

Alliance 2015

towards the eradication of poverty

Annual Report 2021

Reporting period

January 2021

to December 2021

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1. About Alliance2015

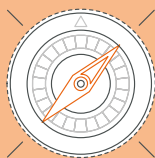
Alliance2015 is a strategic and operational network of European-based international NGOs, working towards the broader vision of Agenda 2030 and a world free from poverty, hunger, injustice and inequality. We are engaged in partnerships of different types and at different levels, and Alliance2015 members are our first partnership of choice.

Alliance2015 envisions a world without poverty, hunger, and fear of oppression. We envision resilient and empowered people and societies, thriving on a healthy and environmentally robust planet, and progressing towards participation, inclusion and equality through effective, collective action.

We exist to catalyze and add significant value to the humanitarian and SDG-focused work of its members by leveraging joint actions, knowledge and solidarity. We achieve greater reach and impact by working together, and by acting as a platform to channel influence more effectively to decisionmakers.

We have three impact goals delivered through joint programming, advocacy and advancing methods and tools for collaboration and shared learning:

- **Transformed food systems**
- **Climate resilient pathways in relief and development**
- **Equitable civil society partnerships**



2. Foreword from the Alliance2015 President

At the time of writing we are facing unprecedented circumstances, with more than four million people so far forced to flee their homes in Ukraine to find safety in neighbouring countries, according to UNHCR data. While the aftermath of this war remains uncertain, what we already know is that this crisis will have direct impact on food security in many countries already facing food crisis.

COVID-19 has as well had further disproportionate impacts on the poor and vulnerable in 2021, from unequal access to vaccines to unequal opportunities in global recovery, from widening income losses to spiking debt loads in emerging markets and developing economies. This is and will be for the next years, a huge challenge for these countries. To respond to those challenges in a framework of universal rights and equality, actors such as the EU and globally active international civil society actors like Alliance2015 have needed to intensify efforts in humanitarian and development support, and solidarity.

The year saw the launch of NextGenerationEU, a recovery instrument that not only supports EU members, but also countries in the Global South to cope with COVID-19 impacts and future challenges stemming from them. This largest stimulus package ever financed through the EU budget, of over €2.0 trillion, is part of the new EU financial framework 2021-2027 which also allocates €79.5 billion for the EU's cooperation with all third countries, to fulfil humanitarian needs, the Sustainable Development Goals and its Paris Agreement commitments. Alliance2015 has been positioning itself during the year to influence the direction of those funding flows towards the most vulnerable, in the frame of our new Strategic Compass with its focus on food systems transformation, climate resilience and equitable civil society partnerships through effective humanitarian, development, nexus and advocacy initiatives.

Internally, we worked intensively to finalise our new Strategic Compass and structure to give clarity about how we contribute to making our common vision a reality through our joint work. This process helped us to connect with a broad range of colleagues in countries of operations: during our **2021 Annual General Meeting online**, where we had the occasion of Celebrating the Past together, over 100 participants joined the online event, and during the LAC Workshop, launched to strengthen joint Alliance2015 presence and impact in the region, participants agreed on the constitution of a **LAC coordination body**, made of regional delegates. Our joint initiatives have included: rapid conclusion of our first round of multi country research on Covid-19 impacts; success in engaging with the **EU Delegations during the programming phase in 28 countries**, submitting **13 approved projects**; initiating collaboration to respond to the **crisis in Tigray**; and playing a key role in the coalition Generation Nutrition, influencing a stronger than expected EU pledge at December's Nutrition4Growth Summit.

I would like to thank all members and their teams both at headquarters and in country programmes for their intense work and resilience throughout the year and the Hub staff for its support, flexibility, and invaluable expertise.

March 2022
Melchior Lengsfeld,
President of Alliance2015



3. How do we work?

Our ways of working are how we bring our assets and capacities to life.





