

Tearfund Ireland Strategy

2025-2030



tearfund

Ireland

About Tearfund Ireland

Who We Are:

Tearfund Ireland is a Christian international development and relief organisation committed to the transformation of vulnerable communities in specific regions around the world. Utilising quality development interventions and humanitarian relief in emergencies, we work in relationship with local partners to assist people in transforming their communities. As a Christian organisation, we resource the Church in Ireland, to practically demonstrate their faith by engaging in sustainable development, pursuing biblical justice and advocating on behalf of the world's marginalised.

‘Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind’; and ‘Love your neighbour as yourself.’

Luke 10:27

Vision:

Flourishing communities free from poverty and injustice.

Mission:

To collaborate with key partners so vulnerable individuals can overcome poverty, withstand crises, and transform their communities.

Core Values:

Our values guide us toward this mission and direct our interactions.

Christ-Centred:

We are a Christian organisation, endeavouring to live our faith through loving our global neighbour and assisting others in doing likewise.

Relational:

We recognise that through healthy, trusting relationships, we can collaborate more effectively, clarify misunderstandings, and strive for mutually agreed results.

Justice Minded:

We believe in a world where poverty and injustice no longer have influence. Based on our understanding of faith, hope and love, and the dignity of every individual, we pursue justice for all people.

Excellence:

We always strive for our best. We undertake quality development approaches, operating best-practice, maintaining high standards with professionalism and integrity.

Our Strategic Objectives:

- 1** Alongside local partners and the church, support the vulnerable and marginalised to transform their lives through meaningful partnerships and increased provision of resources.
- 2** Deepen relationships with churches to envision, equip and mobilise the Christian community and the Irish public to engage in justice, humanitarian response, and sustainable development internationally.
- 3** Advocate with and on behalf of the world’s marginalised and vulnerable.
- 4** Grow and strengthen organisational resources, technical expertise, skills and capacity.

Strategic Pillars:

These pillars represent the over-arching themes and provide a framework for our strategic objectives, goals, and activities.



We believe poverty and injustice are symptoms of broken relationships. Facilitating change of economic, material, and social injustice requires a holistic approach toward restoring broken relationships. Alongside faith-based and church partners, through quality development interventions, we collaborate for the transformation of individuals and entire communities.



We desire relationship over transaction. We believe that trusting, committed relationships are essential for effective collaboration toward our mission and vision.



We are a learning organisation. With a desire for multiplied growth, and continuous improvement, we provide resources and development education initiatives to envision and equip others, inviting them to collaborate in our shared vision for flourishing communities.



We prioritise a healthy organisational culture. We intentionally nurture our Christian ethos and live our values while striving to be a results-focused, adaptable, and cohesive team.

‘The Lord has told you what is good, and this is what he requires of you; to act justly, to love mercy, and to walk humbly with your God.’

Micah 6:8



Photo: A Syrian couple forced to flee their home are now living in Lebanon. Credit: A local Christian partner.

Strategic Enablers:

Within the strategic pillars these enablers are the key elements of how we'll achieve our objectives.

Localisation: Partner-Led projects

We are committed to localisation. Working alongside local partners who implement quality development and humanitarian interventions, we strive for equitable, meaningful, mutually beneficial partnerships to achieve holistic transformation in their communities.

Irish Church and Christian Community

We are Christians working in the development and humanitarian sector. Through trusted relationships we enable the Christian community in Ireland to demonstrate love for their global neighbour and compassion for the marginalised through quality practices. We also build relationships with like-minded people who may have a different, or no, expression of faith.

Tearfund Family

We are committed to strengthening the collaborative potential of working with the worldwide family of Tearfund organisations who share a common identity, values, quality standards and ways of working.

Strategic Alliances

We purposefully align with other organisations around a common purpose to add value and achieve greater impact.

Values-led

We are intentionally values driven. Committed to our ethos, sustained by our faith, and motivated by hope, we endeavour to model integrity, justice, compassion, adaptability, learning and excellence in our work.



'Learn to do right; seek justice. Defend the oppressed. Take up the cause of the fatherless; plead the case of the widow.'

Isaiah 1:17



The King will reply, 'Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.'

Matthew 25:40



‘Speak up for those who cannot speak for themselves, for the rights of all who are destitute.’
Proverbs 31:8

Working Model:



Overview of Themes:



Photo: Aida washes her hands beside their home in the Bekaa Valley. Credit: Local Christian Partner.



