



Update – Joint Review of CCODP’s International Partners

In 2017, the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops (CCCB) and the Canadian Catholic Organization for Development and Peace (CCODP) commenced a joint review of the international partner organizations that were receiving project funding from CCODP. The review, which was done by representatives of the CCCB and CCODP, was initiated to investigate a number of concerns raised by dioceses and the Catholic faithful that positions taken by the partners were in conflict with Catholic teaching. During this investigation, CCODP assured the Bishops that Share Lent contributions would not be used for any partners under review.

In a joint press release on 25 February 2021, the CCCB and CCODP announced that they had concluded the review. The final report was approved by both organizations.

As a result of the review, several critical steps will be undertaken to implement changes regarding the international partnership program. Among these changes are:

- revision of the CCODP Partnership Policy;
- development of new criteria for partner selection and review;
- creation of a new International Partnership Committee, which will include representatives of the CCCB, to review, approve and monitor all partnerships.

The CCCB is pleased with the review. The Bishops believe that a renewed system for managing international partnerships will be more transparent and ensure CCODP’s Catholic identity, vision, mission and expectations.

In his recent letter, the CCCB President, Archbishop Richard Gagnon, expressed the support of the CCCB for the 2021 Share Lent campaign. Going forward, the implementation of the review’s recommendations will strengthen the CCCB and CCODP as we work collaboratively to alleviate poverty, suffering and injustices in the world.

Further information regarding the joint review can be found at the following: <https://www.cccb.ca/media-release/canadian-conference-of-catholic-bishops-and-the-canadian-catholic-organization-for-development-and-peace-caritas-canada-conclude-joint-review-of-ccodps-international-partner-organiz/>.

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Bishop of London
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