4. A year in Alliance2015

January

Alliance2015 was invited through our Director to participate in the **'Reimagining International NGOs'** initiative, hosted by Rightsco Lab and funded by Ford, Robert Bosch and Conrad Hilton Foundations, where a group 250 global innovators who represent 'the system' of INGOs (including southern partners, funders and INGO leaders) develop and launch prototypes that can transform INGO institutions and the systems in which they function. We are using this as an opportunity to learn, share and add value to our joint delivery of our new impact goal on equitable civil society partnerships.

February

Alliance2015 members jointly conducted a survey in **25 countries, covering 16,000 women, men and non-binary people in a two-month period in the final quarter of 2020**. The **multi-sectoral research** provides striking information on the **direct impacts of COVID-19 on food security, WASH, health, education, income, and on the indirect ones**, related to indebtedness, psychosocial status, domestic and community cohesion, thus offering a more holistic understanding of the full impacts of the pandemic that people are dealing with. The research has been used at country level, and in positioning and influencing with EU stakeholders and donors by members and the hub.



Gel distribution, Mali
©Franca Roiatti,
Helvetas.

March

The **Emergency Teams Meeting** is a biannual learning event for Senior Emergency Staff across the Alliance, its purpose is to exchange on good practices and approaches to increase quantity and quality of joint emergency response, as well as to establish links between first responders for when they deploy to support country teams. In 2021 this was organized for the first time in the virtual space.

April

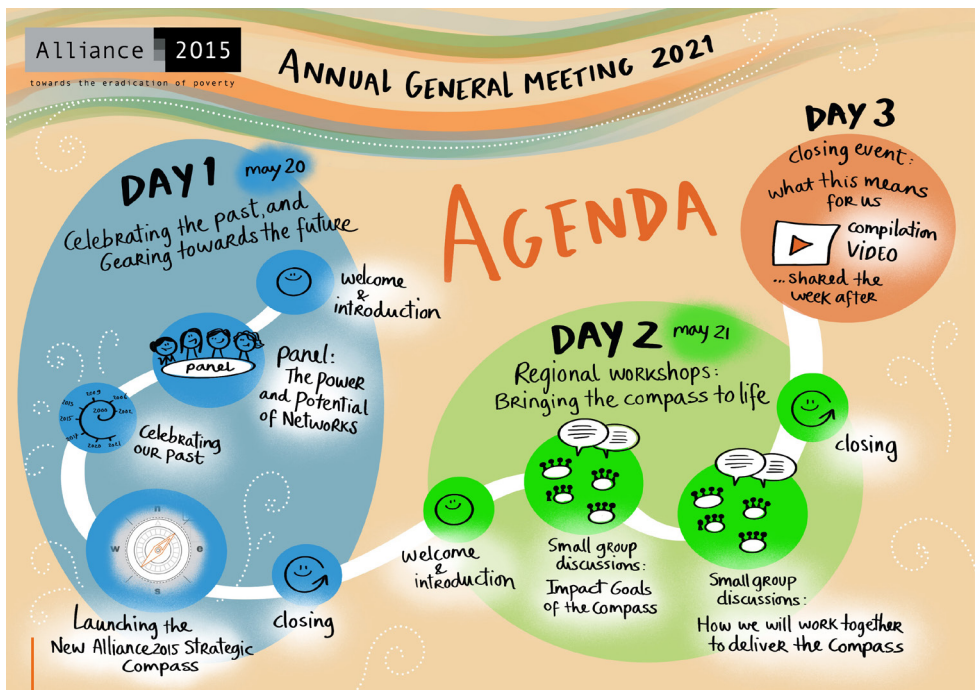
The **Global Hunger Index (GHI) 2020** report was launched online in Ethiopia on April 15th. Prior to the event, a press conference was organized with prominent media. Over 94 participants from the government, donors, UN agencies, AU, local partners, research institutes joined the event. The main theme of the launch was food system in Ethiopia and One health approach. The launch of GHI 2020 was timely to contribute and engage in the preparation of 2021 UN Food Systems Summit and Nutrition for Growth Summit. The event was also live streamed and got over 344 viewers.



