

A photograph showing a woman in a black niqab and glasses assisting two children with handwashing. The children, a girl and a boy, are sitting on the ground. The girl is wearing a pink shirt and blue jeans, and the boy is wearing a plaid shirt and blue jeans. They are both looking down at their hands in a red plastic bucket. The woman is standing next to the bucket, her hands near the children's. The background is a corrugated metal wall. In the top left corner, there is a purple sign with the name 'OSAMA SH' in white. The text 'HUMANITARIAN STRATEGY 2021-2025' is overlaid in white at the bottom left. The PMU logo is in the bottom right corner.

HUMANITARIAN STRATEGY 2021-2025

Introduction

Humanitarian needs worldwide have increased substantially over the past decade due to protracted armed conflicts and increasingly frequent nature related disasters. The onset of the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020 has deteriorated the situation even further, contributing as well to an increase in extreme poverty for the first time in over two decades. It is estimated that as many as 235 million people will need lifesaving support in 2021, compared to 106 million in 2010. An estimated 79 million people were displaced from their homes between 2010 and 2019. It was also estimated that 270 million people would be food insecure by the end of 2020 due to secondary effects of COVID-19.¹ To contribute to saving lives of the most vulnerable affected by manmade and nature related hazards – PMU will continue to provide humanitarian assistance. PMU has a long history and track record of humanitarian responses in close collaboration with local partner organisations and the Swedish Pentecostal Movement.

PMU works to save lives, alleviate suffering and uphold human dignity for people in a number of crises worldwide. PMU can, with rapid funding, respond to a humanitarian crisis already in the first days after a disaster hits. This is possible due to the wide network of partner organisations that PMU cooperates with. PMU has partner organisations in about 29 countries. These mainly focus on long-term development programmes, but many are also able to quickly respond to a humanitarian crisis. PMU supports humanitarian interventions in between 13 to 17 countries annually.



¹ Global Humanitarian Overview 2021, UN OCHA

Guiding Principles

The aim of PMU's humanitarian work

The objective of PMU's humanitarian aid is to save lives, alleviate suffering and to uphold human dignity for vulnerable people affected by crisis that have been subjected to or are under the threat of armed conflict, nature-related disasters or other types of crises.

PMU's humanitarian aid is based on the humanitarian principles of humanity, impartiality, neutrality and independence. These principles and the equal value of all human beings guide every intervention. Moreover, PMU is a signatory of the IFRC's Code of Conduct², which guides PMU's work.

PMU is a founding member of the CHS Alliance, and works towards the application of the Core Humanitarian Standard and its nine commitments for increased quality and accountability.

The humanitarian work of PMU is also grounded in Agenda 2030 and its 17 goals for fighting poverty and achieving sustainable development, as well as in the growing global Pentecostal movement that PMU is a part of. This movement has a great, and often untapped, potential to contribute to social development and provide humanitarian support for affected populations.

The potential and added values that is seen in this network of global, local and Swedish organisations and churches are described in PMU's General Strategy, *PMU's Compass to 2025*. This humanitarian strategy is also linked to PMU's Strategy for Advocacy, through which PMU works toward the visibility and equitable participation of local actors in the humanitarian ecosystem.³



² Code of Conduct for the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and NGOs in Disaster Relief

³ "The humanitarian ecosystem" is a term often used in association with the World Humanitarian Summit. It refers to the international humanitarian system including actors ranging from the UN and its various organs, the ICRC, and other international, national and local non-profit organisations.

How PMU works



POINT OF DEPARTURE

Every state has the primary responsibility to meet the humanitarian needs within its own borders. In line with the humanitarian imperative, when a state is unwilling or no longer has the capacity to live up to this responsibility, other states or organisations have a responsibility to meet the humanitarian needs.

PMU mainly prioritises responding to emergencies in regions where PMU already has a presence through local partners or where a Swedish Pentecostal church wishes to contribute in a response. In certain situations, PMU can cooperate with international partners if there is no established cooperation with a local organisation.

