

WORLD COUNCIL OF CHURCHES ARMENIA INTER
CHURCH CHARITABLE ROUND TABLE FOUNDATION



Annual Report

2015

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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

- ✓ AAC - Armenian Apostolic Church;
- ✓ ACC - Armenian Catholic Church;
- ✓ ACN - Aid to Churches in Need;
- ✓ AEC - Armenian Evangelical Church;
- ✓ AIDS - acquired immune deficiency syndrome;
- ✓ ARC - Alliance of Religions and Conservation;
- ✓ ART - Armenia Round Table;
- ✓ BftW - Bread for the World;
- ✓ CB - Capacity Building;
- ✓ CSO - civil society organisation;
- ✓ DVV - The Institute for International Cooperation of the German Adult Education Association;
- ✓ GBV - gender-based violence;
- ✓ HEKS/EPER - Aid organisation of the Protestant Churches of Switzerland;
- ✓ ICD - Integrated Community Development;
- ✓ IT - information technologies
- ✓ NCA - Norwegian Church Aid;
- ✓ NGO - Non-governmental organisation
- ✓ PLHIV - People living with HIV;
- ✓ PR - public relations
- ✓ RA - Republic of Armenia;
- ✓ UMCOR - United Methodist Committee on Relief;
- ✓ UNDP - United Nations Development Programme;
- ✓ UNFPA - United Nations Population Fund;
- ✓ WCC - World Council of Churches.

MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

In the introductory notes to the ART annual report I would like to focus on the problem of refugees in Armenia, coming mainly from Syria, where the war and violence are aggravating, covering more and more regions of the country. The first groups of refugees from Syria have been arriving to Armenia since 2013; in 2015 this process has reached its maximum.

Armenian communities in Syria, as well as in Iraq, Lebanon and several other countries of the Middle East, have been basically formed by survivors of 1915 Genocide. Before 2000s they were well developed, wealthy minority groups with systems of their own schools, kindergartens, churches, newspapers, etc.

As a result of escalation of the war in Syria in 2015, the number of refugees in Armenia reached 20.1. For a country of less than 3 million population and more than 30% poverty of total population it was a big number; and the situation was close to humanitarian catastrophe. It goes without saying, that Armenia Round Table cannot remain uninvolved in this situation. Foreseeing high risk of the forthcoming refugee crisis, back in 2013 we contacted ACT Alliance Secretariat and organized several preparedness exercises. In 2015 we got involved in a number of refugee support activities in three major fields: distribution of humanitarian support – food, clothes, hygiene kits, etc.; psycho-social support meetings, counselling by priests and psychologists; and projects in the field of economical integration, including vocational training in more than 20 different specialties, followed by support in finding employment and providing materials for starting new businesses.

It is very important to state, that the abovementioned would not be possible without valuable methodological, moral and financial support of ACT Alliance Secretariat and members, Armenian Apostolic Church priesthood, many other ecumenical organizations. This work has been done with close cooperation of two NGOs, organized by Syrian refugees in Armenia, Ministry of Diaspora, other NGOs and members of Armenia Forum of ACT.

As a closing remark, I would like to state, that despite of the efforts of Armenia Round Table, Armenian churches, several NGOs and the Government, the main needs of Syrian refugees, i.e. employment and housing, have been only fulfilled by 30-35%. For some unknown reason, international donor community is rather reluctant to address refugee problem in Armenia. When we compare several billion dollar supports, aimed at refugee assistance to governmental and non-governmental organizations in Turkey, Lebanon or Jordan, with miserable help to Armenian organizations, a big discrepancy becomes obvious. It is even harder to understand the situation, taking into account the fact, that the Armenian society, the state, as well as the majority of refugees would like to stay and integrate in Armenia, quite the contrary to the situation that has been faced by many Eastern and Western countries. And, if we jointly help these people to stay in our country, it would prevent further waves of migration to Western counties, which should be welcomed and supported by those countries!

Maybe the reason is that Armenia itself is not in the focus of the main international donors, representing Global North?

Dr. Karen Nazaryan,

Executive Director, Armenia Round Table Foundation

WHO WE ARE

World Council of Churches Armenia Inter-Church Charitable Round Table Foundation (Armenia Round Table Foundation) is an ecumenical organization founded by the Armenian Apostolic Church and the World Council of Churches in 1997. It is the only platform, where three churches – Armenian Apostolic Church, Armenian Catholic Church and Armenian Evangelical Church unite their efforts to contribute to social and sustainable community development in Armenia. In close collaboration with church-related and secular non-governmental organizations, the ART works to actively contribute to the poverty alleviation, involvement of the Church in social work, development of civil society in Armenia and Nagorno-Karabakh. ART annually engages around 20 partners to implement approximately 30 projects. The activities focus mainly in the following areas:

- Integrated Community Development;
- Capacity Building;
- Regional Peace and Reconciliation;
- Emergency Preparedness and Response.

OUR MISSION

ART mission is to contribute to poverty reduction, strengthen civil society, promote regional peace building and reconciliation, enable a fair and value base society through diaconal and development interventions in Armenia and Nagorno-Karabakh.

