

ANNUAL
REPORT
2017

SHARE THE JOURNEY





20.562

DONORS
GAVE FINANCIAL SUPPORT

160

VOLUNTEERS

GAVE THEIR TIME TO SUPPORTING
ASYLUM SEEKERS AND REFUGEES

7.540.000

VICTIMS
OF THE FOOD CRISIS IN AFRICA RECEIVED
AID FROM THE CARITAS NETWORK



Share the journey

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A word from the president

Dear Readers,

It is my pleasure to present to you the Annual Report for 2017 of Caritas International Belgium.

As usual, this report gives a broad assessment of the main activities in 2017. On this occasion, I would like to dwell upon the key tasks of Caritas International and the challenges we have faced in the past year, as regards emergency aid and development, asylum and migration, as well as political advocacy. In fact, it appears that these tasks are increasingly connected.

We are prepared and have the necessary expertise to be able to intervene rapidly in the event of natural disasters. We also have programmes in a dozen developing countries with the aim of aiding the victims of disasters, conflicts or poverty to recover and offering them the possibility of and resources for dealing with the problems they face in a structured and sustainable manner.

Caritas International is also active in Belgium with programmes for welcoming refugees and asylum seekers: this includes individual accommodation and different forms of practical support for recognised refugees in their search for a place in our society. The reintegration team supports persons who wish to return to their country of origin. The Caritas network then takes over to welcome them and to help them to reintegrate.

You will see that Caritas International is present at every level of the cycle of support and commitment towards persons in distress, both in their own country of origin and in Belgium. These actions are only possible through a professional approach, and with the expertise and commitment of our colleagues and collaborators, and for this I would like to thank them explicitly. Over the past year, they also showed proof of a remarkable capacity to adapt to sometimes very rapid changes and to respond by developing initiatives.

2017 was a year full of challenges: the decision, taken by the government in 2016, to drastically change the ways of welcoming asylum seekers had



to be implemented during 2017 and has meant the end of our individual model. This particularly complex challenge had a considerable impact on our operations. However, through the effective intervention of the services concerned, Caritas was able to overcome these changes, despite the fact that in this reorganisation, we unfortunately were forced to part from a (limited) number of collaborators.

In 2017, we continued to emphasise the different and complementary aspects of hosting and supporting asylum seekers by trying to help the most vulnerable groups, such as women and single mothers, persons suffering from serious medical problems and unaccompanied minors, as well as giving access to housing as a first step towards integration. We will continue to pursue this trend in the coming months and the commitment of volunteers alongside our teams in this is clearly of great importance.

Internationally, we have a strong presence (but certainly not exclusively) in Africa. At several levels, the continent is making encouraging progress but poverty and wars (one often being the cause and consequence of the other) still ravage the continent. In this regard, we are working with our partner NGOs (Consortium 12-12) and with the global Caritas network. In this report, you will read about our projects in response to the famine that has hit certain regions of East Africa in 2017, and about the special attention given to the DR of Congo, in particular the Kasai region where an urgent humanitarian situation was declared in mid-2017. Also, Caritas International Belgium is – and has remained – present in Syria despite the tragic developments in that country. We come to the aid of the most vulnerable groups by offering a roof, basic necessities and medical care.

Caritas International is first and foremost an operational organisation based on action and we want to remain such. However, we are also aware of the fact that it is important – much more so than previously – to make the wider public aware of the basic problems that make our national and international action so vital. Caritas



Members of the board of administrators

is and remains an apolitical organisation and does not get involved in party politicking, but because of our evangelical inspiration and our links with the Church we are affected by the plight of our fellow human beings in the multitude of situations that we know and live close to through our extensive presence and our global network.

International and national “politics” must play a role and assume responsibility in identifying solutions to the problems that Caritas and other civil organisations are trying to resolve. We therefore think that our voice and our knowledge of complex situations can make a positive contribution to our political decision-makers. In this sense, education (offered to citizens and schools) and advocacy constitute a third area of action for Caritas. In this field, we work individually and as part of a team with other members of the global Caritas network as well as with other national and international organisations, always rooted in our approach on the ground and in our values.

Please excuse the length of this foreword. It is the expression of my enthusiasm as the new President of Caritas International since April 2017. In this relatively short period, I have learned more about a professional organisation supported by the motivation and dynamism of the people, members and volunteers who are fully committed and who carry within them the philosophy of Caritas – which is contagious!

I hope you will enjoy reading this annual report for 2017.

Frank De Coninck
Chairman.

31-12- 2017

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(from the 5th of April 2017 onwards)
Mr. Michel Verhulst, chairman*
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Vision and Mission

Who we are

Caritas International is a Belgian non-governmental organisation. Within Caritas Belgica, it is the Belgian member of a global network of 165 Catholic organisations working together in 200 countries and regions.

Our vision

Caritas International works towards a world of peace, solidarity and justice, in which the dignity of each person is a fundamental value and wealth is shared between everyone. Caritas International is inspired by a Christian vision of man and society, based on the gospel. Every person, wherever they live, has the right to a dignified life and should be able to enjoy their fundamental rights. Access to healthy food, clean drinking water, medical care, education, employment and decent housing should be guaranteed.

Our work is founded on the values of solidarity and subsidiarity. No country or organization can solve all problems on their own. Only by joining forces can we expect to achieve sustainable solutions.



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Our mission

Caritas International gives support to victims of war, natural disasters and poverty, whether they are in their country of origin or migrants on the run. This is done in collaboration with the national and international networks that Caritas International is a member of. We carry out our mission irrespective of one's background, nationality, sex, political, philosophical or religious beliefs. Caritas International helps the most vulnerable people and supports them in finding durable solutions.

Caritas International and our partners provide effective assistance in the case of crisis. Following the initial emergency phase, we set up rehabilitation and development projects in order to enable the beneficiaries to become self-sufficient.

Caritas International receives asylum seekers and defends their rights as migrants with material, social and legal aid, whether in Belgium or in their country of origin. We fight against the injustice and difficulties that our beneficiaries face and work to improve the process and find solutions. We use our expertise to provide the public all over the world with information and education.

01

Share the journey

Asylum and migration

1

Reception and support for asylum seekers

In August 2016, Fedasil, the federal agency responsible for organizing the reception of asylum seekers, introduced a new reception model. From now on, most refugee applicants must stay in a collective reception center during their asylum procedure.

At the beginning of 2017, Caritas International arranged 906 reception places in the form of individual housing, both in houses or apartments. In the first half of the year, we devoted a great deal of our efforts to the moving of asylum seekers who were still staying in our individual reception homes, with respect to the termination of the lease agreements with the owners and all that this entails. Through a direct agreement with Fedasil and CIRÉ, we can still maintain 275 subsidized individual places for very vulnerable people despite difficult circumstances: 97 places for asylum seekers and 178 places for recognized refugees (see pg. 11). In addition, we continue to welcome asylum seekers at our center in Scherpenheuvel (174 places).

“The year 2017 has seen many departures. The departure of our families, some of whom had been staying with us for several years, the departure of colleagues (dismissed or not), the loss of collaboration with social services, and the loss of close collaboration with Vluchtelingenwerk Vlaanderen.”

Sylvia Servranckx, coordinator of individual reception

Women and single mothers

The Louvranges housing is a structure of 21 apartments for single women with or without children. In 2017, Caritas welcomed 34 women at Louvranges with a total of 68 children. 85% of the women who leave us can stay in Belgium: they, along with their children, obtain their refugee status or a family reunification authorization. 15% of our residents receive an order to leave the territory.

Vulnerability

Women are vulnerable because of their experiences in their home country or on the road here to Belgium. Their needs are so specific that reception in a collective center is not appropriate. In 2017, we noticed numerous cases of post-traumatic stress in children, which is fairly new.

“In 2017, in addition to the multidisciplinary approach of adult support, we also developed a network for children by bringing together psychologists, pediatricians, organizations that help with education, mobile teams of child psychiatrists, and youth organizations,” explains Nathalie Braun, coordinator at Louvranges.



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Individualized support and collective activities

Along with sometimes intensive individual support, we also offer women the opportunity to participate in collective activities. We take the time to talk with every woman and see what they would like to share with the other residents. This is not easy, as most of them are not used to taking time for themselves or determining what they want to do. Activities include: sports, visiting a city, learning more about Belgium, taking courses in sewing, hair braiding, makeup, painting, tea. Meanwhile, we have set up many activities with the women and the team of volunteers. What is even more important than the activity itself is the opportunity to talk, share experiences, and establish contacts.

In August, a few families from Louvranges housing and members of the Louvranges housing team took part in a four-day camp in the Ardennes. The activity is organized by the non-profit organization Coala with the support of the ONE (Office of Birth and Childhood). While children are having fun by going on a treasure hunt for example, moms leave by train, and visit the zoo, or take a nice walk. *“We felt like all the other families and it was very important,”* is one of the reactions we received. For the Louvranges housing team too, the experience was exceptional: *“We saw how our families engaged in conversations with others, and especially with Belgian families. These interactions subsequently cause people to reconsider their opinion on the reception of asylum seekers in Belgium.”*

“Caritas offers me security. What touches me the most is the fact that every family is treated without prejudice. Until now, I always felt that people judged me based on my problems.”

Fatoumata, who has lived in Louvranges housing for a year

“We are European volunteers at Louvranges housing and work with the team for 1 year. If the first visits to discuss a project ended up only lasting two minutes, now the women can invite us over for a chat and a friendly cup tea.”



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Medical Problems

Since July 2017, Caritas International has been managing the Health Care Project in Antwerp: 19 individual housing units for individuals or families, of which at least one member suffers from a serious medical problem.

Upon receiving the request for the transfer of an individual or family from an asylum center, we make every effort to find the right match between the housing and the needs of the person. For example: wheelchair accessibility, sufficient interior space, etc. Depending on the medical problem, we use external services to provide the necessary care at home: home care, physiotherapy, family support, transportation.

It goes without saying that we support the individual or the family in all aspects of their life and more specifically in legal terms, not only in the context of the asylum procedure, but also in regards to possible parallel proceedings, depending on the medical problem.

Collective reception

The Scherpenheuvel Reception Center - opened in November 2015 - accommodates up to 174 asylum seekers. Residents benefit from material assistance (lodging, shelter, support), but also from quality support in the form of psychosocial, legal and administrative aid, with the aim of promoting their autonomy and their integration into society.

In 2017, the center welcomed 322 people, including 149 minors from 26 different nationalities. There are 277 family members, 4 single women and 41 single men.

Network of local partner organizations

Opening a reception center with a limited number of colleagues and little experience in the midst of the refugee crisis was a huge challenge. Meanwhile, despite initial difficulties, we have come a long way. For Caritas, expanding and strengthening the local network for migrants and refugees facilitates full participation in society. In addition, specific guidance for vulnerable people is also essential. In 2017, we worked, amongst others, in collaboration with:

- Lawyers and organizations specialized in the law concerning foreigners.
- Doctors, psychologists, and psychiatrists: Praxis p, Yuneco, Pozah Grimbergen, Woman Do, Exile.
- Organizations offering support for education: CKG Averbode, OTA Vlaams-Brabant, CPAS Eastern Brabant.
- Schools, adult training centers, and VDAB.
- The (neighborhood) police, the commune, the CPAS, the integration service Diest.
- Leisure organizations: the Hageland Drawing Academy, Basic Fit, Zichem Football, Chiro, KSA, Jonge Helden asbl...