GHI Launch in Ethiopia, 2021.

May

During our **2021 Annual General Meeting** online, we had the occasion of Celebrating the Past together with members, presenting our Strategic Compass 2021-2025 and analysing how we will put it into action together in the next years. Over 100 participants joined the online events, organised over 2 days, including multi-lingual sessions.



AGM Visual Agenda

June

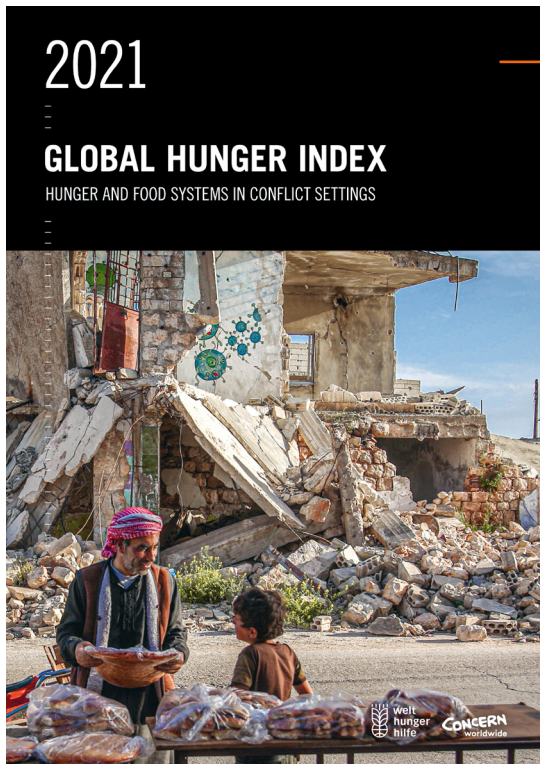
Alliance2015 was accepted as an **ordinary member of CONCORD**, the European confederation of relief and development NGOs. We developed an Alliance2015 engagement plan for this important Brussels-based network as we plan to stand in solidarity with our colleagues here, and in VOICE, bringing the added value of our joint programming experience and contextual analysis. So far, as Alliance2015, we are engaging in the following workstreams: Financing and Funding for Sustainable Development (FFSD), Civil Society Power, Inequalities, African Regional Alliance.

July/August

As part of our major effort this year to help our countries understand and position towards the new EU funding instrument, English, French and Spanish recorded video **presentation on Global Europe**, the new EU's external development cooperation instrument and the Team Europe Initiatives. The video also provided some useful guidance to enhance Alliance2015 in-country engagement with the EU Delegation, the EU Member States and their development agencies to foster early funding intelligence and pro-active positioning.

October

Tracking hunger globally since 2006, the **2021 Global Hunger Index (GHI)** addresses the links between conflict settings and food systems. The figures are stark: in 2020, 155 million people were acutely food insecure; an increase of nearly 20 million from the year before. Despite the devastating COVID-19 pandemic, violent conflict remained the main driver of global hunger in 2020 (WFP USA 2021). Alliance2015, together with the German and Irish Permanent Representations to the European Union, organized a hybrid **exchange between EU decision makers and CSOs on how to integrate the nexus approach and its operationalization through the NDICI programming cycle with direct inputs from our members in Kenya.**



2021 Global Hunger Index cover,
©Anadolu Agency
via AFP-Muhammed Said, 2021.

November

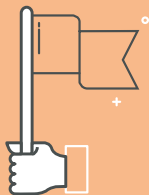
LAC Workshop - a joint initiative launched by Alliance2015 LAC country teams. The main outcomes of this initiative, launched to strengthen joint Alliance2015 presence and impact in the region, were **Alliance2015 Bogotá Agreement**, and the constitution of a **LAC coordination body**, made of 2 delegated members from Central America, 2 from South America, and 1 from the Caribbean (Haiti). The coordination body will work on **regional and global issues derived from the Strategic Compass**, working with regional networks, influencing regional organisations, and providing inputs to the Brussels Hub and elaborate a “Stakeholder Engagement Plan” for sub-region, in order to develop prioritised joint initiatives.