OUR VISION

Inspired by the Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ and Christian social teaching, ART strives to promote a peaceful and just society that respects all of God's creation, practices Christian values in word and deed, and ensures a dignified life for the vulnerable, with equal rights and opportunities for all.

OUR VALUES

ART attaches importance to Christian fundamental values, vigorous expression of love, faith and hope. Based on the biblical belief that people are made in the image and likeness of God and should be treated equally, ART in its activities is adhering to the following guiding principles:

- Promote human rights and fundamental freedoms
- Care for the needs of vulnerable groups of the society,
- Protect environment,
- Maintain accountability, transparency and participation, mutual trust, impartiality and consistency,
- Achieve high efficiency and impact of the activities,
- Evaluate continuously the quality of the provided services, results achieved and impact, and where needed, introduce necessary changes,
- Encourage team work and cooperation.

ART is a member of:

- ✓ ACT Alliance;
- ✓ Alliance for Religions and Conservation;
- ✓ Eurodiaconia;
- ✓ Eastern European Church Anti-AIDS network;
- ✓ Europe and Central Asia Faith-Based Organizations and UNFPA Partnership Network.

ART cooperates with the following organizations:**Church**

- ✓ Armenian Apostolic Church;
- ✓ Armenian Catholic Church;
- ✓ Armenian Evangelical Church.

NGOs

- ✓ "Aleppo" Compatriotic Charitable Organization;
- ✓ Armenian Missionary Association of America;
- ✓ Association of Judges of the Republic of Armenia;
- ✓ "Astghatsolk" NGO;
- ✓ "Centre for Coordination of Syrian Problems" NGO;
- ✓ "Christian women forum" Charitable NGO;
- ✓ "Cross of Armenian Unity" NGO;
- ✓ "Dialogue and business" NGO;
- ✓ "Family and Community" NGO;
- ✓ "Foundation against the violation of law" NGO;
- ✓ "Green lane" NGO;
- ✓ "Regional development and research centre" NGO;
- ✓ "Shen" NGO;
- ✓ "The A. D. Sakharov Armenian Human Rights Protection Centre" NGO;
- ✓ "UMCOR" Armenia;
- ✓ Voluntary service of Armenia republican headquarters of student brigades" NGO;
- ✓ World Vision Armenia.

Other

- ✓ Country Coordinating Mechanism Armenia, The Global Fund to fight AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria;
- ✓ Emergency Management State Academy;
- ✓ Gevorkian Theological Seminary;
- ✓ Government's Charity Program Coordination Commission of the Republic of Armenia;
- ✓ Microsoft Centre for Continuing Education of National Polytechnic University of Armenia;
- ✓ Ministry of Diaspora of the Republic of Armenia;
- ✓ Theological Faculty of Yerevan State University;
- ✓ Tufenkian Foundation.

Foreign partners

- ✓ Aid to Churches in Need;
- ✓ Bread for the World;
- ✓ HEKS-EPER;
- ✓ Norwegian Church Aid;
- ✓ Otto per Mille Fund of Waldensian Evangelical Church;
- ✓ United Nations Population Fund;
- ✓ United Nations Development Programme.

ART BOARD OF TRUSTEES IN 2015

	Name	Representation	Year on the Board
1.	His Grace Bishop Mkrtych Proshyan	Armenian Apostolic Church, chair of the Board	2015
2.	Sister Arousiag Sajonian	Armenian Catholic Church	2003
3.	Mr. Harout Nersessian	Armenian Missionary Association of America, Armenian Evangelical Church	2012
4.	Reverend Father Vahram Melikyan	Armenian Apostolic Church	2003
5.	Reverend Father Paruyr Avetissian	Armenian Apostolic Church	2015
6.	Ms Gohar Grigoryan	UMCOR Armenia Foundation	2007
7.	Mr Hayk Minassyan	"Shen" NGO Armenia	2003

ART STAFF

	Name	Position	In the organisation since
1.	Dr Karen Nazaryan	Executive Director	1997
2.	Ms Elmira Madoyan	Chief Accountant	2001
3.	Ms Tsovinar Ghazaryan	Programme Officer	1997
4.	Ms Karine Baghdasaryan	Programme Officer	2000
5.	Ms Alla Sarkisova	Programme Officer	2007
6.	Ms Karine Kocharyan	Programme Officer	2012
7.	Mr Gharib Harutyunyan	Monitoring and Evaluation Officer	2012
8.	Ms Anahit Terzikyan	Programme Officer Assistant	2009
9.	Ms Tsovinar Manvelyan	Accountant	2005
10.	Mr Davit Atabekyan	Lawyer	2004
11.	Mr Davit Muradyan	Public relations specialist	2016
12.	Ms Mariam Galstyan	Administrative assistant	2014
13.	Ms Lilya Totolyan	Computer specialist	2010
14.	Mr Khachatur Ter-Avetisyan	Driver	2010
15.	Ms Marieta Gabrielyan	Housekeeper	2015