“It is thanks to the individual support and the fact that they really took the time to listen to me in the center that I finally dared to tell the truth about my asylum. With these new elements and thanks to the preparatory interviews with my social worker at the center, Sarah, and my lawyer, the CGRA (Commissioner General for Refugees and Stateless Persons) granted me refugee status. I am therefore very grateful to Sarah and Caritas for supporting me in my efforts.”

Djenabou, former resident of the center

Volunteers

About thirty volunteers play a vital role in the daily management of the center. They help with homework, organize activities for the children, and lead a sewing workshop. In 2017, we launched a buddy project for young people ages 17 to 25 who are sometimes bored while waiting for an answer to their asylum application. Young people can make suggestions according to their interests and needs (e.g. repairing bikes, playing sports, gardening, practicing a language ...). A volunteer can subscribe by expressing their reciprocated interest, and then two interviews take place. If the interest remains afterwards, the buddy partnership can begin.

“Every day, we informed and supported our residents in their fears, expectations, and the construction of a future in Belgium. We celebrated a lot of positive decisions, births, and successful examinations together, but we also shared in their sadness during negative decisions, the loss of a loved one, and the seemingly endless waiting period.”

Gitte Claeys, head of the center



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2 Vulnerable refugees: towards more autonomy

Since the new reception model came into effect in August 2016, refugees who must leave the reception center for asylum seekers can stay for two months in a local hosting initiative (ILA), where material help is extended. These are individual reception structures offered by the CPAS. On the one hand, ILAs are intended to promote the distribution of refugees on the territory. On the other hand, the goal is also to support refugees in their first steps in Belgian society. Among the many challenges that recognized refugees face, the search for their own future home is crucial.

At the request of Fedasil, Caritas International and Convivial - who have over the years built up a wealth of knowledge in the area of vulnerability and accessibility to housing - have studied how and under what conditions the support provided by ILAs works. And how can these ILAs be better supported in this role?

The inquiry focuses on the complementarity and collaboration of the two structures: NGO support on the one hand, and ILA support on the other. With the help of two pilot projects on vulnerability and housing, experiments were set up which resulted in practical tools and corresponding brochures. A brochure has also been published on the four different roles volunteers can play.

Vulnerable Refugees

The transition of material assistance and support within a reception structure towards independent living is even more difficult for people with a vulnerable profile (people with disabilities, psychosocial or medical problems, post-traumatic stress, victims of human trafficking, isolated youth, etc.). Caritas wants to maximize the chances of a successful transition towards autonomy through a project supported by Fedasil.

We have 112 reception places at our disposal called *vulnerable transition places (TVU)*, spread over 40 housing units in Brussels, Mechelen and Liège. For 2 to 6 months, we offer adapted social support with the aim of encouraging people's autonomy. We help them in their search for a definitive home on the private rental market. Between mid-2015 and the end of 2017, we helped 103 families. We were able to support 96% of the families in their pursuit of a permanent home.



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"In order to prepare people who are vulnerable for independent living in such a short time, we need to focus on capacity building, social capital, and resilience. It is only in this way that the stay in our transit accommodation can have an added value. Each integration coach works in tandem with an 'expert', who is a migrant of non-European origin. Many vulnerabilities are only overcome in the long term (e.g. illiteracy). But, we are trying to create a network with individuals, institutional actors, and tandems of volunteers. We are trying to find permanent housing in the same city, so that this network can continue to exist. We are also working on the rolling lease - a pilot project that would ensure this continuity," says Ariane Dewandre, TVU project manager.

'Vulnerability refers to the degree to which a person is exposed to a variety of material, social, and medical risks or threats, without the ability to manage them. There are many levels of vulnerability. In addition, it is a dynamic piece of data that can change over time ... Vulnerability is the result of the balance between workload and means.'

Vulnerability. Towards the equal treatment of vulnerable refugees. Nicolas Van Puymbroeck, December 2017. Publication of Convivial and Caritas International with the support of Fedasil.

Transition for recognized refugees with serious medical problems

Since September 2017, Caritas has been running ten 'High Care' places in Mortsel for the housing and supervision of highly dependent recognized refugees, whose ultimate goal is to find a suitable place in our Belgian healthcare landscape.



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"The major challenge is becoming familiar with the Belgian healthcare landscape, its administrative and bureaucratic requirements and pathways, and finding access points in order to help our public obtain adequate and quality care within an acceptable timeframe. Given the long waiting lists in healthcare and service delivery facilities, it seems that the six-month period that we are given will be insufficient," Sylvia Servranckx, project manager.

Since the launch in September 2017, we have welcomed six single individuals, one of whom has passed away. In addition, we also have two families as part of the resettlement program (see below).

Unaccompanied foreign minors

The project (Youth in transit) is aimed at young unaccompanied foreign minors between ages 16 and 18 who have obtained a residence permit (refugee or subsidiary protection) and who are not yet sufficiently autonomous to live independently. They stay in Caritas studios or apartments, alone or in pairs. An educational team is in charge of offering them the necessary support to prepare for an independent life.

In 2017, we housed 37 boys and girls in our 'transit homes' in Brussels. In Liège, we have 54 boys, 12 of whom have very vulnerable profiles. The majority of them are from Afghanistan and Syria.

Referent

We assign every minor a referent. Before the move, a Caritas social worker visits the young person at the reception center for asylum seekers and accompanies them to our structure. *"There, a first dialogue takes place. And we explain our project to the minor. For us, the important thing is to understand how the young person sees things and to adapt accordingly, but also to make them understand that this is a semi-autonomous project and that we do not just simply offer housing,"* adds Catherine Henrotte, project manager in Liège.

Education and family reunification

A lot of attention is paid to the schooling of these students which is indispensable for their socio-professional integration. At the same time as the evaluation of the minor's autonomy, we also test their language skills, their knowledge of a foreign language, and their reading skills. Thus, we can evaluate his level and then better orient the minor offering the necessary and individualized support. These tests also allow us to work with schools.

Many unaccompanied minors have gone through a successful family reunification process, which is very positive. However, before the family can come to Belgium, minors, supported by our social workers, still have to overcome many obstacles: administrative hassles, housing for several people, access to social rights...

Project aimed at vulnerable youth

In 2016, we welcomed the first unaccompanied foreign minors to our housing structures. We quickly noticed that some of the newly arrived young people were in very difficult situations: they suffered from post-traumatic

stress, found it difficult to make contacts and friends, used soft or hard drugs, and exhibited aggressive behavior. Some of the minors had already gone through so much in their short lives that intensive and customized support was necessary.

In February 2017, we strengthened the Caritas team by bringing together the most vulnerable minors and housing them in the same apartment building. In this way, we were able to guarantee greater proximity. Some minors, however, continued to exhibit problematic behavior. Florence Lobert, Head of the Reception Department: *"Belgium's reception structure is partly the cause in our opinion. There are different phases and different authorities in charge, so there is not enough continuity to address the issues in depth from the start. Because of our field experience and interviews with experienced specialists and experts, we are increasingly convinced that we must create a safe and secure environment for the most vulnerable. To create this environment, a team that provides 24-hour monitoring and intensive, individualized, and collective support is crucial. Only in this way can we create lasting change."*



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Resettlement

Resettlement consists of the transfer of refugees from one country where they are seeking protection to a third country, where they can obtain a sustainable right of residence. This offers a solution for people who cannot return to their country of origin, but cannot stay in their first host country either, due to a lack of protection and future prospects. Since 2009, Belgium has been regularly conducting resettlement operations in collaboration with the High Commissioner for Refugees of the United Nations.

Within the first six weeks of their arrival, resettled refugees are welcomed into a collective center and then moved to an individual housing unit, managed by a local CPAS. Resettled refugees can stay in these housing structures for about six to eight months maximum. During this period, these refugees must find housing on the private rental market. Unfortunately, the majority of families does not find housing in the same municipality and is forced to once again change their environment. Since January 2017, these vulnerable persons no longer benefit from the critical additional support after their move because the government ended the collaboration with Caritas International and Convivial, the two organizations that provided indispensable support to newcomers to Belgium: 12 intensive months of support, followed by 12 less intensive months of support, depending on the vulnerability of the refugees. In 2017, Caritas stopped opening new files, but instead began closing files.

Belgium urgently needs to make additional efforts to resettle refugees in order to conform to the EU resettlement plan presented in September. In light of the international context and needs, Belgium's figures are not ambitious enough. In collaboration with Caritas International, Vluchtelingenwerk Vlaanderen and Oxfam, 11.11.11 published an important report on the worldwide resettlement of refugees, October 2017.

The search for housing

In February 2017, 75 Syrians from Flanders, Wallonia and Brussels gathered at the Pianofabriek Cultural Center in Brussels. They are part of the Belgian government's resettlement program and participated in two Caritas International workshops. The first is an exchange concerning life in Belgium. The second deals with finding a home. This choice of topic is not a coincidence. *"An important task in the framework of support is the management of expectations. During each home visit, our intercultural staff and coaches discuss in greater detail the reality of the rental market and the important steps to follow in order to find a home,"* explains Elisabeth Verniers, project coordinator. *"With the exception of 1 family, all of the individuals that we welcomed in 2015 and 2016 have found housing through Caritas – e.g. through our Housing-Cafes, the CPAS, their own network, or a social real estate agency."*



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Fidèle, joined by his younger brothers and sisters, his wife Espérance, and their three children. This Congolese family arrived in Belgium from a refugee camp in Burundi through the resettlement program. Thanks to a caring partner proprietor and the support of Caritas International, they found a new home.

3 Integration

Integration coaches and our volunteers support recognized refugees in the search for their first home in Belgium during our Housing-cafes. If it turns out that a person or a family needs additional support, tailor-made support can be offered (“coaching”). In addition, we also provide a space of collective exchange and awareness. The themes? The rights and obligations of the tenant and the maintenance of the house.

The Housing-cafés

We organize Housing-cafés in three different regions: **Ghent, Antwerp, and Liège**. In **Brussels**, we work with CAP Brabantia for intensive individual housing support. Due to the large number of requests for housing, family reunification and legislation, in 2017 we started weekly drop-in hours for newly arrived migrants and refugees in Antwerp and Liège.

Needless to say, the demand for safe, affordable housing exceeds the supply. In addition, within our organization, we have noticed the discrimination against refugees. Meanwhile, the demand for a second home continues to grow particularly for individuals in family reunification situations. In some cases, we also try to answer these questions at our Housing-cafés.

“Huge thanks for your transparency and professionalism. It is one of the things I appreciate about Caritas!”

M. Gaspar, partner proprietor in Liège

Housing-cafés: housing 2017

Housing-cafés	Processed Requests	Housing via Caritas	
		Houses	Persons
Antwerp	73	18	47
Liège	67	42	104
Ghent launched 22/10/2017	22	6	14

In **Ostend**, we are providing 26 transit homes for unaccompanied minors searching for a larger home due to family reunification. These homes are also used as an emergency solution for refugees in precarious situations.

In and around **Charleroi**, we provide housing for refugees and Belgians who have difficulty accessing housing. They receive a one-year lease. The coming together of these two target audiences is an added value in terms of integration, especially since they often have to overcome the same obstacles. We inform them about the lease agreements, the rights and obligations of the tenant, the maintenance of a home, and at the end of their contract, we help them in their search for new rental housing. In addition, they benefit from administrative, legal, and social support. With Caritas Wallonia, we hope to obtain approval as a Housing Promotion Association.

“Last year, we supported 73 people in the search for housing. Almost everyone has finally found housing, whether through our intervention, or through other channels.”

Joke Dillen, Integration coach Housing-café Antwerp



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4 Voluntary return and reintegration

Caritas International’s reintegration team supports those choosing to return to their country of origin. In this respect, this service works in close collaboration with Fedasil and other NGOs that have initial contact with these candidates when they land in their country of origin. Caritas reintegration advisors aim to prepare the person as best as possible and to ensure continuity between Caritas in Belgium and local Caritas partners who provide support after the return.

