# A Worldwide Treasury Perspective

Ray Wahlen NAD New Treasurers Orientation June 27, 2022



# Overview

- Context
- Resource sharing
- Cash flows
- What happens when circumstances change?



# What Holds Us Together?

- Mission
- Fundamental Beliefs
- Structure
  - Policies
  - Financial System
- Voluntary acceptance of the decisions of the group
- Trust



# **Financial System**



# **Financial System**

- Accounting Manual
- Accounting Systems
- Accounting Personnel
- Auditing
- Funding Sources
- Cash Flows



## Financial System: Accounting Manual

- Standardization of training
- Standardization of accounting systems
- Comparable financial data across the system
  - Without which meaningful comparisons would be impossible
  - Resulting in questions regarding sharing of financial resources



## Financial System: Accounting Systems

- Cost savings in acquisition/maintenance/support
- Cost savings in training
- Easier to generate comparable reports
- Lower learning curve in personnel transfers



## Financial System: Accounting Personnel

- Employment assumes membership
- Belief and Buy-in to Mission
- Adventist Colleges & Universities provide qualified personnel
- Access to qualified personnel across boundaries at lower cost



## Financial System: <u>GC Auditing Service</u>

- Pool of excellent recruits
- Essentially independent visibility into entity finances
- Vital contributor to trust in the financial system



# **Financial System**

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# **Funding Sources**



# **Offering Plans**

GCWP V 25



## Offering Plans: GCWP V 30 05

- Calendar of Offerings Weekly Appeal
- Personal Giving Plan
- Combined Offering Plan



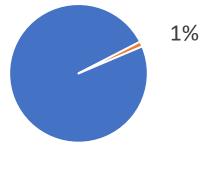
# Tithe Sharing

GCWP V 09



#### Sources of Tithe – GC (GCWP V 09 05 5)

- Regular Tithe Percentages
  - From Divisions and Attached Fields
- ISE Tithe
  - On GC portion of ISE remuneration
- For purposes of anonymity
  - Receipted but forwarded anonymously to local conference



Divisions ISE



#### Sharing Financial Resources (GCWP V 09 05 1)

- Principles of Tithe-sharing
  - Collaboration in accomplishing the Gospel Commission
  - Strong helping the weak
  - All blessed when participating (Lk 21:1-4)
- Policy framework determined by GC Executive Committee
  - Provides flexibility so as to fit within existing offering and appropriations systems



#### Sharing Financial Resources (GCWP V 09 05 2)

- Regular Tithe Percentages
  - Churches/Companies send 100% to Conference
  - Conference sends minimum of 7%\* to Union
  - Conference sends maximum of 20%\* to Division
  - Conference sends percentage to GC as per table
  - NAD sends additional 0.85%<sup>^</sup> to GC

\* specific rate is established by division executive committee^ representing benefit from AU and LLU to NAD territory



# % of Gross Tithe

Year	Other divisions	NAD	NAD (add'l)	NAD Total
2019	2.00%	5.25%	0.85%	6.10%
2020	2.00	5.00	0.85%	5.85
2021	2.10	4.50	0.85%	5.35
2022	2.20	4.00	0.85%	4.85
2023	2.30	3.50	0.85%	4.35
2024	2.40	3.00	0.85%	3.85
2025	2.50	3.00	0.85%	3.85
2026	2.60	3.00	0.85%	3.85
2027	2.70	3.00	0.85%	3.85
2028	2.80	3.00	0.85%	3.85
2029	2.90	3.00	0.85%	3.85
2030 and onward	3.00	3.00	0.85%	3.85



#### Maintaining Global Balance (GCWP V 09 10 2)

- Tithe and Nontithe funds are normally kept in balance through appropriations
- In the case of divisions that don't receive significant appropriations, a request for a balancing transaction may be made

