

ADVOCACY REPORT

January – April 2021



COUNCIL *for*
INTERNATIONAL
DEVELOPMENT

SUMMARY

2021 SO FAR – COVID CONTINUES TO DOMINATE, AND A SHIFT TOWARDS JOINT ACTIVITIES

This report collates the advocacy activities of CID Members from the January – April 2021 period, as well as other general activities of CID Members from this period. The activities in this report have been collected from a survey sent to CID Members, as well as desktop research conducted by CID. The activities detailed in this report are not extensive, and are intended to provide a snapshot of CID Members' activities from the period.

This period saw the continuation of significant collaborative advocacy campaigns such as 'Big Hearts, Connected World', and 'Sign for Freedom'. There continues to be a trend towards more joint campaigns and appeals with multiple CID Members.

Consistent with the previous period, there is still a distinct thematic focus on Covid campaigns and appeals. The recent Covid outbreak in India saw a significant number of CID Members respond with appeals and campaigns to secure essential equipment and vaccines for India.

This report provides details on these campaigns, under Member Advocacy Highlights and Other Member Activities.



Photo: New Zealand Red Cross – Lily & her 2-year-old daughter at the Whangaparoa Defence Force training base

Member Advocacy Highlights

TRADE AID & WORLD VISION - SIGN FOR FREEDOM

Through the Sign for Freedom campaign, **Trade Aid & World Vision launched a petition**, requesting that ‘the House of Representatives, as a matter of urgency, enacts Modern Slavery legislation that requires public and private entities to report on the risks of modern slavery in their operations and supply chains, and on the actions they are taking to address those risks. Unlike many other countries, New Zealand has no legislation that requires companies to undertake due diligence looking into the risks of modern slavery within their supply chains and taking actions to address those risks. Modern Slavery legislation is a key way for New Zealand companies to work together to eliminate modern slavery in private and public sector supply chains’¹.



UNIONAID – CALL FOR MYANMAR TO RETURN TO DEMOCRACY

Throughout the January – April 2021 period, UnionAID have supported Myanmar groups in New Zealand to hold rallies, and worked with the NZ Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade to discuss New Zealand’s approach to the Myanmar crisis. Their activities included an Op-Ed published in the Dominion Post, a segment on Newshub and a presentation to the Fabian Society. UnionAID also met with the Minister of Foreign Affairs following a rally they were involved in organising². The Chair of UnionAID, Ross Wilson’s Op-Ed on New Zealand’s role in breaking the UN paralysis on Myanmar can be read here³.



UnionAID
Better Work, Better World

OXFAM AOTEAROA – THE PEOPLE’S VACCINE ALLIANCE

As part of the People's Vaccine Alliance, Oxfam Aotearoa are engaging with policymakers, decision-makers, and mobilising NZ public and Oxfam supporters to get Covid vaccines to all⁴. Oxfam Aotearoa are also engaging in



¹ <https://www.signforfreedom.nz/>

² <https://www.stuff.co.nz/national/politics/124186547/new-zealand-suspends-political-military-contact-with-myanmar-after-coup>

³ <https://www.stuff.co.nz/world/asia/124684914/nz-must-help-to-break-un-paralysis-on-myanmar>

⁴ <https://peoplesvaccine.org/>

discussions on TRIPS waiver, COVAX, C-TAP and dose donations. The People's Vaccine Alliance is calling on governments to:

- Raise the ambition to vaccinate 60% of the planet.
- Break the shackles of intellectual property on vaccines and Covid knowledge.
- Make an immediate and large investment of public money into manufacturing more vaccine doses around the world.
- Provide Covid vaccines, treatments and tests free of charge.
- Scale up global financial support for upgrading and expanding public health systems.

BIG HEARTS, CONNECTED WORLD.

This period saw the climax of the Big Hearts campaign, with the presentation of the petition to the Minister of Foreign Affairs to implement a 'Collective Resilience Plan in Budget 2021' calling for:

- 20% boost to the overseas aid budget, focused on healthcare, social support and resilience, plus;
- Doubling of finance for climate action overseas from new and additional sources, and;
- Target for getting aid spending to 0.7% of gross national income by 2030⁵.

The petition collected over 3000 signatures. The campaign was 'powered' by **Oxfam Aotearoa, World Vision, CWS and supported by other CID Members.**

ANGLICAN MISSIONS - GET ONE. GIVE ONE.

This period saw Anglican Missions plan for the 'Get one. Give one' campaign to donate vaccines. The campaign aims to encourage New Zealanders to donate vaccines to COVAX when they get their own vaccine, to protect and support the world's poorest and most vulnerable from Covid through vaccine equality⁶.

⁵ <https://www.bighearts.org.nz/>

⁶ <https://angmissions.org.nz/>

Other Member Activities

Aside from the advocacy activities listed above, CID Members also engaged in other international development advocacy or fund-raising activities in the January – April 2021 period. These activities are listed below (note, this is not an extensive list).

ADRA

ADRA began work to respond to the recent surge of Covid in India as well as the need for Covid relief in Nepal and Papua New Guinea. In India, ADRA is working to set up Covid vaccine camps, deliver PPE to frontline healthcare workers, establish an on-site oxygen generator, and support people through counselling and community awareness. Responses in Nepal and Papua New Guinea involve training for laboratory workers, supply of emergency equipment, awareness raising, vaccine promotion, and providing handwashing facilities⁷.

