

# The power of people

ANNUAL  
REPORT  
2018



# 20.567

**DONORS**

GAVE FINANCIAL SUPPORT

# 288

**VOLUNTEERS**

GAVE THEIR TIME TO SUPPORTING  
ASYLUM SEEKERS AND REFUGEES

# 146

**EMPLOYEES**

DO THEIR VERY BEST FOR THE  
MOST VULNERABLE



# The power of people

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31-12- 2018

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## Word of the president

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Dear reader,

It is my pleasure to present you with the 2018 Annual Report of Caritas International Belgium.

We have chosen the theme “The power of people” because we believe that victims of natural disasters, conflicts or calamities have the strength and the resilience to get their lives back on track. Our role is that of a fellow traveler: we assist the most vulnerable in getting back on their feet.

As you will read in the following pages, we do this abroad with partner Caritas organizations faced with crisis and conflict, and strive to support them as quickly as possible. We are also present mainly, but not exclusively, on the ground in Africa and the Middle East. We assist those affected in taking back control of their lives through tailored intervention and support for their initiatives. In this, we are guided by the Sustainable Development Goals of the 2030 Agenda of the United Nations and by the principles of “Disaster Risk Reduction” espoused by the international community. These principles aim to work in a preventative fashion in order to limit as much as possible the impact that new

disasters have on local communities.

In 2018, as in previous years, Caritas International Belgium offered reception and support to vulnerable community members in Belgium, namely applicants for international protection, refugees, and migrants. It is our goal to offer these individuals as many opportunities as possible for their futures, which includes working on their independence and self-reliance. We work mainly with vulnerable asylum seekers and recognized refugees with physical or psychological difficulties.

This report also outlines our actions and initiatives in global citizenship education in schools, for instance, and in advocacy. These are two important initiatives, given that we aim to raise public awareness as much as possible with regard to causes of migration and links between migration and development.

Finally, I would like to wholeheartedly and sincerely thank the members of the Caritas staff and our volunteers for their commitment. Caritas International works in circumstances that are often complex and difficult. These are circumstances that at times fall outside our remit. For this, the motivation and dynamism of our employees and volunteers are even more remarkable.

I wish you a very happy reading of our 2018 Annual Report.



Frank De Coninck  
President.

# Caritas International

## 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.



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The power of people

# Emergency aid and development



01

1

## The Sulawesi Earthquake and Tsunami



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On September 28, 2018, the Indonesian island of Sulawesi was struck by a violent earthquake, followed by a tsunami and hundreds of aftershocks. More than 2,100 people lost their lives and at least 67,000 homes were damaged or destroyed.

### The Immediate Aftermath

Caritas International does not have any representatives in Indonesia. For our structural projects and in situations of emergency, we work with our local partner “Karina”, Caritas Indonesia. This is a deliberate choice. Karina has employees and volunteers in each Indonesian diocese, including the island of Sulawesi. It is these people, with their wealth of experience (acquired in the aftermath of the 2004 tsunami, among others), who get to work in the first hours following the disaster in order to find survivors, clear debris, ensure people’s safety, and provide food and drink.

During the first few weeks, Caritas staff and volunteers came to the aid of over 6,000 families, offering food (rice, oil, canned sardines, etc.), water, and blankets. We also distributed hygiene kits containing shampoo, toothbrushes, toothpaste, sanitary wipes, disposable diapers, and mosquito nets to 2,000 families, along with 9,900 tent canvasses to make temporary shelters.

This aid from Caritas was again made possible by the numerous donations made by Belgian citizens to our bank account and through the 12-12 Consortium.

*“We had to leave everything. The first night we slept under the stars without a blanket. Today, we’re living in a tent and are surviving thanks to the aid we are getting from Caritas.”*

Umi Sumbajono

### Continuing to Support 4,500 Families

At first, deployment was difficult due to disconnected means of communication, destroyed roads, remote and inaccessible villages, humanitarian aid being delivered little by little from more remote areas, and a lack of fuel. At the end of December, these problems were, for the most part, resolved, but the path to reconstruction remains long. Some 87,000 people are still living in evacuation centers, makeshift camps, or with relatives. All these people must get their lives back on track.

Caritas Indonesia identified 9 sub-districts as priorities in Palu, Sigi and Donggala. In the short term, it has continued to distribute humanitarian aid to more than 4,500 families. Furthermore, 7 villages will be given support and will work together to develop a disaster plan and preventative measures with the goal of limiting damages during future catastrophes. Caritas has also put in place psychological support for those having difficulty coping with these traumatic experiences.