INTEGRATED COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

#	Project code	Project title	Implementing organization	Donor
1.	15-ICDcc1	Improving socio-economic conditions in selected provinces in Armenia 2011-2015	Gegharkunik Diocese, AAC	NCA
2.	15-ICDcc2	Gyumri social centre	Shirak Diocese, AAC	BftW
3.	15-ICDcc3	Community development in Armavir	Armavir Diocese, AAC	BftW
4.	15-ICDcc4	Community development centre in Jervezh	"Youth of Jervezh" cultural - educational NGO	BftW
5.	15-ICDsd1	Transforming Waste	ART	ARC
6.	15-ICDsd3	Volunteer camps for children	"Voluntary service of Armenia republican headquarters' of student brigades" NGO	BftW
7.	15-ICDsd7	Give me life	Christian women forum Charitable NGO	BftW
8.	15-ICDsd8	Path of hope	Kotayq Diocese, AAC	BftW
9.	15-ICDsd9	Equal opportunities to all	"Regional development and research centre" NGO	BftW
10.	15-ICDsd4	Action for Child Health and Education	Dprabak municipality	BftW
11.	15-ICDsd6	Churches and CSOs influence on design making processes on environmental problems in Armenia	Round Table	UNDP
12.	15-ICDsd11	7-th Olympiad of Armenian studies	Round Table	BftW
13.	15-ICDsd12	Improvement of Technical and Irrigation Water Supply in Gandzakar community	Tavush Farmers' Association	BftW
14.	15-ICDsd13	Support to Metsamor community	"Family and Community" NGO, Tufenkian Foundation	BftW

Sewing class in Ashtarak	"Rural Life and Traditions" trade fair
	
Pre-school opening in Gegharkunik	Workshop on climate change in Lori
	

Armenia Round Table Foundation sees ICD as a process which engages communities in defining own needs, setting priorities, seeking for resources and solutions by representative participation, accountability and transparency which will bring lasting change in the lives of people. In line with "Do No Harm" approach ART ICD offers an integrated vision and definition of strong sustainability.

In 2015 work in Shirak, Gegharkunik, Kotayk, Aragatsotn and Armavir provinces continued with a number of big and small scale projects targeting the most vulnerable and remote areas with a main goal to ease economic hardships, alleviate social and environmental problems. In 2015 ART, together with its partner Churches and NGOs, expanded its intervention to Vayots Dzor and Lori provinces. The number of direct beneficiaries stood at more than 10,000 with about 60% women participation. Wider layers of population throughout Armenia were targeted by the following projects: "Seventh Olympiad of Armenian Studies", "Volunteer camps for children", "Ensuring a Happy New Year", "Churches and CSOs Influence on Decision Making Processes on Environmental Problems in Armenia" and others. A new development was joint participation of 12 projects of ART in "Rural Life and Traditions" trade fair held in Yerevan.

ART ICD includes activities within its four main components: social, economic, environmental and spiritual.

Social improvement

Social projects of the ART ICD could be summarized as follows:

- Civic education for local people in various aspects of development, such as community development, human and children rights, parenting, GBV, selective abortions, etc.
- Trainings in art groups (painting, theatrical, singing, puppets and dance groups) in Gyumri, Gavar, Vardenis, Jervezh, Gai, Ashtarak, Metsamor.
- Cultural activities: excursions to historical sites, pilgrimages, participation in exhibitions and festivals, etc included into almost all projects.

Economic improvement

- Vocational trainings continued in Social Centres in Gyumri, Gavar, Vardenis, Ashtarak, Jervezh, Gai and Karakert with an aim to promote employability, competitiveness on labour market of project beneficiaries and sustainability of centres. Computer literacy, handwork, dress making, knitting, hairdressing, make-up, carpet weaving, furniture making, table design and many other useful marketable skills for self-employment and better access to jobs were carried out for both youth and adults. The results were empowered and more self-confident communities and people. It is worth mentioning that e.g. computer literacy projects not only provide opportunity for income generation but also for improvement of knowledge and overall socio-economic conditions of the communities, supports the civil society groups through communication and up to date information.
-
- Income generating activities encouraged by ART included gradual introduction of paid services and sales of produce, diversified income source which became a basis for continuation of the existing and launching of new projects. Gai, Gavar, Gyumri, Jervezh, Karakert centres successfully used gains from sales and services for continuation of the projects.

Environmental protection

Environmental sustainability is crucial in the areas of ART interventions. Awareness raising in nature protection, tree planting, waste cleaning, establishment of environmentally friendly maintenance practices were included in ART work. A new project started in 2015 on environmental advocacy level which aimed at introduction of a model of community-based environmental financial mechanism through creation of an enabling environment for the dialogue between authorities on communal, regional, central levels on one hand and civil society, including churches, on the other hand. Meetings in Shirak, Kotayk, Lori, Aragatsotn and Armavir provinces and workshops in 15 communities laid solid grounds for a real platform to discuss the problems and concerns of the society towards its participation in decision making on environmental problems. On the basis of discussions and suggestions collected from CSOs and authorities legislative suggestions on creation of civil revolving funds for financing environmental projects were developed with respective legal commentary.

