

Basle, June 2014

Portrait of Mission 21

Together with 70 partner churches and organisations, Mission 21 is sending a signal of hope in 20 countries in Africa, Asia and Latin America. The basis for this hope is the Gospel.

The focus of our 100 projects is on the fight against poverty, on educational work, health projects, peace work and supporting women. Thanks to numerous types of training and practical support, people are enabled to live in dignity and to commit to a fairer society. The International Relations (IR) department is responsible for project work and cooperation programs at Mission 21.

Personal and professional exchanges between churches worldwide are enriched by sending ecumenical staff and short-term assignments. Meetings, training offers and research work substantiate the international learning community of Mission 21. The Training Exchanges Research (TER) department is responsible for the areas of training (courses, meetings and events), exchanges (trips, short-term assignments) and research (historical mission archives, library).

Both the project and training work of the IR and TER departments are based on four key areas: training, peace-building, health and agriculture and income promotion. Mission 21's main concerns also include gender equality and capacity development.

Mission 21 wants to bring God's love in word and deed to all Creation and to all people. For almost 200 years, the motto of the work has been (quoted from our mission statement): "Our hope and plans for the future rest on the Gospel of Jesus Christ. It gives us a vision of God's Kingdom, in which justice, freedom, reconciliation and healing are made true. It motivates us to take on responsibility for the world."

Mission 21 is dedicated to ecumenism and links people from various countries, denominations and religions. Our work understands the word Mission in a holistic manner: spreading the Gospel and diaconic action belong together. Mission 21 understands diaconic action to be: standing up for a life of dignity, for human rights and peace as well as combatting poverty, oppression and exploitation by peaceful means.

Mission 21 relies on participation. The partner churches and organisations of the work in Africa, Asia, Latin America and Europe participate actively in the creation of relationships and projects, in continental meetings as well as in the mission synod, the highest decision-making body in Mission 21.

Mission 21 arose in 2001 from the merger of five closely related missions. Today, the Mission 21's board of trustees consists of the Basel Mission, the Evangelical Mission in the Kwango and the Moravian Church. In 2015, Mission 21 will celebrate the 200th anniversary of the Basel Mission.

Mission 21

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