

## Ministry and congregational work

The FELM contributes to the strengthening of ministry and the congregational work of churches and Christian communities. The majority of our companion churches are minority churches operating in countries dominated by other religions and living faiths.

We especially promote the support of projects which are designed to spread the Gospel to new people in new areas.

The training of both volunteer and hired employees holds a key role in this support.

**In co-operation with its partners, the FELM participates in:**

**- the training of church workers:** training of pastors, evangelists and lay leaders; provision of scholarships, theological research

**- Bible translation work and Bible studies:** translations into minority languages, Bible schools and training courses

**- outreach activities:** innovative approaches, operations in new areas

**- interfaith encounters:** giving witness through interaction with people of other living faiths

**- South-South exchange:** exchanging expertise and experiences among the southern churches

**- Christian education.**



## Social justice and diaconia

The FELM is committed to sustainable development in order to safeguard the well-being and dignity of all human beings. Together with our partners, we strive to recognise and eliminate the basic causes of poverty.

We invest in projects that promote the involvement of the poor and marginalised in shaping their own future and initiating changes.

The emphasis is placed on improving the position of children, youth, women and the disabled within the community and the church.



**The programme focuses on:**

**- the reduction of poverty:** improving the education of women and girls, increasing income-generation within communities, and improving health services

**- advocacy for human dignity:** improving the position of children, women, the disabled and minorities, promoting religious freedom, strengthening the role of NGOs

**- diaconal work:** motivating and training volunteers and church employees, co-operation and networking with local authorities and NGOs, strengthening diaconal work among the congregations

**- emergency relief:** providing relief aid and reconstruction resources to countries in which the FELM has had long-standing activities.

## Sustainable governance and finances

The development of the financial independence of companion churches is one of the great challenges in mission work. This challenge must be met through mutual sharing and learning between both northern and southern actors.

We place increased emphasis on the development of sustainable governance and local leadership, and on the strengthening of organisational and financial infrastructures.

A theology born of each church's own situation and the related research form the foundation for increasing independence.



## Peace and reconciliation

Together with our partners, the FELM strives to prevent conflicts, and to promote peace and reconciliation.

We encourage dialogue between representatives of different religious communities within an atmosphere of mutual respect. We draw attention to issues of human rights.

We invest our time and energy in increasing the resources of our partners to prevent conflict and to initiate reconciliation.



## Peace and reconciliation

**Along with its partners, the FELM supports:**

**- the prevention of conflicts in society:** work with minorities, education, network co-operation

**- the encounter of different religious communities:** dialogue training, network co-operation, peace education for schools, facilitation in expertise

**- church activities focusing on peace:** ecumenical co-operation, advocacy, networking, reconstruction, spirituality and Bible studies

**- reconciliation in small communities:** development of activities to prevent conflicts between those in close relations, such as between family members and neighbours.

## HIV and AIDS

Many churches view HIV and AIDS as the greatest single challenge for their mission work.

Our actions aim to identify the root causes for the epidemiology and spreading of HIV and AIDS, their prevention and eradication.

Our focus is on increasing the awareness of children and youth on HIV and AIDS prevention, aiding the sick and infected, as well as support for their families and communities.



**Together with its partners, the FELM focuses on the following projects:**

**- increasing the awareness among children and youth:** campaigns

**- support for those affected:** church counselling, support programmes for orphans, mutual support groups

**- development of competence:** training educators, theological work, community development projects

**- networking:** national, regional and ecumenical networks

**- developing operational methods:** innovative approaches and best work practices

**- advocacy:** affecting attitudes, values, lifestyles and the root causes of HIV and AIDS.

## Vision

The FELM is committed to searching for new avenues for reaching and serving people with the Gospel.

We act on the basis of Christian faith to bring about justice and respect for human dignity, and to bring about peace and reconciliation.

## Mission

The FELM has been called upon to participate as a mission organisation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Finland in the mission of the Triune God in the world.