COOPERATION

PMU mainly supports local actors, so-called 'First Line Responders' that respond to disasters in their local contexts, or in places where the affected people have fled to, at the very onset of a crisis. PMU has access to about 28 countries through a wide network of partner organisations, with one or more partner in each country. These partners have generally had a long-term community engagement, excellent knowledge of the local and regional context, and wide networks with the ability to pick up on early signs of a coming crisis, as well as the capacity to recruit personnel and volunteers for humanitarian interventions. These organisations often have built trust through long-term community engagement and grassroots networks that contribute to enabling humanitarian access in hard-to-reach areas.

In addition, they have specialised competence and skills in a variety of areas and can therefore work in several humanitarian sectors. This gives PMU partners comparative advantages and added value as humanitarian actors.

In the case PMU does not have a local partner in a certain humanitarian context, PMU can cooperate with international partners, mainly those already in PMU's network, such as within the EU-CORD network. PMU's humanitarian aid is coordinated with other humanitarian actors within the UN-led cluster system, as well as with authorities on both local and national level if possible. PMU strives to include projects in the respective country's humanitarian response plans (HRP), and assist partners in exploring other options for in-country institutional funding and UN cluster engagement.

LOCALISATION

PMU works towards the localization of humanitarian assistance, which endeavors to ensure that greater resources, more autonomy and responsibility is allocated to local and national actors in crisis-affected contexts. PMU's work towards localization is based on its network of long-standing local partners and model of cooperation (as described above).

PMU contributes to localization through ensuring the visibility of local partners' work, conveying local partners' voices to key stakeholders in the Swedish and international humanitarian system, and ensuring sharing of experience and learning through PMU's partner network. Strategic capacity

strengthening supports partners' in their roles as first line responders, in preparedness efforts, and in connection with development and peacebuilding.

NEXUS PROGRAMMING

A majority of people in acute need of humanitarian aid are residing in war or conflict areas. Considering the ongoing global refugee crisis, the role of non-state actors in meeting humanitarian needs has become increasingly important. Crises continue to be protracted and complex often dealing with multi hazards, hence PMU strives to work holistically in its humanitarian interventions.

This means that PMU works to strengthen the links between humanitarian action and development work, through its dual mandated local partners that are present before, during and after emergencies – thus delivering a continuum of support to local communities. PMU also works to strengthen peace building efforts through what is called triple nexus programming.

SWEDISH COMMITMENTS

In accordance with the Swedish commitments at the World Humanitarian Summit of 2016, PMU interventions have a clear focus on the most vulnerable people, especially those who have been forced to leave their homes. PMU strives to have a clear connection and synergies between humanitarian aid and long-term development work in its interventions.

This is already ongoing in many PMU projects, through recovery work and efforts to

increase and strengthen resilience of local communities in humanitarian contexts. PMU values the Swedish and international commitments of increased support to local actors, set out in the Grand Bargain of the World Humanitarian Summit and is as well evident in the Strategy for Sweden's Humanitarian aid provided through the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida) 2021-2025. PMU hopes that this will lead to the potential and abilities of local actors to be better utilised and making them better positioned within the humanitarian system.

CROSS CUTTING ISSUES

PMU works strategically to ensure that cross cutting issues such as gender, resilience and conflict sensitivity are considered in the planning, implementation and in monitoring and evaluation of humanitarian interventions. PMU contributes to organisational learning, both internally and for partners with a specific focus on trainings in the Core Humanitarian Standard.

INTERNAL CONTROL

PMU has a solid system for internal control, which also includes risk management. PMU works according to the COSO-framework for internal control. PMU works in close collaboration with local partners with clear agreements, compliance audits, and financial audits according to international standards, as well as onsite project follow ups. Capacity building and learning are crosscutting within the organisations and their work.



PMU's Humanitarian Aid

Based on identified humanitarian needs and the capacity of local partners, PMU's humanitarian aid mainly focuses on food security, nutrition, health, non-food items (NFIs) and water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH). Other potential sectors are education and protection, disaster risk reduction (DRR) as well as rehabilitation of homes and schools.

