



Annual Report

2018

CONTENTS

FOREWORD FROM THE PRESIDENT	3
TIMELINE	4
AREAS OF WORK	9
» Systemic change	
» Gender equality	
» <i>Laudato Si'</i>	
» Business and human rights	
» Alternatives to extractives	
» Land rights	
» Israel & the occupied Palestinian territory	
» Resilient food systems	
» COP24	
» Energy	
» Change for the Planet – Care for the People	
COMING UP	21
GOVERNANCE STRUCTURES AND FINANCE	22
ABOUT CIDSE	26

FOREWORD

FROM THE PRESIDENT



In 2018, the president of CIDSE was my predecessor Eamonn Meehan who led our organisation for an exciting year full of activities but marked specially by COP24 in Katowice, Poland.

It was a big moment for our sustainable lifestyles campaign “Change for The Planet – Care for the People” as a unique time and place in which to unite our volunteers.

Many of them spoke later of their time in Katowice as a turning point for them – how it was the first time they attended a political demonstration for climate, or they heard a moving story that opened them to a new perspective on the issue.

The volunteers also attended our public premiere of our new documentary “Energy to Change”, which connects the dots on personal engagement with integral ecology and the systemic changes we need to see in our energy systems.

Last spring, we also organised our first Systemic Change Forum in Leuven (Belgium). This merging of minds and hearts kicked off a fresh exploration of our core objective of global justice: to envision a new world with a system that addresses interlinked crises with holistic solutions to answer the cries of the earth and the poor.

All our priorities ran at full speed ahead: we launched a multimedia project on agroecology, carried out a directors’ visit to Israel and the occupied Palestinian territory. We continued to develop our approach to gender equality, and to put forward innovative proposals for addressing energy poverty and climate mitigation and resilience.

With our strong presence and engagement at the World Social Forum and the Thematic Social Forum on mining and extractives, we continued to explore with social movements how we can best support and amplify their inspiring work.

Our advocacy work in the field of business and human rights continued to rely on direct lobbying, but also to explore the use of storytelling through the testimonials of people affected by transnational corporations who seek justice in a context of corporate impunity.

We hope you will enjoy the new format of this annual report and invite you to read about our activities, achievements and ambitions!

Looking forward to working with you in 2019.

LIEVE HETZJAGERS

Director, Broederlijk Delen (Belgium)

TIMELINE

12
JANUARY

Inspire change

From January to March, young volunteers from Manos Unidas (Spain) hosted the [CIDSE photo exhibition](#) 'Inspire Change' in five universities. The photo exhibition was coupled with screenings of the CIDSE [documentary on sustainable food production and consumption](#) and offered the opportunity for debates on sustainable lifestyles.



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Bishops' triennial Forum

Preceding the annual Board meeting, CIDSE Directors and their accompanying bishops met in Leuven with Msgr. Bruno-Marie Duffé, Secretary of the Dicastery for Promoting Integral Human Development and representatives from Southern Bishops conferences.

24-25
JANUARY

01-02
FEBRUARY

Partners' visits to European institutions

Sammy Gamboa (Freedom from Debt Coalition, Philippines) and Pablo Sanchez (Grufides, Peru) met with representatives from the European Commission and members of the European Parliament to urge the EU to support a United Nations Binding Treaty on Business and Human Rights.



© Sharidenjin



© CIDSE

Believe in Change

A training on how to use the gender equality and church toolkit "[Believe in Change](#)" developed by CAFOD (England & Wales) was organised in Ghana for staff from the Symposium of Episcopal Conferences of Africa and Madagascar (SECAM). Similar trainings were organised in Austria, Scotland and Belgium.

27
FEBRUARY-
02 MARCH

13-17
MARCH

World Social Forum, Brazil

A CIDSE delegation attended the World Social Forum in Salvador de Bahia and supported the organisation of [workshops with partners and allies](#) on the topics of business and human rights, the impact of the extractive model, climate change, energy and sustainable lifestyles.



© CIDSE



© CELAM

CELAM pastoral letter

[CIDSE and Iglesias y Minería welcomed the publication of the Latin American Bishops conference pastoral letter](#) on *Laudato Si'*. The letter and its key messages were [translated](#) and jointly promoted with Church actors.

15
MARCH

20
MARCH

Defending our land and nature is our right

Partners presented case studies of violence against environmental human rights defenders in the Andean region at a [panel debate in the European Parliament](#) co-organised with Broederlijk Delen (Belgium) and other Brussels-based Latin American networks.



© Broederlijk Delen



New multimedia publication on agroecology

CIDSE officially launched its report '[The Principles of agroecology](#)' - Towards just, resilient and sustainable food systems and a [multimedia dossier](#) at a side event in Rome' during the 2nd FAO Symposium on Agroecology.