The FELM serves, in words and deeds, the congregations in Finland and churches abroad in witness to the reign of God.

## Values

- Christian hope
- Neighbourly love
- Protection of human dignity
- Reliability
- Transparency

## Partner churches and organisations

**Angola:** Evangelical Lutheran Church of Angola

**Bolivia:** Lutheran World Federation

**Botswana:** Evangelical Lutheran Church in Botswana

**Cambodia:** Summer Institute of Linguistics (SIL)\*, International Cooperation Cambodia

**China:** China Christian Council, Amity Foundation  
**Hong Kong Special Administrative Region:** Evangelical Lutheran Church in Hong Kong, Lutheran Theological Seminary in Hong Kong, Institute of Sino-Christian Studies

**Colombia:** Evangelical Lutheran Church of Colombia

**Estonia:** Evangelical Lutheran Church in Estonia

**Ethiopia:** Ethiopian Evangelical Church Mekane Yesus

**France:** Evangelical Lutheran Church of France

**Germany:** Evangelical Lutheran Church in Bavaria

**Hungary:** Evangelical Lutheran Church in Hungary, Lutheran Mission Society in Hungary

**Israel:** Evangelical Episcopal Church, Evangelical Lutheran Church in Jordan and the Holy Land, Norwegian Church Ministry to Israel

**Kenya:** Mission Aviation Fellowship (MAF)\*\*

**Middle East:** Satellite television SAT 7

**Mali:** Evangelical Lutheran Mission of Mali

**Mauritania:** Lutheran World Federation

**Mongolia:** Mission Aviation Fellowship (MAF)

**Namibia:** Evangelical Lutheran Church in Namibia

**Nepal:** National Council of Churches in Nepal, United Mission to Nepal

**Pakistan:** Church of Pakistan, World Mission Prayer League

**Palestinian territories in the West Bank, Jerusalem, Jordan:** Evangelical Lutheran Church in Jordan and the Holy Land

**Papua-New-Guinea:** Summer Institute of Linguistics (SIL)

**Russia:** Evangelical Lutheran Church of Ingria in Russia

**Senegal:** Lutheran Church of Senegal

**Taiwan:** Lutheran Church in Taiwan, Chinese Christian Medical Mission in Taiwan

**Tanzania:** Evangelical Lutheran Church in Tanzania, Tanganyika Christian Refugee Service

**Thailand:** Evangelical Lutheran Church in Thailand, Summer Institute of Linguistics (SIL)

**Venezuela:** Evangelical Lutheran Church in Venezuela

**Zimbabwe:** Lutheran World Federation

**Ecumenical and regional co-operative organisations:**

Regional Lutheran communities

\*\*Mission Aviation Fellowship

World Council of Churches

Lutheran World Federation

Middle Eastern satellite television SAT 7

\*Summer Institute of Linguistics (Bible translations)

## THE FINNISH EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN MISSION

The motto of the Finnish Evangelical Lutheran Mission is "Love, Faith, Hope – from people to people". The motto reflects FELM's holistic approach to mission work, including ministry and services. The foundation for our mission work is God's love towards people and creation. Mission is a task that every Christian assumes through baptism.

The FELM operates in about 30 countries on five continents. Our activities employ a staff of 380, of which 240 work in mission capacities of churches in different countries.

A total of 77% of our annual budget of approximately 25 million euro is allocated for programmes abroad, and the rest is allocated to education, training, communication and fundraising within Finland.

All of the congregations of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Finland are members of the FELM. The FELM was founded in 1859.

Further information: [www.mission.fi](http://www.mission.fi)  
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Donations may be made to the following bank account:

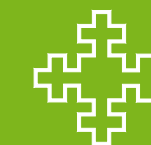
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LOVE · FAITH · HOPE  
- from people to people

Programmes  
2007 - 2009



THE FINNISH  
EVANGELICAL  
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