Ukraine

In 2017, we supported 633 people (422 case files) during their return. Among them, a large amount is from Ukraine: 115 people. Twice as much as numbers from 2016. Since the liberalization of the visa regime, it is not certain that support for the reintegration of returnees will continue beyond June 2018 in Ukraine. This probably explains the sharp rise in Ukrainian returnees. In order to better understand the local context and thus optimize return preparation, we regularly visit the returnees and our local partners in different regions. In August 2017, we traveled with Fedasil and the city of Ostend to Ukraine.

Future Prospects

The financial crisis and the subsequent devaluation of their currency, low wages, a high unemployment rate, and corruption, are the main reasons pushing Ukrainians to migrate. Often just to work a few months or years abroad in hiding. If something goes wrong, they have no safety net. In order to carry out a dignified return and sustainable reintegration, we need to ensure that returnees receive support in Ukraine. Thus, equipped with a plan, the returnees can be as autonomous as possible.

The various returnees visited by our colleagues speak positively about the support they received. Caritas Ukraine is not only naturally dedicated to supporting the returnees, but specifically to: fighting poverty, guaranteeing home care, supporting war victims in the East, and providing medical support for people with mental health problems.

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Our visit to our partners in Ukraine and to Igor and his family. Igor - the man with the cane - is one of the 633 people we supported in 2017 during their reintegration.



Thomas Goedgezelschap, Reintegration coach

“During our visit, we met with Igor. When Igor left for France in 2014, his family in Ukraine was full of hope and expectations. He was going to look for work in construction and send money home. Money for a better life. Nobody expected to see Igor again two years later, having trouble walking and blind in one eye. He was working in France and everything seemed to be going well, until he was a victim of an accident at work.”

“Caritas renewed contact with Igor and his family, even though it was difficult. Despite his troubled situation, Igor tells stories about wanting to return to Ukraine. The reintegration budget that Igor received from Caritas International was mainly used to pay for medical expenses. Igor underwent cataract surgery and largely recovered his sight. Since Igor is no longer able to go to work, he purchased farm equipment and tools so that he can grow vegetables on a small scale.”

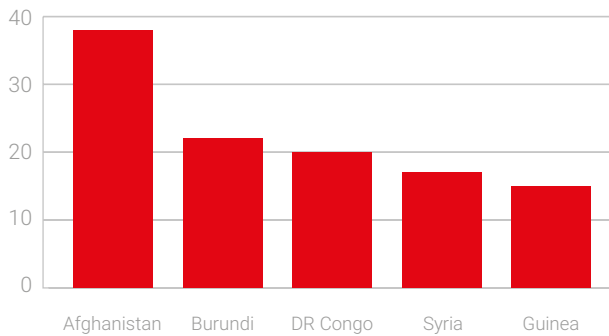
Support during reintegration in Ukraine

Year	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Number of people	11	12	23	15	21	55	115

5 Guardianship of minors

In 2017, 4 Dutch-speaking and 4 French-speaking guardians were in charge of 229 unaccompanied foreign minors (MENA). 127 boys and 102 girls, 81 children were 12 years old or younger. The youngest was only 1 year old. A guardian is the legal representative of the minor in various proceedings. They maintain regular contact with the minor so that they can make decisions together. A guardian must also ensure the physical and mental health of their minor, their schooling, and their housing until the minor is 18 years old.

Top 5 nationalities of MENAs



Helpdesk and Coaching

Each guardian must undergo basic training before obtaining their final certification. However, an in-depth study in terms of knowledge, skills (how should I implement what I know?) and attitudes (how should I

behave with the minor?) is greatly needed. The Ministry of Justice has responded favorably to our request to provide a support program for guardians through a helpdesk, individual coaching, and training. Our service delivery:

- Caritas guardians are members of the selection committee and participate in the selection of new tutors.
- Caritas organizes basic guardian training (French only).
- New guardians participate in a coaching course of 4 sessions (French only).
- In 2017, 38 guardians benefitted from an individual coaching session of 2 hours for the follow-up of a complicated file at their request (French only).
- We organize continuous training (for example on family reunification).
- We are in charge of the helpdesk staff available by phone and email (French only). Guardians can ask concrete questions about problems they encounter or for additional useful information. The helpdesk also allows us to break the isolation that some guardians experience when confronted with complex situations with range of solutions, or conversely if they see no way out.



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6 Frontline service

Frontline service, youth in transit in Brussels (p.12), housing search in Brussels (p.15), and supervision of MENAs (p.17), are only possible thanks to the close collaboration between Caritas International and CAP Brabantia. This branch is located in the offices of Caritas International in Brussels, which facilitates exchange and collaboration on a continuous basis.

The frontline services offered by Caritas International aim to help all foreigners, regardless of their status or nationality. In 2017, we offered help in 712 cases, involving 80 nationalities. These are mainly issues related to residence permits, housing, finances and the asylum procedure. If necessary, the social workers refer them to specific Caritas International projects or to other services and institutions.

Proximity

Extremely vulnerable people do not always find their way to our offices. Caritas International believes that it is important to meet these people where they are. Point 32, an initiative of the Brussels Pastoral Unit, hosted a large number of migrants in transit in 2017. During our office hours, hosted in tandem with our partners, we listen and inform people about social rights, housing, employment. In 2017, we were also present at the Brussels-North train station and Zeebrugge, where, after the closure of the Calais camp, many migrants sought refuge in hopes of continuing their journey to England.

Detention center visits

Weekly, a social worker visits migrants detained in the 127 bis detention center in Steenokkerzeel. Caritas International is against detention for migratory reasons. Nevertheless, since the practice is common in Belgium, we believe it is important to listen to their stories, inform them about their rights, and evaluate their living conditions. Caritas is also a part of the Transit Group. This is a platform for people visiting detainees stationed in five Belgian detention centers. Information and experiences are exchanged, injustices are reported to the authorities, and the general public is made aware of the living conditions of people in the detention centers.



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Family Reunification

In 2017, social services supported 791 people in their family reunification application and informed 294 people through collective information sessions in both French and Arabic.

There are many obstacles before a procedure can be successfully closed: Syrians, for example, often do not get permission to leave the country, even if they have a Belgian visa. In addition, the results of the age determination is not always reliable given that it is based on a bone examination; moreover, it sometimes leads to being declared an adult. Therefore, they are no longer entitled to family reunification. Among other things, some countries charge exorbitant fees or require useless documents, but the computerization of the procedure means that many people no longer have access to them. After their arrival, there are often other problems with their registration in the commune. In addition, reunions are sometimes difficult and mediation is sometimes necessary.

02

Share the journey

Emergency aid and development

1 Hunger in Africa

“More than 20 million people are looking hunger right in the eyes. They risk dying!”, exclaimed Stephen O'Brien, chief humanitarian affairs officer at the UN, on March 10, 2017, before the Security Council in New York. He does not mince his words when he describes the fate of Nigeria, Yemen, South Sudan and Somalia if the international community remains passive. Global news, though shocking for many, is not a surprise for Caritas given our long fight against famine in the countries concerned. Niger, Kenya, Uganda and Ethiopia are also affected. Armed conflict, climate change, and extreme poverty are at the root of this humanitarian disaster. Due to the Caritas network and the support of our donors and the Famine 12-12 campaign, we can now significantly increase our efforts.

Promoting autonomy as much as possible

Caritas International distributes food only as a last resort. We try as hard as we possibly can to promote people's autonomy by putting seeds and agricultural equipment at their disposal, guaranteeing access to water, giving money in cash to buy food, and establishing income generating activities.

David Songa tends to his vegetable garden near his hut in the Bidi Bidi refugee camp in Uganda.



© Tommy Trenchard / Caritas Internationalis

Caritas International is mainly active in **Uganda** where we assist about 17,069 households in the refugee camps of Bidi Bidi and Imvepi. In addition to food aid from the World Food Program, we give them the means to provide their own food by equipping them with seeds, plants, and farming tools. Producers benefit from training to improve the quality of their crops, so that they can also make small profits. We also finance vocational training for young people in the field of mechanics, hairstyling, and catering for example.

In Yei, **South Sudan**, 5,069 households receive flour, beans, oil and salt amongst other commodities. In the state of Unity, 240 households benefit from a survival kit that notably contains fishing nets and water purification tablets.

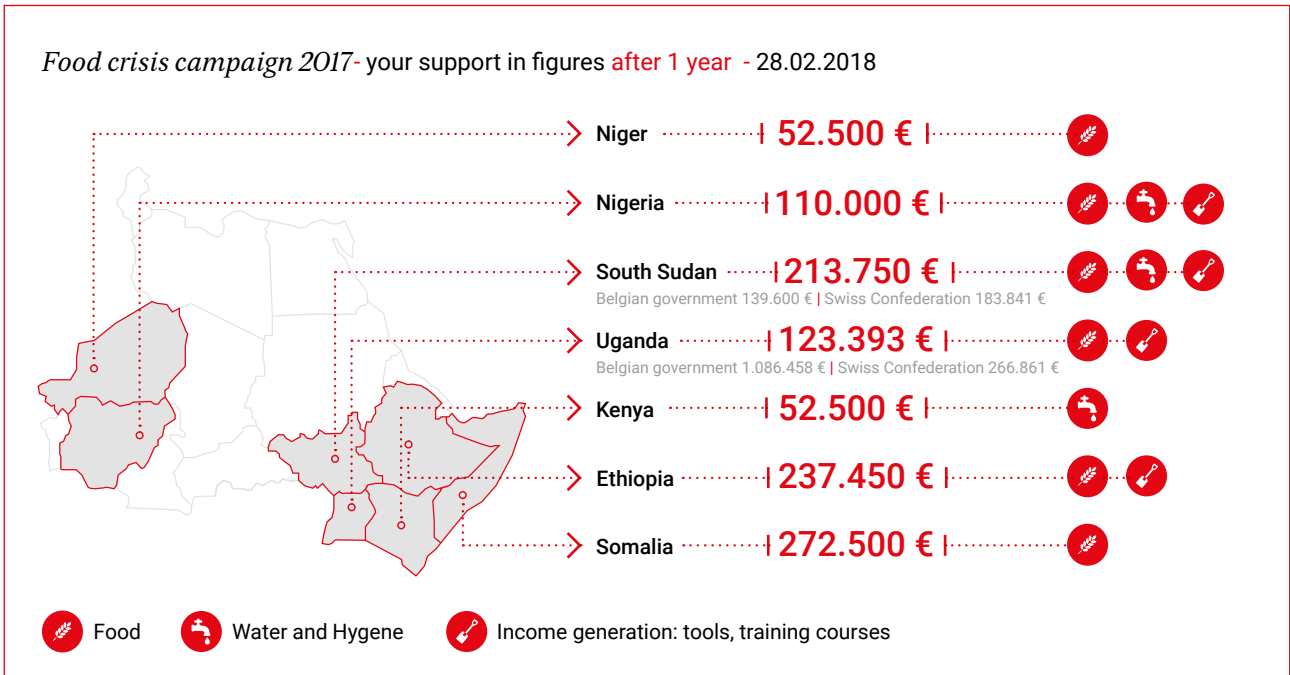
In **Ethiopia**, Caritas distributes seeds, offers training, and provides “cash for work” to 5,265 families.