PMU strives to ensure reliable and flexible financing to local partners in accordance with the principles of Good Humanitarian Donorship (GHD) to enable quick funding of

interventions when a disaster hits. PMU financing is flexible; especially where the interventions are solely funded by PMU's own funds. This allows PMU to support pilot projects, which can open doors for larger projects funded by institutional donors. PMU's humanitarian aid, as well as its development projects, contribute to building resilient societies, reducing disaster risks, promoting conflict prevention and supporting rehabilitation and reconstruction. This also includes capacity building of local partners, both in administration and humanitarian work before and during a humanitarian crisis.



PMU's Humanitarian Strategy 2021–2025

In light of the increasing humanitarian needs worldwide, not least due to the corona pandemic and PMU's large international network of local actors that are already present in many of the world's crises, PMU sees the need to grow and expand as a humanitarian actor during the strategy period. This growth shall come through increased institutional funding as well as own funding and may also mean that new partnerships are entered both with donors and implementing partners even outside of existing regional operation plans. PMU may also respond to crises in areas and countries in which we do not yet have long-term development cooperation should we see it strategically important. The main priorities listed below will be implemented through annual operational plans.

Main priorities

1) Enhancing local partners' capacities in responding to humanitarian crises

PMU will continue to further develop and strengthen existing, and potentially new, local partners in humanitarian action, standards and principles. This may include development of preparedness plans with local partners, in order for the local partners to be ready when there is a sudden onset of a crisis. There will be a continued focus on the Core Humanitarian Standard, MEAL (Monitoring, Evaluation, Accountability & Learning), Gender, cash modalities, SBCC (Social Behaviour Change and Communication) etc.

2) Nexus programming

PMU will continue its work on nexus programming, and work together with partner organisations to address protracted multi-hazard crises, and in line with local partner goals, explore funding opportunities for humanitarian-development nexus and triple nexus (humanitarian-development-peace) programs. Many of PMU's local partners already work towards long-term sustainability and development, whilst at the same time responding to urgent humanitarian needs – however often in separately funded projects. The aim with the nexus approach is to integrate development and humanitarian project design in the same program working towards joint goals –and where necessary and appropriate, add peacebuilding efforts.

3) Expanding the funding base of humanitarian interventions

During this period, PMU will seek to explore new as well as strengthen existing funding opportunities. As such, PMU will continue to build internal and partner capacity in order to access institutional funds. During the strategy period, PMU will explore options to sustain continued Sida support of its humanitarian interventions. Efforts will also be made to explore the possibilities of forming different consortia for potential ECHO-projects, e.g. within the EU-CORD network. PMU will also work to identify appropriate funding mechanisms for nexus

programming, such as through country strategies of the Swedish government. Efforts will also be made to assist local partner organisations in due diligence processes in order to access Country Based Pool Funds (CBPF). In order to continue the provision of flexible funding for partner organisations, PMU will increase its fundraising efforts for humanitarian response.. PMU should also strive to strengthen coordination with the wider global and regional Pentecostal Network of aid organisations and regional platforms in order to respond more efficiently to humanitarian crises. This regards, for instance, collaboration on fundraising, joint responses, as well as the strengthening of organisational capacity.

4) Increased focus on forgotten crises

PMU shall continue to support partners working in so called forgotten crises around the world. Through longstanding partnerships with local actors, new partnerships and continued dialogue within the Swedish Pentecostal movement, PMU has the capacity to advocate for and contribute to principled humanitarian assistance to crises which, for example, largely evades international media attention. When necessary and appropriate, members of the PMU humanitarian and communication teams may deploy to support local actors during the onset of a crisis and the initial phase of a response.



PMU is a part of several Swedish and European networks and strives for mutual exchange and cooperation with other organisations and networks that share PMU's interests. A constant cooperation and exchange of information with other organisations within Pingst ffs⁴ is of great importance to PMU's work, as well as contacts with the network of Swedish Pentecostal churches and international organisations that PMU is a part of. PMU is planning to find and engage with other networks that would be of strategic value in the coming period.

