




2021- 2022 Annual Report

(Incorporated with limited liability)

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 **We're
still here.**



Beyond Feeding the Poor



... if you spend yourselves in behalf of the hungry
and satisfy the needs of the oppressed,
then your light will rise in the darkness,
and your night will become like the noonday.

Isa 58:10

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Before the Russia-Ukraine War, most people probably have not heard of Ukraine; but in just a few months, we have seen from various media rubble all around Ukraine and the displacement of its people.

There are many countries that have been in a state of conflict for a long time, such as the Democratic Republic of the Congo in Africa. Since 1997, armed conflicts have not ceased, stalling the country's development despite its rich natural resources. Countries with similar situations include South Sudan, Somalia, Syria, Iraq, Myanmar, and Yemen. We do not even realise that many of these countries have endured civil wars for more than a decade, maybe even two decades. In a stable city like Hong Kong, we seldom pay attention to these vulnerable groups who have lived in adverse circumstances for many years and need more than financial assistance. Their tragic stories are rarely known, not because the matter itself is not worth mentioning, but because the local people have been suffering for a long time, and the media reports can no longer attract public attention.

CEDAR Fund adopts 'We're *still* here' as the theme of this year's report in the hope of drawing the public's attention to people in long-term conflicts and the forgotten vulnerable. We want people to understand life without resources, such as education and medicine due to displacement, and relate to their fragility and pain. At the same time, the theme, 'We're *still* here', also represents CEDAR and its partner organisations and churches continuously watching over vulnerable groups.

The Bible teaches us to 'love your neighbour as yourself.' This 'love' is not just about 'recognising' the existence of poverty but about having genuine compassion for the poor and a real sense of their needs and pains. The Bible says, 'If one of you says to them, "Go in peace; keep warm and well fed," but does nothing about their physical needs, what good is it?' (James 2:16)

We must not only pray for them but also help them so that the power of the Lord will come to them and they can have hope in the midst of turmoil. We have prepared ourselves for future humanitarian and natural disasters, and we hope to do our best in response to the Lord's call to help vulnerable groups. 📍




Board Chairman
Dr. Chan Nim Chung




Chief Executive
Dr. Chan Pui Si



In Christ

**we build a just and
compassionate world together.**

Who We Are...

CEDAR Fund is an independent Christian relief and development organisation founded in Hong Kong. We strive to live out the integral mission of the Church in partnership with Christians around the world to assist the poor and the needy.

We Are Called...

We are called to participate in the mission of God and to witness God's kingdom on earth. 'From Church, Through Church' is our guiding principle of operation. In Christ, we are determined to build a just and compassionate world together with Christian churches and organisations worldwide. Based on our vision, there are 10 natures of our ministries:



Anti-human
Trafficking



Children and
Youth Development



Creation Care



Peace and
Reconciliation



Church and
Community
Mobilisation



Livelihood
Development



Humanitarian
Relief and
Disaster Risk
Reduction



Health



Urban and
Rural Development



Advocacy

Where We Serve

Europe

Ukraine, Poland, Slovakia

No. of projects: **2**

76,701 beneficiaries

Asia (excluding China & Hong Kong)

Bangladesh, India, Nepal,
Myanmar, Thailand

No. of projects: **42**

234,790 beneficiaries

The Middle East

Afghanistan, Lebanon, Syria

No. of projects: **13**

677,561 beneficiaries

China & Hong Kong

No. of projects: **10**

11,730 beneficiaries

Africa

Ethiopia, Rwanda, Zimbabwe

No. of projects: **11**

17,771 beneficiaries

Thankful for God & You

CEDAR was able to walk alongside approximately **1,020,000** beneficiaries

and restore their dignity and value through **78** relief and development projects, of

which **17** development projects were new, through partnerships with **43**

Christian organisations and churches in **16** countries and regions around the world.

The war in Afghanistan, the military coup in Myanmar, the Syrian civil war, the Beirut explosion, the Russia-Ukraine War... we once often heard of these events in the media. News focus changes rapidly, and it shifts our attention as it goes. However, those affected by wars and being displaced are still facing hunger and poverty. The long-term issues can hardly draw people's attention in the long run.

