equality and women's rights, as well as ecumenical and interfaith approaches for advocacy. Feedback mechanisms have been planned to ensure that each leader holds follow-up discussion sessions, documents and reports.
- Western Uganda Faith-Based Organisation Network (WUFBON) partnered with the International Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Trans and Intersex Association (ILGA) to enhance and broadcast women voices and minority women concerns through representation including the participation in launch review with UN and International Women's Rights Action Watch Asia Pacific (IWRAP Asia Pacific).

Network partners contributed to learning and knowledge management through studies and developing publications. WUFBON conducted studies on land conflict, Albinos and the African traditional religions. Fatayata Nu developed Guidance and Modules for Fatayat Women's Preachers focused on Solidarity and Religious Tolerance. The Muslim Centre for Justice and Law (MCJL) documented grievances and tensions within



the Muslim sects of Shia, Sunni, Hamadiyyah, Ismailiyah and worked to address harmful traditional practices specifically affecting gender relations, youth participation within the Muslim faith.

To amplify voices internationally, the Faith to Action network submitted a written [statement](#)<sup>xxx</sup> to the UN Commission for the Status of Women, an intergovernmental body hosted by UN Women. The statement, submitted in collaboration with Act Alliance, Sonkegender justice, FEMNET and Act Church of Sweden, reaffirmed commitments made in the Beijing Platform for Action and urged catalytic action. We also collaborated with the International Partnership on Religion and

Development (PARD) to organise a side event at the 66th UN Commission for the Status of Women (CSW) that mobilised ten faith-based organisations to issue a statement advancing the perspective of women's rights.

Our gender justice communications activities also included:

- Hosting a Twitter Chat to launch the Women's Rights and Christianity consultations. The chat was held running with the hashtag #FaithActors4Justice. 123 people viewed the webinar, most viewers were women (96%) and very few men (4%). The Twitter Chat attracted 157 contributors to post more than 356 Tweets, had a potential reach of 1,732,183, and generated 1,972,278 impressions.
- Hosting the #FaithActors4TheGirlChild Twitter Chat jointly supported by YW4A and other F2A projects on the International Day of the Girl Child. The Twitter Chat generated a total of 228 tweets, the hashtag had 430,886 impact/impressions, reached 194,780 people and attracted 44 participants who tweeted using the official hashtag.
- Developed infographics to influence the adoption of transformative social norms that promote women's rights.

# Peaceful, Just and Inclusive communities



An estimated 356 million children live in extreme poverty,<sup>xxvi</sup> with<sup>xxvii</sup> 43% of the global youth labour force either unemployed or trapped in working poverty.<sup>xxviii, xxix</sup>

**The Faith to Action Network seeks to build peaceful, just and inclusive communities. Our work to advance peace and freedom of religion and belief (FORB) in 2021:**

- achieved seven public policy changes
- instigated 12 changes in faith institutions
- cultivated six new champions
- organized 35 events reaching 1,043 people

**In an impressive documentation of impact, the Pew Research Centre noted a decrease in social hostilities involving religion in locations where the Network intervened, and data show increased respect for religious tolerance in all project locations that we worked. Group grievances based on social or political characteristics regarding access to services or resources and inclusion in political processes, decreased in all six countries we worked, according to the Fragile States Index Annual Report 2019.**

To help disseminate knowledge about how interfaith collaboration can advance peace-building in fragile and

conflict-affected communities, the Network prepared three case studies in 2021:

- **Case Study 1:** Shaping Youth Behaviour Through Interfaith Collaborations: Case Study Series No. 1 Cases from Burundi, Egypt, Kenya, South Sudan, Tanzania, and Uganda
- **Case Study 2:** Shaping Youth Behaviours Through Interfaith Collaboration: ADE's case of Ezbet El-Nakhel, Miser El-Kadima and Madiant El-Salam
- **Case Study 3:** Nurturing Peaceful Co-existence Through Interfaith Collaborations: Case Study Series No. 3 Responses to Radicalisation and Violent Extremism in Kenya and Zanzibar

Our peace and FORB-related capacity strengthening activities included:

- strengthening faith actors' capacities in project management and implementation of peace and FORB in their communities through Training of Trainers for 30 Fatayat daiyah (women's preachers) and 40 project staff in project management.
- supporting the Muslim Centre for Justice and Law in equipping 137 people with various skills, including mediation, referral pathways and as champions for women's rights in Uganda.
- Supporting the Uganda Joint Christian Council to conduct a Training of Trainers workshop for 26 Faith actors on Freedom of Religion and Belief.

External evaluators have found that our peace-building work represents "an impressive and well executed initiative that promotes pluralism, respect for religious and cultural diversity and peaceful coexistence among cultures and religions." By engaging young people across faith traditions our work "succeeded in modelling practical interfaith and cultural instruments in concrete, lived contexts" and "provides valuable insights relating to the discourse on religion, pluralism, peacebuilding and human rights in Africa and globally."