03
APRIL

**16-18
APRIL**

Rethinking our relationship with nature

Over 90 representatives of CIDSE member organisations, allies and partners gathered in Leuven for CIDSE's first [Systemic Change Forum](#). The theme discussed was rethinking our relationship with nature.



© CIDSE

**23-27
APRIL**

Solidarity visit to Occupied Palestinian Territory and Israel

A delegation of 11 representatives from CIDSE leadership [visited Gaza and Jerusalem](#) and met with representatives from civil society organisations and the Catholic Church.



© Gerry Lee

**14 & 22
MAY**

Environmental human rights defenders

CIDSE co-sponsored an evening debate with the daughter of Berta Cáceres (COPINH, Honduras) and met with representatives from MAB and people affected by the Mariana disaster in Brazil as part of a European visit organised by Misereor (Germany).



© CIDSE

**23-25
MAY**

Sharing and Learning

The CIDSE Communications, Education and Fundraising annual forum took place in The Hague (Netherlands), hosted by Cordaid and Vastenactie.



© CIDSE

**27-29
MAY**

Misereor 60th anniversary

As part of its 60th anniversary celebrations, Misereor organised an international conference in Frankfurt/Main (Germany) on Global Development - Beyond the North South paradigm.



© MISEREOR

**05-06
JUNE**

European Development Days

CIDSE was present at the [European Development Days](#) where it shared a stand with organisations working on climate justice. Visitors could also see the CIDSE photo exhibition 'Inspire Change' and hear about CIDSE's work on gender equality.



© CIDSE

**18-20
JUNE**

Directors' meeting in Montreal

Development and Peace (Canada) hosted the CIDSE Directors' mid-year meeting in Montreal. In a concluding [statement issued as a follow-up to World Refugee day](#), CIDSE Directors denounced inhumane migration policies that separate families.



© CIDSE

**25-26
JUNE**

EC Partnership Forum

CIDSE facilitated a session on 'Climate action: policy coherence on the climate agenda' at the [Partnership Forum](#) organised by the European Commission/DG-DEVCO.



© EC DG-DEVCO

01-05
JULY

(Let's) Be the change

30 volunteers from CIDSE member organisations, Poland and New Zealand took part in the 'Wereldkamp' organised by Broederlijk Delen (Belgium). A few weeks later, Manos Unidas (Spain) organised a [volunteers' camp on sustainable lifestyles](#) in Castellón.



© CIDSE

Laudato Si' 3rd anniversary

CIDSE was an organising partner of the [international conference](#) 'Saving our common home and the future of life on earth' organised for the 3rd anniversary of *Laudato Si'*. A delegation of 20 people across the network participated in the conference.

05-06
JULY



© CIDSE

EU and global food governance

Development and Peace Foundation (sef:) and CIDSE co-organised a policy lunch debate on "[Global Food Governance. How can the EU lead the way?](#)"



© CIDSE

12
JULY

Meeting with mining affected communities

A [meeting](#) to express solidarity of the Church with communities impacted by mining was organised in Brasilia by the National Conference of Bishops of Brazil (CNBB), DEJUSOL-CELAM, Iglesias y Minería and CIDSE. CIDSE helped to disseminate the [final declaration](#) to a wider audience.

07-10
AUGUST



© CIDSE

Meeting the REPAM delegation

In collaboration with Misereor, Adveniat and COMECE, CIDSE organised meetings with EU officials and a [panel debate](#) with high-level representatives from REPAM – the Pan-Amazonian Ecclesial Network on the situation of human rights violations in the Amazonian region.



© COMECE

20
SEPTEMBER

Setting sail for a new paradigm

CIDSE [launched a new paper](#) which analyses the radical and urgent change needed to limit global warming to 1.5°C. A few weeks later, responding to the release of the IPCC report, [CIDSE leaders called for urgent climate action and post-growth economy.](#)

26
SEPTEMBER



© CIDSE

09
OCTOBER

Energy access in developing countries

Together with CAN-Europe and Act-Alliance EU, CIDSE organised a [round table in the European Parliament](#) to present the findings of a study commissioned to ODI on EU support for energy in developing countries.



© CIDSE

UN Treaty on Business and Human Rights

A [CIDSE delegation](#) travelled to Geneva for the 4th session of the Open-ended intergovernmental working group on transnational corporations and other business enterprises with respect to human rights. A few weeks earlier, CIDSE urged the EU to "[constructively engage in the UN Treaty process](#)".

15-19
OCTOBER



© CIDSE

26
OCTOBER

Call for climate action by the Catholic Church

Ahead of the UN climate conference in Poland – COP24, CIDSE supported the [Catholic Church leaders' call](#) for ambitious and immediate action to tackle the climate crisis.