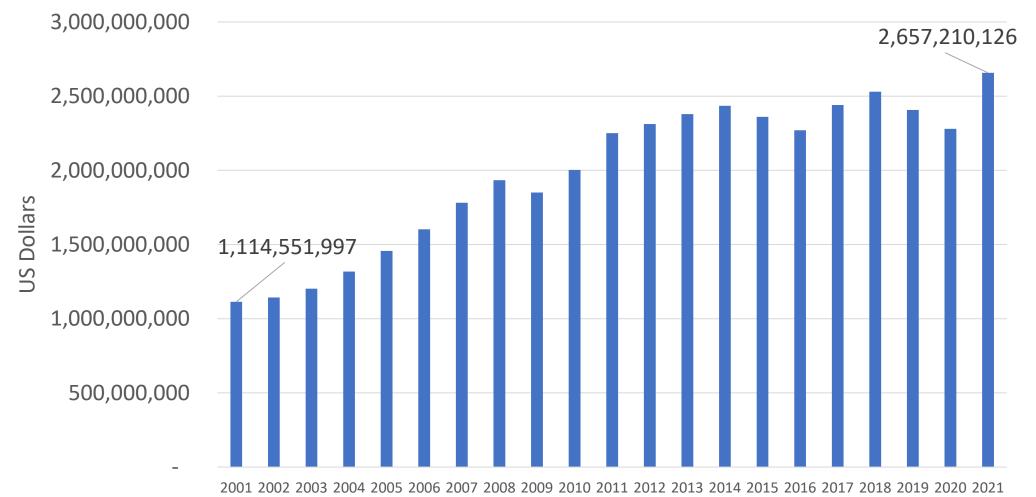


## Important Relationships

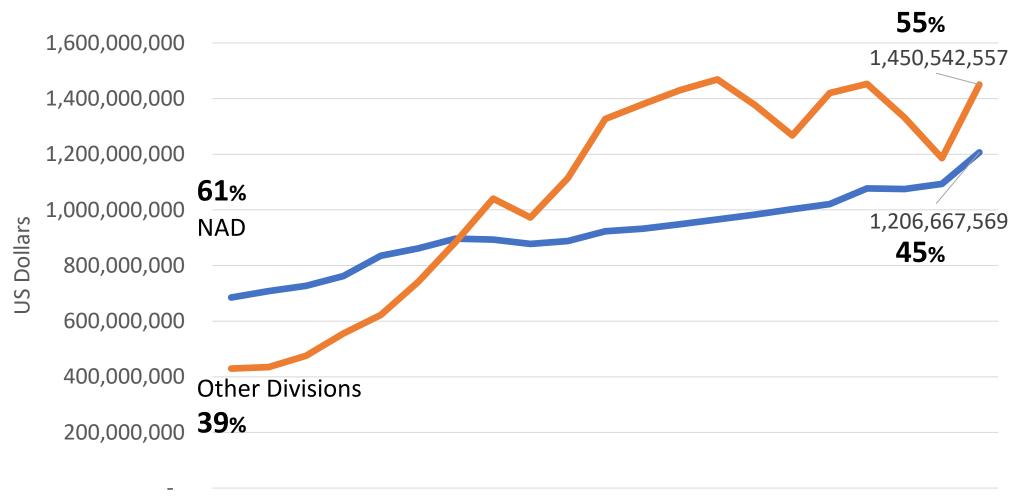
Tithe & World Mission Offerings



## **Global Tithe**



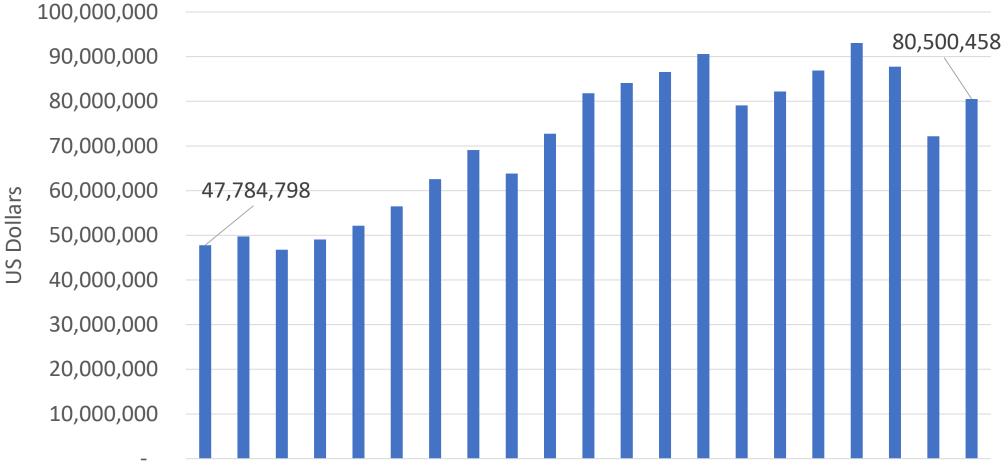
## **Global Tithe**



2001 2002 2003 2004 2005 2006 2007 2008 2009 2010 2011 2012 2013 2014 2015 2016 2017 2018 2019 2020 2021