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## 2 Crisis in the Middle East

### Jordan: Invisible Poverty

There is a lack of precise data, but poverty in Jordan is gaining ground. Despite the continued efforts of Caritas Jordan and other NGOs, refugees' situations worsened in 2018. The government decided to continue financing only medical aid distributed in camps. Refugees living outside of these camps must pay for everything out of their pocket, which, for the majority of them, is not possible. Additionally, taxes on food products have increased and public aid has decreased due to a lack of international support.

Many Jordanian families experience difficulties, but for refugees it is often a question of life and death, as the majority of them don't have work. "Many families live in dilapidated houses with no privacy or heating. In winter, they keep warm with blankets and primitive heaters. They also have to buy fuel, warm clothes and shoes for their kids, in addition to food and other necessary aid. Not to mention the rent, even if their home is little more than a shack. Due to their living conditions, these families also often are in need of medical aid," explains Dana Shaheen, head of communication for Caritas Jordan.

### Food, Shelter, and Medical Care

Our Caritas partner does not work in refugee camps, instead choosing to support those most at-risk, living scattered throughout the country, whether they are refugees or Jordanians. Indeed, one third of our projects are aimed at the most vulnerable sections of the Jordanian population, as requested by the government. Caritas Jordan has offices in all 12 districts of the country so that it can also help people living in remote areas. It has some 370 employees and no less than 3,000 volunteers, many of whom are refugees.



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*"Together, we will bring about change. Even if life pushes us in a certain direction, we will push life to do what we envision."*

Wael Suleiman - Director, Caritas Jordan

With the support of the Caritas network, including Caritas International, Caritas Jordan provides the poorest people with basic necessities. In 2018, more than 4,800 people received material aid and 435 households received cash in order to meet their personal needs for food and shelter. Caritas also provided medical care to 7,334 people. "In reality, we do much more than that. We are there to ease psychological suffering, to give hope, to create bonds between people. We try to live according to the principle of a single and great human family. This is what gives us the strength to continue," says Wael Suleiman, director of Caritas Jordan.



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## Syria: The Consequence of War

### Aleppo

When armed groups seized the western area of the city of Aleppo in 2012, the city was cut in two. In December 2016, the governmental army took back the city through a principally air-based military operation, which was devastating for the western half of the city.

The consequences of the war have been disastrous for the survivors. According to estimates, there are 2.5 million people in need of humanitarian assistance in Aleppo alone.

In August of 2015, Caritas Syria launched a three-year program in Aleppo, supported by the financial support of the Flemish government through Caritas International and the Caritas network. The first year was essentially concentrated on emergency humanitarian needs. Here are a few of the initiatives carried out in 2018:

- 1.200 households received coupons to buy food and other goods
- 725 families received a food package on 3 separate occasions
- 269 households received an allocation to help them pay their rent
- 363 people received financial support for critical hospital treatments

## Tartus and Mashta al-Helu – the Western Coastal Region

Throughout the last few years, more than 200,000 Syrians have taken refuge around the towns of Tartus and Mashta al-Helu, where the situation has remained relatively stable. With our local partner, we carried out our actions with displaced persons and the local population, targeting the most vulnerable. Over time, we developed a methodology that allowed us to define “vulnerability” in the most objective way possible, in order to offer the most suitable support.

## Iraq: Project “Hope”

December 9, 2017, the Iraqi government announced that the terrorist organization Da’esh had been defeated throughout the country. After years of conflict, those displaced within the country began moving back to their homes. However, they had still lost everything.

In four of its centers, Caritas Iraq organized psychological support for women and their families, remedial courses for children, skills development for adolescents and distribution of emergency aid packages. Peace-building and social harmony were integrated in all aspects of the intervention. 50% of our target group were returned refugees, and 50% were people who had stayed in Iraq.

### *Programs in the Middle East*

Country	Contributions of Caritas International in 2017	Contributions of Caritas International in 2017
Syria	€ 70.000	€ 340.340
Lebanon	€ 257.654	€ 154.564
Jordan	€ 150.000	€ 75.000
Iraq	€ 48.000	€ 50.000
Palestine	€ 150.000	€ 20.000

## 3 Uganda: Autonomy for South Sudanese Refugees

Since August 2016, hundreds of thousands of South Sudanese refugees have taken refuge in Uganda. Though some of them have returned to South Sudan, the situation there will remain one of the most serious humanitarian crises for years to come.