© Stefano Montesi

10-30
NOVEMBER

Our Land is our life

CIDSE members joined the [2018 caravan tour](#) by the CGLTE-AO (Convergence globale des luttes pour la terre et l'eau –Afrique de l'Ouest). The paper '[Joint Reflection on Land in Africa](#)' produced with the support of CIDSE was widely distributed on this occasion.



© Neil Palmer (CIAT)

12-15
NOVEMBER

Alternatives to extractivism

CIDSE supported the organisation and actively participated in the first [Thematic Social Forum](#) on mining and extractivism in Johannesburg.



© CIDSE

19
NOVEMBER

Webinar for journalists

The campaign "Change for the planet – Care for the People" launched its [new website](#) and organised a [webinar for journalists on sustainable lifestyles](#) together with the Global Catholic Climate Movement (GCCM).



© J.J. Vas

22
NOVEMBER

Vulnerable Climate Forum summit

CIDSE organised a panel debate at the Vulnerable Climate Forum virtual summit entitled '[Urgent Call For A New Development Paradigm That Works For People And Planet](#)'.



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02-14
DECEMBER

COP24, Poland

CIDSE was in Katowice for the [UN Climate conference](#). Activities included an official [side event](#) on 'Missing Pathways to Paris'. A [delegation of 100 young volunteers](#) also gathered for an 'Agora' organised by the campaign "Change for the Planet - Care for the People".



© CIDSE

07
DECEMBER

Documentary on sustainable energy

The premiere of the documentary '[Energy to change](#)' produced by the campaign "Change for the planet – Care for the People" was held in Katowice and was followed by a debate between people involved in the making of the documentary and the audience.



© CIDSE

10
DECEMBER

HR Universal Declaration 70th anniversary

On 10 December, [CIDSE joined voices all over the world](#) to celebrate Human Rights Day and the 70th Anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.



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AREAS OF WORK



SYSTEMIC CHANGE

At CIDSE, we strive for a holistic transformation that pervades all parts of society. This involves looking at current injustices and inequalities; ecological dysfunction; and climate change with a unified approach. It also implies adopting a self-critical lens about the way we live and run our organisations. Our Systemic Change Forum gathered the network to discuss together our vision of systemic change.

EVENTS

On April 17 and 18, over 90 representatives of CIDSE members, allies and partners gathered at the Irish College in Leuven (Belgium) for the first CIDSE [Systemic Change Forum](#). The theme was 'Rethinking our relationship with nature.'

CIDSE and its members also took part in the World Social Forum in Salvador de Bahia, Brazil. There, we organised [several side events](#), including one focussing on new paradigms to avoid the ecological crisis based on *buenvivir*.

RESOURCES

We made significant strides in defining our systemic change work and perspectives with resources. We established in December 2017 our [Voices for change blog](#) where we share the reflections of our network on current issues that are challenging and transforming systems.

We wrote a [report](#) to summarise the outcomes from our Systemic Change Forum, which is fundamental for building a common CIDSE understanding of our vision of systemic change and how to achieve it. This report was enlivened by a [series of illustrations](#) interpreting these lessons on systemic change.

We also created an [infographic](#) of systemic solutions to lower carbon emissions to stay within 1.5°C average temperature increase above pre industrial levels, as outlined in our report 'The Climate Urgency'.

STORIES

Watch the [interviews](#) filmed at the Systemic Change Forum: 'Acting to transform our relationship with nature' or read the [blog](#) on what our lifestyles can mean for systemic change.



© CIDSE

GENDER EQUALITY

We prioritise gender equality as a transversal priority, finding its implications within all our areas of work and making sure that women's perspectives are heard and promoted.

EVENTS

We conducted trainings on gender equality in Africa and Europe.

Thanks to some newly developed methodologies, CIDSE carried out [trainings](#) on gender equality with different groups, including members of the SECAM (Symposium of Episcopal Conferences of Africa and Madagascar) secretariat and the Ghana Bishops' Conference, MIJARC, the international Catholic movement of rural youth and staff from our member organisation in Austria as well as from the Secretariat. These trainings opened up significant discussions on what gender equality means in the context of power struggle and social and ecological justice from a faith-based perspective.

RESOURCES

The '[Believe in Change gender toolkit](#)' was developed to support the Church in promoting gender justice.

It is a gender resource for organisational staff from church organisations, particularly Catholic church organisations and those who intend to work with these church organisations.

The toolkit is intended as an inspirational guide to support them in their work towards achieving gender justice. It intends to raise awareness of the importance of gender equality, address concerns and common misconceptions and increase staff gender competency and programme quality.

The toolkit was developed by Tanja Haque, CAFOD's gender advisor from 2009-2018.

STORIES

The [gender equality blog](#) is written by CIDSE partners and allies, to find how gender intersects with climate justice, extractivism and more.