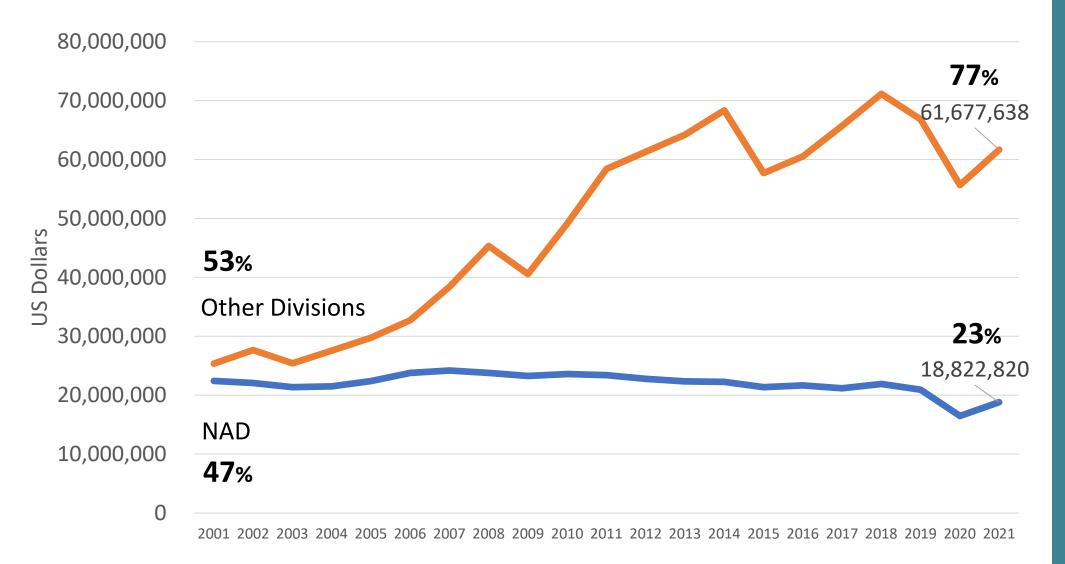


# World Mission Offering

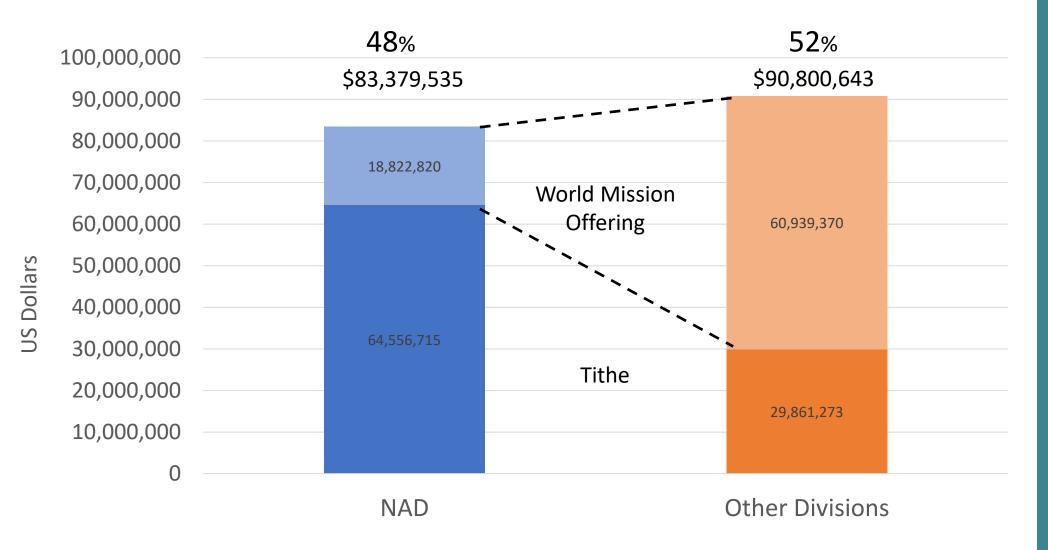


2001 2002 2003 2004 2005 2006 2007 2008 2009 2010 2011 2012 2013 2014 2015 2016 2017 2018 2019 2020 2021