Spiritual renewal

Pastoral counselling, community events on Church holidays, pilgrimages, Bible studies, catechism classes were of the main activities in this area. Promoting Church role in social work and building community resilience remained priority for ART.

DIACONAL PROJECTS: PREVENTION OF GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE; HIV PREVENTION, CARE AND SUPPORT TO PEOPLE LIVING WITH HIV IN ARMENIA

Project code	Project title	Implementing organization	Donor
15-CBp3	Prevention of Gender-Based Violence through Gender-Transformative approach	Armenia Round Table	UNFPA
15-D2	PLHIV Day Centre	Araratyan Diocese, AAC	BftW

Cross-sector conference on collaboration for prevention of gender-based and domestic violence



Prevention of Gender-Based Violence through Gender-Transformative Approach

Armenia Round Table partners with the Christian Educational Centre of the Armenian Apostolic Church to combat gender-based and domestic violence in Armenia. The activities realized in the scope of this project are designed to raise awareness of the population on the issues of gender equality, Christian values of human dignity and respect for freedom and life, which are key to a

person's and a family's wellbeing. The project is implemented with the support of the UNFPA Armenia office and it has been carried out for six years already. The annual plan that is updated in the beginning of each year considers the developments taking place inside the Armenian society and prioritizes the topics around which the discussions, roundtables, seminars and counselling are carried out. During the previous years, the topics included gender-based violence, gender stereotypes, responsible fatherhood, sex-selective abortions, Christian Family of Paradise, among others. ART in 2015, taking into consideration the alarming rates of sex-selective abortions in Armenia, kept the focus on gender biased pre-natal sex-selection at the seminars for young people and adults and challenged the convictions and stereotypes, which are the roots of boy-preference at the training courses for the teenage audience.

The project year started with a capacity building training course for AAC priests and trainers of the Christian Education Centre to further improve the knowledge on gender-based violence prevention and skills for carrying out awareness-raising trainings and counselling on gender-sensitive issues, violence in the families and presenting the values that should guide a Christian family. Following to the training course, a cross-sector conference took place, at which there participated representatives from the RA Ministries of Labour and Social Affairs, Education, and the RA National Assembly, UNFPA, international organizations, high-ranked clergy, and experts in the field. The conference discussed the possible ways of collaboration and the need for coordination of activities and resources for a bigger impact.

The awareness raising meetings in the communities included training courses at about 40 schools for teenagers and informational meetings with their parents, seminars for school teachers, as well as series of seminars carried out at the RA military units. Counselling was provided through individual meetings with the priests, educational meetings with couples preparing for the sacrament of matrimony, and in case of need the priests paid home visits to act as a mediator and discuss a difficult situation in the presence of all the parties involved in the given situation. In 2015, more than 6,000 people participated in the seminars and counselling meetings.

HIV prevention, care and support to PLHIV in Armenia

The Day Centre for People living with HIV/AIDS offers care and support services to PLHIV and their families, and HIV-affected children, as well as to injective drug users. The Centre was found in 2009 in Yerevan and it operates under the auspices of the Araratyan Pontifical Diocese of AAC since 2011. At the starting phase of the project, the Day Centre was established in order to address the needs of parishioners who applied to the priests of the AAC revealing their HIV-positive status and seeking for moral support of their Church in coping with the spiritual and moral/psychological challenges that the disease poses for them. As it is the case with many other Churches, the Armenian Church also struggled with the stigma available within itself, in addition to the difficulty of finding the correct approach in discussing certain sensitive issues such as sex and sexuality, concept of sin, punishment or responsibility, etc. Throughout the years of the Centre's existence, the Church itself became more competent in HIV-related conceptual as well as diaconal service topics. In 2012, a publication was called to life, which collected the basic conceptual guidelines that the AAC priests and believers should be guided with when either working with HIV-positive people, societal issues connected to the problem of HIV, such as stigma and discrimination, or in general shaping their attitude towards this disease and HIV-related problems.

The care and support services offered at the Day Centre for PLHIV include moral-psychological support - consultations with the priests, peer-to-peer counselling, counselling with the social worker,

as well as educational and leisure time activities both for PLHIV and for HIV-affected children and youth. Awareness-raising seminars and discussions are carried out on regular basis to address the issue of inner stigmatization and also to cope with and stand up to the discrimination having place in the society.

In 2015, at the Day Centre there have been registered 330 people living with HIV including 13 children, 150 HIV-affected children and about 100 family members, who used the services on regular or one-time drop-in basis. In average, about 80 people used the services of the Centre on monthly basis.