We are all farmers. It's in our blood

David Songa, age 26, arrived in Bidi Bidi refugee camp in August. He is from Yei, South Sudan. He escaped a shootout, but his friends were killed. *“I did not want to leave Yei, South Sudan. I had just graduated from university. I wanted to stay and teach.”*

Today, David teaches classes in Bidi Bidi, even if the circumstances are not quite as he hoped. Caritas taught him modern agricultural techniques. *“I first studied vegetable gardens and production on larger fields. Learning how to observe the field, but also how to run a small business. Today, I explain to farmers how to intelligently deal with the current climate, which varieties to cultivate, and how to best care for them. I also explain the importance of trees and bushes and the problems associated with deforestation. I am very close to people. What they have experienced, I have also experienced; this is what allows me to gain the farmer's trust.”*



In collaboration with the Caritas Network

In **Nigeria**, Caritas International distributes seeds and tools in collaboration with the Caritas network. At the end of 2017, we helped 22,500 people and 1,000 families by giving them access to water, hygiene, and means to generate income. We treat malnutrition, diarrhea and pneumonia in medical centers. Malnutrition is detected in 6,845 children and, if necessary, they receive from a special diet. We are also helping Nigerian refugee families who have crossed the **Niger border in the Diffa region**.

In **Somalia**, Caritas helps 2,000 households by distributing food packages. 9,190 people, children, pregnant women and breastfeeding mothers, receive additional food, adapted to their needs.

In **Kenya**, 1,188 adults and children in schools receive water tanks and 4,100 families have access to water.

We are making a difference!

Indeed, the context of our work is both difficult and complex. Food insecurity persists in a region that is very often characterized by persistent conflicts, even escalating conflicts, and political crises. The civil war in South Sudan, the fighting in Somalia and the Boko Haram extortions remain the main obstacles on the path to sustainable development. *"Despite these challenges*

and sometimes dangerous conditions for Caritas teams, our interventions really make a difference for the most vulnerable groups, whether it is through screening and treating malnutrition or facilitating access to water, food, and livelihoods," explains Sébastien Dechamps, emergency aid coordinator.

© Gilles Cnockaert



The federal government doubles the funds raised by the Famine 12-12 campaign. In Uganda the Minister of International Development, Alexander De Croo, comes to fully realize the situation. In the Bidi Bidi refugee camp, he discovers the efforts provided by Caritas.

2 Ethiopia: water and land

Around 8.5 million people suffer from structural food insecurity. This means that they are (partially) dependent on food programs or projects such as 'cash for work' offered by NGOs. Due to poor rainfall in 2016-17, agricultural harvests are sparse and livestock mortality is high. Where necessary, we temporarily finance food purchases to meet urgent needs (see 1. Hunger in Africa). Alongside this, we continue our work focused on improving food security.

The cause of food insecurity

Mark Breusers, our expert on Ethiopia at Caritas: *"There are many causes. Drought, of course, and also climate change. The rainy seasons have always been erratic in the Tigray region, but this irregularity is increasing. Therefore, the periods of drought are longer and the rains more unpredictable. The crises follow each other more quickly. In addition, there is an economic inequality that cannot be underestimated. The gap between rich and poor is widening in Ethiopia. Government policy on land distribution plays a negative role in this regard. Indeed, the vast majority of small farmers only have access to 2 hectares of land at a maximum. Meanwhile the government grants large concessions, sometimes tens of thousands of hectares, to large investors who are often foreign. Small-scale agriculture is suffering structural damage in this way."*

Cofinancement

In 2017, several ongoing programs at Tigray were co-financed by the local population (in-kind), the Elisabeth and Amélie Fund, Brussels Environment-IBGE, Hydrobru (the Brussels Intercommunal Water Supply and Sanitation Agency) and the DGD (the Belgian government). In addition, we benefit from the EU's SHARE program and a consortium of operational partners for our intervention in the Southern Nations and Nationalities (RNNPS) region. Our supporters also massively reacted to our call for support as part of our September campaign.

Caritas-authorities-local population

In the Tigray region, Caritas supports families through various initiatives by aiming to guarantee access to food. This goes hand in hand with the protection of natural resources, especially the soil and water. We work with local communities: we build plant patios for example, we fight against the advancement of the desert, we ensure better flow of water resources. We also dig or drill wells to guarantee the supply of drinking water. We set up water storage places, install irrigation systems, etc. The authorities are responsible for equipping wells with electric pumps. We - the NGOs - then work together on these projects and ensure that the water from these wells is brought to the communities in a safe and clean manner.

Local communities contribute by bringing locally available materials, as well as their workforce or knowledge. Subsequently, they also oversee management and maintenance through democratically elected committees.

"The participation of the population is great. In this way, we are laying solid foundations for sustainable development. This is what Caritas International has been contributing to for many years."

Mark Breusers, expert on Ethiopia,
Caritas International



© Isabel Corthier

Excerpt from the final report on the “Better Access to Drinking Water and Hygiene Awareness” project in the Ganta-Afeshum and Gulomakda districts of Eastern Tigray:

3,250 households have access to quality water through a water point managed and maintained by a local committee.

- 11 rehabilitated water points;
- 50 new local water committees received the necessary maintenance equipment for the water point and existing committees benefitted from support concerning regulation improvements;
- 23 people received technical training in public health;
- An autoclave (sterilization device) and the necessary products facilitate an increase in a laboratory’s capacity for water analysis.

The sanitary conditions of 21,874 households (the entire zone) have improved, thanks to the training of 400 community and school representatives.



© Isabel Corthier

You never know when it's going to rain

“You never know when it's going to rain. It's a source of a lot of stress. The rain comes too early, too late, or not at all,” explains Gebresilasie (age 54). When he used to sell wood, he would have to walk for hours every day just to cut the lumber. He would carry it on his donkey to Mekelle, where he would sell it. *“I worked 18 hours a day, but despite that, my children often had nothing to eat. It's over now!”*

“Today, I have 3 wonderful harvests a year. In addition to sorghum, teff and wheat, I grow carrots, oranges, onions and bananas. Good enough to live. Because there is water.”

With the population of Northern Tigray, where Gebresilasie lives, Caritas built a dam, equipped with an irrigation system. Today, Gebresilasie lives with his wife and their 6 children due to farming.

The dam holds rainwater and the irrigation system irrigates the 30 hectares of land of 176 families, including Gebresilasie's. *“This is our project and we are proud of it. Due to each contribution, according to an individual's abilities, everyone was paid. For some, it was their only source of income.”*

Gebresilasie wants his children to have every opportunity possible. *“I do not want them to lead a life like mine,”* he says emphatically. *“Now that there is water in the village, and with all the means we have at our disposal today, they continue to go to school. So, their future will be better than mine!”*

3 Syria: the needs remain enormous

By pushing back the Islamic State in Syria, peace seemed to be in sight, but that is unfortunately not the case. Several major regional powers are in conflict and are still fighting in the Syrian territory: Turks against Kurds, Americans against Russians, Israel against militias supported by Iran, etc. In addition, the ancient quarrel between the Assad regime and the resistant rebels is still not fully resolved. By the end of 2017, the situation was still dangerous.

Not home yet

When the weapons are silent, we discover a landscape of ruins and torn families. The result of seven years of conflict and violence. Millions of people fleeing (inside the country or elsewhere) still cannot return home for fear of retaliation or further violence. When security seems to be in place, all future prospects are nevertheless fleeting and flawed. How can you start a new life in a completely devastated neighborhood without electricity, water or utilities? How can the inhabitants rebuild a house where they can live autonomously with dignity?

Poverty in the coastal region

More than 200,000 Syrians have found refuge in recent years in and around Tartous and Mashta al Helou, where the situation has remained relatively calm. They have minimal means of survival at their disposal. Those who have money have long since fled abroad. Those remaining are mostly women and children. The men are abroad, killed in combat or completing their mandatory military service. These people have papers, can work in principle, benefit from medical help, and the children can go to school. However, public services are overwhelmed and almost inaccessible. The refugees have had to abandon almost everything and live in extreme poverty. The influx of people on the run has a significant impact on the community. There are no camps in the coastal region. People are looking for shelter in abandoned buildings, renting rooms, or inhabiting a small house. This strong demand has pushed up the prices of

rent. Wages have decreased because newcomers are willing to work cheaply. The schools are overcrowded, the food is too expensive for many, the fuel is lacking, and the medical centers cannot manage the large number of patients. Clearly, a portion of the initial population is impoverished



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Food, housing, necessities, and medical care

Between September 2016 and August 2017, Caritas International came to the aid of around 12,000 vulnerable people in the coastal region: 'displaced people', but also the local population facing hardship. Thus, we avoid tensions. Religion is not important here: what matters is the vulnerability of the people who knock on our door. We give them a contribution to pay their rent, coupons to exchange for food and basic necessities. We pay a part of the necessary medical expenses, we provide school materials and organize training intended for women concerning different topics: hygiene, healthy eating with a limited budget, children's rights, etc. These trainings are important: they allow participants to exchange their experiences and emotions.



© Patrick Nicholson / Caritas Internationalis

Caritas Syria has six regional offices and an office in Damascus.

This allows us to be active throughout the **Syrian territory**. Caritas International offers assistance in the coastal region and in Aleppo – for those fleeing into the country and the local population.

Caritas International also helps Syrians fleeing abroad:

Turkey hosts more than 3 million refugees, a large majority of whom are Syrians. Caritas International supports community centers in Istanbul where people can turn to for food, shelter and medical care. Caritas Turkey explains their rights and gives them the opportunity to meet and learn new skills.

In **Lebanon and Jordan**, we take care of socio-educational activities for vulnerable Lebanese refugees and young people by offering classes, camps during vacations, and psychosocial support. The goal? Keeping young people in school, giving them a future perspective and goals, and reducing child labor and youth crime.

In **Jordan**, we are helping vulnerable refugees (including a large majority of Syrian and Jordanian families) by distributing basic necessities and providing “cash for work” projects and vocational training so that they can benefit from work. In addition, prenatal consultations, medical care, and psychosocial support are also offered.

In **Belgium**, we have different programs focused on supporting asylum seekers and integrating refugees (see 01.)

“There was already a 'before' before this horrible war; there will undoubtedly be an 'after'. This 'after' will have to be built both in Syria and here at home: we will have to 'share the journey'.”

Sébastien Dechamps, emergency aid coordinator.

Mgr. Audo is formal: “According to our means and within the possible framework, Caritas supports all Syrians in need, including non-Christians. Caritas collaborates wholeheartedly with the Syrian Red Cross, a Red Cross organization.”

Mgr. Audo, President of Caritas Syria, testifies on January 26, 2017 at the European Parliament.

4 Through Serbia to Western and Northern Europe

By the end of 2016, the number of migrants and asylum seekers heading to northern and western Europe increased significantly in Serbia. Their reception is organized by the authorities who detest civil society organizations that operate autonomously. 80% of the 7,000 registered migrants live in one of the 16 official centers. As of December 2016, there were 1,100 in the Presevo centers (mainly single men) and Bujanovac (unaccompanied children and families) in southern Serbia. This is significantly less than the amount in the north and east of the country, but the needs are the same: food, water and medical care. Yet, international aid is almost non-existent in the south of the country.

Help from Caritas and Europe

With our local partners and at the request of the government, Caritas Serbia has been busy for a few months offering breakfast, lunch, and an evening meal in the Presevo and Bujanovac centers. However, at the end of 2016, they did not have the financial means to continue these efforts. Thanks to the support of Europe (Echo) and Caritas International, this aid is possible again. A calendar provides daily meals for 1,100 people. Given that the number of migrants has decreased since the summer of 2017, we can now extend the duration of the initially planned assistance from 8 months to 14 months (launch February 2017).