## World Mission Offering



## Tithe & WMO to GC - 2021

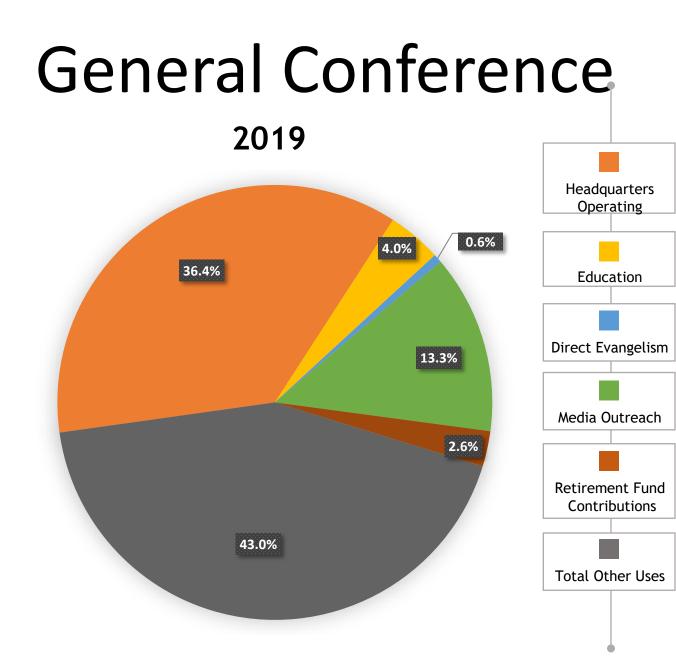


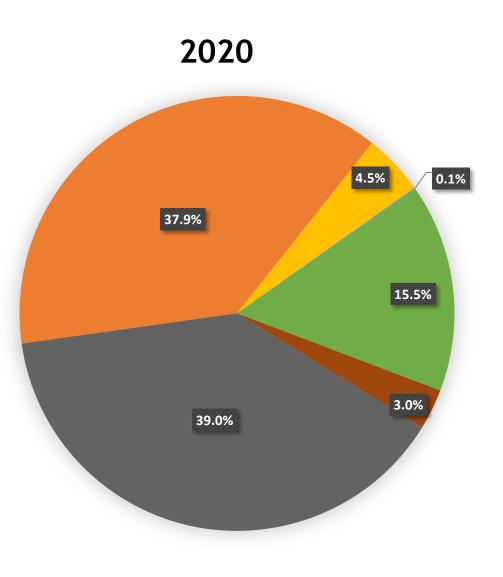


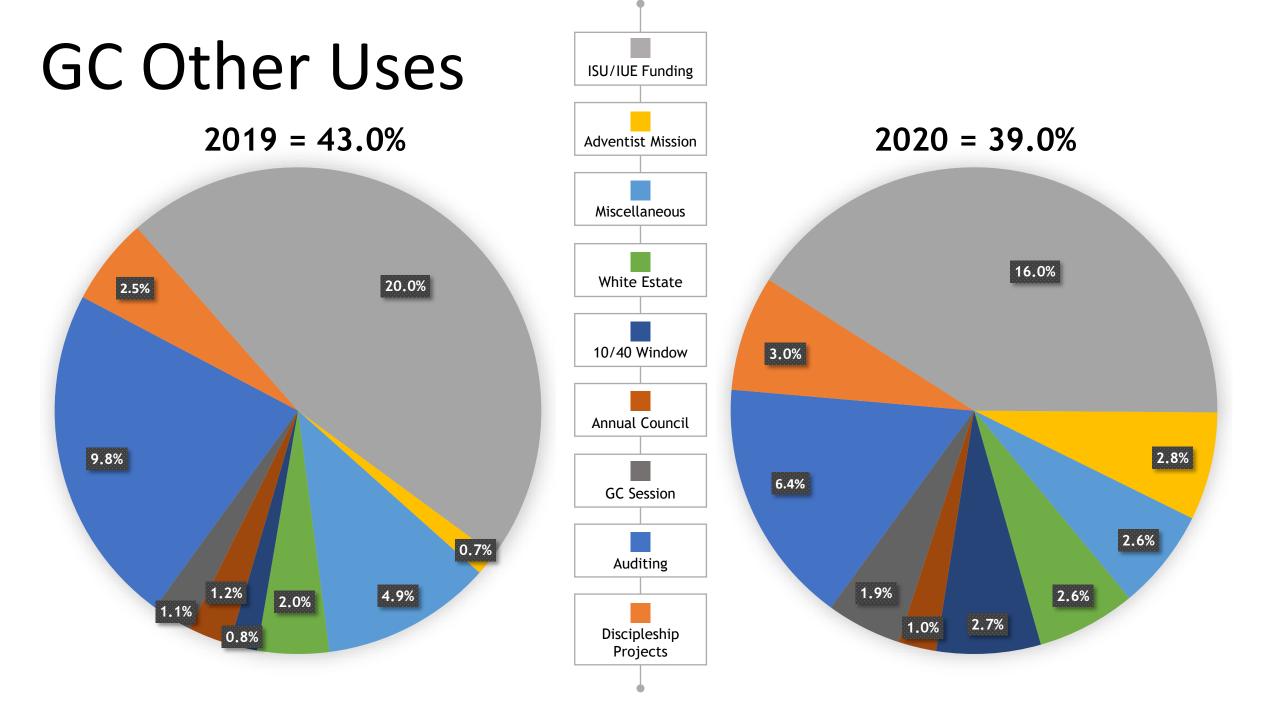
# Accountability for the Use of Tithe

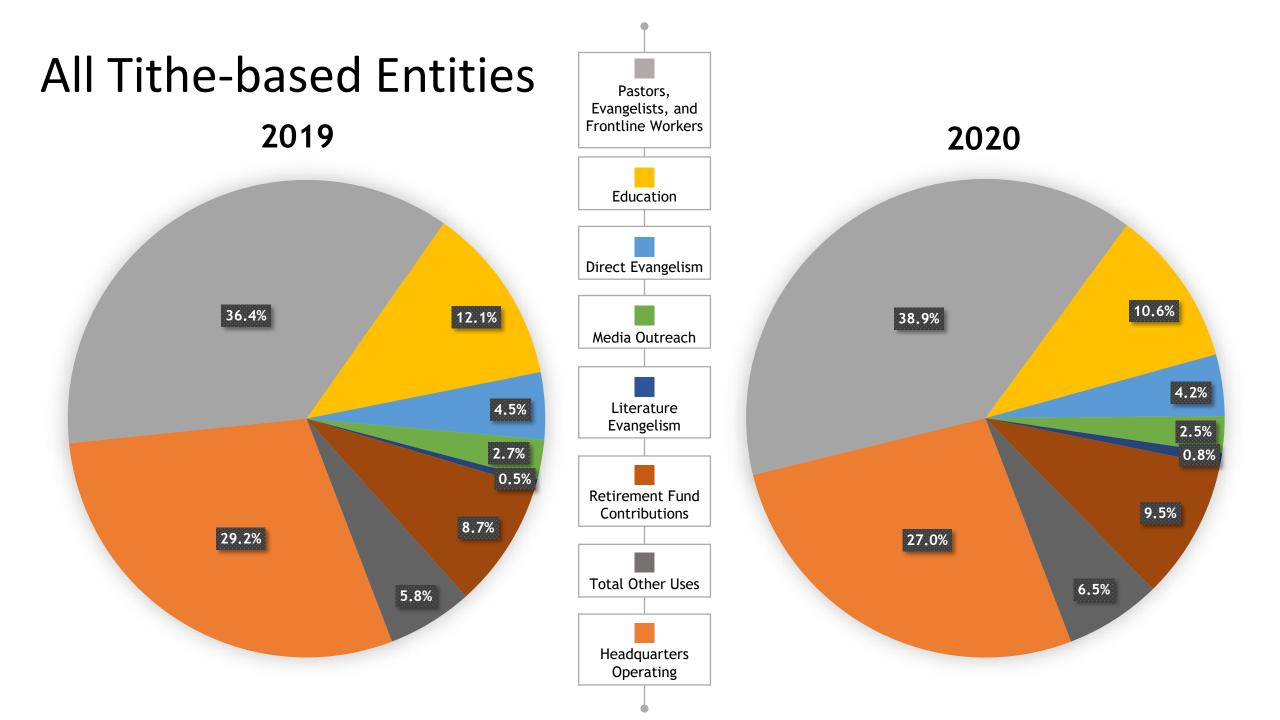
GCWP 20











# **Financial System**

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## Cash Flows



## **Blocked Currency**



## **Blocked Currency: Definition**

"refers to a currency that can't be converted freely on the foreign exchange... (FX) market because of exchange controls"

https://www.investopedia.com/terms/



## **Blocked Currency: Examples**

- Lack of currency market
- Lack of USD
- Economic protectionism
- Mechanism of political control
- Social protectionism