We supported twelve member institutions<sup>xxx</sup> to build new interfaith initiatives in Ethiopia, Indonesia, Kenya and Uganda to advance peaceful and just societies FORB through intrareligious, interreligious and extra-religious activities. Our intrareligious work addresses divergent doctrines and different ways of interpreting religious texts that cause tension and hostilities. Our inter-religious activities address religious discrimination through intercultural dialogue. Extra-religious work addresses



FORB rights violations, discriminatory profiling by security agencies; and shrinking civic space through advocacy. Across all our peace-building work, the Network focuses on advancing pluralism, advancing women's rights and addressing marginalization of both women and youth. In Uganda alone, we prompted 160 cultural and religious leaders to participate in constructive dialogues and cooperation group engagements to promote interfaith and inter-cultural cooperation on FORB.

Here are some specific examples of Network activities on peacebuilding and FORB:

- Uganda Muslim Lawyer's Association and Network of Public interest Lawyers, presented a joint petition to the chairperson of Uganda Human Rights Commission (UHRC) demanding investigation and prosecution of Uganda security personnel for extra-judicial killings of Ugandan citizens. WUFBON advocacy for emergency health care for the minority groups resulted in identification of Hospital focal points and linking them with solidarity groups. They successfully lobbied for religious leaders' participation in district mediation and conflict resolution / security committees.
- The Ethiopian Interfaith Forum for Development, Dialogue, and Action (EIFDDA), in collaboration with Search for Common Ground, helped organize a roundtable meeting for European actors and decision-makers to exchange best practices and lessons learned on how FORB and peacebuilding relate to one another.

Through international events, such as the International Day of Peace, Network partners brought together over 3,302 diverse groups, contributing to peaceful interaction between diverse ethnic and religious and communities and strengthening different mechanisms and opportunities for promoting peace and FORB. We collaborated with global faith partners to co-create a written statement for the UN Commission on Population and Development (CPD). In 2021, we organized faith participation in conferences by participating on the steering committees of the International Conference on Family Planning, the AU / UN Women women's rights forum, UNHCR's 'Welcoming the Stranger' conference, UNESCO's 'Global Partnership Forum on CSE'.

# Managing for Success



In order to ensure a strong and vibrant faith movement for its thematic priorities, the Faith to Action Network works to continually improve the excellence and professionalism of faith community management practices; mobilize resources to get the job done; manage grants to members and partners; and ensure accountable governance.

In 2021, Faith to Action Network income rose from €1.8 million to €3 million. The secretariat team expanded from 8 to 13 colleagues, a 62% increase, enabling increasing professionalism of our work both thematically and in skill sets. Our subgrantees more than doubled, from approximately 10 to 21. To ensure subgrantees could manage the funds effectively, we assessed their capacity, developed and implemented capacity strengthening plans, installing and training them on new accounting software, putting in place systems and procedures

The resource increase enabled the Network to launch two new large-scale programmes with operations in Egypt, Ethiopia, Indonesia, Kenya, Palestine, South Sudan and Uganda:



The four-year Young Women for Awareness, Agency, Advocacy, and Accountability (YW4A) programme to advance

gender justice and promote young women's rights to dignity, bodily integrity and equal participation in decision-making in Egypt, Kenya, Palestine and South Sudan. The Network implements YW4A with the World Young Women's Christian Association (World YWCA, consortium leader), along with partners Equality Now, YWCA Palestine, YWCA Kenya, YWCA South Sudan, Ibrahimia Media Centre (IMC) and the Royal Tropical Institute (KIT).



A new five-year project, the Joint Initiative for Strategic Religious Action (JISRA) program with an interfaith global consortium of 50 global and grassroots organizations in more than 10 countries. The Faith to Action Network provides global coordination for JISRA lobby and advocacy work and is implementing JISRA through local partners in Ethiopia, Indonesia, Kenya and Uganda. JISRA seeks to advance peaceful and just societies where all enjoy freedom of religion and belief (FORB) through intrareligious, interreligious and extra-religious work. Its intrareligious work addresses divergent doctrines and different ways of interpreting religious texts that cause tension and hostilities.



The Network continued to strengthen its sustainability. We acquired an office building, and established a trust to strengthen our social and organisational sustainability.