Migrants in transit investing in themselves

Darko Tot from Caritas Serbia: *"Migrants in transit are involved in the meals and other activities of the camp. Importantly, five women from different cultural backgrounds explained to the business 'Tradicija juga', responsible for preparing meals, how to prepare their traditional meals. Volunteers with good interpersonal and communication skills help people overcome language barriers and try to mediate in the event of conflict."*

Together with the local population

The social organization 'Tradicija juga', responsible for meals, hires vulnerable people at the local level (victims of violence, long-term homeless populations, etc.). With this new challenge, these people have the opportunity to work and integrate back into the society. The food is purchased from small local farmers who in turn have the opportunity to further develop their small business.

"When the kitchen opened in the Presevo camp, there was a small group of young volunteers from Iraq. While doing the dishes, they started playing music with pots and pans. The atmosphere is really happy in the kitchen"

Milena, manager of food distribution, Caritas Serbia

"I'm used to working hard and I want to help other refugees and migrants. I refuse to sit back and passively do nothing. I also want to offer my contribution for the help we receive."

Raohallah, Afghan refugee at the Presevo center



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5 Medical care in the Gaza Strip

Gaza, an isolated strip of land of 360 km², 40 km long and 6 to 12 km wide, is part of Palestine. It is one of the most densely populated regions on the planet. The 1.88 million people who live there can only leave the enclave in exceptional circumstances. An embargo of nine years and three major wars in six years has devastated public infrastructure.

No prospects for the future

A chronic lack of electricity disrupts the supply of services and further complicates the already difficult living conditions. The unemployment rate is very high, and income per capita is very low. 80% of the population lives below the poverty line and depends on external help. A whole generation of children grow up in these conditions without any prospect of a future.

The healthcare system is hit the hardest by the last war and blockade. Medication supply is slow and medical staff do not have access to modern equipment or new knowledge. Children suffer from psychosocial disorders and need support.

Working together to improve health

Thanks to funding from the DGD (the Belgian government), Caritas International is supporting the Caritas Jerusalem Medical Center in the Gaza Strip. It is located in an extremely poor area and is always overflowing with patients. Along with a gynecologist, dentist, doctor, and pharmacist, a team of 20 collaborators helps children and families traumatized by the war by providing medical care, food, and psychosocial help.

A very common health problem is anemia. Caritas not only strives to provide healthy food for a few months to make up for shortages, but we are also invested in ensuring that the problem of anemia is taken into account by other organizations, such as the UNRWA (UN organization for Palestinian refugees in the Middle East).



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“People are depressed, desperate, they are, so to speak, put under a drip. Such living conditions can only lead to more hatred.”

Sister Briget, coordinator of the Caritas project in Gaza

From October 2016 to September 30, 2017

2,108 children received pediatric care
535 children received dental care
2,143 children and 1,007 women benefitted from psychosocial support
248 women took leadership training

The project was extended from the planned 6 months to the end of March 2018

500 children received dental care
2,000 children benefitted from clown therapy sessions
100 women benefitted from group psychosocial therapy sessions

6 DR Congo: crisis in Kasai

This humanitarian crisis in Kasai began on August 8, 2016, in Tshimbulu (Central Kasai). The residents rebelled against the central government after security forces assassinated their traditional chief Kamuina Nsapu. Military actions followed, accompanied by warrantless prosecutions, rape, destruction, and all types of violence. In addition, children were recruited and used. The different parties of the conflict are responsible for the excessive violence against the civilian population. In 2017, violence gradually spread to the five provinces of Kasai.

Enormous needs

“The needs in the region are enormous,” explains Willem Vervaeke, Caritas International’s project manager for DR Congo. “Due to the crisis, many people have not been able to harvest, despite their hard work: many of them have already lost three harvest cycles. The consequences are catastrophic for the availability of food and prices. The situation is alarming: more than 280,000 children are severely malnourished and have not received any help until now, December 2017. In addition, the population also needs hygiene kits, drinking water, and household utensils.”

What is Caritas doing?

Our intervention is multi-faceted: thanks to Unicef funding, we have been able to set up a humanitarian alert network, called the humanitarian watch system. We already had a draft network before the crisis, which has since proved to be very useful. In 10 provinces of Kasai and Equateur, 15 bishoprics and 390 parishes, we are able to launch an alert in the case of violence, disappearance of people, and natural disasters, etc. These alerts are sent to us by SMS and allow us to quickly evaluate needs and provide the appropriate help. Throughout the Kasai region, Caritas International has distributed tools and shelter materials to around 10,420 people. The third component will begin in 2018 and focus on reviving agriculture. .



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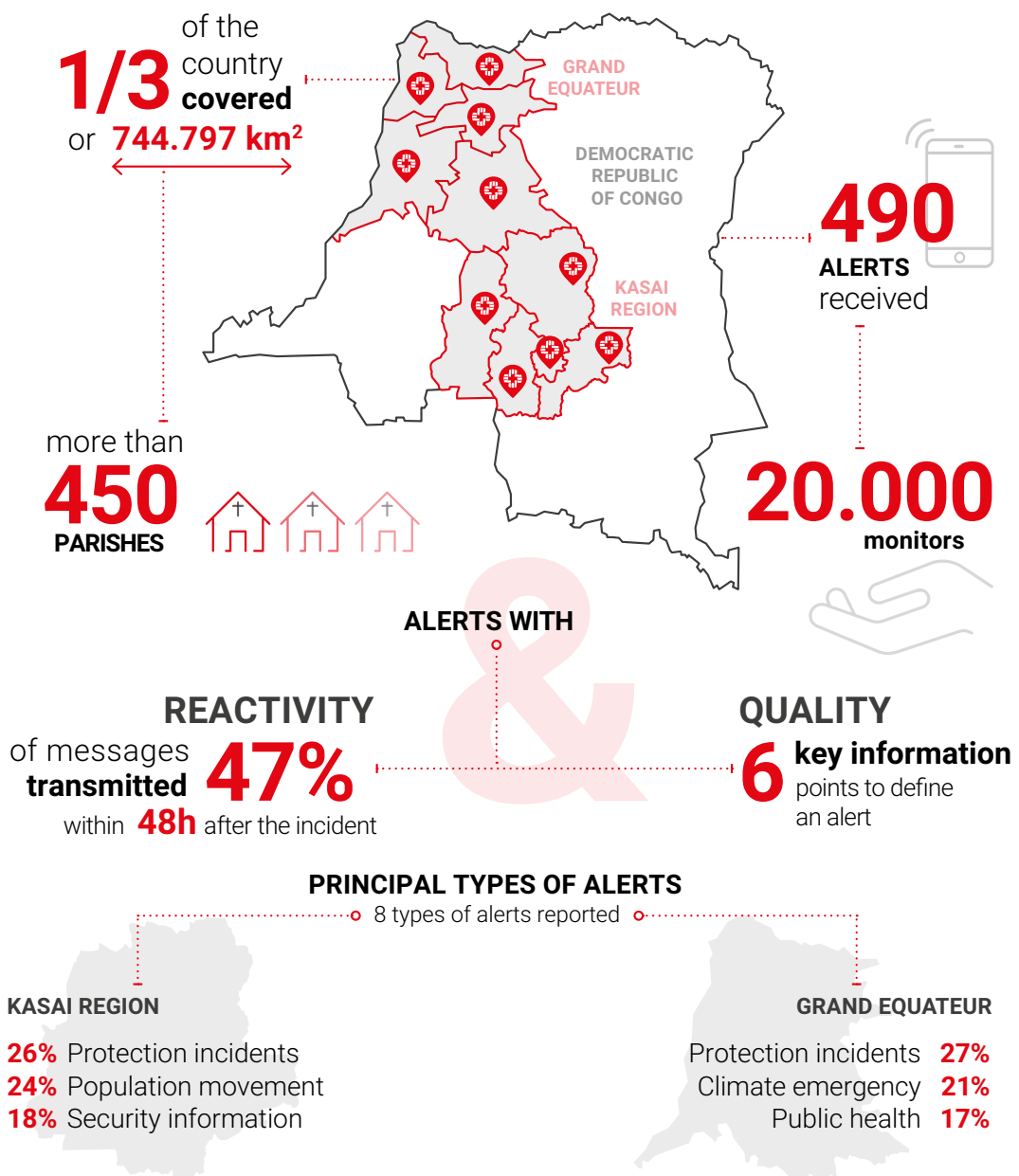
DR Congo campaign: #KasaiNow – Breaking the silence

In collaboration with the Justice and Peace Commission, we are launching an online campaign to reach a better understanding of the causes and consequences of this crisis. Thanks to various poignant stories, images, and analysis, we are breaking the silence, all together.



Assessment of Caritas' Humanitarian Watch in the Democratic Republic of Congo

September 2017 to February 2018



7 Disaster Preparation

With the support of the DGD (the Belgian government), we have been working to increase disaster resilience in Burundi, Niger and DR Congo since the end of 2016. We have chosen areas regularly hit by different crises. With local Caritas and the local population, we decided to focus more closely on community preparation rather than on individual families.

Burundi – Rutana province

Families in the Rutana province survive mainly on agriculture and livestock. As a result of climate change and reduced soil quality, crop yields are decreasing. Priorities: limiting the risks related to floods, food security, and the loss of fertile soil.

Niger – Diffa and Mainé Soro departments

Harvests in Diffa are often meager because of poor rainfall and Boko Haram attacks in the Nigerian border region. By the end of December 2017, more than 400,000 people suffered from food insecurity. Priorities: limiting the risks related to the lack of safe drinking water, socio-economic decline, and violence.

DR Congo – Mongala province

The dioceses of Lisala and Lolo are often hit by floods and subsequently suffer from the effects of erosion. Rural populations are the most affected. Priorities: limiting the risks related to floods, erosion, decline of agricultural production.

Disaster plans

For a long time, Caritas International has been committed to reducing the risks of possible future disasters through our emergency aid and development programs. Exchange, training, and skill-building are essential. Only in this way can the entire population work to prevent these disasters with conviction, which is crucial for the success of disaster plans.



© Luc Van Hoef

“Flooding and erosion are threats. But, humans are able, through our abilities and resources, to find solutions to diminish the harmful effects of these threats.”

Juliette Maquart, Caritas International’s representative in DR Congo

Diffa, Niger, border region with Nigeria. Access to safe drinking water, irrigation, increased income, and a crisis committee prepare displaced populations and refugees for possible future crises.

8 A joint structural program

Caritas International and the Justice and Peace Commission's decision to set up a joint program is a strategic choice. The added value? The Justice and Peace Commission's awareness and education activities at home in Belgium have a more concrete resonance on the ground thanks to Caritas International's expertise in the South. Caritas can draw on the Commission's many years of experience to further develop our awareness and advocacy work concerning the link between migration and development in Belgium.

The program, called Empowerment in a world on the move, is a five-year initiative with activities in Belgium and six countries in the Southern hemisphere: DR Congo, Rwanda, Burundi, Niger, Ethiopia and Haiti.

Synergies and complementarity

Since January 2016, we have organized several workshops in Belgium, but also in the 6 concerned countries in order to map the specific needs and possible platforms needed for change. Partners and representatives of vulnerable population groups, civil society stakeholders, and in some cases representatives of public technical services participated. The resulting program takes into account the priority concerns of the population and possible synergies and complementarities with other actors. We also paid close attention to the coherence between the South and North components. On February 17, 2017, the DGD approved this program through a ministerial order for co-financing which nonetheless is subject to an adjustment of the proposed budget.