LAC workshop,
Bogota, 2021.

December

The **2021 Global Nutrition Year of Action** ended up with the Nutrition for Growth Summit (N4G) in Tokyo. As Alliance2015, we had engaged in the last months in partnership with European-based coalition Generation Nutrition. From weak signals mid-year, the EU showed increasing interest in the N4G summit and in December pledged 2,5 billion EUR. Generation Nutrition and its interlocutors in the EU ‘nutrition ecosystem’ are confident that our constructive dialogue with EU institutions and focused advocacy efforts contributed to this positive outcome.



5. Main priorities for 2021

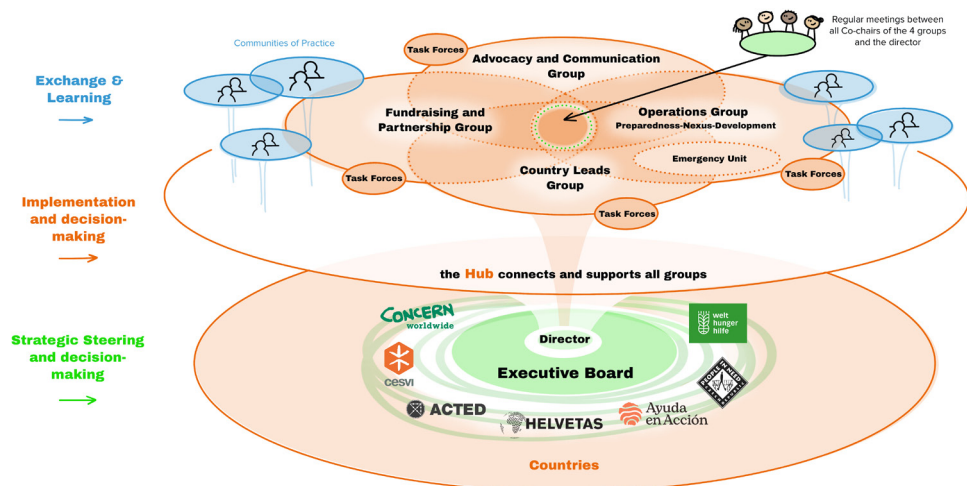
5.1. New structure for more effective delivery

We worked intensively on our new structure to respond to the three main gaps identified during our 2020 mid-term review and strategy consultations:

1. disconnection with the countries
2. working in silos
3. gaps in decision making authority.

For the first time, Alliance2015 groups co-constructed terms of reference designed to be coherent as a whole. The purpose is to foster a harmonized and synergetic work between the various groups in the structure, including the country level, and clarify which groups own which decisions.