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE PROGRAMME

	Project code	Project title	Implementing organization	Donor
	15-ICDsd2	Workforce development initiative in assistance to Syrian refugees in Armenia	Armenia Round Table	NCA
	15-ICDsd5	Improving Livelihoods of Syrian Refugees in Armenia	Armenia Round Table	ACN

Twenty one Syrian refugees completed the general and web programming trainings in the Centre for Continuing Education of Microsoft IT Academy and graduated





Christmas gifts to 40 vulnerable families



Graduation of 50 Syrian refugees on crafts



Psychosocial sessions are combined with pilgrimages



Syrian refugees from cooks' group are selling their pastry at "Rural Life and Traditions" trade fair and became the winners of the day



Sewing and Modelling class



As a member of ACT Alliance ART emergency programme aims to contribute to increasing resilience of the emergency affected society mainstreaming Community Based Psychosocial Support approach in response activities and strengthening disaster response preparedness of its partners, providing practical relief support.

A network of ART partners was established in 2010 and has been prepared to act at emergency situations and conflicts for rapid response and is guided by strong international standards and regulations in their response strategy. The network consists of members of ACT Armenia Forum; clergy from all regions of Armenia including Nagorno Karabakh and representatives of Church related organizations. ART partners are the primary target group of ART emergency programme. Members of these groups have the potential and are prepared to respond to emergencies immediately and provide psychosocial support to the affected population in emergency situations, and also get prepared to transfer their knowledge on grass root level to their beneficiaries.

ART is a key provider of emergency response and rehabilitation support striving to protect and promote the rights and address the needs of disaster and conflict affected people including refugees and asylum seekers in Armenia. Since the beginning of mass departure from Syria caused by the conflict, ART has pioneered an integrated response to humanitarian needs of refugees. Supporting Syrian refugees, ART has consistently tried to secure their core human rights, identify their development needs and integrate those into its programming with the aim of ensuring their integration into society. Supported by Armenian Church, peer civil society organizations, associations of Syrian refugees, authorities and international development partners, ART continually offers psychosocial support and vocational training to Syrian refugee women and young people, and builds their capacity for resilience and retaking control of their life.

In 2015 ART implemented two workforce development projects along with provision of humanitarian aid assistance and psychosocial sessions delivered by clergymen and a psychologist.

- ✓ 21 young people completed the general and web programming trainings in the Centre for Continuing Education of Microsoft IT Academy. This workforce development initiative improved capacities of selected group of young Syrian refugees as professional programmers and improved their employment opportunities in IT companies, 12 refugees were employed, others earn money providing private online services.
- ✓ Another project implemented in Art House training centre in close collaboration with “Aleppo” NGO gave 50 Syrian refugees opportunity to build their skills in hairdressing, make-up, stylistics, cooking, table design, bakery and design, as well as sewing and fashion design.

Besides, ART provided professional toolkits to 15 refugees. 80% of graduates have now earn providing different private services, 20 % have stable jobs and earn regular living.

- ✓ Clergy and psychologist provided psychological and spiritual support to 1,500 people through group and private sessions, meetings, events, pilgrimages in the Armenian Church and “Aleppo” NGO.
- ✓ Humanitarian support was provided to 2,000 people parallel with vocational trainings, spiritual and psychological support.
- ✓ The ART staff regularly conducted needs assessments to directly identify the priority needs during different phases of project implementation. The hardest reality on the ground is reflected in documentary films produced by ART within 2012-2016 projects. To view the films, please follow the link: [http://www.roundtable-act.am/en/videos#!prettyPhoto\[video\]/2/](http://www.roundtable-act.am/en/videos#!prettyPhoto[video]/2/).

