Dear campaigner,

We hope from the bottom of our hearts that you and your loved ones are well. In these challenging times, we want to thank you for your ongoing support, and we hope that you will join us in taking part in our new campaign \textit{Recovering Together}, which addresses the global crisis exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic.

If there is one thing that the pandemic has revealed, it is the extent to which we are all interconnected. As such, our world will not be safe until we are all safe and it is essential that we are all \textit{Recovering Together}.

Although Development and Peace has experienced its own impacts from the pandemic, we are committed to continuing our support to our partners and our education and mobilization work here in Canada. Due to the current context, we have had to adapt our campaign this year. We have produced fewer materials and they will only be available online. However, throughout the year, we will be providing updates, organizing online events and more, so make sure to sign up for our newsletter or follow us on Facebook, Twitter or Instagram \texttt{@devpeace}.

\begin{quote}
“The globalization of indifference will continue to threaten and tempt us in our journey... May we find within us the necessary antibodies of justice, charity and solidarity. We must not be afraid to live the alternative – the civilization of love.”

— Pope Francis, Life After the Pandemic, pg. 49.
\end{quote}
The COVID-19 pandemic has put our one human family in crisis. It is estimated that: *

265 million people could face starvation by the end of 2020

The economic fallout from COVID could push an additional half a billion people into poverty

Only 1 in 5 people in low-income countries are covered by safety net programmes

The COVID-19 pandemic has laid bare the deep inequalities that exist in our world today. The incessant exploitation of our common home has triggered the climate crisis and pushed millions into poverty. Now, the pandemic is making our global family all the more fragile, and it is the most vulnerable and marginalized groups in the Global South, such as refugees, women and Indigenous Peoples, who will disproportionately suffer the worst impacts.

As the world grapples with how best to recover from the pandemic, it is the moment to rethink our systems and call on governments and world leaders to put in place social, environmental and economic policies that put the dignity of people and our planet before profit.

Our partners are working to make this happen in their communities, but they need our support to pursue their work, which is so critical at this time. Pope Francis has long recognized the importance of groups like those supported by Development and Peace in bringing about the changes needed to transform our world into one where all can live in dignity. During the pandemic, he addressed a letter to popular movements, highlighting the urgent need for their actions:

“You are the indispensable builders of this change that can no longer be put off. Moreover, when you testify that to change is possible, your voice is authoritative. You have known crises and hardships ... that you manage to transform – with modesty, dignity, commitment, hard work and solidarity – into a promise of life for your families and your communities.”

— Pope Francis, Life After the Pandemic, pg. 39

And you are also one of those indispensable builders. Our partners need our solidarity and they need us to take action for our common home and for a global just recovery.

Here is what you can do!

* Sources:
Dignity not Destitution, OXFAM: oxfam.org/en/research/dignity-not-destitution
1. Organize a collection in your parish

Our partners need our support! If your bishop has agreed to support a special collection for Development and Peace and its partners in your diocese, then you can help by organizing the collection in your parish.

In compliance with the health and safety guidelines put in place to prevent the spread of the virus in parishes, we have decided to make our materials only available online this year.

Here is a list of resources that you can download and print to help you organize the collection in your parish. They will be available on our website at devp.org as of September 12th.

**Poster:**
This poster will help you to promote the campaign and collection in your parish. On the front, there is a message of solidarity for our sisters and brothers in the Global South, and on the back a thank-you message to announce how much was raised in your parish or school. (8.5 x 11)

**Collection box:**
We are offering you images that you can print and use to create a special collection box where parishioners can place their donation. Alternatively, you can use the images to create a display in your parish or school.

**Prayer:**
This prayer presents extracts of Pope Francis’s Extraordinary Moment of Prayer and Urbi et Orbi Blessing given on the steps of Saint-Peter’s Basilica on March 27th, 2020.

**Parish bulletin announcement:**
Ask your parish to publish these messages in its bulletin to promote the campaign. You can also adapt the messages for newsletters in your community, your local newspaper, etc.

**Short talk:**
Present the Recovering Together campaign in your parish or school using this short talk. Adapt it to your audience and the amount of time you are given to present.

If your parish requires envelopes, please contact your local animator. Find your local animator here: devp.org/contact
2. Call for a just recovery

Now is the time for change. Join Development and Peace in taking action for our common home.

We invite you to read our faith-based reflection, For the Care and Healing of our Common Home, which connects the COVID-19 pandemic with *Laudato Si’*, and the need to act for a better world.

You can also immerse yourself in our reflection on integral ecology and take our intergenerational pledge to care for our common home.

Development and Peace has also signed on to the Six principles for a Just Recovery and is part of the new ecumenical campaign, *For the Love of Creation*. We will be putting forward educational resources and mobilization activities on both these initiatives throughout the year. You can already sign an e-petition (until October 6th) launched by the ecumenical initiative *For the Love of Creation* that calls on the Government of Canada to:

- Commit to reducing Canadian GHG emissions by 60 percent below 2005 levels by 2030, and invest in a just transition;
- Honour the rights of Indigenous Peoples;
- Commit equal support for climate change adaptation and mitigation measures in the Global South; and
- Respond to the pandemic in the Global South.

Learn more about our education and mobilization activities for a just recovery at devp.org.
3. Spread solidarity

This year, we are also offering new ways to show your solidarity with the most vulnerable of our world. Here are three fundraising activities to help “spread solidarity” in your community:

1. **Launch an online fundraising page.** It’s fast and easy! When you share your page with your friends and loved ones, they can make a secure donation and immediately receive a tax receipt for all donations over $10. Think about launching a page to celebrate your birthday, an anniversary, or be creative and take on a challenge that you can ask your friends and family to support with a donation!

2. **Participate in postal solidarity chain.** Who doesn’t like to receive a letter from a loved one, especially during these times of physical distancing? With this activity, we are asking you to write to friends and/or family members that you think might be interested in the work of Development and Peace and ask them to make a gift. For those wishing to participate, we will provide you with a kit that includes envelopes, samples letters and return envelopes for donations. For more information or to participate, please write to comms@devp.org.

3. **Become a Share Year-Round member.** If you are one already, then let us take this opportunity to thank you. Our monthly donation program is an easy and effective way to support Development and Peace that provides us with the best means to support our partners over the long-term. As a way to ‘spread solidarity,’ we are encouraging you to recruit one other person to also become a monthly donor!

To learn more about these initiatives, please contact your local animator. Find your local animator here: devp.org/contact.

Thank you for supporting our campaign!