### More than Emergency Aid

“Caritas works in the Bidi Bidi (zone 3) and Imvepi refugee settlements to promote independence for refugees, which is something that is pretty unique in this context. Usually, assistance does not go farther than the distribution of emergency aid,” explains Ward Tanghe, our representative in Uganda. “Thanks to the training sessions and the plots of land they’ve received from the Ugandan authorities, refugees can produce their own food and, in the future, make an income.”

We began with households that engage in subsistence farming. They receive tools, as well as a wide range of vegetable and fruit seeds and seedlings. New crops and skills are mainly passed on by groups of small-scale farmers.

“Farmers hoping to sell their products must have a certain specialty, but the market is volatile, and harvests are unpredictable. This is why it is important to have alternate revenue sources as well as professional training in skills such as carpentry, masonry, mechanics, restoration, sewing, welding, etc. that will allow refugees to make an income in their host countries and also when they return home.”

Our program is financed by the DGD and the Swiss government. In collaboration with the Swiss government, we also offer aid in the form of food assistance, agricultural support, and revenue diversification to the communities that have remained in the South Sudanese states of Maridi and Yei River.

### Stronger Together

“In conclusion, I would like to add that we also support local host communities. They are also generally very poor and confront problems similar to those that



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refugees face. We not only support them in their agricultural activities, but also attach great importance to collaboration between refugees and the communities that welcome them,” explains Ward Tanghe. “In the future, we will continue to strive to live together in peace.”

### Our Support in Uganda in 2018

- 13,815 families in Bidi Bidi and 15,915 families in Imvepi received seeds and tools.
- 245 groups of refugee farmers received the support necessary for the creation of nurseries for vegetable seedlings.
- 3,800 refugees with specific needs (single mothers, individuals with handicaps, the elderly) received chickens for meat and egg production.
- 378 young people were able to partake in professional development, and 240 mothers received training within the camp. The best students can count on a starter kit to put their expertise to use. Mothers can cook “professionally” thanks to 6 communal ovens, and 32 students who performed the best received a scholarship to pursue a high school education.

## 4 DR Congo: The Displaced Returning to Kasai

### Humanitarian Alert Network

With funding from Unicef, we have been able to establish a humanitarian alert network in the provinces of Kasai and Equateur, encompassing more than 20,000 “lookouts” spread across 150 parishes. These lookouts report by text message various disappearances, acts of violence, population movements, meteorological threats and all other kinds of incidents. Caritas collects these data and transmits them to groups such as the United Nations Offices for the Coordination of Human Affairs (OCHA) and the provincial cluster of on-the-ground humanitarian organizations.

In December 2017, Caritas Mweka began receiving increasingly alarming messages through this network from Kakenge and surrounding villages in Kasai. The origin of the crisis was a dispute between the Mpianga tribe and the Kete concerning the use of farmland and forests. On January 29, militants attacked the village and killed 30 people. The village was looted, and homes were burned. 800 people were forced to flee.

### A Fragile Peace

When the soldiers had left Kakenge, some community members who had fled returned to the village. Kakenge was in ruins after the attacks. Caritas Mweka was not able to distribute emergency aid until mid-October 2018 to 430 families. Caritas International funded the distribution of cooking utensils, farming tools and cash



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(to buy food in the local market) and participated in the coordination of aid. Caritas was the first organization to come to the aid of returnees to the village despite the still-tense situation.

Thanks to the close contacts that Caritas maintains with residents and parishes, and due to the peace-building process carried out with different participants in the conflict, the intervention in October 2018 was carried out without any major issues. Caritas Mweka raised awareness among community members and brought the community together, organizing soccer matches, marches for peace, and meals with other communities in order to bring about better mutual understanding. Only when respect and understanding are established and there is no longer anything to fear can aid be provided and reconstruction be considered.

*“You were the first organization to come to our aid when we were struck hard by poverty.”*

M. Lambert - Head of Administration in Kakenge

### Extension

Aid distribution in October was the cherry on top of a series of negotiations, dialogue and reconciliation. With the support of the DGD, this project was able to be extended to a wider region. Similar aid distributions will still be organized at four other times so that by the end of August 2019 we will have reached 4,000 families in the dioceses of Mweka, Luebo and Luiza. The new program also will include training to optimize the channels of digital communication in order to facilitate even more rapid intervention in case of another crisis.