LAUDATO SI'

© Caritas Internationalis

The wisdom contained in the ground-breaking encyclical *Laudato Si'* by Pope Francis in 2015 constitutes our main guiding framework and source of inspiration in the fields of climate justice, corporate regulation and more. We are committed to spreading its message through our work.

EVENTS

CIDSE played a key role in the organisation of the [conference](#) 'Saving our common home and the future of life on earth', on the occasion of the third anniversary of the publication of the Encyclical *Laudato Si'* (Rome, 5-6 July 2018).

Alongside the COP24 conference and as part of the volunteers' programme for the campaign 'Change for the Planet - Care for the People', CIDSE organised the [event](#) 'Towards an ecological conversion for the people and the planet' with the Archdiocese of Katowice, Caritas Internationalis, Caritas Poland, the Global Catholic Climate Movement and Franciscans International.

RESOURCES

Laudato Si' is present across our work, provoking specific reflections in our resources.

The paper, '[Joint reflection on land in Africa](#)' published with the support of CIDSE, explores the theological foundation of our responsibility to care for the land and small-scale food producers.

Our Secretary General, Josianne Gauthier, wrote an [opinion piece](#) '*Laudato Si'* and the urgency of the present moment' after the conference 'Saving our home and the future of life on earth'.

STORIES

In our Voices for Change blog, we featured the piece: [What's the place of transition in the Christian message?](#)



BUSINESS AND HUMAN RIGHTS

© Trócaire

CIDSE's work in the field of business and human rights aims to end corporate negligence in the form of human rights violations and environmental degradation. CIDSE advocates for a UN Binding Treaty to regulate transnational corporations' activities. CIDSE works together with partners struggling against extractive industries to support their demands of corporate accountability and justice especially at UN and EU levels.

EVENTS

CIDSE and COMECE, the Commission of the Bishops' Conferences of the European Union, [hosted](#) a high-level delegation of the Pan-Amazonian Ecclesial Network (REPAM) and organised visits with prominent representatives of the European institutions as well as a lunch debate and a press conference.

CIDSE attended the fourth session of the open-ended intergovernmental working group (IGWG) on transnational corporations and other business enterprises with respect to human rights. Several [activities](#) were organised with allies.

CIDSE was also part of a [panel debate](#) at the 'Forum des Libertés' in Brussels about the responsibilities of transnational corporations.

RESOURCES

[CIDSE's submission](#) to the 4th session of the IGWG on transnational corporations and other business enterprises with respect to human rights.

We also produced an [infographic](#) on the current barriers to justice for communities impacted by the activities of transnational corporations.

STORIES

We gathered [testimonies from our partners](#) on the impacts of transnational corporations and the need to protect human rights and the environment.



ALTERNATIVES TO EXTRACTIVES

The extractive sector and particularly mining have a destructive impact on the social fabric and the environment of many communities. The growing demand for materials from our high-consumption economy exacerbates this trend. CIDSE joins many grassroots groups in advocating for a different system of production and consumption; one that prioritises access for all to basic goods and services without overexploiting the earth.

EVENTS

As member of the International Coordination Committee, CIDSE supported the organisation and actively participated in the first [Thematic Social Forum](#) on mining and the extractivist economy which gathered representatives from 60 countries in Johannesburg (12-15 November).

The [Meeting of Communities Impacted by Mining](#) in Latin America held in Brasilia (7-10 August) was an opportunity to deepen the solidarity of the Church with the victims and communities impacted by mining from different countries of the region. This meeting was co-organised by the National Conference of Bishops of Brazil (CNBB), the Iglesias y Minería network, CIDSE, and the Department of Justice and Solidarity (DEJUSOL) of CELAM.

RESOURCES

Several important resources were published urging for an ecological conversion and alternatives to extractives.

CIDSE supported the dissemination of the [Pastoral letter on Integral Ecology by CELAM](#), the Continental Latin American Bishops'

Conference, calling for care for creation in response to the damaging consequences of the over-exploitation of the earth's natural resources.

We facilitated the drafting of the [final declaration](#) of the Thematic Social Forum: 'Beyond Extractivism: Reclaiming Peoples Power, our Right to Say No'.

The Meeting of Communities Impacted by Mining in Latin America concluded with the release of a '[Public letter to our churches, organisations and society](#)' calling for an end to unbridled extractivism and the promotion of new production models that guarantee the lives of future generations and respect mother earth.

STORIES

'Churches and communities affected by mining must build alternatives to defend life and the earth', [blog article by Moema de Miranda](#).



© Maurice Ressel

LAND RIGHTS

All over the world the phenomenon of land grabbing and land expropriation is disrupting communities, threatening their ability to cultivate crops and thus their access to food, and interrupting their traditional agricultural methods. CIDSE's work on land looks at resistance to land grabbing and systems of community land management.

EVENTS

CIDSE supported a [Caravan in West Africa against extractivism, land grabbing, and resource depletion](#), demanding the preservation of resources of Africa for future generations.