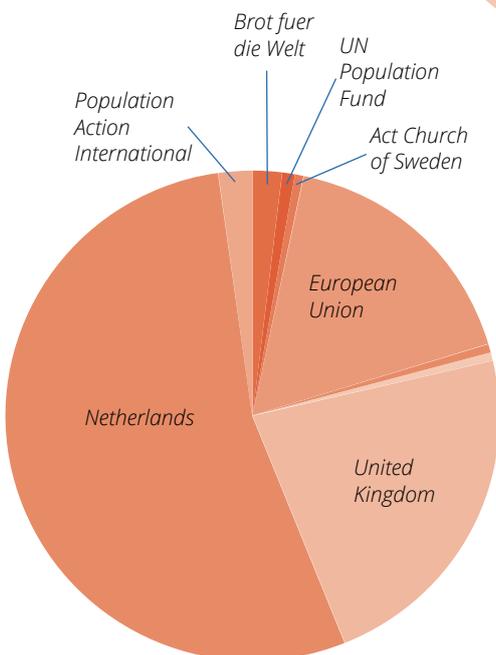
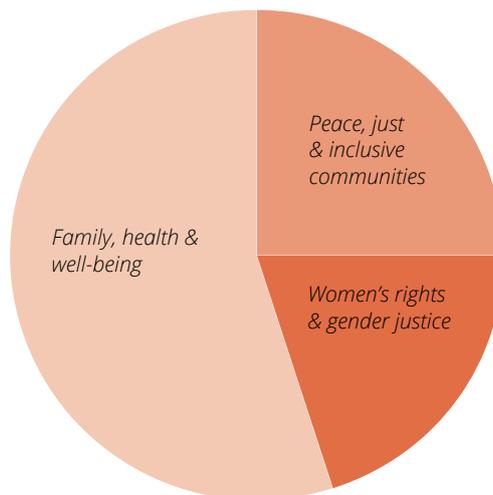
We wrote new project proposals, gained new partners, including Läkarmissionen, Lutheran World Federation, World Vision and strengthened new partnerships with Mensen met een Missie, DSW, Search for Common Ground, Tearfund, World YWCA, Equality Now, KIT, Brot für die Welt, ACT Alliance, WCC-EHAIA, EANNASO, UNFPA, and PS Kenya.

The Network in 2021 expanded our thematic and geographical coverage in South East Asia and Middle East. We started rolling out our hub system in six Eastern African countries. We published annual reports in English and German and conducted two annual audits in Kenya and Germany. We launched an extended consultation on a new five-year Strategic Plan, which will take effect in 2022.

# 2021 Finances

## Income by Thematic Area

	2020	2021
Family Health and Wellbeing	€ 1,195,045	€ 1,555,852
Women's rights and Gender Justice	€ 276,190	€ 361,180
Peaceful, just and inclusive communities	€ 134,360	€ 861,275
<b>Total</b>	<b>€ 1,605,595</b>	<b>€ 2,778,308</b>



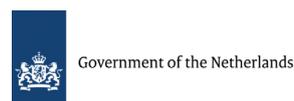
# Thanks to our members and supporters

**We owe a great debt of thanks to our supporters,** all those who contribute their time, knowledge, expertise and funding. We offer our sincere appreciation to:

- **Our Members:** Spread across four continents and representing Bahai, Buddhist, Christian, Confucian, Hindu and Muslim faiths, their rich diversity has offered immense opportunities to learn, share experiences and work together.
- **Our major donors:** the governments of Germany, the Netherlands and the United Kingdom; Population Action International; Brot für die Welt (BftW); the European Union; and United Nations Populations Fund (UNFPA).
- **Our Steering Council Members:** Council of Anglican Provinces of Africa, Al-Azhar University, Muhammadiyah,

Cordaid, African Council of Religious Leaders – Religions for Peace, and Christian Connections for International Health. Their policy oversight and guidance has set a foundation deeply rooted in compliance and innovation.

- **Our partners:** ACT Church of Sweden, ACT Ubumbano, ACT Alliance, Al-Azhar University, AMREF, Brot für die Welt, DSW, EANNASO, Equality Now, FP2030, Health Action International, LÄKARMISSIONEN, Lutheran World Federation, Mensen met een Missie, Muhammadiyah, Population Reference Bureau, PS Kenya, Search for Common Ground, Tearfund, VSO, World YWCA.
- **Faith to Action Network staff:** they have done fantastic work under challenging circumstances, steered implementation of diverse interventions with many members and partners.



## Get involved!



### Become a partner

No one can solve the world's problems alone. Strong partnerships—with faith organisations, civil society organisations, aid agencies, corporations, foundations, governments, and local organizations—are needed to create a world where people live healthy, peaceful, quality lives. From Uganda to the Philippines, our partnerships tackle strategic priorities: sexual and reproductive health

and rights; gender equality and women's rights; pluralism and understanding. To learn more, click [here](#).

### Become a member

Join our work to mobilize faith organizations' support. Engage with people who matter. Be part of a strong community for networking, dialogue, sharing, learning and partnership. Access technical and financial resources. Raise your voice and be heard through representation in national, regional and international decision-making processes. To learn more, click [here](#).

### Join us at an event

Faith to Action Network values learning and sharing as a central part of our work. We host, attend, and present at countless events, conferences, workshops and trainings throughout the year. Watch for upcoming events, by clicking here. To find us at an event, click [here](#).

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