Alliance2015 Organizational Chart



5.2. Measurement Framework and Knowledge Management

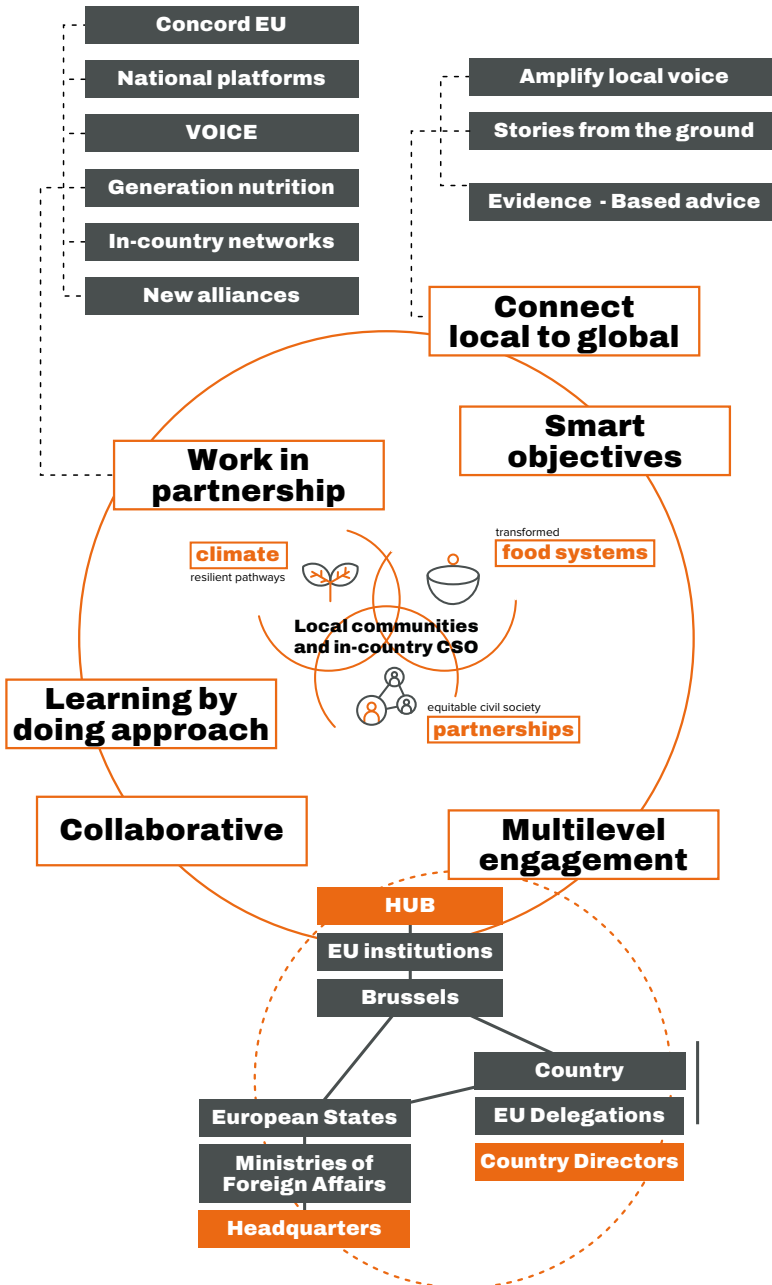
We drafted a new Measurement Framework to increase Alliance2015's capacity to monitor its success in achieving the different level of results expected from the implementation of the strategy through the collection and the analysis of meaningful data and information, to be finalised and operationalised in 2022. Conceived as a living document it will use a limited set of data collection tools to establish:

- Success in **BEING**: looking at A2015 capacity, systems, approaches, relationship, structure.
- Success in **DOING**: looking at A2015 joint and collective operations
- Success in **ADVOCATING**.

To complement this, and fill the knowledge management gap we identified within the Alliance network, the Hub began work on building a **knowledge management system** as a key part of the refreshed Hub mandate, in order to bridge data, experience, information and learning from the operation countries with the EU and global pictures, and vice versa, and contributing to enhance the Alliance2015 visibility at various levels. Basic design was completed in 2021, for finalisation and implementation in 2022.

5.3 Developing an EU Advocacy Strategy and a 4 year Action Plan

From September to December, Alliance2015 members have been jointly developing our new advocacy strategy which will be ready by March 2022. The strategy consists of a **strategic framework and a 4-year action plan in line with the Strategic Compass**. During 2021, the framework was agreed, providing general guidance to Alliance2015 advocacy work in countries, HQ and Brussels levels under two main long-term goals, designed to bring a concrete focus to our overall impact goal delivery: (1) a more accountable EU to CSO in country and (2) more and better EU funding for CSO. The practical Action Plan based on this will be developed in the first months of 2022.