'We're *still* here' is the theme of CEDAR's annual report, aiming to draw everyone's attention back to the vulnerable that the media no longer sheds light on. Meanwhile, we hope you join in taking action by standing with people living in adversity.

Afghanistan

No. of projects: 6; No. of beneficiaries: 18,596

Even though the war is over, the hard days for people are not. The Afghans have been facing hazards like droughts, earthquakes and flooding. In June 2022, the UN estimated 820,000 Afghans were newly displaced.

CEDAR provided various kinds of assistance to Afghans. Provisions include food, hygiene supplies, warm clothes and blankets. Besides, we educated the locals about hygiene and childrearing, helping them to build an extensive community network.



Myanmar

No. of projects: 9; No. of beneficiaries: 13,736



In 2021, the military overthrew the government and seized power. As the figure suggested by the UN in June 2022, there were 14 million Myanmar people (one-fourth of the population) in desperate need of humanitarian assistance.

CEDAR and its partner gave a helping hand to the locals. We distributed food and medical aids; we taught them to grow their own food in their backyards; we also helped with shelter rehabilitation.

Ukraine

No. of projects: 2; No. of beneficiaries: 76,701



The Russia-Ukraine War began early this year. According to the UN, by July 2022, the number of Ukrainian refugees has reached 5.2 million. Apart from refugees, the UN announced in August that over 6 million locals were in a displacement crisis inside the country.

Ever since the breakout of the war, CEDAR has allocated funds to support refugees living in the border area twice, delivering food aid, cash and shelter assistance to the most in need. Our programmes did not only cover Ukraine but also Poland and Slovakia.

Syria and Lebanon

No. of projects: 7;
No. of beneficiaries: 658,965

The Syrian civil war broke out in 2011. 11 years have passed, but the immense suffering brought by the war lasts. As reported by the UN in March 2022, the war has taken the lives of 350,000 Syrians while putting over 12 million civilians homeless. Due to the thin border between the two countries, part of the Syrian refugees has fled to Lebanon, causing huge economic stress in Lebanon.

In the past four years, CEDAR has been helping Syrians living outside of their homeland. In 2021 to 2022, we offered assistance to Syrian refugees and poor civilians in Lebanon. We provided cold-weather supplies like blankets, mattresses and carpets while giving some fuel vouchers to people in need.





Photo: CEDAR's partner

Children receiving winter supplies.

What could you do when your currency depreciates by 90% within two years? What could you do when you find out that the canned food and the bottles of cooking oil on the shelf are not priced because the severe inflation has rendered pricing meaningless, and you could not afford the skyrocketing prices offered by the shopkeeper?

When you already had difficulties making ends meet for your family, the powerful blast at the port of Beirut detonated the country's long-term economic and political crises. Grumbling voices are all over the country. The young generation is constantly calling for changes, but the corruption of the regime stands in the way of reform and is as immovable as a boulder.

The odds are against the people of Lebanon. Can they break out of the downward spiral?

This is the plight of countless Lebanese. Three-quarters of the population is poverty-stricken. Poverty coupled with the COVID-19 epidemic, the daily power cuts, oil cuts, and sectarian conflicts spell disaster for poor local families. For over one million Syrian refugees who migrated to Lebanon years ago, the situation is worse. (Lebanon is one of the countries with the highest number of refugees per capita in the world).

Our partner revealed to us that many of the higher social classes have already emigrated. A recent survey reported that over 60% of Lebanese interviewed would want to leave the country permanently. It is estimated that the Lebanese diaspora has

outnumbered those remaining in the country.

While the locals are planning to leave, CEDAR wants to reassure the local disadvantaged, 'We're *still* here.'

In the emergency assistance sector, we have supported Syrian refugee families and local poor families to survive the winter. With the help of local churches and non-governmental organisations, we distributed blankets, mattresses, and scarves and provided fuel subsidies for them to survive through the harsh winter at -10°C.

In the community development sector, we have supported refugees and out-of-school children, including education through satellite TV programmes and social media. In addition, we have provided basic grammar and trauma-informed education in the learning centres. We have also heard the strong outcry against sectarianism from the young Lebanese. Through inter-faith (Muslims and Christians) dialogue, the conflicts among the youths and the communities are softening up.