- Taxation/Charitable Giving
- Political Sanctions



# Blocked Currency: Environment - 1

- Origination of the Church in this country was providential
  - Religious Liberty perspective
  - Ease of travel
  - Free flow of funds



# Blocked Currency: Environment - 2

- Contextual changes in the last 40 years
  - Drug money
  - Terrorist financing
  - Challenges to US Dollar as the basis for international trade
    - Crypto currencies
    - Chinese Yuan (CNY)
  - Digital capabilities



## Blocked Currency: Environment - 3

- US Government involvement
  - Know Your Customer rules (KYC)
  - Has created a context of indirect government visibility and control
  - Certain specific requirements of financial institutions
  - Relies on the legal compliance department of financial institutions to ask questions and to know their customers in a manner that the US Government would never be allowed to do
  - Depends on fear of being shut down or curtailed in ability to operate in the US



# Managing Blocked Currency - 1

- GC recognizes the income only when funds are recovered
  - Gross amount shown in annual reports
  - Unrecovered portion treated as "contra" income
- Net Cash Flows
  - Enabled by the Debit/Credit Memo system
  - Net Recipients
  - Net Contributors



# Managing Blocked Currency - 2

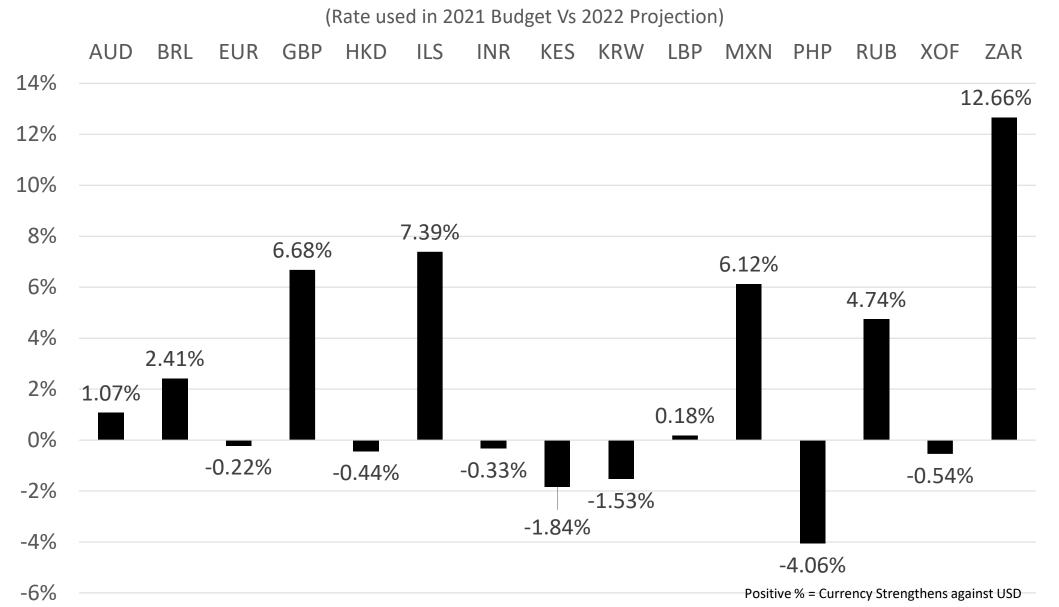
- Wait it out?
- US-based organization maintains custody of funds until they can be used
- Create new ministry to the benefit of the world
- Create a new ministry entity