CARITAS

Caritas is working on providing Covid relief in several Pacific countries. They are focussing on awareness raising, public messaging, providing soaps and hand sanitisers, and gathering resources like beds, food, and water⁸.

CBM

CBM has put out an urgent Covid crisis appeal to raise funds to support communities in Papua New Guinea who are being affected by the pandemic. The fundraising will go towards hygiene kits for people with disabilities, nutritional support for children, travel costs for cbm-funded workers to travel to remote villages and raise awareness, and PPE for cbm-funded teachers and workers⁹.

CHILDFUND

Childfund has remained diligent in their Covid relief efforts overseas, Zambia being of particular focus recently. Covid has exacerbated difficulties that Zambians were already battling such as ongoing drought, putting many families in a more vulnerable position. Childfund is also continuing to support providing healthcare to newborn babies and mothers, improving livelihoods of children

⁷ <https://adra.org.nz/respond/>

⁸ <https://caritas.org.nz/covid-19-pandemic-appeal>

⁹ <https://www.cbmnz.org.nz/activity/current-appeal/>

and youth in Asia and the Pacific, restoring easier access to water in Sri Lanka, and empowerment of children¹⁰.

UN WOMEN

UN Women Aotearoa New Zealand have put out an appeal for Covid relief in India after the severe and devastating outbreak¹¹.

ORPHANS AID INTERNATIONAL

Orphans Aid International has put out an appeal to feed children in India during this time of Covid infection. Because of the outbreak, many more children are vulnerable and in need of food and care and are dying from hunger. Through this appeal, they wish to provide Covid relief and save the lives of these vulnerable children¹².

GLOBAL DEVELOPMENT GROUP

Global Development Group has responded to the recent outbreak in India by seeking to deliver oxygen concentrators to serve more than 10,000 patients that are not being reached by mainstream media, providing families in the slums with basic necessities and dry food¹³.

TEARFUND

Tearfund is taking a comprehensive approach to deal with modern slavery through the use of a '5 P's' approach Prevention, Prosecution, Protection, Policy, and Partnership. Tearfund has five partners in countries overseas that carry out the groundwork – Fiji, Cambodia, Thailand, Sri Lanka, and Nepal¹⁴.

March this year marked ten years of the Syrian crisis. Tearfund has been working to support Syrian refugees for 8 years and their church-based partners have helped to provide emergency food, health assistance, hygiene kits, trauma support, education, winter materials, and child-friendly spaces. Covid has worsened the state of many communities and the difficulties they already faced from the consequences of war¹⁵.

UNICEF

2021 marks the tenth year of the ongoing Syrian Crisis and children remain just as vulnerable as ever in this tragedy. They have been impacted by displacement and violence and remain in need of

¹⁰ <https://childfund.org.nz/blogs/news-and-stories/our-response-to-covid-19-in-zambia>

¹¹ <https://unwomen.org.nz/>

¹² <https://www.orphansaidinternational.org/covid19>

¹³ <https://globaldevelopmentgroup.org/au/projects/global-development-group-covid-19-india-appeals/>

¹⁴ <https://www.tearfund.org.nz/Our-Work/Anti-Trafficking-Exploitation.aspx>

¹⁵ <https://www.tearfund.org.nz/Syrian-Refugee-Crisis>

basic needs such as education, healthcare, and clean water. UNICEF is continuing to provide nutrition treatment, clean water, vaccines, sanitation facilities, and are getting children into schools¹⁶.

In many Pacific Islands and Timor-Leste, children do not have a fair chance of receiving a quality education or having access to basic healthcare or clean water. UNICEF is continuing their appeal to provide these basics to the children in these countries¹⁷.

Figures gathered earlier in 2021 show that acute malnutrition threatens the lives of 2.3 million children under the age of five in Yemen. With the Yemen health system on the brink of collapse and Covid still spreading, UNICEF has released an emergency appeal to help the lives of the children suffering in Yemen. ¹⁸

UNICEF has also responded to the recent surge of Covid cases in India with an appeal to provide Covid testing machines, oxygen generators, vaccines, and support to communities and essential workers. So far, 9 of 26 oxygen plants have been installed and over 200 testing machines and 4,500 oxygen concentrators have been delivered¹⁹.

SAVE THE CHILDREN

The threat of famine in Yemen has left millions of children malnourished and at risk of death. The collapse in the healthcare system – bombed hospitals, stopped rubbish collection, damaged water and sewage pipes. Through encouraged donation to the cause, Save the Children is helping with relief efforts to save the children in Yemen²⁰.

INTERNATIONAL NEEDS

International Needs have responded to the Covid outbreak in India with a team of more than 180 volunteers who are working daily with local people to relieve the impact of the pandemic²¹.

¹⁶<https://www.unicef.org.nz/appeal/syrian-childrens-crisis>

¹⁷<https://www.unicef.org.nz/appeal/pacific-project-champions>

¹⁸<https://www.unicef.org.nz/appeal/yemen-childrens-crisis>

¹⁹<https://www.unicef.org.nz/appeal/covid-19-crisis-in-india>

²⁰<https://www.savethechildren.org.nz/our-work/emergencies/yemen-emergency/>

²¹<https://innz.org.nz/appeals/COVID19>