



**GLOBAL CONNECTIONS**  
**Relief and Development Forum**

**Justice and advocacy:**  
**local church, local change**

*Mobilising churches to engage in  
advocacy and justice issues*

# Why does Christian Aid engage in Justice and Advocacy?

## **MANDATE**

We are an agency of our churches in Britain and Ireland and are mandated to work on relief, development and advocacy for poverty eradication

## **ESSENTIAL PURPOSE**

- To expose the scandal of poverty
- To challenge and change structures that perpetuate its existence
- To contribute in practical ways to its eradication

# Values and Principles driving our work

## Values:

- Love and solidarity
- Dignity and respect
- Justice and equality
- Cooperation and partnership
- Accountability and stewardship
- Objective of work is to be co-workers with God in the quest towards “life in all its fullness” (John 10:10)

# Advocacy and Justice

Advocacy is a prophetic activity of the churches, in which we accompany and support our partners who struggle for justice and peace in the context of injustice and inequality against fellow human beings and the rest of creation.

Advocacy = Public Witness and Solidarity

# Poverty and Development

- What do you think of when I say POVERTY?
- What do you think makes people poor or causes poverty?

Poverty is complex, it has many causes and they are interconnected

# The Issues in Africa

Climate change

Conflict

HIV and malaria

Rights and justice

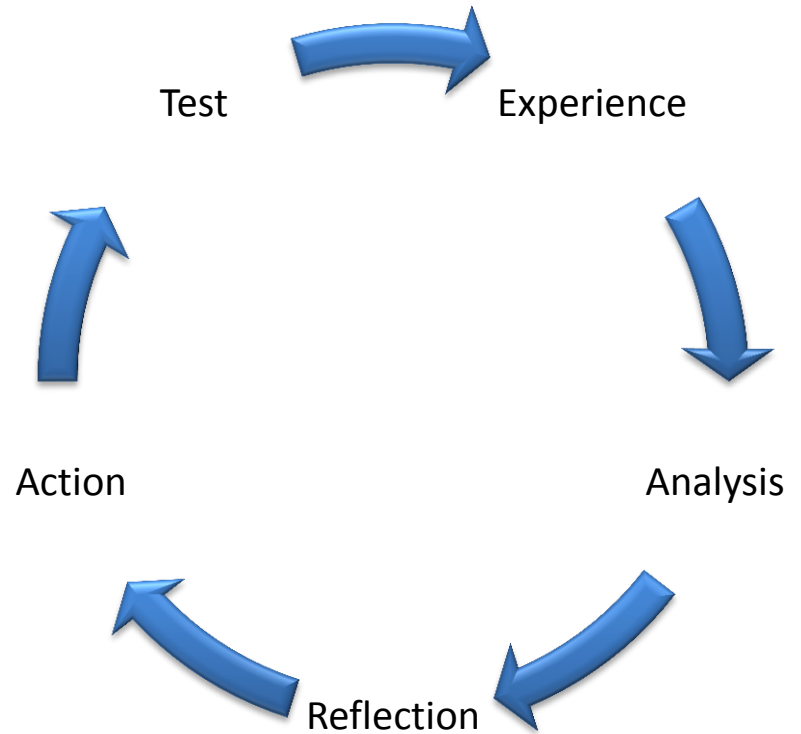
Trade



# Methodology

For Christian Aid:

‘Impact Assessment’ refers to the assessment of significant and/or lasting change (positive or negative; planned or unplanned) in peoples lives/livelihoods, brought about by the action(s) of CAID, its partners and the communities they work with.



# Engaging Churches

## Faith and Mission

- Christian imperative
- Faith based
- Faith literature and theological reflection, speaking truth to power
- Change hearts and minds
- Moral Leadership
- Public witness – care for creation
- Contribute to peace dialogue and protection of life

## Development and Agency

- Fair and equitable societies
- Human rights approach
- Professional language and approach – shifting the narrative
- Functions as a science: looks for the evidence and data. outcome: change behaviour



# Prophetic and Pragmatic working together



14-20 OCT  
2013

# Question for table discussions

- What are the structures, systems, values and practises in your local situation (culture and society) which are anti-life, anti-community and marginalising?
- What can be done to change and transform these marginalising structures, systems, values and practises
- Discuss actions that work against marginalisation, that can be taken locally to make a difference in the life of the whole community