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## 5

## Rwanda: Vulnerable Refugees and Autonomy

Since 2015 the bank of the Kagera river, located in eastern Rwanda, has been the location of Camp Mahama, the country's largest refugee camp. "At the end of 2018, it was home to more than 57,600 Burundians," explains Grégory Claus, colleague and expert on Burundi and Rwanda. At the moment, most Burundians seem unable to consider returning to Burundi. It's important to remember that, because of political instability, little is invested in Burundi, one of the poorest countries in the world. Caritas International is therefore committed to Burundian refugees and also remains active in Burundi, where we deploy initiatives aimed at fighting poverty and developing family farming.

### Specific Needs

When Camp Mahama opened in 2015, the United Nations World Food Program distributed food packages containing corn kernels and dried beans. These packages were unfortunately not adapted to the specific needs of the most vulnerable refugees: the elderly, those with disabilities, the sick, and young children. They demonstrate the difficulties with this kind of food, as tough corn kernels need solid teeth and a strong stomach to be digested.

"These people don't have money to mill the corn or to buy suitable foods," continues Grégory. "Healthy and resilient refugees can work to earn money. Thanks to our local partners and support from our donors, we distribute 3kg of Sosoma (a soy-based flour), sorghum (barley) and corn to each person. Additionally, anyone staying at a health center within the camp also receives fresh vegetables. When they arrive, they are served a nourishing broth while they wait for their food assistance."

### Saving, Borrowing, Working

Starting in May 2018, after three years during which the main focus was on humanitarian aid, Caritas International and the Caritas network wanted to focus more on borrowing and economic opportunities in communities and on creating opportunities to generate income, so that refugees can gradually take back their own lives. But emergency aid is still important.

Achievements in the first quarter of 2018 as part of the new Caritas network program, supported by Caritas International:

- Distribution of 59,157 kg Sosoma flour to 3,300 people
- Fresh vegetables for 10,513 patients in health centers
- Nourishing broth for 562 new residents when they arrived
- Launching of 41 savings/loans groups with over 950 female members
- 3-day training for 32 appointed Rwandan women on the running of a savings/loans group
- Training for 74 women from 41 associations on the running of a small garden
- Training for 120 appointed women on the management of income-generating activities
- Psychosocial support for 480 people

**Denise Ndayisenga, 39 years old and the mother of five children. Denise received a credit line from her savings/loans group**

*"Many of us have small stores and sometimes we have no income. I decided to learn how to sew, so that in the future I can really make due on my own. When I am taking classes, I don't earn money, but in the future, when I can buy a sewing machine, I will earn more and my family will have a better life."*

## 6

## Burundi: Reducing the Risk of Disaster



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Earthquakes, droughts, cyclones, floods, and armed conflicts cannot always be avoided, but we can limit the number of victims and the damage that these disasters cause. Above all, thorough preparedness means saving lives and safeguarding communities' livelihoods in the event of future crises. Efforts are making a difference. Studies have shown that for every euro invested in disaster risk reduction, 4 to 7 euros can be saved in future emergency interventions.

Between 2016 and 2018, Caritas International implemented Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) programs in Burundi, Niger and the DRC with the support of the DGD. In collaboration with our local Caritas partners and local communities, we decided to concentrate more on the preparedness of communities as a whole, rather than on individual families. Offering training, expanding humanitarian alert networks, developing emergency action plans, constructing shelters, and taking measures to protect livestock are all activities that improve communities' resilience and reduce risks. The following is an example from Burundi that illustrates this.

### Flooding and Erosion

The rural population in the province of Rutana gets a majority of its income from farming and raising livestock. The last few years, conditions have been problematic: erosion, soil exhaustion, too little rainfall, too much rainfall resulting in floods have had disastrous consequences for crops. DRR committees have been

set up on the hills of Butare, Butambara and Myombwe, which are the most threatened by the nearby river. After training on the key concepts of risk reduction, they jointly developed plans adapted to their specific situations. Erosion is a major problem and the actions undertaken have allowed for the better protection of 2,900 households.

### Achievements

"We have carried out various initiatives, such as creating a nursery so that the young plants will protect the hills from the Musasa river," says Egide NDABSHINZE, head of Butare 'hill'. "We have raised awareness among communities about not cultivating the land less than 10 meters from the river. Families living in the Musasa river basin have protected their farms. More than 110,288 square meters have been dug up and stabilized with grasses. 267 families in the three hills have already protected 60% of their crops."