"We, European citizens, are directly concerned! An intolerable paradox remains: the Congolese population is one of the poorest on the planet, yet its land is rich in natural resources. There is plenty of diamond, gold or coltan that our mobile phones are fond of. Thus, just by our acts of consumption, we have political power!"

Axelle Fischer, Secretary General of the Justice and Peace Commission

Excerpt from the first Niger report:

6 grain banks in the Dakoro Department. After a proper discussion session, the 6 management committees were democratically and transparently elected by those living in the villages. Caritas provided construction equipment and specialized personnel. Stakeholders were responsible for providing 5,000 bricks per grain bank and labor. Meanwhile, 40,000 kg of millet has been distributed to the grain banks as a starting stock. We have also supported the creation of 62 farmers' associations, including 6 in the framework of these grain banks.

Improvement of living conditions and awareness

Poverty is decreasing more slowly than we had hoped. And migrations continually evolve and change with the consequence of more and more individuals risking their lives.

What changes are we targeting? First, improving the living conditions of the most vulnerable rural populations in countries where we have already created a network of partners. Next, we are striving to raise awareness among the Belgian population and policy-makers about the link between migration and development on one hand, while also expounding upon our way of life, our plans on the economic, political, and environmental levels, on the other.

The key: empowerment

Empowerment means strengthening the material and organizational capacities of people and communities to enable them to take control of their destiny. This is precisely what we want to achieve in this program, both in the South and in Belgium. This is the only way to change the policy in our country and allow people in the South to improve their living conditions in a sustainable way..

03

Share the journey

Advocacy

A group of people, including children, are sitting on a rocky shore looking out at the sea. A blue sign with the words "SAFE PASSAGE" is placed in front of them. A large red diamond graphic is overlaid on the image, partially covering the sea and the people. The background shows a grey, overcast sky and a distant coastline.

SAFE PASSAGE

The year 2017 officially marks the launch of our advocacy and awareness work. For Caritas, the work of political influence means analyzing the structural causes of injustice, looking at how we can address these causes, and then to push for appropriate policy decisions. Often literally: this year we've met with 120 policy makers. This work is done in collaboration with the Justice & Peace Commission. In the coming years, we will jointly look at the themes of migration and development. In fact, if we want to put our society on the right track towards sustainable development, it is essential to have correct information about migration, development and the link between the two. Sustainable development is and remains our ultimate goal. But this goal requires political will and public commitment, which are often lacking.

Migration...

This is also why Caritas has, amongst other reasons, rallied behind the political objectives of the federal 11.11.11 and CNCD migration campaign. As part of this campaign, we have advanced three goals.

First, we want the root causes of forced migration to be addressed, and not the symptoms. Here we have partially succeeded. In fact, Belgium has adopted a critical position in the European Council, with regards to the EU Trust Fund and expulsion to Libya for example.

Another point of political contention is the organization of safe migration routes for refugees and migrants. This subject is difficult from a political point of view, but progress has been made. Advocacy promoting legal migration routes is slowly beginning to resonate at certain political levels. Here in Belgium, the Asylum and Migration policy note recognizes, for example, the need for an increased legal migration of workers. Similarly, recent European Commission communications highlight the importance of having legal migration routes. The number of humanitarian visas issued has increased sharply - as have the number of requests. With regards to the resettlement of refugees, Belgium's commitment has not increased significantly despite the need.

Finally, the third objective aims to discuss migration in an honest and correct way. The results of our political advocacy on this subject are mixed. The International Cooperation policy note, for example, explicitly states that 'refugees and migrants are first and foremost human

beings'. However, polarization in the debate continues and given upcoming new elections, this subject is likely to make a lot more waves. We are pursuing our political work around these specific objectives.

...and Development

2017 also saw the kick-off of the new collaboration agreement Perspective 2030 - a coalition of organizations that work together on the political front. This is necessary because the world has a big project: in 2015, more than 190 countries committed themselves to achieving 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and 167 targets by 2030. For the first time, these goals are at the crossroads of the economic, ecological, and social themes of sustainable development.

The plan is ambitious. It encompasses all possible policy areas, including access to safe drinking water, a varied and sufficient diet for all, the complete eradication of poverty, and inequality reduction. Belgium also faces challenges. Thus, our way of producing and consuming must be more sustainable and our politicians have the responsibility of sparing no effort to see to the good governance of these goals.

The plan offers a great perspective. By 2030, the world will be a better place. For everyone. At least, if the 17 SDGs are fully realized. This will only be the case if we exert sufficient pressure on the policies and politicians. The new Perspective 2030 platform is now pushing the Belgian government to respect its commitment.

Fortunately, we are not alone

So. Migration and development. Quite a program... Fortunately, we are not alone in dealing with it. For each theme, we can count on the expertise and solidarity of dozens of committed organizations. Including, among others, colleagues from the migration campaign and Perspective 2030, but also all Caritas organizations here in Belgium, Europe, and abroad. Outside of Europe, we need to especially mention our colleagues from Caritas Africa. Policy makers regularly consult Caritas International because of our expertise, our knowledge around the issues, and our daily collaboration with people on the ground. It is these people who give us the legitimacy to continue to influence the political world.

04

Share the journey

Education



Our brand-new tool **Inclu Acto** left its marks in the year 2017. Of the 1,000 copies available, 750 have already been sold. **Inclu Acto** is a pedagogical tool that uses role play entirely devoted to the question of the integration of newcomers into Belgian society. With the help of real people and real-life situations, participants come to understand that integration is a two-way process by watching the play. The play has achieved much success. Through several '**train the trainer sessions**', we have intensively prepared teachers to introduce this play in their classes.

Inclu Acto is the logical continuation of our many other educational activities. During the **Between 2 worlds** workshop, young people discover what a refugee is, why people migrate, and what to expect when they arrive in Belgium. We present this workshop to classes of students starting at the age of 15. In 2017, we organized this workshop 23 times.

The project 'Christmas in Exile', renamed '**Youth in Exile**' in 2017, was once again a huge success. This time, 11 schools participated, totaling 376 students. The goal remains the same: for children and young students from Belgian schools to send letters to young Syrians their age who fled to Lebanon because of the war. So thanks to this direct contact, stories about refugees and the Syrian conflict suddenly become a reality and less of a distant and abstract concept. The solidarity that young Belgians have demonstrated this year has once again warmed our hearts:

"I would like to tell you that my parents and grandparents were also refugees. They fled their country because of a strong dictatorship. Now, they live happily in Belgium, their new home. With this message, I would like to tell you that there is always hope, even when it seems that hope is dead. Do not give up, everything will eventually work out. There is hope." Raúl, age 16, a participant in the Youth in Exile project.

Study days

Throughout the year, we organized **7 study days** for secondary school teachers. Through this and other activities, we've trained 561 people. In fact, many teachers want to discuss the subject of migration in their

class, but the precise information and methods needed to address this theme during their classes are often lacking. In collaboration with several partners, including the Justice and Peace Commission, UCSIA and 11.11.11, we have tried to meet this need.

2017 was also the year of **Move with Africa**, a collaboration project with La Libre Belgique that offers young students the opportunity to travel to an African nation on an educational trip alongside a Belgian NGO. In this vein, 16 students, ages 16 to 18, were well prepared to go to Rwanda with Caritas International.

Finally, this year, with the Justice and Peace Commission and the Belgian Red Cross, we supported the Val Duchesse school in Auderghem. This year, we are working around the theme of 'Root causes of conflict and migration'.

"The role play Inclu Acto really pushes young people to think and adopt a critical stance on their assumptions and ideas about migration, but it is also a great tool that allows teachers to truly listen to their students."

History professor, participant in the study day on October 16



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Programs asylum and migration in Belgium

Title of project	Objectives	Time frame	Sponsor	Costs directly related to the 2017 project in €
Youth in Transit Liege	Accompaniment towards life in autonomy, transition from material aid to the financial social assistance of unaccompanied foreign minors.	Since 07.16	Fedasil, Ciré	1.080.949
Youth in Transit Brussels	Idem	Since 07.17	Ciré	232.063
High Care	Accompaniment of refugees who are seriously ill during integration process.	Since 09.17	Fedasil	114.070
Transition to Independence (Adults)	Facilitate the transition to self-reliance and life in Belgium for vulnerable refugees who have obtained a residence permit.	Since 03.16	Fedasil	1.150.063
Integration - namely: Housing-projects in Liege, Brussels, Antwerpen, and Gent and integration of vulnerable refugees.	Facilitate access for refugees to the private housing market. The coaching project aims to facilitate the integration of recognized refugees.	Since 11.15	Equity, Province of Flemish Brabant, Walloon Region, AMIF and Fund Roi Baudouin	716.465
Health Care Antwerpen	Reception of asylum-seekers with medical problems.	Since 07.17	Ciré	311.356
Individual reception of asylum seekers – Brussel and Wallonia	Reception of asylum seekers in individual dwellings.	Until 30.06.17 Expertise since 1999.	Ciré	1.483.414 (Youth in Transit Brussels included)
Individual reception Louvranges	Reception of women and isolated mothers	Since 2010	Fedasil, Ciré	1.435.388
Individual reception of asylum seekers – Brussels and Flanders	Reception of asylum seekers in individual dwellings.	Until 30.06.17 Expertise since 1999.	Vluchtelingenwerk Vlaanderen	1.609.814
Scherpenheuvel Welcome Centre	Reception of asylum seekers in a collective centre: 174 places.	Since 11.15	Fedasil	3.495.361
APL Charleroi	Sub-letting to admitted refugees in the Charleroi region	Since 01.14	Equity	226.314
Reintegration after voluntary return	Accompanying persons wishing to return voluntarily to their country of origin and who are entitled to reintegration support.	Since 2006	Fedasil, AMIF Belgium and Europe, ERIN	2.917.214
Social service for foreign students and trainees	Supports students in Belgium who hold a visa limited to studies and enrolled in a university or a high school.	Since 01.14	Equity Funds Orval and Scourmont	40.802
Resettlement	In collaboration with the UNHCR, refugees are relocated in our country.	2009 – 2017	Fedasil	278.569
Support to social service Brabantia	Frontline service Guardianship	Since 1974 Since 2005	Equity Equity	66.754 43.373



Programs emergency aid and development

Co-financing Programs (equity and institutional funds)

Emergency aid and rehabilitation

Country	Project	Time Frame	Budget in €	Sponsor	Expenditures 2017 in €	Contribution of Caritas International
DR Congo	Monitoring and Humanitarian Response program	2017	585.393,09	UNICEF	263.599,42	0%
DR Congo	RRMP - Rapid Response to Population Movements, Mbuji-Mayi, Kasai	2017 - 2018	104.995,00	UNICEF + Swiss confederation	6.295,89	0%
DR Congo - Burundi - Niger	Program to support the resilience of populations vulnerable to disaster risks (PRRC)	2016-2018	5.293.689,00	DGD	2.743.582,00	0%
Europe	Monitoring and evaluation of the European regions in order to optimize the interventions for the refugees/ migrants of the national Caritas organizations	2016-2018	75.000,00	Secours Catholique	41.341,04	€ 25.000
Palestine - Gaza	Medical services and protection of vulnerable groups - Gaza	2016-2018	1.060.077,00	DGD	931.966,00	0%
Serbia	Food aid for migrants in the south of Serbia	2017-2018	1.152.000,00	ECHO + CRS	994.691,08	€ 159.200
South Sudan	Humanitarian intervention in South Sudan, Unity State	2017	25.000,00	Vlaams Brabant	25.000,00	0%
South Sudan	Avoiding food shortages in South Sudan	2015-2017	823.830,00	Swiss confederation + Cl.be	550.826,42	27%
South Sudan and Uganda	Food security and income-generating for farmers and displaced persons in Yei en Maridi and for refugees in Uganda	2017-2018	418.188,00	Swiss confederation	158.425,88	0%
South Sudan and Uganda	Emergency aid for displaced persons in Yei (South Sudan) and sustainable food security and income-generating for South Sudanese refugees in Uganda	2017-2018	1.293.490,21	DGD	318.479,23	0%
Total					6.034.206,96	