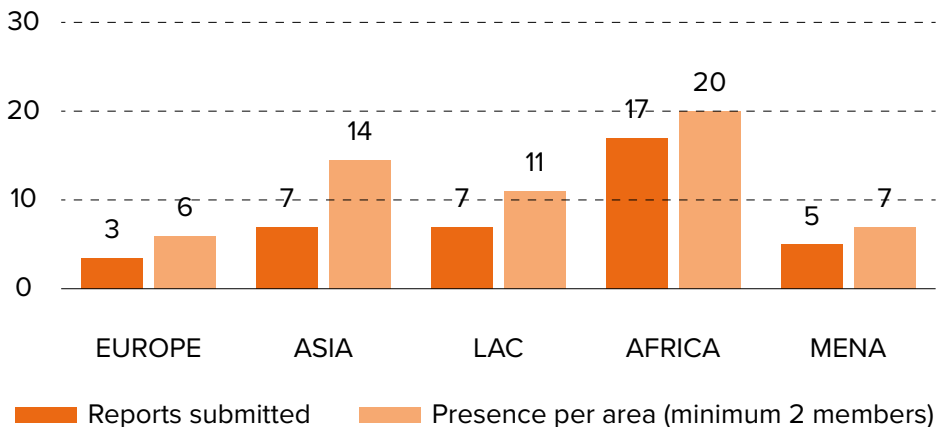


5.4. Country categorising and reconnecting

2021-2025. Country reports overview

The Alliance2015 annual report process was launched in July 2021 (reporting period January 2020 to June 2021). Country Directors of lead agencies in all countries where at least two Alliance2015 members are present were requested to gather and provide information and lessons learned from the collaboration. The majority of countries submitting the report participated to one or more consultations that aimed at gathering experience, knowledge, learning and views for the creation of the new Alliance2015 strategic compass.

Reports Received Vs Members Presence



With the information gathered for the Country Reports, the Alliance2015 Hub produced Country Snapshots, this is the main document of reference for each country with a summary of Alliance2015 collaboration, designed to support and track Alliance member engagement with countries in the framework of the Compass.

Country Levels of Engagement

The Alliance2015 Strategic Compass 2021-2025 foresees an enhanced participation of Alliance2015 members' country offices in the Alliance2015 structure and decision making, along with a more targeted engagement between the Alliance2015 hub, the groups and countries.

For a more focused support and to match interest from Countries with existing opportunities and support available, the countries where the Alliance2015 work have been organized in three (flexible) categories: **High, Medium and Regular Levels of Engagement**. With the information available on the Country Reports and the database for joint initiatives, the hub proposed an initial shortlist. With the recommendation to keep the categories flexible with an approach that promotes increased engagement, the countries with high and medium engagement level have been invited to form the Country Leads Group (including so far representatives from LAC, Ethiopia, Liberia). The lines between the different engagement levels remain flexible to reflect actual engagement and strategic interest.

Pre-selection of countries considered for high engagement:

Venezuela, Niger, Bangladesh, Ethiopia, Liberia, Pakistan, Sierra Leone, Uganda, Kenya.

Pre-selection to be considered for medium engagement:

Bolivia, India, Burkina Faso, Malawi, Peru, Myanmar, Colombia, Madagascar, Nepal, OPT and Gaza, Afghanistan, Iraq, Lebanon, Burundi, CAR, Haiti, Mali, Mozambique, Sudan.

5.5. Engaging with the EU Global Europe-NDICI programming process

Throughout 2021, Alliance2015 participated in the various stakeholder consultations that the EU organized within the framework of the programming process of its new development cooperation instrument, called Global Europe. Alliance2015 Director Antonia Potter Prentice represented the Alliance2015 in the two webinar consultations with civil society organizations and local authorities on the future EU regional Multiannual Indicative Programme (MIP) for **Sub-Saharan Africa** (SSA MIP2021-2027), which took place in March and December 2021. Alliance2015 representatives also participated in the CSOs'

consultations on the future **EU MIPs for Asia** (19 May) and **LAC** (28 May).

Alliance2015 Director was also honored to speak on behalf of the Alliance2015 at the Civil Society roundtable on **Human development** organized by the cabinet of Commissioner Jutta Urpilainen on 25 May 2021. Last but not least, the Alliance2015 Hub also contributed to the information meeting on the **EU thematic MIP on Global Challenges** on 14th July 2021. We participated in the discussion and contributed to the joint written statement compiled by CONCORD.