## **Currency Exchange Rates**



#### **Currency Fluctuations against USD**



# Impact of Currency Fluctuations on GC Finances

Net ContributorEUD,<br/>NSD, SSDSAD, SPD,<br/>IADNet RecipientSUD, ECD<br/>ESD, SIDTED, WADLubUSD<br/>StrengthenUSD<br/>Weakens



# Appropriations



## **Direct Appropriations**

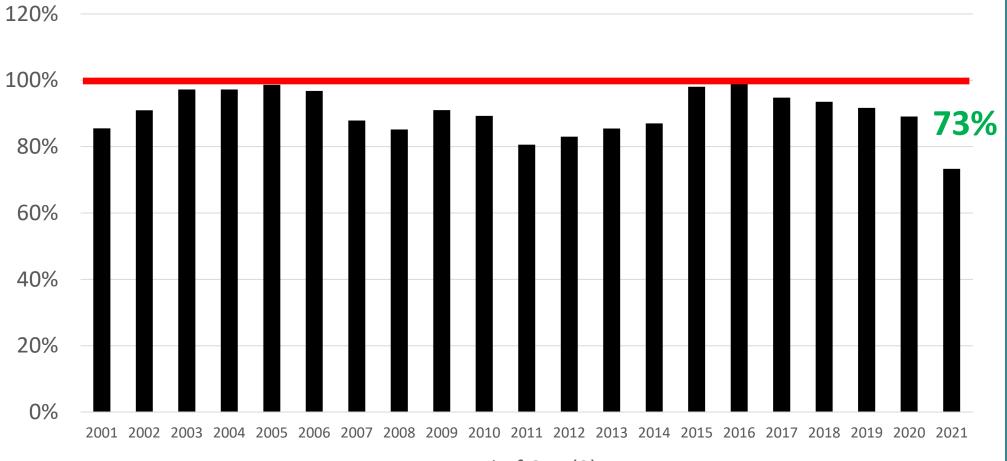
- Quinquennial Appropriations Review Team
  - Analysis of the financial health of each Division, Attached Field and Institution
  - Mission needs of these entities
  - Financial status of the General Conference
- Report to be approved by 2023 Annual Council
  - To be implemented in January 2025