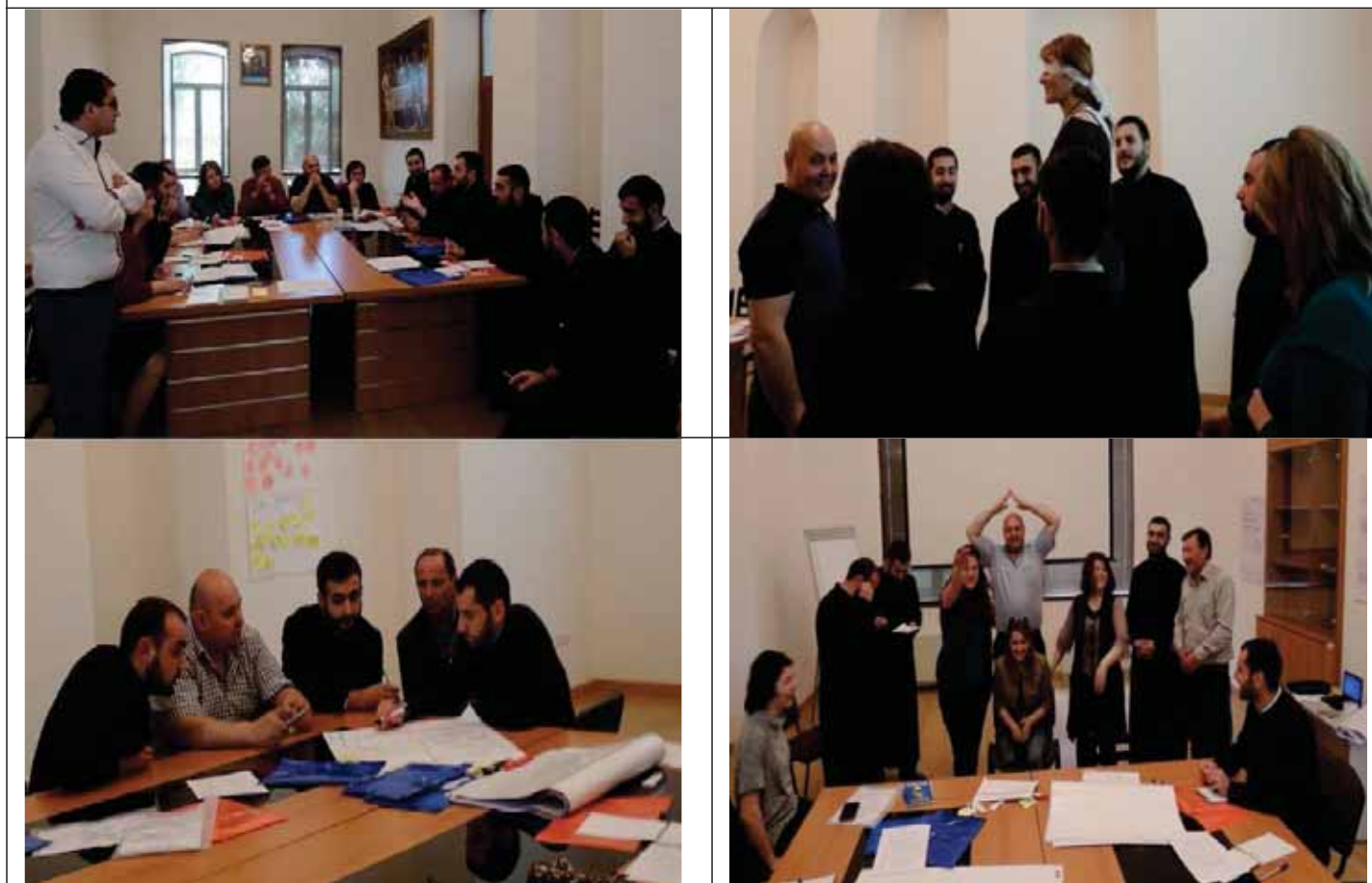
To view project gallery, please follow the link:

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/0Bwl8a8L6F76kOnZTVW92WFBkb1U>

CAPACITY BUILDING PROGRAMME

#	Project code	Project title	Implementing organization	Donor
1	15-CBs1	Capacity building for ART staff	Armenia Round Table	BftW
2	15-CBp1	Capacity building for ART partners	Armenia Round Table	BftW
3	15-CBp2	Development of 2015-2017 Strategic Plan of the Church Anti-AIDS Network	Armenia Round Table	WCC
5	15-CBp4	Livelihood Improvement through Fostered Employment for People with Disabilities	Armenia Round Table, Save the Children	Save the Children

Programmatic work training courses for ART partners





The objective of the *capacity building programme* of ART is to promote development of civil society by increased human and institutional capacity.

Being one of the priority areas of ART work, capacity building, strengthens and supports conceptual growth and programme management of civil society organizations by systematic learning and tailor-made courses on a variety of fields including project cycle management, organizational development, strategy planning, monitoring, environmental care, HIV-AIDS, gender based violence, drug abuse and others.

ART implements the programme in cooperation with qualified external experts and with gradual involvement of own staff in delivery of trainings on programme cycle management, organizational development, social diaconia, Do no harm, Community Based Psychosocial Support, etc. ART continuously strengthens own capacity and steady development into knowledge base and service delivery organization.

ART carries out “Programmatic work skills development” long-term study course which consists of three modules. After passing the first module “Development of competitive project proposal” participants of the training course are invited to develop a project proposal and apply for a small scale grant from the ART. The selection committee made of ART Board of Trustees and representatives of the trainee group screens and selects best project proposals based upon evaluation criteria which were financed by the ART. “How to write competitive project proposal”, “Basics of Project management” and “Project sustainability and fundraising” were delivered by ART in 2015. A group of 17 participants representing 10 organizations (including NGOs, Churches and community groups) were involved. The trainee group gained knowledge and skills on programmatic work. As a result of the training courses, 2 small projects were financed and implemented successfully by the participant organizations. The projects supported and included vocational trainings, emergency risk reduction training activities, etc.

As a service provider in the development work ART continuously strengthens own organizational capacity and contributes to the development of civil society organizations.

PROMOTING DIALOGUE FOR REGIONAL PEACE AND RECONCILIATION PROGRAMME

Project code	Project title	Implementing organization	Donor
14/17-PB1	Armenia and neighbours: Looking for Peace	Armenia Round Table	HEKS/EPER
ART15-PB1	Acting together	Armenia Round Table	DVV

Flash mob "We are for peace", Vanadzor, Lori region, youth initiative group



Awarding ceremony of school children at the exhibition in UN Armenia within "Let's live peacefully with our neighbors" drawing contest project	Armenian and Georgian youth visioning peaceful neighbourhood, "Support for Noyemberyan" NGO
	

"Armenia and neighbours, Looking for peace" works to boost a culture of peace through stronger youth and civil society organizations activism towards peaceful transformation of conflicts in the country. In strive to formulate and articulate a vision for peace in collaborative effort with youth and civil society organizations, the project evolves different activities including capacity building and awareness raising components. In 2015 the "Armenia and neighbours: Looking for Peace" project continued its activities and the following major accomplishments.