We have been told by our beneficiaries that it may take years for the communities and the country to change, but the change will happen eventually. Although the Lebanese are experiencing a multifaceted crisis, we shall change the game against the odds if we are still here for them. 📍

Lebanon, Syria Projects



Children and Youth Development
3 projects //
650,932 beneficiaries



Humanitarian Relief and Disaster Risk Reduction
3 projects //
7,971 beneficiaries



Peace and Reconciliation
1 project // 62 beneficiaries

No. of Beneficiaries: 658,965

Walking Through the Darkness Together - Afghanistan

Rebecca Lee (Programme Consultant)

In early August 2021, the situation in Afghanistan deteriorated significantly because of the military offensive by the Taliban. As a result, we lost contact with our local partners. On 15 August, the Taliban retook control of Kabul. Eventually, after a few days, we heard the good news from our partners - all of them were safe, but all ministries were suspended due to the ongoing political instability.

Since then, CEDAR has often asked for updates on their situation. 'Are you all safe?' 'Shocked to be invited by the region leaders to resume the organisation's work?' 'Are women allowed to work?' 'How do the sanction policies affect humanitarian support and community services?' 'Any exemptions granted?' 'How to get emergency relief started when banks have a cash withdrawal limit?'

Besides, waves of saddening news have been coming from the media and our partners. Food shortages occurring due to continuous drought and conflicts; female high school students being banned from schools and women being scared to go out, leading to the gradual disappearance of females in public life; food insecurity and poverty forcing more parents to sell their children in order to survive; Afghanistan's economy and public services collapsing due to international sanctions, the suspension of foreign aid and the freezing of Afghan government assets; the unemployment rate reaching 40% approximately, 90% of the population facing food shortages, nearly the whole country was living below the poverty line...

The date of writing this article is exactly 15 August 2022. In just a year, the world has changed. The situation in Afghanistan has already faded from the public eye. Humanitarian aid and community development from CEDAR and its partners would not be able to continue if not for the support of the donors, including:

- sending mobile health teams to provide basic health services for pregnant women and children, improving their nutrition and health to lower maternal mortality rates.
- helping disabled and minority children to enhance their self-care ability and to learn Braille, sign language or official language. They can even be sent to government schools. Our partner has specifically hired female teachers to provide education to girls, protecting them from the risks of exploitation (child labour, forced marriage, human trafficking).

'We're *still* here' is more than words of comfort. With everyone's support, we can 'walk the talk' - walking with the Afghans on this difficult road and provide real help. May God be pleased with your actions! 📍



Photo: CEDAR's partner

■ Haroon (pseudonym) is a hearing impaired fourth grader.

Afghanistan Projects



Humanitarian Relief
and Disaster
Risk Reduction
4 projects //
14,484 beneficiaries



Urban and Rural
Development
1 project //
2,834 beneficiaries



Children and
Youth Development
1 Project // 1,278 beneficiaries

No. of Beneficiaries: **18,596**



In February 2021, the military seized power in Myanmar and overthrew the country's democratic government, causing ongoing chaos across the country. According to UNHCR's figures, more than 690,000 people have been internally displaced since May 2022. People in Myanmar are facing hyperinflation. Money needed for a bottle of oil now only allows people to purchase half of a bottle. Queues lining up for food assistance are very common on the street.

Since 2021, I have had regular online meetings with our partners in Myanmar. One day, when I was in a meeting with the partner's staff Ah Mei (pseudonym), her background (not a virtual one) aroused my interest. Seeing her being under a tree, I asked curiously, 'Where are you right now?' 'We left the house to look for a safe place to hide so that we could join the meeting.' This was to avoid the military's 'surprise inspection', which aimed to suppress the opposition. Her answer worried me. 'Are you guys safe? Shall we rearrange the meeting to another day?' 'No worries. We can handle it.' Ah Mei sounded determined. She then talked us through the situation of the village and the progress of aid and ongoing development projects, which include sending refugees food and medical support and helping villagers with 'backyard farming' due to food shortages.

I was having a meeting with Pastor Joshua one afternoon. Through the screen, he was beaming while updating us on the progress of the resettlement of the internally displaced people (a project in which CEDAR worked with the local church and partner organisation). I recalled my very first online meeting with Pastor Joshua, he kept a straight face and did not talk much. After over a year of regular meetings, our conversations have become more natural. In spite of endless civil wars, our partners are determined to safeguard their homes and help one another.