RESOURCES

CIDSE supported the publication '[Joint reflection on land in Africa](#)', an exploration on *Laudato Si*'s approach to our relationship and responsibility to care for the land and its small-scale food producers' by Africa-Europe Faith and Justice Network (AEFJN); Africa Faith and Justice Network (AFJN); the Alliance for Food Sovereignty in Africa (AFSA); the Symposium of Episcopal Conferences of Africa and Madagascar (SECAM); and the Regional Episcopal Conference of West Africa (RECOWA).

STORIES

[Interview with Mirtha Vásquez](#), a lawyer from Grufides in Peru who works to defend people who experienced land expropriations by mining companies.



© Gerry Lee

ISRAEL & THE OCCUPIED PALESTINIAN TERRITORY

The CIDSE working group on Israel & the occupied Palestinian territory (oPt), together with partners in the region, aims at promoting the achievement of a comprehensive, just and lasting peace, based on international law, including relevant UN resolutions, leading to self-determination for both Israelis and Palestinians.

EVENTS

In April, directors and representatives of seven CIDSE member organisations travelled to the region to meet Palestinian and Israeli partners and the communities they serve.

RESOURCES

[CIDSE and EuroMed Rights sent a joint letter to Federica Mogherini](#), High Representative of the European Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy to draw the EU's attention about the imminent demolition of the Bedouin village of Umm al-Hiran in Israel.

STORIES

We published two articles by [Gerry Lee](#) (Maryknoll Office for Global Concerns) and [Maria Gonzalez](#) (CAFOD) who joined the CIDSE April delegation to Israel and the oPt.



RESILIENT FOOD SYSTEMS

© Fergal Anderson - CIDSE

Food security is essential for any community, yet it is affected by a complex series of variables, including agricultural production methods, rural development, ecological sustainability and privatisation. We are working to combine the collective knowledge from our partners and members on the ground to design food systems that can help communities take control of their food supply.

EVENTS

We launched our publication 'The Principles of Agroecology' at a [side event in Rome](#) during the 2nd FAO International Symposium on Agroecology.

RESOURCES

CIDSE produced '[The Principles of Agroecology](#)', and supported other major reports on food systems by several alliances of which we are members:

▷ **The Principles of Agroecology** report addresses current gaps in the definition of agroecology, to provide a set of fundamental principles for the network from which to build joint work on agroecology from a mutual understanding.

▷ **CLARA** '[Missing pathways to 1.5°C](#)'

▷ Global Network for the Right to Food and Nutrition - Watch report '[When Food Becomes Immaterial- Confronting the Digital Age](#)'.

CIDSE also participated in the FAO e-consultation and sent [comments](#) on the V0 draft of the high-level panel of experts' report

on agroecological approaches and other innovations for sustainable agriculture and food systems that enhance food security and nutrition.

Infographics:

▷ [The Principle of Agroecology](#)

▷ [Agroecology for climate and social justice](#)

STORIES

The Principles of Agroecology was unique for its [multimedia format](#) that included an interactive online publication in seven languages.

We conducted a [series of interviews](#) with academics and activists on agroecology and how it intersects with other issues.

We continued to explore agroecology from a systemic change and gender perspective and published a [blog article by Emma Siliprandi](#).



COP 24

With each year that passes since the Paris Agreement was adopted at COP21, the carbon budget decreases, and our engagement with the process increases. But no matter what happens inside the negotiations, we take the opportunity of the COP to unite civil society to push for a just energy transition, with or without the support of member states.

EVENTS

At a [side event](#) on 6 December, we deconstructed some of the false solutions to the climate crisis, such as geoengineering and negative emissions technologies, and leading academics showed that there is more evidence that alternative forms of land management can play a significant role in carbon emissions reduction.

We organised a [panel](#) at the virtual Climate Vulnerable Forum where grassroots initiatives were [discussed](#) that provide holistic solutions to climate and development issues, highlighting the role of youth and faith-based communities in organising.

RESOURCES

Our report, '[The Climate Urgency](#)', describes just pathways to provide for food and energy demand while staying within 1.5°C warming above pre-industrial average temperatures. It combines agroecology, renewable energy systems and sustainable lifestyles and touches on frameworks for policy such as post-growth and sufficiency. The shortcomings of geoengineering and negative emissions technologies are also pointed out. [Three infographics](#) were produced from this report.

CIDSE directors issued a [joint statement](#) calling for a systemic approach to climate change, in response to the release of the IPCC special report.

We supported the drafting and dissemination of a [powerful appeal](#) signed by continental bishops' conferences calling for government leaders to take ambitious and immediate action to tackle and overcome the devastating effects of the climate crisis.

Earlier in the year, CIDSE also submitted a [contribution to the Talanoa Dialogue](#) based on Catholic Social Teaching and with the experience from our partners working with communities on the front lines of climate change impacts.