A concept of the course "Conflict transformation and resolution through negotiations" was elaborated by the Institute of Law and Politics of Slavonic University. The concept was approved and decision taken by the University to include the course in the curriculum of the faculty of "International relations and World policy" as a selective class for 2015-2016 scholar year. 26 students participated and successfully graduated from the course through September-December 2015.

A message for peace and non-violent solutions to conflicts was disseminated in cooperation with civil society organizations and youth activists. The projects included a drawing competition to articulate vision for peaceful neighbourhood with the help of creative drawings by schoolchildren, 165 schoolchildren from 8 regions of Armenia participated in the contest, an exhibition carried out in UN Armenia, a calendar with drawings prepared and disseminated. Awareness raising and youth capacity in conflict transformation strengthened through a series of meetings and lectures carried out in Yerevan State University, Gyumri Pedagogical University and Abovyan (Kotayk region) with 196 students from higher educational institutes and teachers. As a result a Facebook page named "We are for peace", which was created and promoted in the scope of the project gathered 578 likes in a quite short period. Graduates of the course on "Conflict Transformation and Resolution through Negotiations" course of Slavonic University planted 13 trees and established a "peace corner" on the territory of University.

Two media discussions "Armenia and Georgia" and "Armenia and Turkey" were prepared in and aired in cooperation with "Shoghakat" TV, the programmes gathered a viewership of more than 55,000 people. The discussions highlighted on such connectors as family upbringing, role of religion

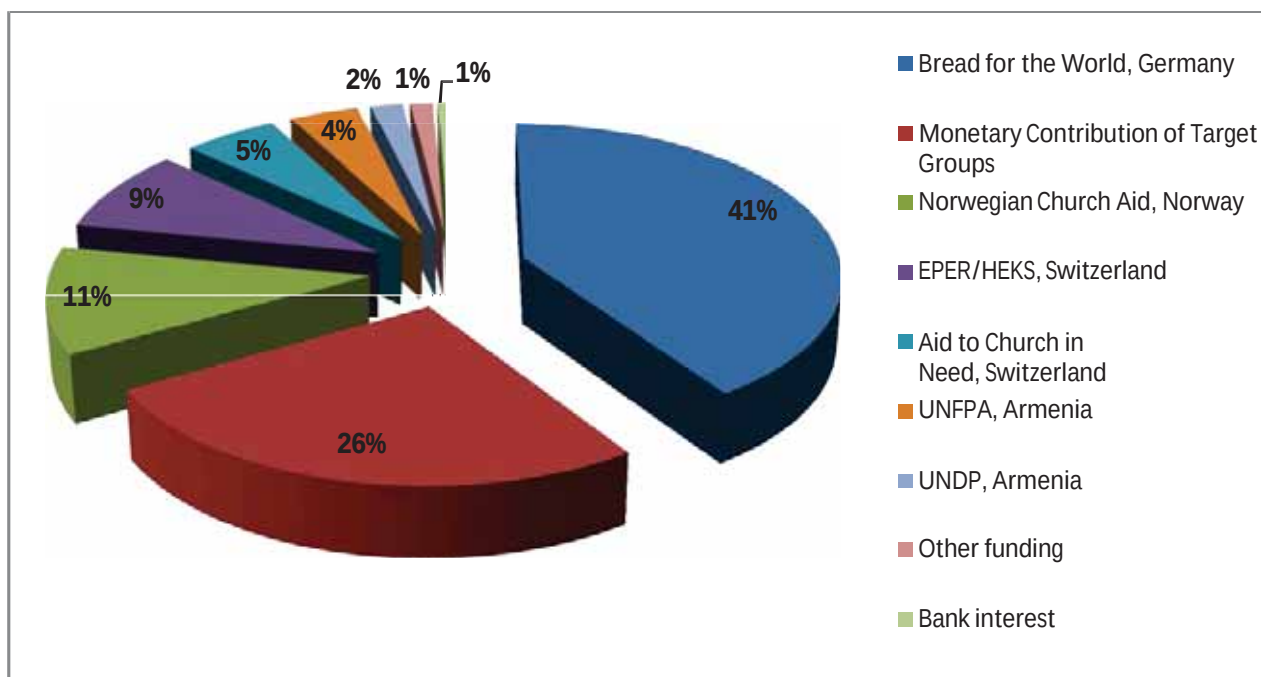
in it, economic interests, scientific and cultural exchange, possibilities for dialogue and cooperation between civil society organizations. The programmes are uploaded on “Shoghakat” TV studio site and can be watched following the links:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Bo1mUfyL58o>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ahZKc4dxYP4>

