



45 Years of
World Accord

2024-25

ANNUAL REPORT



World Accord
International Development Agency
worldaccord.org

Table of Contents

Letter from our Executive Director	2
About Us	3
Impact at a Glance	4
What We Learned in 2024-2025	5
Key Moments in 2024-2025	6
Who Are Our Global Partners?	7
Stories of Transformation	8-9
Financial Overview	10
Strategic Plan 2026-2030	11
Looking Forward	12



Dear World Accord family,

As I returned to World Accord in November 2024, I was reminded once again of the incredible strength and resilience of this community—our partners around the world, our supporters here in Canada, and the dedicated volunteers and staff who keep our mission alive.

This past year has not been easy. Financially, World Accord has faced some of the toughest challenges in our 45-year history. The loss of long-standing funding and economic pressures have created a difficult environment, and yet, thanks to your commitment, we have continued to walk alongside our partners and the communities they serve.

Together, we supported our partners in Central America, Nepal, and Ethiopia, ensuring that they can continue to create communities that thrive. We learned more about locally led development and deepened connections between communities here and abroad. December 2024 also marked the conclusion of our multi-year Global Affairs Canada-funded project in Nepal, a program that helped transform the lives of thousands of women through training, empowerment, and opportunity.

As we look ahead, I remain filled with both gratitude and determination. Gratitude for your steadfast support, without which none of this would be possible, and determination to continue strengthening World Accord so we can build on these foundations and expand our impact for years to come.

With gratitude,
Kristin Parmera
Executive Director, World Accord



About Us

Vision

Cultivating communities that thrive.

Mission

A Canadian partner in global change, we support community-led action, empower women and girls, and build resilient communities.

Values

● Social Justice & Equity

All people have a right to opportunity and dignity, irrespective of their background.

● Partnership

We value sharing, learning, respect, equality, curiosity, and efficiency in our work with community partners, donors, and volunteers.

● Sustainability

We build environmental, financial, and social resilience, providing tools and support so communities can thrive independently.

● Empowerment

We work “not for, but with”. Power shared is power multiplied.



Impact at a Glance

In the 2025 fiscal year (April 2024 - March 2025),
World Accord's reach included:

260

Farmers Growing Food
Sustainably

Over 260 farmers — mostly women — are now growing food sustainably, from the drylands of Ethiopia to the mountains of Nepal and Central America. They are using organic fertilizers, silos, and seed-saving techniques to ensure year-round harvests.

144

Farmers Turned
Entrepreneurs

Nearly 150 smallholder farmers — most of them women — are not only growing food but also learning how to brand, market, and sell their products — turning farming into a livelihood.

23

Women's Groups
Running Businesses

Thanks to 102 scholarships, children in rural communities stayed in school, gained self-confidence, and relieved financial stress on their families. Girls in particular are being supported to pursue education beyond primary school.

102

Children Stayed in
School

Across Guatemala, Ethiopia, and Nepal, 23 women's groups have moved from farming for survival to running small businesses — selling vegetables, managing savings, and investing in their families.

16

New Climate-Smart
Innovations Adopted

Farmers are pioneering climate-smart innovations — from macrotunnels (like a simple, low-cost greenhouse) in Central America, to organic pest control in Ethiopia, to seed banks in Nepal.



What We Learned in 2024-2025

What We Learned from Our Partners



Training works best when tied to markets

Farmers saw greater value when new skills led directly to income opportunities.



Women thrive in groups

Cooperatives, savings groups, and collectives proved far more sustainable than individual efforts.



Scholarships need wraparound support

Financial aid alone isn't enough — mentorship, meals, and community engagement help children stay in school



Climate-smart innovation must be local

Farmers embraced low-cost, homegrown solutions that fit their context (bio-inputs, seed banks, organic pesticides).



Community participation drives sustainability

Projects with strong involvement from local leaders and families built greater trust and ownership.

What We Learned as an Organization



Diversifying funding is essential

Global aid is shrinking. To sustain impact, we must expand our funding base and build resilience.



Change is hard in uncertain times

Financial pressures can make organizations risk-averse. We must continue fostering adaptability and openness.



Trusting local leadership is key

Communities themselves best define the impact they want to see. Our role is to listen, support, and amplify.



Networks and collaboration matter

Working through alliances (like our Central American partners' network and the Thinking Group) sparks innovation and strengthens localization.

Biggest Takeaway

Community-led development works best when it is rooted in local leadership, collective action, and trust



Key Moments in 2024-2025

International Development Week

World Accord hosted its very first International Development Week event centered around community-led development and best practices to implementing localization. We collaborated with Inter Pares and the Presbyterian World Service & Development, as well as two professors from the University of Ottawa.

Looking back at RENEW

Our RENEW project, funded by Global Affairs Canada, being carried out by our partner in Nepal, Women for Peace and Democracy came to an end after five years. The project was centered on the empowerment of women, girls, and local community actors and was a big success, achieving far more than its original goals.