Programming consultations took also place at country level. Alliance2015 members have succeeded in engaging with the **EU Delegations during the programming phase in 28 countries**, among them Burundi, Ethiopia, Malawi and Liberia.

5.6. Joint resources and initiatives

Joint database analysis

The number of approved projects since 2015 is **129**; among those, **13 in 2021** (10 emergency, 1 development, 2 humanitarian); **22 in 2020** (18 emergency, 3 development, 1 humanitarian); **24 in 2019** (2 development, 15 emergency and 7 emergency-nexus). The total volume of approved projects since 2015 is about **432 million**. The statistics over the past 7 years show that the collaboration among Alliance2015 partners are most successful in joint responses to emergencies.

ANIF and EFA

ANIF – Alliance2015 New Initiatives Fund

In 2021, one ANIF contract worth of 40.000 EUR was signed in Pakistan. Under ACTED leadership, all members present in the country will utilise the fund to formulate an engagement strategy to boost Alliance2015 members positioning as development actor.

EFA – Emergency Fund of the Alliance2015

Three EFA were awarded in 2021 that were used to respond to emergencies in Gaza (ACTED and CESVI), Afghanistan (PIN, Welthungerhilfe and Concern Worldwide) and Ethiopia (CESVI and Ayuda en Acción).

IPA- Internal Pledges of the Alliance2015

As the size of EFA remains limited for its intended purpose, in 2021 the Programme Group delegated a task force to develop a mechanism for internal pledges, inspired by the practice of mutual support during large scale emergencies. The IPA is in a pilot phase and will be evaluated after its first implementation.

Joint Emergency Response in Ethiopia

In March 2021 Alliance2015 members in Ethiopia initiated a collaboration to respond to the emerging crisis in Tigray. Against the backdrop of a very challenging operational environment with consequent difficulties in access and delivery of aid, members set up a joint framework for response with the support of the Emergency Preparedness and Response Officer, who was deployed in the country for four weeks.

Ethiopian Food System Summit

In the support of the Government of Ethiopia in Food Systems Position Paper and a Roadmap preparation for the UN Food Systems Summit, Alliance2015 has been actively engaged in dialogues and able to submit game changing ideas for a positive food system transformation. We contributed to the game changing solutions (GCS), most notably around the action tracks on access to nutrient dense food, boost nature positive production, livelihood improvement and resilience building.

In addition to this, as a key stakeholder, Alliance2015 was invited and requested to contribute on the Ethiopia Food System Roadmap development and refinement, including the identification of interventions/activities and budget

allocation. Furthermore, Alliance2015 has developed a commitment paper ‘From policy to practice: good practice inspirations for food systems transformation’ to be submitted to the government in order show the Alliance2015 members’ commitment and share experiences on the above game changing ideas.

5.7. Information sessions

› **Our Alliance2015 new Strategic Compass 2021-2025: What is it, what does it mean for you, how to engage?**

In November 2021 the Alliance2015 Hub organized a series of 3 webinars (in English, Spanish and French), to present the new strategy across the membership, highlighting: why this matters, what we do, how we work and our tools and opportunities.

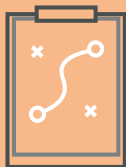
› **JEPREP Info Session**

In April the Hub organized 2 Informative Sessions to inform countries about the process to develop Joint Emergency Preparedness and Response plans and what support the hub could provide to those countries willing to prioritize this exercise. The sessions targeted countries that the Emergency Group identified as priority, namely: Venezuela, Colombia, Iraq, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Nepal and Malawi.