CIDSE is part of an alliance of civil society organisations that advocate for equity to be included in the implementation of the Paris Agreement. We supported the dissemination of the latest [report](#) 'After Paris: Inequality, Fair Shares, and the Climate Emergency'.

STORIES

Volunteers from CIDSE member organisations who travelled to Poland for the COP24 conference shared their experiences in a series of [blog articles](#).



ENERGY

© Russell Watkins - DfID

We have continued to gather evidence that responding to the need of vulnerable populations for energy access is not in conflict with the need to rapidly decarbonise our energy systems. The human need for energy security, and the human need for healthy ecosystems are real, and there are alternatives to megaprojects and fossil fuels, alternative that are being tested by communities, giving them the autonomy to design the energy systems that work for them.

EVENTS

Recognising the multidisciplinary nature of our work on energy, we organised events at the intersection of energy with finance and extractives.

We organised a [roundtable event at the European Parliament](#) on the current reality and future of EU climate finance.

At the [World Social Forum in Brazil](#), we held a [side event](#) to discuss social problems related to hydropower megaprojects. Participants exchanged their experiences of resistance and established potential joint strategies to promote alternatives.

RESOURCES

We commissioned research into EU financing of energy projects in the development context. Our research paper '[EU support for energy in developing countries 2010-2016](#)' looks into how the EU's current finance of energy projects in developing countries currently holds up to these commitments, in terms of providing renewable energy to populations lacking access to energy.

In [The Climate Urgency paper](#), we continued to define our position on the [role renewable energy systems can play in climate](#).

STORIES

We continued to highlight the voices and experiences of our partners on the injustices of current energy systems.

From Colombia to South Africa, we raised the voices of partners on the extractivist nature of energy megaprojects in [an article](#) and two [video interviews](#).

These testimonies confirm that the energy from such megaprojects can have negative impacts for local communities, and add insult to injury by failing to provide them with access to energy.

In [an article on our gender blog](#), by the National Steering Committee of the South Africa Women Building Power Campaign and WoMin, we heard how these impacts fall on women in particular.



© CIDSE

CHANGE FOR THE PLANET – CARE FOR THE PEOPLE

It is hard to compare the power of face-to-face exchanges in changing our own mentalities. The young activists we gather in camps across Europe talk afterwards of these gatherings as a life changing moment. Together, they offer each other support and knowledge about how to live their values in the way they produce and consume, and how they can push decision-makers to make their lifestyle choices the norm.

EVENTS

The workshops in our sustainability camps offered reflections on the personal meaning of *Laudato Si'*, and our own individual commitments to justice in our daily lives.

In [Belgium](#), Broederlijk Delen welcomed volunteers from our members in the UK, Portugal, Germany and Slovakia as well as from partners from New Zealand and Poland. It was inspiring for volunteers to see that they are part of a global movement for change.

Following the example of the 2017 camps in Portugal and Belgium, volunteers from Manos Unidas organised their first [sustainable camp in Spain](#).

In December, we brought volunteers together in Poland outside of the COP24 conference. Apart from regular workshops exchanging on initiatives for sustainable lifestyles and climate justice, they participated in the climate march and a [programme](#) with high-level church leaders.

RESOURCES

We organised a [webinar](#) between journalists and communicators to discuss how to spread the word on sustainable lifestyles practices. We compiled these lessons into a toolkit

for journalists to be released in 2019.

As an outcome of their sustainable camp, the volunteers of Manos Unidas produced a [decatalogue](#) on how to live sustainably.

We are developing tools and graphics to keep our volunteers motivated to live sustainably and created a series of funny [GIFs](#) about energy consumption.

STORIES

We offered our volunteers their own [blog space](#), where they could share their thoughts from our sustainable camps, and their personal journeys of ecological conversion. During the camp in Belgium we filmed interviews with our volunteers on what '[being the change](#)' and [climate activism](#) means to them.

Our second documentary, [Energy to Change](#) was screened for the [first time](#) outside of COP24 during our volunteer camp in Katowice with wonderful reactions from our partners and volunteers.

COMING UP

2019

JANUARY

Launch of
Investor-State Dispute Settlement
(ISDS) campaign

Launch of
CIDSE strategic plan 2016-2021
mid-term review

JUNE

Launch “Save the Amazon, She will Save You”
#AmazonSourceofLife

SEPTEMBER

Release of the
new CIDSE website

‘Our Common Home’
youth camp, UK

OCTOBER

Pan-Amazon Synod, Rome

5th session of the
UN binding treaty negotiations,
Geneva

46th session of the
Committee on World Food Security, Rome

DECEMBER

COP25, Chile



GOVERNANCE STRUCTURES & FINANCE

BOARD OF DIRECTORS



The **Board of Directors** is composed of the directors of the 18 Member Organisations. The Board meets twice a year and is responsible for the general running of CIDSE, particularly for reviewing current activities and formulating policies for the future.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The **Executive Committee** is the implementing and supervising arm of the Board of Directors.