Additionally, a new type of fireplace has been introduced in all farms allowing for the reduction of wood consumption, and plastic bags have been replaced with banana leaves. An awareness-raising campaign has also been launched in the hopes of preventing forest fires and deforestation. "We are very grateful to Caritas for helping us to construct a bridge. It is important to remember that many have lost their lives crossing the river!"



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## 7 Niger: Food Shortages and Migration



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Niger is one of the poorest countries in the world. More than 80% of the population lives off of farming, but agricultural land is becoming increasingly rare. Niger experiences food shortages eight months out of the year. Additionally, sociopolitical crises in neighboring countries push migrants towards Niger and lead to internal migration. As a result, food reserves are undergoing intense pressure. Several families must find a means of survival with little to no food during the periods of shortage known as “lean periods” between harvests.

### Food Aid

Survival mechanisms in cases of food crisis consist of selling livestock, the profit of which is then used to cope with hard times. Tools are also sold. Young people migrate to the city or abroad in search of work. Long-term solutions are necessary, but so is rapid intervention to break this cycle of hunger.

From August 15, 2018 to October 15, 2018, we distributed food in the dioceses of Maradi and Niamey with the Caritas network. In areas where there weren't any food banks, we sold grains at moderated prices. The most vulnerable community members were given cash in order to buy food and gain access to basic services.

Hunger and poverty in Niger have been the theme of our September campaign, a campaign that can count on critical financial support.



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### Empowerment

If we desire more food security, we must also ensure that there is more food available and that families have access to that food. This is the objective of our 5-year EMMo program, launched with the support of the DGD, which also includes the Maradi diocese. The heart of this program consists of strengthening the organizational and technical skills of communities, thereby giving them the empowerment to find jobs.

Here are some concrete examples:

- Construction of a training center and increased training for women, so that they can run the center themselves
- Income diversification: production of peanut paste and oil for sale
- Creation and management of cereal banks in order to control millet prices during periods of shortage
- Distribution of sheep along with a livestock raising program and a system to pass this knowledge on to other families
- Promotion and creation of gardens in order to increase food quality and to offer men the possibility of finding work in their village



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*“Every day, I see what it means to have nothing. I see the effect it has on people. But I also see the will and perseverance of the mothers and fathers who give everything for their children. Inaction is not an option for them.”*

Moussa SAWA, coordinator of the 5-year EMMo program in Niger

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## Crossroads of Migration Routes

Many migration routes converge at the city of Agadez. The majority of them lead to regional destinations, but some also to Europe. With the Caritas network, we are improving migrants’ resilience in Niger. We inform them of their rights and their obligations, and explain to them the reality of migrating to Europe. Through our exchanges, we also work towards the skills strengthening of our local partner in terms of reception, orientation, and support of migrants.



Ouma Kouré, chairwoman of the Adjekoria community center

Ouma, 57 with 3 children, teaches and coordinates courses of literacy, sewing, knitting, processing peanuts into oil, good hygiene and family planning.

“Our goal is to make women stronger and to teach them things that will make them money. We used to see no outcome. This has changed in many domains. Among other things in terms of money-making. Thanks to the training here, we can make ends meet. Today we no longer have to beg for food from the neighbors. The women here are autonomous. Even for the surrounding villages this is a plus. Because the women who received training pass on their knowledge.”



## 8 Haiti: Emergency Aid and Risk Reduction



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In October 2016, hurricane Matthew left a desolate landscape in its wake in Grand'Anse. Unfortunately, we are not able to assist all the victims. Additionally, after the distribution of seeds and farming tools, the region was struck again, this time by a month of drought followed by two weeks of torrential downpours. Enormous agricultural losses were recorded. With our local partner, we continue to support the victims in 2018.

- 52 homes of farming families have been restored
- 190 families have farming tools, seeds, and/or animals
- 2 springs have been protected through the treatment of eroded ravines upstream.

### Risk Reduction and Improved Resilience

In 2017 we launched a 5-year program called EMMo (Empowerment in a world on the move) that targeted seven countries and was financed by the DGD,

Caritas International and the Commission Justice et Paix (CJP). Implementation is carried out by Caritas International and the CJP for the initiatives in the Global North. Caritas International's partners are in charge of the Global South component (in Haiti: Grand'Anse department, South, Southeast and West). The objective of EMMo is to guarantee food security and balanced and healthy diets, as well as to offer the necessary training so that people can make more informed and suitable choices with regards to climate change, environmental protection, increasing their income from agriculture and raising livestock, improving storage and transforming and commercializing their products. Additionally, it also aims to make communities conscious of their rights and of the possibilities to come together to create real political change. In addition to Haiti, the EMMo program is also being implemented in the DRC, Rwanda, Burundi, Niger and Ethiopia.