6. Publications

WHEN	TITLE	TYPE
10/02/2021	<u>Alliance2015 multi-country research: covid-19 impacts on community resilience in the global south</u>	Research
11/03/2021	<u>Nutrition</u> <u>The key to covid recovery</u>	Generation Nutrition policy brief
24/03/2021	<u>Emergency response to the tigray crisis</u>	Capacity statement
10/06/2021	<u>Alliance2015 research on covid-19: country reports</u>	Research
15/09/2021	<u>Eu nutrition investment – no time to waste</u>	Generation Nutrition policy brief
14/10/2021	<u>Hunger and food systems in conflict settings</u>	Research
08/12/2021	<u>Money for malnutrition: eu leads on finance, must match with delivery</u>	Generation Nutrition policy brief
10/11/2021	<u>Alliance2015 strategic compass</u>	Strategic document



7. Hub and joint initiatives support team

The Hub is a strategic steering and intelligence gathering unit, connecting the parts of the Alliance2015 structure. It coordinates, facilitates, and supports joint initiatives of all kinds, plus related learning, by participating in and connecting the different groups in the structure. The Hub is made of the Director and her/his team. The Director represents Alliance2015 to stakeholders at EU and eventually global levels, conducting EU and global level advocacy initiatives together with relevant groups in the Alliance structure. The team comprises an Administrative Assistant (part-time), and the Joint Initiatives Support Team (JIST).

Antonia Potter Prentice

Director

Caterina La Rosa

Emergency and Operations Lead

Franziska Bouzon

*Donor Relations Manager,
seconded by Welthungerhilfe (20%)*

Joanne Fraser

Administrative Assistant (50%)

Martina Salvioni

*Knowledge Management
and Communication Lead*

Rosa Llobregat

Advocacy and Campaign Lead

Juan Sánchez Cerdán

*Joint Initiatives Assistant
(since March 2022)*

Carme Pizà Juan-Muns

*Communication Assistant
(since March 2022, 50%)*

Sara Worku

Alliance2015 Coordinator Ethiopia

FORMER COLLEAGUES

Claire Rother

*Joint Initiatives Assistant
(until March 2022)*

Annalisa Bortoluzzi

*Interim Senior Programme Advisor
(until December 2021)*



8. Finance & annual accounts

Statement of income and expenses 2021

	Realisation	Budget 2021	Realisation 2020
Income			
Membership income	490.000	490.000	490.000
EFA funding for Emergency Preparedness and Response Officer	25.600	25.600	74.905
Total operating income	515.600	515.600	564.905
Contributions to managed fund: ANIF	120.000	-	144.755
Contributions to managed fund: EFA	107.500	-	107.500
Total income	743.100	515.600	817.160
Expenses			
Operating expenses			
Team costs	403.965	410.508	365.657
Travel costs	5.661	18.400	9.198
Office costs	34.752	37.280	45.899
Finance, admin and HR management costs	16.880	19.300	16.868
Communications costs	31.269	15.000	12.706
Other activities	51.478	26.000	61.327
Contingency	-	2.000	-
Total operating expenses	544.005	528.488	511.655
Operating contributions minus expenses	28.405-	12.888-	53.250

	Realisation	Budget 2021	Realisation 2020
Grants made by managed Funds			
Alliance2015 New Initiatives Fund (ANIF)			
Grant: North Gonder	19.500	-	-
Grant: ECHO projects	10.739	-	-
Grant: Lebanon explosion response	14.500	-	-
Grant: Pakistan	12.000	-	-
Grants in 2020	-	-	82.720
Bank and general costs	437	-	103
Total	57.176	-	82.823
Emergency Fund Alliance2015 (EFA)			
Grant: Gaza	99.984	-	-
Grant: Afghanistan	99.905	-	-
Grant: Ethiopia	24.000	-	-
Emergency Preparedness and Response Officer (EPRO)	25.600	25.600	74.905
Grants in 2020	-	-	100.000
Bank and general costs Total	92	-	67
Total result	107.662-	38.488-	47.710
Addition from/to general reserve	28.405-	12.888-	53.250
Addition from/to New Initiatives Fund (ANIF)	62.824	-	61.932
Addition from/to Emergency Fund Alliance 2015 (EFA)	142.081-	25.600-	67.472-
Result after allocation from/(to) reserves	-	-	-

Alliance 2015

towards the eradication of poverty



**This overview was prepared
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