# **Operating Cap**



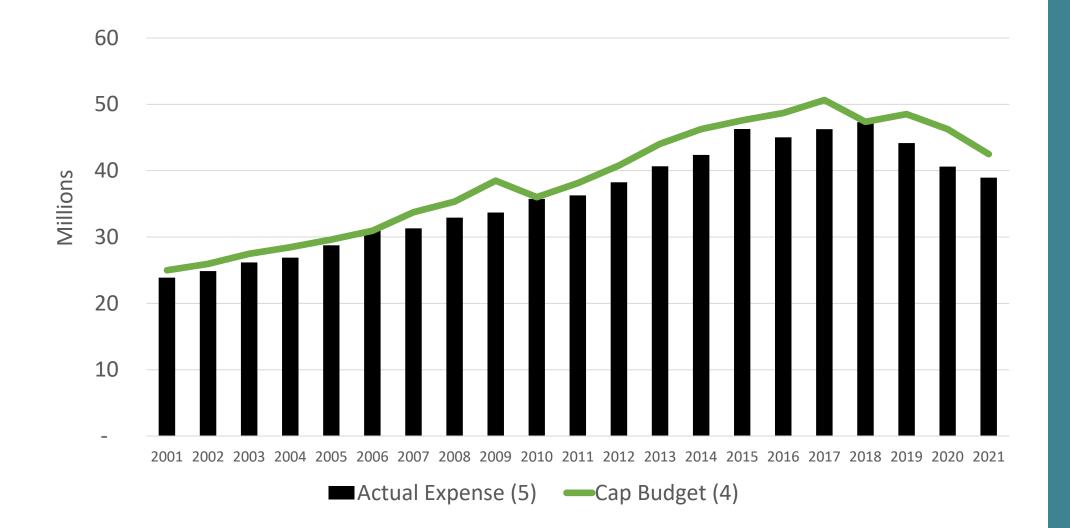
#### Expense as % of Cap at YE



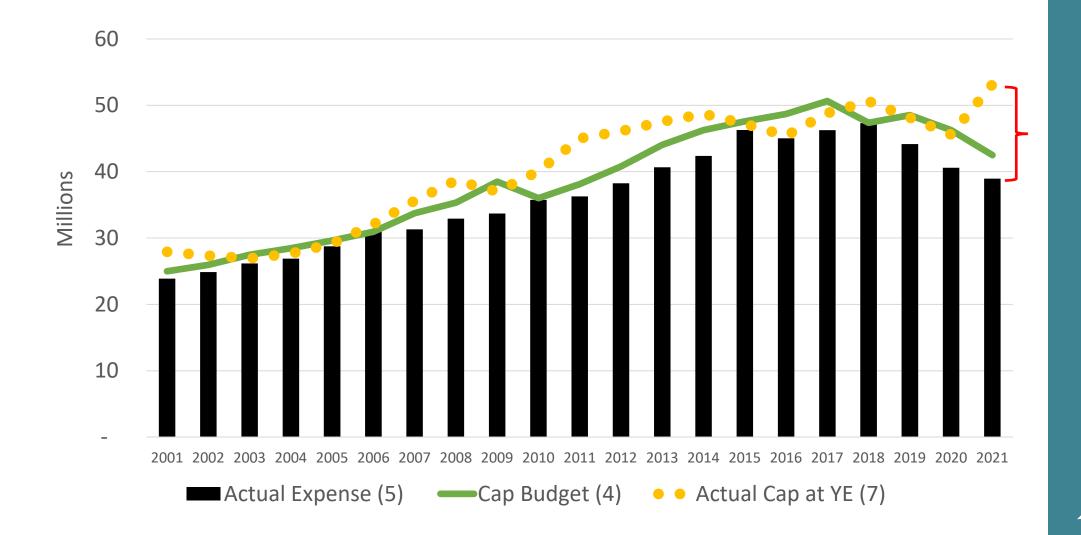
■ Exp as % of Cap (9)



#### **Budgeted Cap to Actual Expense**



#### Budgeted Cap to Actual Cap at YE



#### Analysis of Expense Under Cap: \$14,186,657





#### War in Ukraine



#### Statistics from Ukraine (GC Session)

- 10,000 members fled Ukraine
- 14,400 members displaced within Ukraine
- 7 members killed, 25 wounded, 19 missing (41,159 total)
- 10 Churches damaged/destroyed (751 total)
- 200 houses of members damaged/destroyed
- 29 evangelistic series with 2,000 baptisms
- Bucha



#### Impact

- Union removed from ESD attached to GC
  - Will be reassessed in October 2022 at Annual Council
- Ukrainian Union Conference Oversight
  Committee
- T&O through UUCOC to GC
- Will continue to monitor status:
  - to assess cost to rebuild
  - Impact on operating budgets due to membership/pastoral transitions



## Questions?