I do not want our partners to risk their lives just to join a meeting, not to mention being forced to move from place to place. Whenever hearing 'we're *still* here' from our partners, I feel comforted but heavy-hearted at the same time. Ah Mei, Pastor Joshua, and the rest of our partners are committed to being the witnesses of Christ in the world, bringing hope to the vulnerable villagers. Their courage and persistence deeply touch our hearts. They encourage us to keep walking on this journey, serving those suffering in endless wars together. Our faith is in Him, who loves the poor relentlessly. 📍

Myanmar Projects



Anti-human Trafficking
1 project //
863 beneficiaries



Humanitarian Relief
and Disaster
Risk Reduction
3 projects //
5,846 beneficiaries



Urban and
Rural Development
4 projects //
6,727 beneficiaries
(including a project at the
Thai-Myanmar border)



Children and
Youth Development
1 project //
300 beneficiaries

No. of Beneficiaries: 13,736





■ CEDAR's staff sharing the 'SALT' visit approach in a church.

'Behold, I tell you, raise your eyes and observe the fields, that they are white for harvest.' (John 4:35b, NASB)

Raise your eyes. What do you see?

Over three decades, overseas poverty alleviation and disaster relief projects have been CEDAR's core ministries. However, God gave us a vision: long queues for free meals, elderly scavengers with their backs hunched, closure notices of small local shops, and abandoned shops for lease. People are having a hard time with a gloomy outlook for the future. Therefore, we started local community development projects, serving the grassroots level with churches and Christian organisations.

The church we funded planted a new service point. In their prayer walk, they found quite some deprived neighbours and decided to develop their church's community services and mobilisation. Yet, they faced a challenge because some church members perceived visits as opportunities for personal evangelism. They preached the Gospel the first time they met the neighbours without building any relationship. Hence, some stopped going to church for meal boxes or attending activities. We then shared about the 'Integral Mission' with church members, telling them that preaching the Gospel was not only about the words but also our deeds. Community services allow our neighbours to know the Gospel and the Lord of poor people by seeing the outline of the Gospel. Brothers and sisters joining the community services changed their mentality and became more willing to listen to their neighbours and no longer preach the Gospel at their very first meeting.

Moreover, the church encountered staffing and financial problems. The church members merely wanted to serve once but never took the initiative to understand the ministry's needs. Our colleague once spoke to the congregation about a 'missional church'. 'Many brothers and sisters came to ask about services after that sermon...the number of people knowing and participating in services increased significantly,' the church's voluntary staff said. The church staff and volunteers actively encouraged church members to keep serving at the service point, such as joining 'Mum's Group' and assisting in tutorial classes.

Our resources are limited, limiting our number of partners and the funding amount. But that church staff said, 'finance is not my biggest concern because I trust in the Lord who provides. However, related experiences and new stimulations are indeed what we need...the collaboration between the (church's) service point and CEDAR Fund and envisioning the congregation is far more important than giving out materials.'

God's grace is abundant and covers our insufficiency in resources so we can walk together with the faith community and be a harvester. Thanks, God! 📍

Hong Kong Projects



Creation Care
1 project // 9,440 beneficiaries



Church and Community Mobilisation
2 projects // 440 beneficiaries

No. of Beneficiaries: 9,880

Hong Kong Advocacy, Education and Fundraising activities

Having worked with **51** churches, seminaries, Christian organisations and schools



Organised **101** activities



Reaching **8,046** people



We're still here.

1 Donation Option

- Monthly Gift (by credit card or autopay) HK\$ _____
- Increase your monthly gift amount to HK\$ _____
(If you donate by direct debit autopay, please complete the Monthly Donation Form and send the original back to us)
- One-off Gift HK\$ _____

2 I would like to support

- According to CEDAR's need
- Particular Category > Relief & Rehabilitation Poverty Alleviation, Development, and Advocacy
- Specific Project: _____
- Specific Donation Campaign > 'Remove Price Tag, Free Body & Soul' 'Join Hands Join Hearts'
- 'Care for the Disaster-stricken Poor' 'Restore Dignity for the Poor'
- 'Long-term Assistance to the Conflict-stricken Poor'

3 Donor's Information (BLOCK LETTER)

(Please use the same name as in your tax information.)