- President: **Lieve Herijgers** (Broederlijk Delen)
- Members: **Patrick Godar** (partage.lu), **Msgr. Pirmin Spiegel** (MISEREOR), **Alistair Dutton** (SCIAF)
- Ecclesiastical Assistant: **Mgr. A. Tesfaselassie Medhin** (Eparchy of Adigrat/Ethiopia)
- Treasurer: **Derk Maarten Johannes** (Cordaid)
- Secretary General: **Josianne Gauthier**

The Ecclesiastical Assistant, the Treasurer Secretary and the General are non-voting members.

WORKING GROUPS

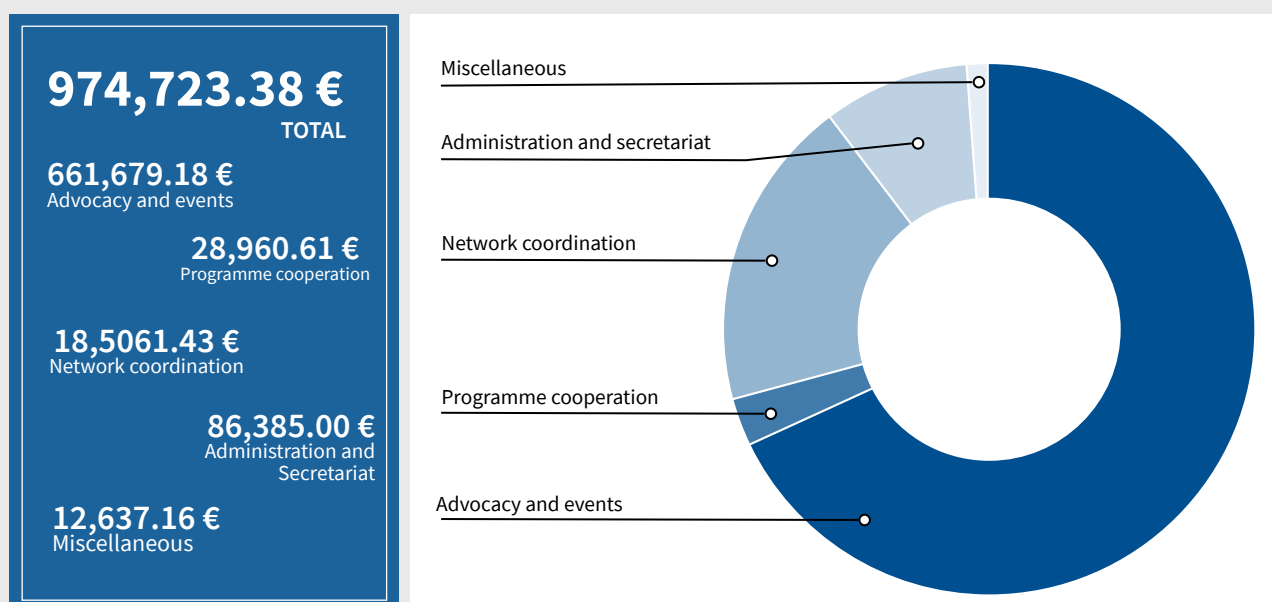
CIDSE member agencies work together in working groups, platforms and fora on the issues defined in the strategic plan. The CIDSE Secretariat facilitates the working groups and ensures communication between the member agencies and the overall coherence of CIDSE's work.

FINANCE

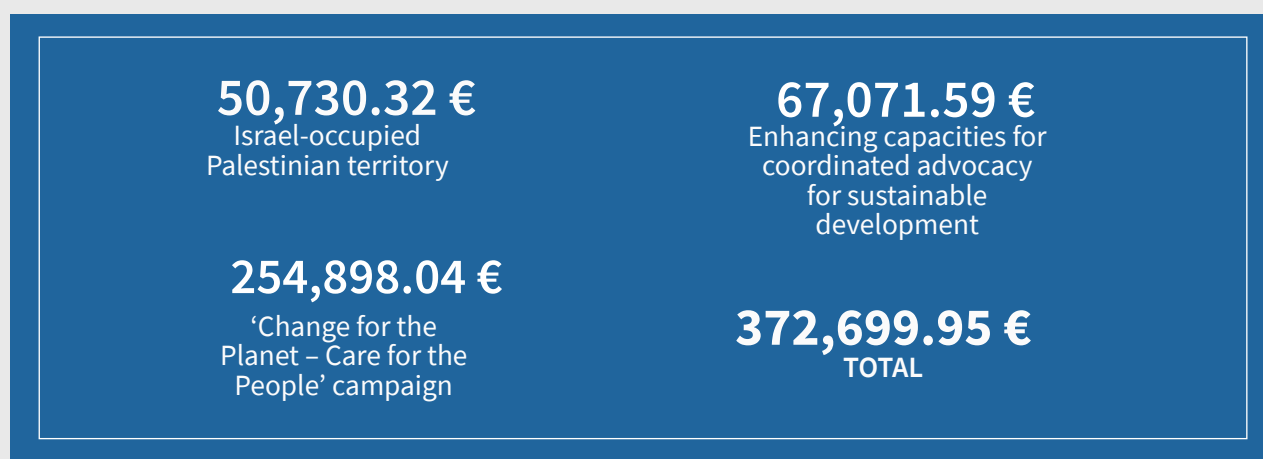
CIDSE is funded by membership fees and additional resources from its members for special projects.