Development Themes:

We focus on community-based development which contributes to holistic transformation. Alongside local partners who implement sustainable development interventions, improve resilience, increase agency for the marginalised, and build institutions, we also collaborate for organisational strengthening and learning.



Poverty

Self Help Groups; Sustainable Livelihoods.



Hunger

Climate Mitigating Agriculture & Food Security.



Gender & Marginalised Women

Gender Inclusion, Address Gender-Based Violence.



Strengthening Governance & Building Institutions

Self Help Group Structures; Commercial Market Links; and organisational development of Partners.



Refugees & Migration

Psycho-Social Supports; Safe Spaces for Children.



Vulnerable Children

Family Strengthening; Reintegration; Alternative Care.



Humanitarian Themes:

Our overall aim is to reduce need for humanitarian aid and intervention. When disasters strike, we leverage resources for appropriate locally led responses aligned with the Core Humanitarian Standards.



Emergency & Disaster Response

Active member of Irish Emergency Alliance.



Protracted Crises

Targeted responses where aligned and add-value.



Advocacy Themes:

We advocate with, and on behalf of, our Partners and the communities they serve, amplifying their calls for justice. We also utilise development education methodologies and research to enhance our advocacy and awareness raising initiatives.



Orphanage Volunteering

Changing behaviour around support for orphanages.



Refugees & Migration

Changing behaviour toward those forced to flee their homes.



Climate Justice

Changing behaviour for climate justice and creation care.

‘For I know the plans I have for you,’ declares the Lord, ‘plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you a hope and a future.’

Jeremiah 29:11

Irish Aid and Development Education

Tearfund Ireland has benefitted as a partner to Irish Aid in the Civil Society Fund. Through this partnership we have been able to directly assist tens of thousands of Ethiopians who are lifting themselves out of poverty, strengthening food security and building resilience to climate shocks through the Self Help Group project. In addition, this relationship has facilitated our organisational strengthening, enabling us to forge new partnerships with peer agencies. We intend to continue this partnership with Irish Aid.

We intend to grow our Development Education programme by continuing to create resources and facilitate workshops which deepen our supporters’ understanding of global issues. To that end we aim to continue our participation in Irish Aid’s Global Citizenship Education funding partnership.

Irish Aid have established the below priorities. Tearfund Ireland programmatic activities directly address the priority areas of Reducing Humanitarian Need, Climate Action and Gender Equality. In addition, our focus on strengthening institutions, governance, and policy development, in our projects, for our partners, as well as ourselves, enables us to address the fourth priority of strengthened governance.



GENDER EQUALITY



REDUCING HUMANITARIAN NEED



CLIMATE ACTION



STRENGTHENED GOVERNANCE

Sustainable Development Goals

The United Nations have established 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Each country has agreed to achieve certain targets by the year 2030. The Irish Government has committed to targets as part of its commitment to achieve these goals. Tearfund Ireland will raise awareness about the SDGs and the goals which our work strives to address through our Global Citizenship Education, public engagement activities, our supporter communications, and resources.



‘Let justice roll on like a river, righteousness like a never-failing stream.’

Amos 5:24

'Let not the wise man boast in his wisdom, let not the mighty man boast in his strength, let not the rich man boast in his wealth, but let him who boasts boast in this, that he understands and knows me, that I am the Lord who practices steadfast love, justice, and righteousness in the earth. In these I delight.'

Jeremiah 9:23-24



Photo: Ethiopian Farmer, celebrating harvest. Credit: Tearfund Canada.

Statement on Faith and Intention:

As a Christian international humanitarian relief and development organisation we believe that a fully lived faith leads to practical benefits for everyone. Coming alongside our local partners and church networks, we build meaningful relationships to support them to go beyond economic empowerment toward community-wide transformation. For institutional donors, our unique position provides access to communities and networks who may otherwise be difficult to reach.

Tearfund Ireland is committed to working with and through the Church. In Ireland, we will continue developing resources so ministry leaders are equipped to inform and inspire Christians to become more engaged with their global neighbours. Tearfund Ireland will also continue to build partnerships with organisations and donors who share our aims though they may articulate their faith differently.

We are respected in the INGO sector as a faith-based organisation, but we do not impose our beliefs on those with whom we work. Our non-discriminatory approach is carried out solely based on need and we endeavour to help people lift themselves out of poverty regardless of their beliefs, ethnicity or expression of faith.

'For the earth will be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the Lord as the waters cover the sea.'

Habakkuk 2:14



**'Your kingdom come, your will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.'**

Matthew 6:10

📷 Photo: Ethiopian Farmer, celebrating harvest. Credit: Tearfund Canada.

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