Donor's Code (if applicable) _____

Name: _____ (Pastor / Deacon / Mr. / Ms.)

Address: _____ (for receipt issuance)

Email: _____ Phone: _____

Church: _____

Your personal information will be used by the Organisation for the matters (including but not limited to contacting, handling event registrations, issuing receipts, research/analysis/statistical purposes, fundraising, opinion gathering, event/training course invitations/provision of information of the Organisation).

I do not want to receive event/training course invitations/provision of information of the Organisation.

Signature _____

4 Donation Method

Autopay (Please complete the Monthly Donation Form [download at link.cedarfund.org/rd-form-en or contact us for the form] and send back the original)

Credit Card (VISA / Mastercard / UnionPay / JCB) *

Monthly donation will be debited automatically from your credit card account monthly until your further notification.

Card No.	Card Expiry Date (Should be valid for the next 3 months)	Signature <small>Must be the same signature on the back of the card</small>
Cardholder's Name	/ (MM/YY)	

Cheque (payable to 'CEDAR Fund') > Cheque No.: _____

Direct Deposit: HSBC 004-600-385678-001 / BEA 015-185-68-00931-7 SSA
BOC 012-581-2-020114-7 / DBS 016-478-001364162

Fast Payment System: FPS ID: 3354016

PayMe: Scan the QR code on the right



5 Donation Receipt

Donations of HK\$100 or above are tax-deductible in HK with our receipts. For regular donation by autopay or credit card, an annual receipt will be issued in April.

Yes, please send me donation receipts (by email / mail) * > Receive a receipt after every donation Receive an annual receipt

No, thanks.

(* Please delete as appropriate)

Please complete this form and send it back to us with cheque, bank-in slip or screenshot of successful payment:

Mailing Address: CEDAR Fund, G.P.O. Box 3212, Hong Kong
Email: sharing@cedarfund.org
WhatsApp (for donation matters only): 5160 7549



Beyond Feeding the Poor

Financial Report

(Fiscal Year commenced from 1/7/2021 to 30/6/2022)



Income	HK\$	Expenditure	HK\$
Donation	21,595,953	Development and relief projects	17,927,803
Other income	85,765	Administration and depreciation	3,155,312
		Promotion	1,603,494
		Education	1,319,483
	21,681,718		24,006,092
		Deficit	(2,324,374)
Extraordinary income			
Sales of Property & Employment Support	15,271,522		
		Surplus	12,947,148

This financial report has been audited by auditor. Administration includes one-off expenses of sales of property. Donation of this year is 5.21% lower than that of last year.

Thank you for your continued support!

Please continue to support CEDAR and its partners' work with prayers and donations.

AR-202301

We are CEDARIANS



CEDAR is committed to professional standards in ministry planning and development, and accountable to God and donors for the faithful use of all resources put at our hands. The Board is responsible for the organisation's administrative management, strategy development and financial plan. The Board set up three specific committees that offer suggestions to the Board regularly. All board members are participating in the management on a voluntary basis.

Board

Dr. Chan Nim Chung (Chairman)
Dr. Winnie Fung Wan Yi (Vice-Chairman)
Mr. Benjamin Yam Kwok Hei (Treasurer)
Dr. Bernard Wong Kwok Wai (Secretary)
Dr. Christine Lau Pui Ting
The Rev. Anders Chan Ming Chuen
The Rev. Anthony Lee Chap Yung
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Mr. Joseph Chan Kwok Fong
The Rev. Irene Suen Ching Man
Dr. Wan Wai Yee (Until December 2021)
Mr. Vincent Hui (Until December 2021)

Consultant

Mr. Oliver Mark
Dr. Faith Ho
Dr. Mok Chiu Yau

Chief Executive

Dr. Chan Pui Si

Ministry Support

Mr. Anthony Kwan
Ms. Bonnie Ho
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Mr. Tang Chun Tung
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Mr. Ness Ma
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Programme

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Mr. Edward Lai
Mr. Ivan Tsoi
Mr. Bunsak Thongdi (Programme Consultant)
Ms. Rebecca Lee (Programme Consultant)
Ms. Hollace Chai (Until February 2022)