In 2017, a two-year grant agreement was signed with the KR Foundation in favour of the 'Change for the Planet – Care for the People' campaign. CIDSE is grateful to the KR Foundation for their financial support.

CIDSE core expenditure 2018



The CIDSE Secretariat also coordinates the following projects:



CIDSE's finances are reviewed annually by an external auditor.

ABOUT CIDSE



WHO WE ARE

We are an international family of Catholic social justice organisations working for transformational change to end poverty and inequalities, challenging systemic injustice, inequity, destruction of nature and promoting just and environmentally sustainable alternatives.

Watch our [institutional video](#).

We work for a society based on social, economic and gender equality and solidarity, where the economy is at the service of society and functions within planetary boundaries. We aim at a fairer share of and limits in the use of global resources, and democratized governance where people regain control over their choices in economies based on the commons.

We work for reforms with transformative potential: to move away from fossil fuels and extractivism, to limit global temperature rise below 1.5 degrees,

to promote the right to food and agroecology, to regulate business to enforce human rights, to secure sustainable finance and fair wealth distribution, to support local communities to speak for themselves, to confront gender inequalities, and to enable sustainable ways of living.

To make this happen we contribute to global movements and alliances of change, promote peoples' solutions and alternatives and advocate at the international level.

OUR MEMBERS

CIDSE brings together 18 member organisations from Europe and North America.



Austria



Belgium



Belgium



Canada



England
and Wales



France



Germany



Ireland



Italy



Luxembourg



the Netherlands



the Netherlands



Portugal



Scotland



Slovakia



Spain



Switzerland



USA

COLLABORATORS

CIDSE works closely with diverse local and international alliances and organisations.

It is a member of [Concord](#), the European NGO confederation for Relief and Development, [Climate Action Network-Europe](#) and the [Global Catholic Climate Movement \(GCCM\)](#).

SECRETARIAT STAFF (August 2019)

The **CIDSE Secretariat** facilitates and coordinates the common efforts of its members, represents CIDSE at the EU and international levels and undertakes advocacy activities and other initiatives in collaboration with its members to contribute towards systemic change and global justice.

The Secretariat is organised into teams that coordinate various working groups in order to achieve its objectives:

- 1. Societal and ecological transformation**
- 2. Communities regaining control over the commons**
- 3. Facing climate change: just and sustainable food and energy models**
- 4. Change starts with us**

CIDSE MANAGEMENT TEAM



Josianne Gauthier
Secretary General



Denise Auclair
Senior Advisor



Chiara Martinelli
Senior Advisor

CIDSE STAFF



Inês Barral
Finance and
Administrative
Assistant



François Delvaux
Climate & Agriculture
and Food Sovereignty
Officer



Jassin Fetahovic
Gender Equality &
Systemic Change
Officer



**Marta Isabel
González Álvarez**
Media and Communications
Officer



Giorgio Gotra
Campaign's Project
Assistant



Sylvia Obregon Quiroz
Corporate Regulation and
Extractives Officer



Marie-Paule Ogereau
Communications and
Administrative Assistant



Yvette Pierret
Office Administration and
Logistics Assistant



Frederick Swinnen
Policy Officer
Israel-oPt



Saïd Ben Seddik
Technician and Programmer,
Office Maintenance



Hannah Twomey
External Funding Officer



Anya Frances Verkamp
Digital Communications
Officer



Manny Yap
Land Rights Officer

EXTERNAL SUPPORT

Wim Hendrix, Finance Consultant

Bea Lambrecht, Human Resources Consultant

During 2018, CIDSE paid farewell to Eamonn Meehan, former Director of Trócaire (Ireland) and former CIDSE President, as well as to Heidi Höök and Agnieszka Burda. CIDSE thanks them for their valuable contributions to our work.



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Contact details

CIDSE – Rue Stévin 16 – B-1000 Brussels

T: +32 (0)2 230 77 22 – postmaster@cidse.org

www.cidse.org

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