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## Management Committee

The EMMo management committee met for the first time in Brussels from March 12 to March 15 to assess the state of the rollout of the program and to reflect on the theme of “empowerment”, which is the connection between the different countries. Given that the theme “Migration and development” is a common theme in many of the involved countries, and is central to the northern component of the program, this meeting was an ideal opportunity to deepen the connections between the global North and South during a separate seminar.

## Some of the activities carried out in 2018

- Prèkay garden: “A garden surrounding a house.” 25 women in the diocese of Jacmel receive moringa (a type of nutritious vegetable), spinach, eggplant and bell pepper seeds. With the necessary care, they are able to cultivate these vegetables near their homes and offer wide range of food to their families in Jeremy, 80 small gardens have been planted. The farmers have also created 8 nurseries for vegetable seeds.
- Experimental field for farmers: in an experimental field, farmers can try out different techniques and different types of seeds and plants. 13 farmers from Jacmel (in Bonbon) have visited the experimental fields in Calumette (Jeremy) for three days. On the basis of these fields, our local partner has developed a new strategy with a local farmers’ association.
- 11 water reservoirs have been installed in Calumette. Caritas offers two training sessions on the topics of water purification and hygiene. 3,000 packets of Aqua tabs were delivered during the rainy season. The nurse in charge of the training also makes home visits to ensure proper application of the skills learned during the training session.



Catheline, participant in a training on preserving fruit

*“We received training in how to preserve fruit. Fruits are often lost during harvests because we cannot eat all of them or sell them quick enough. Now, we know how to make a liqueur or jam with oranges, creams with passion fruit and chips with breadfruit.”*



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The power of people

# Asylum and Migration



02

# 1 Reception and support for asylum seekers

## Collective Reception

In March of 2018, the government decided to close the Scherpenheuvel emergency reception center at the end of September. After this decision, Caritas devoted everything to closing the center, and preparations were made to leave. Residents were prepared the best they could be for the transition, but there was uncertainty for several months over which center or Local Reception Initiative (ILA) they would be moved to. The futures of the 25 employees at Scherpenheuvel were also uncertain. A collective redundancy was negotiated: part of the staff would leave at the beginning of September. Though the total closure of the center was expected on September 30, on September 20, the government asked Caritas if we would be able to keep the center open until June 2019. We accepted.

In consultation with Fedasil, it was decided that Caritas would focus on the most at-risk asylum seekers. That is, those suffering from psychological disorders, mental or physical disabilities, single mothers, large families, sick residents, etc. On the first floor, we have four rooms reserved for those with reduced mobility and began welcoming asylum seekers again on November 5, 2018. All spots were filled by December 31, 2018. Caritas employees have done their utmost to adapt the support offered to residents to the new circumstances. In doing so, promoting residents' autonomy remains essential.

### An Ad Hoc Policy

"Last year left me feeling angry. Employees, volunteers, and asylum seekers became the puppets in a political game. Expertise, a professional network and a local social network are often elements that can make a difference for our residents and give them the tools to take back control of their lives. The government's policy put these in jeopardy. Reception centers were told they must close, and then were told they must reopen, without any thought to the long term consequences. Since then, they have had the means to provide little more than 'a bed, a bath and a piece of bread' and very little support. We hope that 2019 will bring change," explains Gitte Claeys, the manager of the Scherpenheuvel reception



© Fady al Ghorra Caritas

**Janeta, a single mother with five children**

*"Thanks to the unending support of the Caritas staff and a few residents, I regained confidence in myself and took the necessary steps to finalize my divorce and to submit a new application for asylum, this time telling my real story. It was with a lot of regret on September 3, that I moved to the Tielte-Winge ILA after the closure of the center was announced. In October 2018, I received a positive decision from the Commissioner General for Refugees and Stateless Persons. I am so happy that my children and I finally have a future."*

center.

## Women and Single Mothers

Since the introduction of a new reception model in August 2016, the majority of applicants for international protection must stay in a collective reception center during the asylum procedure. An exception is made for those who would have difficulty in a form of communal housing. The Logis de Louvranges are a site made up of 21 apartments for single women with or without children. We note that Fedasil assigns an increased number of extremely medically and psychologically at-risk women and children to Louvranges. In order to optimally support these families, our management team continues to go to training sessions on topics such as autism and psychosis and adapts its approach to each resident.