Development

Country	Project	Time-frame	Budget in €	Sponsor	Expenditures 2017 in €	Contribution Caritas International
Burundi	Creation of added agricultural value through the pooling of public and private resources	2016 - 2019	950.000,00	EU	164.144,82	25%
Burundi	Multi-stakeholder program to improve food security in the municipality of Cendajuru, Gisurue en Kinyinya	2013-2018	1.764.706,00	BFVZ / CTB / WBI	279.253,89	15%
Burundi	Initiatives to develop family farming in Moso	2016-2019	778.000,00	CTB	289.734,30	0%
Burundi	Activities supporting family farming in Imbo	2017-2019	450.000,00	CTB	133.057,76	0%
DR Congo, Burundi, Rwanda, Haiti, Niger, Ethiopia, Belgium	EMMo - Empowerment in a world on the move - five-year program	2017-2021	12.839.807,99	DGD + 11.be	1.781.358,11	20%
Ethiopia	Economical resilience and income-generating activities	2017-2019	1.474.814,00	EU Reset	410.000,00	10%
Ethiopia	Improvement of resilience in the context of climate change in the Watershed of Waarat, eastern Tigray	2016-2018	240.001,00	EU/ Civil Society Fund	-	co-applicant (15.000 €)
Ethiopia	Strengthening access to potable water, hygiene and sanitation practices in two districts of eastern Tigray	2016-2017	52.611,00	Hydrobru	33.495,79	10.627 €
Niger	Participatory and decentralized food security project in the department of Dakoro	2014-2016	1.885.455,41	BFVZ	556.280,46	15%
Total					3.647.325,13	



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Equity Programs

Emergency programs with the Caritas network

Country	Crisis	Expenditures 2017 in €
Bangladesh	Rohinga refugees	15.000,00
Burundi	Humanitarian crisis	35.000,00
Central African Republic	Humanitarian crisis	35.000,00
Chad	Humanitarian crisis	10.000,00
DR Congo	Burundian and South Sudanese refugees	30.000,00
Ethiopia	Food crisis	51.000,00
Greece	Refugees Middle East	40.000,00
Haiti	Rehabilitation after typhoon Matthew	60.000,00
Jordan	Refugees Middle East	150.000,00
Kenya	Food crisis	50.000,00
Lebanon	Refugees Middle East	140.000,00
Mongolia	Dzud	20.000,00
Nepal	Rehabilitation following the earthquake	200.000,00
Nepal	Floods	20.000,00
Niger	Food crisis	50.000,00
Nigeria	Food crisis	100.000,00
Philippines	Rehabilitation after typhoon Yolanda	168.804,00
Rwanda	Burundian refugees	50.000,00
Somalia	Food crisis	200.000,00
South Sudan	Food crisis	165.000,00
Sri Lanka	Floods	17.924,00
Syria	Humanitarian crisis	151.870,00
Turkey	Refugees Middle East	20.000,00
Uganda	Food crisis	101.908,00
Ukraine	Humanitarian crisis	20.000,00
Total		1.901.506,00

Capacity building: Caritas partners

Caritas International supports some of its Caritas partners to enable them to invest in capacity building and the development of their structures.

Country	Number	Expenditures 2017 in €
Burundi	3	15.992,00
Cambodia	2	30.004,00
Ethiopia	1	55.000,00
Haiti	1	3.738,00
Indonesia	1	10.000,00
Kosovo	1	11.766,00
Lebanon	4	164.598,00
Niger	1	30.000,00
Thailand	1	15.000,00
Uganda	1	19.150,00
Total	16	355.248,00

Socio-economic projects

Caritas International finances activities for which there is no institutional funding.

Country	Organization	expenditure 2017 in €
Burundi	Caritas Burundi and Soprad	8.247,00
Ethiopia	Caritas Ethiopia	30.000,00
Kosovo	Caritas Kosovo - via Caritas Europa	21.000,00
Niger	Caritas Niger - Maradi	20.000,00
Serbia	Caritas Serbia - via Caritas Europa	9.000,00
South Sudan	Caritas South Sudan	3.000,00
Syria	Caritas Syria	20.000,00
Uganda	Caritas Uganda - Arua	11.538,00
Total		122.785,00

Partnership programs

Caritas International has partnerships with Belgian organizations for projects that are in line with its vision and mission.

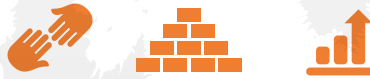
Country	Number of projects	Expenditure 2017 in €
Armenia	1	4.165,10
Benin	1	2.500,00
Cambodja	1	1.625,06
Cameroon	1	20.006,05
Cuba	1	1.660,00
DR Congo	10	62.450,09
Haiti	2	21.368,26
India	1	9.162,75
Lebanon	3	23.726,92
Malawi	1	4.890,00
Mali	3	31.451,45
Nepal	1	1.096,11
Niger	2	23.964,94
Nigeria	1	3.346,25
Philippines	3	10.861,63
Rwanda	3	29.007,24
Senegal	1	4.181,85
South Africa	2	5.482,89
Syria	1	7.525,41
Tanzania	1	12.750,28
Togo	1	23.984,50
Total	41	305.206,78



International cooperation



Emergency aid
Reconstruction



Emergency aid
Reconstruction
Development



Development

Africa

Central African Republic
Kenya
Somalia
Chad

Africa

Burundi
DR Congo
Ethiopia
Niger
Nigeria
Rwanda
South Sudan
Uganda

Africa

Benin*
Cameroon*
Malawi*
Mali*
Senegal*
South Africa*
Tanzania*
Togo*

Asia

Bangladesh
Mongolia
Sri Lanka

Asia

Nepal
Philippines

Asia

Cambodia
India*
Indonesia
Thailand

Europe

Greece
Turkey
Ukraine

Europe

Serbia

Europe

Armenia*
Kosovo

Middle East

Jordan
Palestine (Gaza)
Syria

Central America

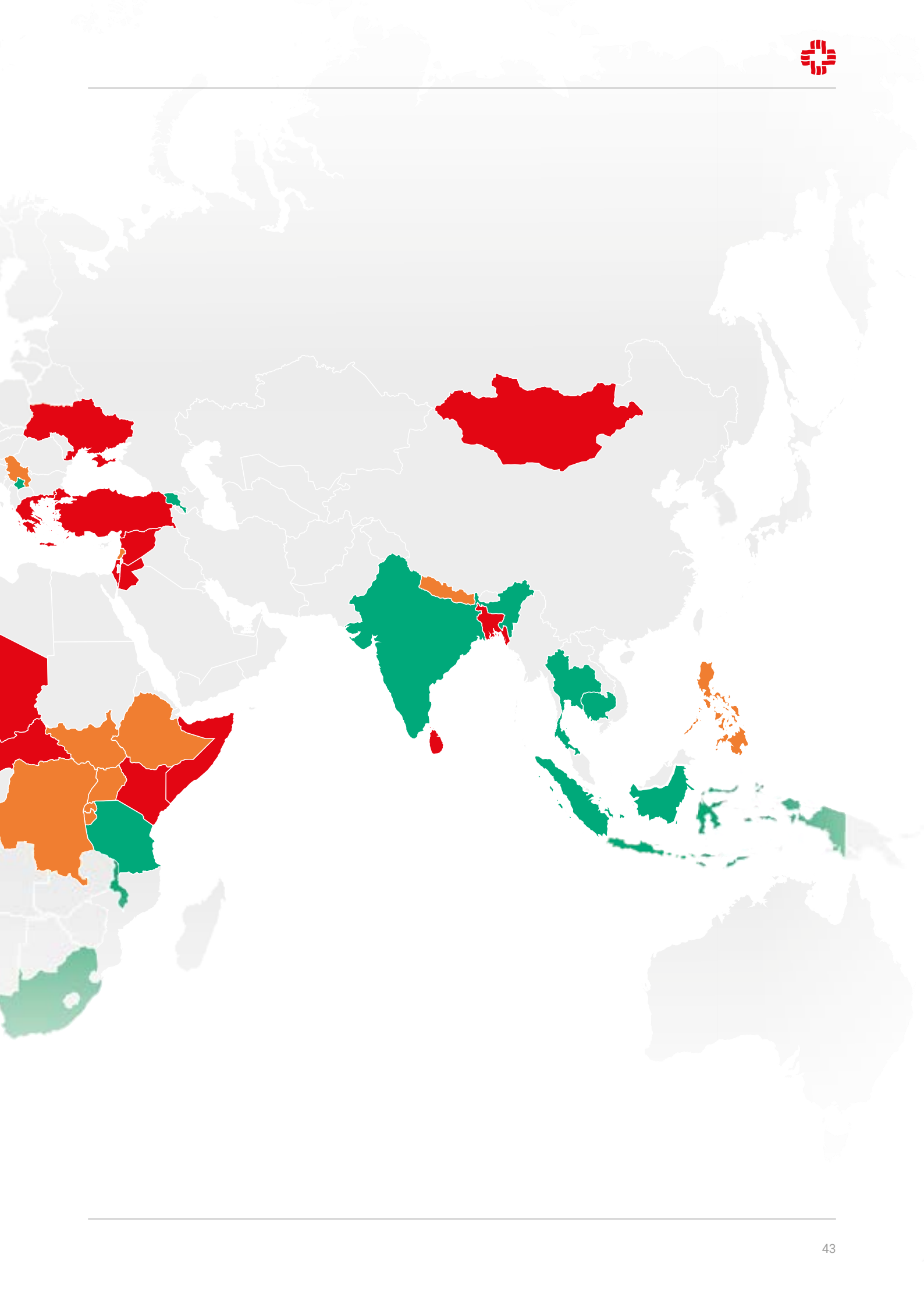
Haiti

Central America

Cuba*

*

Partnership programs in collaboration with Belgian organizations



PERSONNEL AND ORGANIZATION

Some figures on our employees – 31-12-2017



Management committee:

- François Cornet
- Anne Dussart
- Patrick Debucquois
- Gilles Cnockaert
- Florence Lobert
- Hubert Thienpont
- Kristin Vanoeveren
- Bernadette Van Raemdonck

Breakdown by age group and gender

Age	Men	Women	Total
<24	2	0	2
25-34	22	38	60
35-44	17	19	36
45-54	11	13	24
55-59	8	7	15
>60	2	6	8
Total	62	83	145

Incoming and outgoing flows

Employees on 01.01.17	In	Out	Employees on 31.12.17
140	49	44	145



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And also:

- Caritas International works with local partners. 11 collaborators represent us in the following priority countries: Burundi (2 persons), Democratic Republic of Congo (2), Thailand for the Asia region (2), Bosnia for the Balkans (1), Haiti (1), Uganda (2), Niger (1).
- More than 160 volunteers have participated in supporting asylum seekers in their integration process by taking care of needs in terms of housing, installation, language learning, administrative support, transport, etc. Five retired persons (including four ex-employees) regularly give their time at the head office in Brussels. This does not include the members of the Management Committee, Board of Directors and our General Meeting who are also involved in supporting our action.
- Detailed analysis work relating to the need for a central data management system (Customer Relationship Management–Enterprise Resource Planning [CRM–ERP]) was carried out in 2017. Its execution and use is scheduled for 2018. The system will be integrated in the form of a new Intranet developed with the various departments in 2017 to optimise the flow of information within the organisation.
- Different working groups (Development, Human resources, Partners, Internal communication and Strategy) and a Strategic Forum (for persons exercising coordination responsibilities) contribute to improving interaction between the various departments, the strategic choices made and the quality of work.
- The first edition of ‘Caritas Days’ was launched in 2017: a day when all members of staff as well as the volunteers of Caritas International and Caritas in Belgium met each other, and a day with workshops in small groups. The objective was to renew the vision and the mission of our organisation, create a link between colleagues and plan future action together. It was a unique occasion for finding out about each other in an informal setting like the annual barbecue, the Christmas party and Happy Hour that was first introduced in November 2017 and has become a tradition by now.

