DANCHURCHAID


Photo: Jesper Hautborg

WHO WE ARE:

DanChurchAid (DCA) is a Danish humanitarian, non-profit organisation based in Copenhagen. Established in 1922, DCA has its roots in the Danish Evangelical-Lutheran Church. DCA's faith-based foundation and values still guide our work based on a belief that all humans are created equal with inherent human rights.

FACTS:

- **Headquarter**: Copenhagen, Denmark
- **Secretary-General:** Jonas Nøddekær
- **Total income (2025):** DKK 1,136 million
- **Total expenditure (2025):** DKK 976 million was spent on international aid work. DKK 92.8 million was spent on information, advocacy and fundraising etc.
- **People reached (2025):** 4.86 million people directly. 10.3 million people indirectly.
- **Partners:** 228 partner organisations
- **Employees:** 1,303 staff members and 15,181 volunteers

WHAT WE DO:

DCA envisions a world without hunger, poverty, or oppression. A world where political and popular powers work for a just and sustainable use and distribution of resources. We strive to fulfil this vision by achieving the following global goals:

Save lives: DCA seeks to support locally led and owned actions from individuals and communities affected by conflict, crisis, and displacement to protect themselves, prevent, withstand and recover from shocks, and live dignified and peaceful lives. Across this work, DCA aligns and incorporates protection approaches and human rights principles of diversity and inclusion to provide support for communities in improving their protection and psychosocial wellbeing. At the same time, DCA's Humanitarian Mine Action activities continue to play a critical role in reducing the threats posed by explosive remnants of war to people's safety and their socio-economic well-being through clearance of explosive hazards, risk education as well as victim assistance.

Build resilient communities: DCA provides a platform for strengthening social, economic, and environmental resilience of people in vulnerable situations through disaster risk reduction, climate resilience and livelihoods interventions. Taking a locally led approach, DCA engages communities in the design and implementation of resilience measures, including anticipatory action. We also work to promote systemic changes in food and market systems. To this end, DCA continues to advocate for responsible business conduct, just and sustainable food value chains and to be a strong voice in the climate policy discussions.

Fight extreme inequality: DCA strives to support individuals and groups facing marginalisation, strengthen democratic institutions, and promote the role of civil society and human right defenders amidst a global democratic decline and the erosion of the rulebased world order. This is done through close collaboration with our partners and through projects supporting individuals to meaningfully participate in public processes, enhance the protection of human rights in both online and offline spaces, and push back against laws and policies that intended to curtail and/or erode civic space.

Create engagement: Creating engagement from and with individuals, partners and stakeholders in Denmark is a vital part of our efforts to gain public support and secure diverse funding to achieve the global goals of saving lives, building resilient communities, and fighting extreme inequality. DCA does this by creating strong relations through shared values and solutions that allow individuals, partners, and stakeholders to take meaningful action. DCA also continues to engage with decision-makers and opinionmakers in Denmark and to be an active voice in the debates about Denmark's international development and climate policies.



WHERE WE WORK:

DCA has 19 Country Programmes. In Malawi, Palestine, Ukraine, and Zambia, DCA has a joint country programme with our sister organisation Norwegian Church Aid (NCA).

HOW WE WORK:

Being a multi-mandated organisation, DCA works across the humanitarian-development-peace nexus to achieve sustainable change. DCA operates in contexts that are increasingly affected by a complex combination of factors, including protracted conflicts, different forms of displacement, fragility, and environmental changes. Our extensive and diverse partner network enables us to respond to multiple needs and create systemic change at local, national, and international levels for the benefit of people and communities with whom we work.

Localisation and Local Leadership: As an organisation committed to localisation and as a signatory to the Grand Bargain initiative, DCA's work is guided by our Local Leadership Strategy with an aim to shift power, resources, and responsibility to local communities and partners while strengthening accountability, power sharing, and equitable partnerships with relevant actors.

Human Rights-Based Approach (HRBA): Human rights are the foundation for all DCA's work, with HRBA being integrated into programming through promoting the principles of Participation, Accountability, Non-Discrimination, Empowerment and Linking to Human Rights Law (PANEL). DCA's HRBA focuses on the needs, rights and dignity of people living in poverty and marginalised groups, and we work with both rights-holders and duty-bearers. In fragile contexts, HRBA is translated into the mainstreaming of protection principles which mirror the PANEL principles.

Climate and environmental sustainability: DCA works with climate and environmental sustainability both as a crosscutting priority for our projects and programmes, and as a dedicated focus area of our work to build resilient communities. DCA integrates climate-related risks analysis in our interventions, while seeking to systematically assess and mitigate the environmental impact of our work. DCA also mobilises and engages communities to design and implement locally led climate mitigation and adaptation measures and increasingly supports recovery from climate-related losses and damages. We apply our on-the-ground experiences to our advocacy efforts at national, regional and global levels.

Gender equality and engagement of young people: DCA operates in complex contexts where pushback on women's rights and marginalisation of young people pose increasingly important challenges to obtaining long-lasting and equitable change. DCA therefore applies gender equality and engagement of young people as two cross-cutting priorities across all our programmes and partnerships. This is done through advocating and communicating on the importance of gender equality and engagement of young people, and through capacity sharing and strategic partnerships aimed at enhancing DCA's and partners' accountability in delivering on these priorities.



PARTNERSHIPS:

Working in partnerships has been at the core of DCA's work since the organisation was established. Today, DCA works with a variety of partners including civil society organisations, faith-based organisations, social movements, research institutions, the private sector, international organisations and government entities. Working through partnerships and consortia, DCA has been increasingly playing the role of facilitator, connecting the various actors together to promote knowledge exchange, co-creation and capacity sharing. DCA is also committed to promoting local leadership and equal partnerships, and we continue to critically reflect on and address power imbalances through implementing our Local Leadership Strategy. DCA has a cross-cutting partnership with the Danish Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA) building on extensive experiences and learning from many years of cooperation. The flexibility of this funding has also been instrumental for DCA to attract additional funding from other donors and diversify our funding base. Applying these funds to work together with our 228 partners, this enabled us to directly reach 4.86 million people in 2025.

DCA'S TOP 5 INTERNATIONAL DONORS (2025, MILLION DKK):

1. Danida: **304.3**
2. European Union (EuropeAid, ECHO): **151.3**
3. United Nations (OCHA, UNDP, etc.): **117.6**
4. United States (USAID, BPRM, etc.): **94.5**
5. UK (FCDO): **43.4**