

DM CHARTER

VISION

Responding to the biblical invitation to 'welcome one another as Christ has welcomed you' (Rom 15:7), we aspire to a world where peace, justice and respect for our earth prevail.

We believe in a united humanity facing a shared future and in the universal Church as a community of faith and action.

We are convinced that a global dynamic of exchange, sharing, collaboration and enrichment is necessary and possible.

As a service of the member churches of the Conference of Protestant Churches in French-speaking Switzerland (Conférence des Églises protestantes de Suisse romande - CER), DM is in contact with various partners, mainly denominational, who are agents of change in Switzerland and around the world. Our mission is to make 'humanity in solidarity' and 'the universal Church' a reality. Drawing on extensive networks, we aim to facilitate exchanges and encounters. In order to strengthen our capacity for action, we want to intensify mutual questioning, joint learning and the transfer of skills.

VALUES

Integral mission: the Church's mission is based on God's mission, which unfolds according to his plan of salvation and touches all areas of human life. The Gospel is good news, a force for individual and social transformation. It needs to be incarnated in the concrete life of individuals and communities. In its actions, DM demands respect for ethical values such as justice, equity, particularly between the genders, good governance and the promotion of human dignity.

Universal Church: through our actions, we participate in the ecumenical movement and are part of the universal Church, an open, pluralist and supportive human community. Made up of different people united in Christ, the universal Church takes shape in encounters, exchanges and collaborations that transcend geographical and cultural barriers.

Reciprocity: going beyond the classic vision of international cooperation based on unilateral support for the South by the North, we want to promote balanced, equal and mutually beneficial partnerships, in which the specific contribution of each person is valued, with their knowledge, interpersonal skills and know-how.

Sustainable development: the major challenges facing our world concern and affect many areas: social, economic and environmental, as well as cultural, ethical and spiritual. The responses to these challenges must take into account all the dimensions of human existence, in all its complexity and globality.

Diversity and dialogue: the encounter and collaboration between people of different cultures, religious sensibilities, generations and genders is a powerful factor for innovation and creativity, as well as a driving force for social and spiritual development. However, in order to reap the benefits of diversity, we need to learn about otherness and develop an aptitude for decentring and dialogue.



OBJECTIVES

Through our mission, we want to contribute to change on two levels:

- directly, through institutional reinforcement and personal transformation, using a training and co-learning approach;
- indirectly, through a wider impact on people's quality of life and the framework conditions of society.

Our objectives are:

- Building capacity for action: in DM's areas of commitment - agroecology, education and living together (with two axes: peace and human rights as well as theology and church life) - the contribution of partners, both far away and in Switzerland, in both social and ecclesial life, is strengthened by support for projects, the transfer of skills and the exchange of good practice.
- Promoting and exercising global citizenship: people directly or indirectly affected by an exchange or encounter experience demonstrate changes in attitude and state of mind. Over the long term, this change leads to new practices and behaviours in terms of professional, associative, ethical and consumer commitments, and in the democratisation of information. In this way, DM is making its contribution to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

IMPLEMENTATION PRINCIPLES

To achieve these objectives, we work in a spirit of reciprocity, essentially using the following tools:

Exchange of personnel: DM places a strong emphasis on all forms of exchange, such as sending people to share skills and knowledge, to gain experience, or for intercultural exchange, for a few weeks, months or a year, alone, as a couple, as a family or in a group.

Project support: financial support for our partners' projects and programmes is complemented by technical or methodological assistance.

Bi- and multilateral partnerships: collaborations take place within the framework of long-term institutional partnerships, formalised bilaterally or as part of multilateral networks.

Communication, awareness-raising and networking: global citizenship is promoted through communication work, parish events and participation in wider awareness-raising campaigns. In a globalised world, DM encourages collaboration in networks and pays particular attention to digital means of communication.

Training: this is a priority in all our areas of commitment. The aim is to equip all our partners to face up to the new challenges and requirements in both the South and the North.

Funding: to achieve its objectives and finance its activities, DM relies on contributions from the churches and public and private bodies, as well as individual and parish donations. These financial contributions are used responsibly and transparently.