Current network engagement

The CHS Alliance	PMU is a founding member as of 2015 (PMU was previously part of HAP)
EU-CORD	(including its working groups on humanitarian issues)
SNHA	The Swedish Network for Humanitarian Actors - lobbying and advocacy issues mainly toward Sida and the Swedish Ministry of Foreign Affairs.
SRHR-HUM Network	Swedish civil society network focusing on sexual and reproductive health and rights in humanitarian assistance
GNDR	Global Network for Disaster Reduction
SMC's HUM Team	The humanitarian team of the Swedish Mission Council
SNKR	the Swedish Network for Disaster Risk Reduction and Resilience
VOICE Network	lobbying and advocacy issues toward the EU
Global Pentecostal Networks	Such as the Pentecostal World Fellowship (PWF)



⁴ The Swedish Pentecostal Movement



Funding of the humanitarian aid

PMU's own raised funds

Humanitarian aid is one of the focus areas of PMU's fundraising. PMU strives to have funding available in its disaster fund in order to quickly be able to finance a humanitarian intervention, regardless of media coverage and fundraising opportunities.

Sida/SMC

PMU works with funding from Sida for humanitarian interventions since many years. In recent years it has been through the Swedish Mission Council (SMC). PMU continuously works to sustain continued Sida support of its humanitarian aid.

ECHO

PMU has become a certified partner and been awarded a certificate (2021- 2027) with the European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (ECHO) after the 2014-2020 FPA expired. ECHO has previously through PMU funded a health project at the Panzi Hospital in DR Congo.

Radiohjälpen

PMU is a partner organisation of Radiohjälpen. Radiohjälpen is a self-governing foundation within the Swedish public service broadcasting group and is conducting fundraising campaigns to change lives and alleviate suffering, in Sweden and abroad. PMU regularly receives support for humanitarian interventions from Radiohjälpen and will continue to apply for funding when there is need or opportunity to do so.

Other donors and cooperation partners

PMU channels donations from other organisations. PMU plans to improve the capacity of being a channel for other organisations where it has competent partners. This is done within the framework of the EU-CORD cooperation, and includes other networks where PMU has a function to fill and where funding is available.

PMU's Humanitarian Strategy in summary:

1. **Principle based humanitarian aid:** PMU safeguards humanitarian aid built on identified humanitarian needs and the humanitarian principles guided by the Core Humanitarian Standard (CHS) and the Sphere quality standards.
2. **"Leave no one behind":** PMU strives to ensure that all interventions have a clear focus on the most vulnerable people in a humanitarian crisis, especially in cases where people have been forced to leave their homes.
3. **Coordination and complementarity:** PMU's humanitarian aid is coordinated with other humanitarian actors, as well as local and national authorities to the extent possible. PMU strives to include humanitarian projects in humanitarian response plans when local partners are the primary implementers.
4. **Grassroots actors:** PMU primarily supports local grassroots actors, so-called First Line Responders, that are able to respond at the very onset of a crisis. In contexts where PMU does not have a local partner – cooperation can be made with international partners, mainly those within the PMU network.
5. **Clear link between humanitarian interventions, reconstruction and development:** PMU primarily works with development actors that implement humanitarian projects when needed. This means that PMU can strategically connect humanitarian interventions with more long-term development projects, and that partners have a long-term perspective built into their strategies and methods.
6. **Geographic reach:** PMU has local partners in about 28 countries which gives a wide network. These partners have a variety of specialised competencies and skills, and can therefore work in several sectors. Through networks such as EU-CORD and the global Pentecostal network, PMU can also support interventions in other countries when necessary.
7. **Innovative and flexible funding:** PMU's funding can be used flexibly; especially when interventions are solely financed by PMU's own raised funds. This provides possibilities to support pilot projects, which can open doors to larger projects with institutional donors.
8. **Strengthening local capacities:** PMU's humanitarian aid, as well as programmes within its development cooperation, contributes to building resilient societies, reducing disaster risks, promoting conflict prevention and supporting rehabilitation and reconstruction. This also includes capacity building of local partners, both in administration and humanitarian work before and during a humanitarian crisis.
9. **Supporting ongoing learning:** PMU works to promote organisational learning, both internally the organisation and for its partners.
10. **Integration of cross cutting issues:** PMU works strategically to ensure that perspectives such as gender, environment, resilience and conflict sensitivity are taken into account in the planning, implementation and evaluation of humanitarian interventions.



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