



*Tearfund* is a Christian international development and humanitarian organisation with more than 50 years' experience. They work in over 50 countries worldwide, in partnership with communities, churches and local organisations, with the goal of ending extreme poverty.

*Tearfund* has three main ways of working:

**Advocacy and influencing :** They seek to influence the global church and governments to bring about fair and just policies and structures at a local, national and global level.

**Community development:** They work, where possible, through the local church, empowering communities to lift themselves out of poverty.

**Humanitarian response:** They respond to disasters and conflicts, always seeking to reach those in greatest need.

*Tearfund* equips the church to work with the local community, identifying needs and mobilising resources to bring about restoration and transformation.

### *7 stories you may have missed:*

**Locusts invaded** – Last year, Ethiopia and Somalia had their biggest invasion of locusts in 25 years, and for Kenya and Uganda, it was the worst in 70 years.

**Hurricanes hit** – In May 2020, Super Cyclone Amphan left a trail of destruction across parts of India and Bangladesh with wind speeds peaking at 160mph. More than one hundred people died. Last autumn, a series of typhoons left a trail of death and destruction the Philippines.

**Ebola-free** – On 18 November 2020, the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) declared itself free from Ebola for the first time in nearly three years.



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## TEARFUND

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**Too much water** – In March 2020, a sudden coronavirus lockdown in India left thousands stranded away from their families. Cyclones hit in May, leaving many communities trying to rebuild their homes and businesses as the monsoon rains began in July. The rains brought flooding and landslides across south Asia. An estimated 4 million people were forced to flee their homes, and more than 600 people were killed. Severe flooding has affected 1 million people in South Sudan since July 2020.



*Tearfund staff member stands in flood water in South Sudan*

**Too little water** – Over the past year, Zimbabwe has experienced its lowest rainfall since 1981. A vicious drought across Zimbabwe and other parts of southern Africa left many people desperate and at risk of disease from drinking dirty water.

**Violent scenes** – In 2020, as much of the world's focus was on tackling coronavirus, many nations were still facing violence and its knock on effects. In Yemen, more than five years of brutal conflict have crippled the country, putting it on the brink of famine.

More than 80 per cent of the population requires humanitarian assistance to survive. During the summer, *Tearfund* raised its concerns when the UK issued new weapons export licenses for trade with Saudi Arabia, as they could be used in the Yemen conflict.

**Climate commitments** – The coronavirus pandemic has been devastating, but the climate crisis has not been forgotten.

In November 2020, Boris Johnson announced a '10-point plan for a green industrial revolution' as part of plans to recover from the pandemic; by last December the UK committed to reduce its emissions by 68% before 2030; and then, at the Climate Ambition Summit, the Prime Minister said the UK would be the first major economy to end direct support to all fossil fuels projects overseas.



These are game-changing commitments and well worth celebrating, but there is still a big gap between these new announcements and actual action on the ground to tackle the climate crisis. This will be a key focus for *Tearfund's* campaigning in 2021.

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You can find out more about *Tearfund* and their work at: [www.tearfund.org](http://www.tearfund.org)  
All donations made direct to *Tearfund* until the end of April will be doubled.

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