“However, professional and technical knowledge are not enough to create a true relationship of trust. The team is therefore committed to lending a helping hand and ear to residents. It’s the women themselves who remind us of the importance of this,” clarifies project manager Nathalie Braun. “We can also count on an excellent team of volunteers. In 2018 we organized several training sessions and meetings, through which a strong mutual bond was



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### Anne, a social worker at Louvranges

*“Mrs. R. was pregnant when she came to live at Louvranges. She was hallucinating and could not control her stress. Her asylum process, her pregnancy and her fear of caring for her child after childbirth gave her nightmares. It took a lot of patience and care, but after a few weeks, a certain confidence started to take hold. Little by little she told me about her story and shared her anxieties with me.*

*A few mothers were concerned about her. They gave her advice and also promised to help her after her labor. Through trial and error, Mrs. R. has managed to address administrative headaches, master her stress, and ultimately take care of her child.”*

### Key Figures from 2018

- Number of new female residents: 15 new families (39 people).
- Departure. 14 women have left Louvranges: 9 women have obtained refugee status, 2 women have been reunited with their families, 1 woman received the right to stay under article 9bis (stay for humanitarian reasons), 2 women were ordered to leave Belgium. In other terms, 86% of women leaving the center obtained a status allowing them to stay in Belgium.
- Nationality: Our residents hold no less than 18 different nationalities.

## Medical Problems

Since July 2017, Caritas International has managed the Health Care project in Antwerp, which offers 19 individual housing spots for people/families that have at least one family member suffering from a serious medical condition.

### Key Figures from 2018

- 29 families made up of 45 adults and 23 children.
- Age: from a few days old to 71 years old.
- Profile: motor disability, mental disorders, age-related diseases, psychological problems, psychiatric disorders, different forms of cancer, viral infections.
- Length of stay: between 3 months and 4 years
- Outcomes: 4 people have been denied international protection, 3 have received subsidiary protection, 6 have received refugee status, 2 remain for medical reasons, and 14 are awaiting their decisions.
- Nationality: residents are mostly from Syria, Georgia, Albania, Libya, Palestine, and Congo. There are 18 different nationalities in total.

“One of the major difficulties consists in finding accessible occupations for our residents. After that, there’s also the legal aspect to think about. Lawyers specialized in both foreigners’ rights and in proceedings related to the medical situations of our residents are not very common. In many cases, the asylum procedure produces a negative outcome even though it is still possible to obtain residence status for medical reasons. If necessary, the entire procedure must be repeated,” says Sylvia Servranckx, coordinator for individual reception.

## Syrian Asylum Seekers: A Community Sponsorship

At the end of 2017, the Sant’Egidio community and all recognized religions signed an agreement with the government to receive 150 Syrians from Lebanon and Turkey who would arrive in Belgium with a humanitarian visa and have a good chance of quickly receiving recognition as a refugee. The Catholic Church sponsored 100 people. Reception centers were the first point of contact: they took care of the financial, material, and social aspects of reception.

The Bishops’ Conference asked Caritas International to provide a second line of support to this project. In 2018 we formed 34 local reception groups (averaging 10 people each), and supported them in several practical matters. During a mission to Turkey, we prepared 75 participants for their reception in Belgium. We also visited all provided accommodations to verify that they were satisfactory and confirmed residents’ placement depending on their needs.

“Refugee reception by reception groups is a new concept for us; but, supported as we are by our extensive experience in reception, as well as our enthusiasm, through trial and error we have gotten a new operation up and running. We have acquired new expertise and have demonstrated that different refugee reception methods can be successful,” explains Aaron Ooms, the project manager. “Reception by a local group accelerates and eases all aspects of new arrivals’ integration.”

*“Without the collective assistance of the community, it would be very difficult to cope, but everyone chips in. If I have a question, I can contact many people by phone or email.”*

Ria Van Alboom, one of the driving forces of refugee family reception in Evere.

## 2 Supporting refugees towards independence



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Asylum seekers receive material assistance and housing in a collective center throughout the duration of their asylum process. When they receive recognition as refugees, they must make the transition to autonomous life. This challenge is much bigger for those considered at-risk. Caritas wishes to maximize their chances to attain autonomy through a project that is supported by Fedasil known as the “vulnerable transition” project. During a maximum of six months, we receive these asylum seekers in individual housing in Brussels, Liège and Mechelen and coordinate an adapted social support with the goal of promoting autonomous life. Search for housing in the private rental market is also crucial in this regard, as it forms the base of integration into our society.