A key achievement was the financial empowerment of women, many of whom opened personal bank accounts for the first time, an important step toward independence and long-term savings. The project also nurtured a deep sense of solidarity and sisterhood among members of Village Women's Groups (VWG), whose growing confidence inspired many to run for local office and assume leadership roles within their communities. Equally impactful was the engagement of men and boys. By encouraging men to support their wives in attending training sessions, RENEW fostered a culture of shared responsibility and advocacy for gender equality that continues to reverberate in households and beyond.



Who Are Our Global Partners?



ASUVI Quiche

In Guatemala, World Accord funds ASUVI to strengthen rural families' capacity to adapt to climate change. ASUVI has introduced macrotunnels, organic bio-inputs, irrigation systems, and grain silos while training families in business skills such as cooperative organization and product branding. Women in particular are supported to move beyond subsistence into small-scale enterprises, collectively selling vegetables, grains, and fruits in local markets.

APDA

In Ethiopia's Afar region, World Accord partners with APDA to improve food security and climate resilience among pastoralist families. APDA promotes women's horticultural groups, organic pest control, irrigation technology, and environmental protection. It also invests in disaster risk reduction and drought response, ensuring pastoralist households are better able to cope with recurring climate shocks.



Women for Peace and Democracy

World Accord works with WPD in Nepal, a local organization dedicated to women's economic empowerment and agricultural production. WPD supports women farmers through agroecology training, seed saving, plastic tunnel vegetable cultivation, and cooperative development. Beyond farming, WPD strengthens women's savings and credit groups that allow members to pool resources, invest in enterprises, and improve household resilience.

ASOCIALAYO

World Accord supports ASOCIALAYO, in Honduras, a grassroots partner working with smallholder farming families around Lake Yojoa. Their focus is on agroecology, food security, and women's empowerment. Through training, agroecological initiatives, and cooperative organizing, ASOCIALAYO helps farming families secure year-round food, improve nutrition, and generate income from surplus production. Women are central in leadership roles, especially in marketing cooperatives and savings groups.



ADCASMUS

World Accord partners with ADCASMUS in El Salvador, to strengthen community resilience, women's leadership, and sustainable livelihoods in rural El Salvador. Their programs focus on family poultry production, horticulture, and youth engagement, ensuring that families improve nutrition while generating income. ADCASMUS also supports women to start small businesses and fosters cooperative approaches so that community members can market products collectively and advocate for their rights.



Stories of Transformation

María's Story

A member of Asuvi Quiche

From Homemaker to Community Leader

María, a 35-year-old mother of four from Cerritos, Guatemala, once knew little about gardening or managing household expenses. Through the ASUVI project, she joined a women's group and received training in agroecology, financial management, and civic participation.

With her new skills, María successfully cultivated tomatoes in a 26 m² macrotunnel—feeding her family, saving on food costs, and earning income equal to a quarter of her community's average monthly household earnings.

Beyond her farm, María has grown into a community leader. Today, she serves as auxiliary mayor on the local development council, advocating for improvements in her village.

Reflecting on her journey, María says:



"I'm not afraid to learn new things. Thanks to the project, I've realized you just have to start from scratch and build little by little."



Stories of Transformation

Sania and Lissi's Story

ASOCIALAYO Scholarship Awardees

Investing in the Next Generation

In the rural community of Plan de Naranjos, Honduras, two young girls—Sania Caballero and her cousin Lissi Noelia, faced enormous challenges to continue their education. Their school was four kilometres away, and every day they walked long distances under heavy rains, extreme heat, and unsafe roads. For their families, both living in deep poverty, the rising cost of school supplies made continuing education seem impossible.

In 2023, hope arrived when ASOCIALAYO, with support from the Wigood Education Fund through World Accord, provided small scholarships to help cover essentials like uniforms, shoes, and notebooks. This support lifted the financial burden and allowed Sania and Lissi to stay in school, continuing their studies with renewed determination.

Today, the girls are thriving. Sania is completing her eighth year of schooling, dreaming of one day supporting her family and helping her siblings reach their own goals. Both girls are also giving back, helping organize a Children's Day celebration in their community to spread joy and encouragement to other children.



