

October 2015

To: Ministers, Chaplains, and Congregational Development Agents

The theme of this year's Appeal is **Forecast: hope!** The Appeal highlights the serious effects of climate change which are already being felt in some of the world's poorest countries, demonstrates some of the initiatives which are helping people to adapt, and calls on all of us to work for climate justice, that is, a shouldering of responsibility by those whose lifestyles have contributed most to climate change.

The projects being highlighted this year are in **Bangladesh** and **Ethiopia**. Bangladesh, with its tropical climate and low-lying coastal zone, is a country in which climate change is already having a severe impact. Our partner in Bangladesh is the **Bangladesh Nazarene Mission (BNM)**, which is working through its network of over 55 churches in some of the areas most at risk. The 2015 Appeal will also support the **Ethiopian Evangelical Church Mekane Yesus – Development and Social Service Commission (EECMY)**, which is developing a new agricultural base for the women of Chewaka district.

Thank you for your committed and sustained work on behalf of the World Development Appeal, and many grateful thanks to the Presbyteries and congregations you serve for their continuing generosity. May our own lives, as well as the lives of our partners, be shaped for the good by our giving.

Grace and peace to you, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Rev Dr Katherine Meyer
Convener, World Development Committee
9 Park Lane, Sandymount, Dublin 4. Tel: 01 219 5725/00 353 1 219 5725

Either in hard copy, along with this letter, or on DVD, or on the website are:

- Two project focus papers, on Bangladesh and Ethiopia
- Resources for public worship
- A theological reflection paper
- Posters and leaflets
- PowerPoint and video presentations
- A list of last year's contributions

Note that all these resources will also be available on the World Development pages, which can be found at: www.presbyterianireland.org/world-development

The WDA is an annual appeal of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland, in support of sustainable development work in some of the world's poorest communities. Funds raised are distributed through Christian Aid, Tearfund, and the CGM. Materials for the Appeal are distributed to all congregations. Related articles will appear in the Herald, in Wider World, and in ReachOut in December.