Fundraising & Campaigns

Generosity, not just during moments of crisis

Spring 2017 was marked by the cry for help from the communities and our partners in the Horn of Africa. The spectre of famine once again hovers over the region, particularly in South Sudan, Somalia, Nigeria and Yemen and in the border countries, where the combination of conflicts and drought threatens 20 million people. With its partners in the 12-12 Consortium, Caritas International is launching the Famine 12-12 operation which will raise almost €10.1 million, €985.230 of which reverts to us. With the generous support of its donors to the BE88 0000 0000 4141 account, Caritas has received a total of €2.180.067 which will be allocated to the emergency effort and rehabilitation in the region.

A few months later, due to our projects on the ground in Ethiopia, we are inviting our donors to “turn drylands into an oasis of greenery” during our annual campaign in September. Among other things in the Sunday pages and Kerk & Leven, but also in both a paper and online

magazine devoted to the often invisible weight of water in our diet. And our supporters once again responded massively by bringing together more than €600.000.

Many people were also mobilized to finance our activities in emergency and development in Central Africa, or more broadly for refugees around the world. The year closes with a donation total of €3.899.218, excluding the contribution of Consortium 12-12 and testamentary donations. With changes in legislation, a notable trend in 2017, many of our supporters raised questions we are striving to answer through information sessions (5 sessions took place in 2017) led by our former director, Gonzalo Dopchie, who is now a volunteer and advisor on testamentary donations.

Finally, this annual report is also, if not most importantly, an opportunity to thank each of these donors without whom Caritas would not exist. On behalf of our entire team and all the people we work with: a thousand thanks!



Through their gifts, 6.950 supporters have provided water to families in Ethiopia. 1.092 people participated in our quiz on the website or through the social networks.



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5 successful information sessions in 2017 conducted by our former director, Gonzalo Dopchie, now a volunteer responsible for handling gifts from wills.

Awareness: dare to meet and share the journey

“Do not be afraid to share the journey.” By uttering these words with open arms as a sign of welcome, Pope Francis and with him, all members of the Caritas network launched their global campaign from Rome on September 27, 2017. Caritas International is closely involved in this initiative that will dedicate thousands of volunteers and programs to increase awareness and encounters between migrants and refugees that Caritas supports and host communities. By doing this, we hope to reaffirm the rights of these people and build a new narrative around the fundamental issue of global solidarity. The defining moment of the campaign will be held in 2018: the global week of action from June 17-24. More information can be found on journey.caritas.org and on our website.



Financial Report 2017 *

Income was €31.903.543 and expenditure was €32.401.692, giving a result of €498.149 distributed between a negative variation in destined funds of €111.843 and a loss of €386.306.

The destined funds are the amount of the gifts and grants that we received and that are to be allocated to carrying out specific projects. These funds came to €13.246.536 at the end of 2016 and fell by €111.843 in the following financial year to €13.134.693 by the end of 2017.

Fundraising

- Once again, the generosity of the public was not lacking in 2017: we received a total sum of €4.884.449 in gifts. In particular, there was massive support from our donors reacting to the major food crisis in the Horn of Africa, a crisis for which an appeal was launched initially directly and then through the 12-12 Consortium;
- Numerous wills were settled in 2017 with substantial amounts received in legacies. By their nature, these amounts are difficult to estimate and the amounts in 2017 were greater than expected.

Emergencies & Development

- With regard to the food crisis, several projects were implemented in the main countries affected via the

Caritas network, from our own funds as well as from funds obtained from the 12-12 Consortium and the Directorate General for Development Cooperation.

- Thanks to the financing of Directorate General for Development Cooperation (DGD) we could continue our programme for reducing the risks of disasters. We also got green light for our five-year EMMo Programme in collaboration with Commission Justice et Paix.

Asylum & Migration

- On 30 June 2017, the agreement with Ciré concerning the reception of asylum seekers in individual housing was substantially reduced and the Vluchtelingenwerk Vlaanderen agreement was terminated. This information was already known at the time the 2017 budget was drawn up and in the end the activity (income and expenditure) was higher than the forecasts.
- A substantial amount (€600.000) has been provisioned to cover the additional costs expected following the announcement by Fedasil of the closure of emergency centres, and in particular of our Scherpenheuvel centre.
- The income and expenditure relating to the programmes for voluntary return to the country of origin and the integration of refugees in Belgium are also increasing.

Balance sheet 2017

Assets	In €
Tangible fixed assets	1.297,11
Intangible fixed assets	4.260.149,76
Financial fixed assets	3.750,00
Amounts receivable within 1 year	5.767.024,12
Cash investments	5.228.030,54
Liquid assets	5.184.517,19
Accruals and deferrals	337.887,54
Total	20.782.656,26

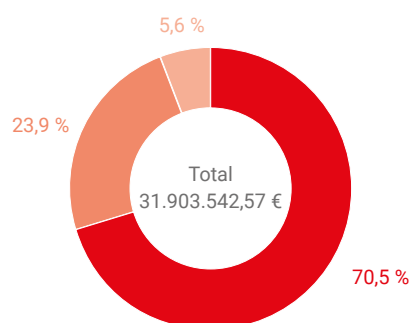
Liabilities	In €
Funds of the organization	2.880.472,41
Social liability	2.288.421,09
Designated funds for defined projects	13.134.693,08
Profit carried forward	334.884,34
Capital subsidies	8.453,70
Provisions	802.433,49
Debts payable within 1 year	1.324.479,14
Accruals and deferrals	8.819,01
Total	20.782.656,26

*

Results as presented by the board of administrators to the general assembly of June 2018.

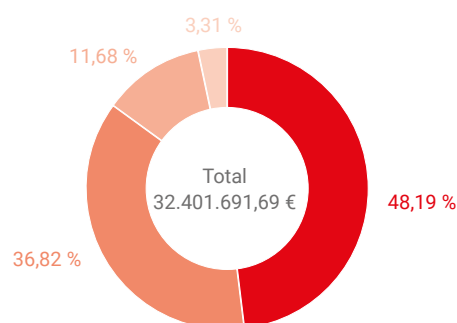


Revenue 2017



Public financing:	22.485.153,54 €
Gifts and legacies:	7.635.919,15 €
Other:	1.782.469,88 €

Expenditure 2017



Asylum and migration:	15.614.037,82 €
International aid:	11.932.201,92 €
Operating costs:	3.783.920,11 €
Communication, fundraising, education and advocacy:	1.071.531,84 €

Results 2017

Revenue	In €	%
Donations	3.899.218,74	12,22
Donations consortium 12.12	985.230,37	3,09
Legacies	2.751.470,04	8,62
Wallonie - Bruxelles International (WBI)	15.800,00	0,05
Provinces, towns and communities	45.000,00	0,14
Multilateral institutions	364.363,72	1,14
Enabel	476.097,92	1,49
Fonds belge pour la sécurité alimentaire	614.553,00	1,93
Belgian government - DGD	4.112.348,32	12,89
Ministry of Justice – Ministry of the Interior	185.303,82	0,58
Belgian government - Fedasil	7.170.821,21	22,48
Coordination et Initiative pour Réfugiés et Etrangers	3.314.513,96	10,39
European Union	1.197.149,41	3,75
Vluchtelingenwerk Vlaanderen	1.948.103,95	6,11
European Reintegration Network	2.809.700,99	8,81
Foundations, other Caritas organizations, ...	694.903,07	2,18
Subsidies for employment (Actiris, Maribel, ...)	231.397,24	0,73
Other operating revenue	472.240,42	1,48
Financial products	161.958,92	0,51
Exceptional products	453.367,47	1,42
Total	31.903.542,57	

Expenditure	In €	%
Reception of asylum seekers	11.208.804,79	34,59
Migrant programs (frontline, guardianship, integration)	1.488.018,90	4,59
Voluntary return	2.917.214,13	9,00
International cooperation	11.484.088,37	35,44
Partnerships project Intern. cooperation	448.113,55	1,38
Communication and fundraising	1.071.531,84	3,31
• Education	126.779,14	0,39
• Fundraising	445.576,93	1,38
• Advocacy	52.391,72	0,16
• Ext/int communication	446.784,05	1,38
Operating costs	3.783.920,11	11,68
• General operating costs	2.438.663,10	7,53
• Inheritance taxes	1.345.257,01	4,15
Total	32.401.691,69	

Thanks

Without the precious support of numerous people, associations and organisations, all our projects could not have been successfully completed. This is why we would particularly like to thank:

- All of our private donors
- All of our enthusiastic volunteers and supportive property owners
- The bishops, parishes and religious congregations
- Businesses, foundations and non-profits
- Our umbrella organizations: 11.11.11 / CNCD-11.11.11 / Ngo-federatie / Acodev / Concord / Voice / Vluchtelingenwerk Vlaanderen / Ciré
- The media, and in particular: Kerknet / Kerk & Leven / Tertio, the 'Thomas'website of the KU Louvain / Cathobel (Dimanche and RCF) / La Libre Belgique (Move with Africa)
- Caritas Internationalis / Caritas Europa / Caritas in Belgium / Netwerk Rechtvaardigheid en Vrede / Commission Justice & Paix / Brabantia / Convivial / Annoncer la Couleur / Kleur Bekennen / the ERSO network / the Belgian Consortium 12-12 and all of our partners in Belgium and abroad
- The schools, UCSIA, KU Leuven, teachers and youth movements that participated enthusiastically in our activities
- Our collaborators in Belgium and abroad who, day after day, make our commitments a reality

- Our institutional partners:

The United Nations
UN pooled Funds / Unicef

The European Union
ECHO / DG Devco / European Refugee Fund / European Return Fund / Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund (AMIF)

The Federal Government
Direction de la Coopération au Développement (DGD) / Fonds Belge pour la Sécurité Alimentaire (FBSA) / Belgian Development Agency (CTB) / Agence fédérale pour l'accueil des demandeurs d'asile (Fedasil) / Secrétariat d'Etat à l'Asile et la Migration, à l'Intégration sociale et à la Lutte contre la pauvreté / SPF Emploi, Travail et Concertation sociale - Maribel / SPP Intégration sociale / La Loterie Nationale

The Flemish Community
Departement Internationale Samenwerking / Departement Leefmilieu, Natuur en Energie / Departement Onderwijs

The Wallonia-Brussels Federation and Walloon Region
Wallonie Bruxelles International (WBI) / Département Travaux publics, Santé, Action sociale et Patrimoine

The Brussels Capital Region
Office régional bruxellois de l'Emploi (Actiris)

Provinces, towns and municipalities



François Cornet

"Thanks for supporting us"

François Cornet, Director



Caritas International, asbl

Rue de la Charité 43

1210 Brussels

T + 32 2 229 36 11

IBAN BE88 0000 0000 4141 / BIC BPOTBEB1

www.caritasinternational.be



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Responsible editor

François Cornet, director Caritas International

Rue de la Charité 43

1210 Brussels