

# THE CHALLENGE OF AID WORKERS IN AFRICA

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# PRESENTATION OUTLINE

- The Challenges
- Overcoming the Challenges
- Conclusion



# WHAT ARE THESE CHALLENGES?

- Financial Constraints and Donor Dependency. These are not only western (rich) donors but also community ones
- Aid dependency: most beneficiaries of aid hardly graduate to become self reliant
- Little Utilisation of the Church Social Teaching as motivation for work of aid workers but also using the Church Social Teaching to deal with challenges that workers face



## WHAT ARE THESE CHALLENGES?


- Complexity and Multiplicity of Problems that Africans face mainly because of poverty – should aid workers offer all the needs of the poor?
- African Aid Workers have other needs and responsibilities such that merely being volunteers is challenging. This makes commitment hard
- Security: Most aid workers lack adequate security in their work especially in war-torn countries but even in peaceful ones

# WHAT ARE THESE CHALLENGES?

- Cultural differences, Language barriers, Religious beliefs can all be hindrances to aid workers
- Health risks mainly because of lack of proper protective measures. The poor also have different ailments some of which are very contagious.



# OVERCOMING THE CHALLENGES

- Greater use of the Church Social Teaching as motivation of aid workers
  - Having some relevant training on security and avoiding health risks
  - Spiritual, psychological and financial help for aid workers so that they can attend to their needs
  - Providing good aid packages that aim to empower those in need so that they can become self-reliant
  - Lobbying local communities to find own resources to help in the work of aid workers
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# CONCLUSION

- Aid work is very important in Africa and should be taken very seriously
- As Catholic Christians, such work should utilise scripture and the Church Social Teaching – This is what makes a big difference from humanitarian groups and the Church-based ones



**THANK YOU!**