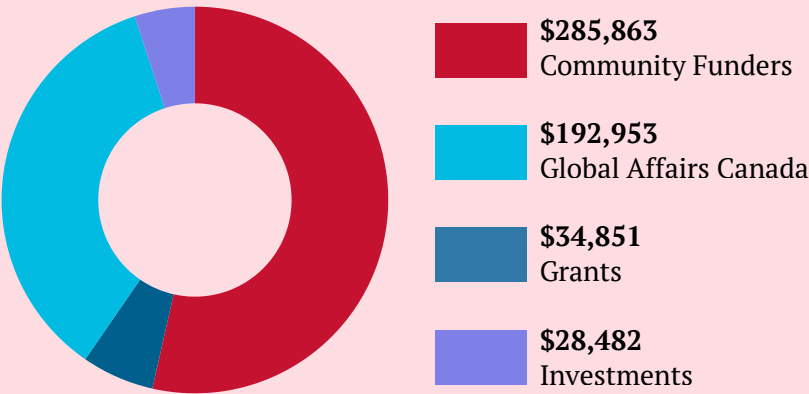
"I am very happy to be able to continue my studies. My dream is to prepare myself well so I can support my family and help my younger siblings continue studying too." — Sania

Financial Overview

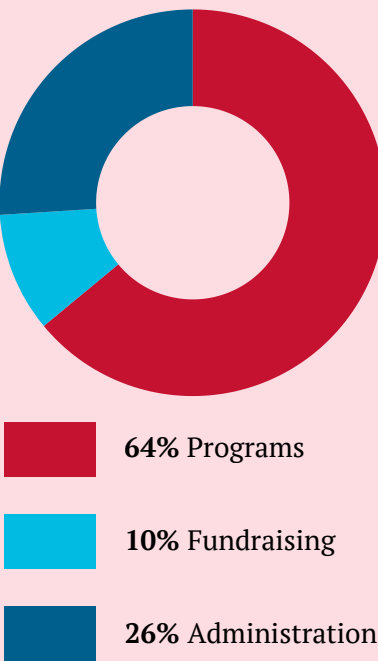
At World Accord, we strive to direct as much funding as possible to our programs. In a typical year, 77¢ of every dollar goes directly to the cause, with 23¢ supporting essential fundraising and administration. Due to the sudden loss of core funding, last year’s ratio shifted to 64/36—not because our admin costs grew, but because overall revenue dropped.

Thanks to generous support, we’ve already raised nearly \$120,000 this summer to close that gap. With your continued help, we’re confident we can return to our 23% (or lower) commitment and ensure the greatest possible impact for the communities we serve.

Our Funding Sources



Where our Funding is Going



Strategic Plan 2026-2030

Over the last 45 years, World Accord has supported partners globally to cultivate communities that thrive. We pride ourselves on the trust we've developed with our partners, the relationships we've built in the sector, our organizational agility and efficiency, and our approach to community-led development. At this point in our journey, we are up against risks like declining core funding, dependence on specific donors, instability in partner countries, climate change, declining engagement and donor trust. We knew it was time to invest in a Strategic Plan to guide us through these uncertain times. This Plan outlines World Accord's vision for the coming years, focusing on a limited number of key strategic priorities.

Our Vision

Cultivating communities that thrive.

Strategic Priorities



Secure financial sustainability through diversified revenue growth



Position World Accord as a partner of choice in community-led development



Build World Accord's visibility, influence and brand relevance

Our Mission

A Canadian partner in global change, we support community-led action, empower women and girls, and build resilient communities.

Values

- **Social Justice & Equity:** All people have a right to opportunity and dignity, irrespective of their background.
- **Partnership:** We value sharing, learning, respect, equality, curiosity, and efficiency in our work with community partners, donors, and volunteers.
- **Sustainability:** We build environmental, financial, and social resilience – providing tools and support so communities can thrive independently.
- **Empowerment:** We work “not for, but with.” Power shared is power multiplied.

Goals

1. Be a partner of choice for community-led development.
2. Deepen impact through strategic partnerships.
3. Engage and inspire the next generation.
4. Lead through collaboration and advocacy.
5. Elevate World Accord's public profile.
6. Diversify and strengthen revenue streams.
7. Strengthen governance and organizational leadership.

Looking Forward

Closing the \$120,000 Shortfall

The sudden loss of core funding in 2024 left us with a significant shortfall. Thanks to the generosity of our donors, we've already made progress in closing the gap. Over the next year, we'll continue working toward bridging the remaining \$120,000. Every gift brings us closer to ensuring our partners can continue their vital work without disruption.



Launching Accord Adventures

In 2026, World Accord will launch Accord Adventures, a new series of Learning Trips where supporters can visit partner communities, see projects firsthand, and return as ambassadors for change. Participants will engage with local partners, build lasting connections, and fundraise in support of sustainable development.

45 Through 4-5

To mark 45 years in motion, we are continuing with our campaign designed to spread awareness and grow our donor base. Here's the ask: each supporter reaches out to 4–5 people in their own networks with the story of World Accord and invites them to give. Collectively, our goal is to raise \$45,000 through these grassroots connections.



World Accord



Thank you to our core funders



Unifor
Fonds de justice sociale



Community of Christ



Global Affairs
Canada

Affaires mondiales
Canada

World Accord

404 McArthur Ave

Ottawa, ON, K1K 1G8

www.worldaccord.org

kparmera@worldaccord.org

519-747-2215