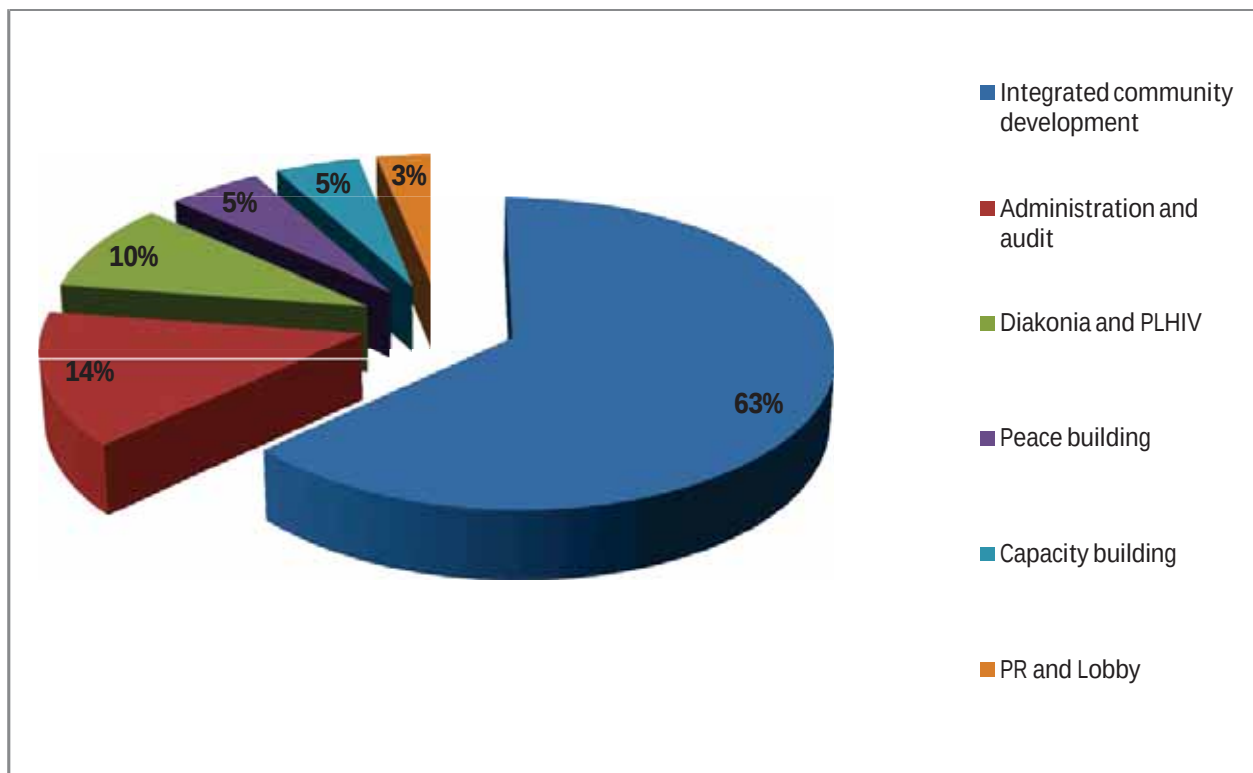
FINANCIAL INFORMATION

FUNDING IN 2015 (AMD)



Bread for the World, Germany	119,124,756
Monetary Contribution of Target Groups	76,877,372
Norwegian Church Aid, Norway	33,150,284
EPER/HEKS, Switzerland	25,839,925
Aid to Church in Need, Switzerland	15,841,788
UNFPA, Armenia	11,727,400
UNDP, Armenia	5,478,600
Other funding	3,828,515
Bank interest	1,744,751
Total	293,613,391

Expenditures by Programmes 2015 (AMD)



Integrated community development	173,420,941
Administration and audit	38,786,524
Diakonia and PLHIV	25,765,482
Peace building	14,775,586
Capacity building	13,294,738
PR and Lobby	8,607,361
Total	274,650,632

Audit Report on Financial Statements



"ՍՕՍ-ԱՈՒԴԻՏ" ՍՊԸ

"SOS-AUDIT" LTD

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

*On the financial statements of WCC Armenia Round Table Foundation
for the year ended 31 December 2015*

To the Management of the WCC Armenia Round Table Foundation

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of WCC Armenia Round Table Foundation (the Foundation) which comprise the statement of financial position as at 31 December 2015, and the statement of profit or loss and comprehensive income, statement of changes in equity and statement of cash flows for the year then ended, and a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information.

Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

The management of the Foundation is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards, and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatements, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing. Those standards require that we comply with ethical requirements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain reasonable audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risk of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the foundation's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the foundation's internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

Քրոու Հորվաթ Բիզնես Ալյանսի Ասոցիացված Անդամ

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We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

Opinion

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements present fairly, in all material respect, the financial position of WCC Armenia Round Table Foundation as at 31 December 2015, and its financial performance and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards.

29 February 2016
SOS-Audit LLC



Manvel Ghazaryan
Director


Gnel Khachatryan, FCCA
Auditor

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