### An Obstacle Course

“The path to independence is strewn with obstacles: bridging institutional gaps, untangling administrative knots, resolving ad hoc problems, assembling partners around a table to unravel complex situations and to prevent our residents from being sent around from one place to the other, et cetera,” explains project manager Ariane Dewandre. “Making sure that our residents have access to the services they have a right to – specialized schools and hospitals, psychiatric care, housing adapted for the visually impaired or for those with a handicap and even just a bank account – all within a period of six months, is a veritable tour de force. We emphasize skills training, social capital, and resilience with the goal of offering more opportunities to refugees.”

### Key figures from 2018

- Number of people in our care as of December 31, 2018: 35 families, totaling 84 people. 100% of available housing is occupied. In total, we housed 85 families (216 people) in 2018.
- We find housing for the majority (92%) of people who leave our care, despite the difficulty of convincing landlords, thanks to the determination of our team.
- The future is different for the other 8% of residents: they are hospitalized, referred to other housing, returned to their country of origin, etc.



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### Anonymous testimony from an Afghan refugee

*“I was 15 when I arrived in Belgium, and I didn’t know anything. Today, I’m 18 and I’ve learned more in the last 3 years than in the 10 before that. My way of thinking has changed. I have learned how to live independently. I was here without my family, without my mom, so I learned from others. There was only one or two, but I learned a lot. I’m really grateful to them. At the moment, I can’t do anything for those who helped me, but in the future, I will be able to help others. I don’t know how yet, but I am determined to do something.”*

## New initiatives

In 2018 we greatly developed and expanded the ‘tandem’ project in Brussels, Liège, and Mechelen. The tandem project is a sponsorship program among volunteers and refugee families during a period of 6 months to practice the language and do homework together, but also to discover the neighborhood and local culture. The great added value here are the human contact and encounters that are on equal footing. In this way, people feel they exist, and they have a sense of dignity. Nothing is more precious than that.

Our experience experts (themselves non-European migrants) discuss housing, budgeting, and sorting trash among other things. In addition, Caritas International now organizes trainings, in collaboration with partner organizations about health, insurance, sexuality, and soon also on parenthood.

## Specific target groups

### Unaccompanied Foreign Minors

Caritas assists minors between 16 and 18 years of age who have received the right to stay in Belgium and aren’t independent enough to live autonomously. They live in studios or apartments by themselves or with one other person. A pedagogical team handles the necessary support. In 2018, we sheltered 33 boys and 6 girls in our “transit homes” in Brussels. In Liège, we housed 73 boys and 2 girls.

When we received our first unaccompanied minors in 2016, it was quickly apparent that some of them would have difficulty functioning in our society. An intensive support was deemed necessary. We placed the most vulnerable minors together in the same apartment building in Liège at our own expense, allowing us a close follow-up. At the end of 2018 we were no longer able to provide financial support. Though Fedasil was convinced of the necessity of such a project and of the quality of our efforts, the decision was made to no longer finance the project. It was with a heavy heart that we had to move on from this initiative, but we did not do so before finding the best possible alternative for the young people involved.

## Refugees with serious medical conditions

Since September 2017, the Caritas office in Mortsel has had 10 spots known as “High Care” for the reception and care of recognized refugees that are extremely dependent and their families. The objective is to find a suitable place within the Belgian healthcare system for them.

### Key figures from 2018

- Number: 21 people in 2018, of which 13 were adults and 8 were children.
- Age: 3 to 55 years-old.
- Profile: Mostly single people with or without children.
- Medical: Motor disability and psychiatric disorders.
- Average length of stay: 6 to 7 months.
- Outcomes: 8 families to individual housing, 1 person in a residential care center, 1 in a psychiatric hospital, 3 still in ‘High Care’.



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### 3 Integration

#### Housing

Integration coaches and volunteers accompany recognized refugees in their search for housing in Belgium through our Housing-café, which are offered in Antwerp, Ghent and Liège. Anyone in need benefits from individualized support. In addition, Caritas also holds office hours where refugees can get answers to their questions and participate in group activities concerning, for example, tenant rights and obligations and home maintenance.

**Nora, a volunteer and former participant in the Housing-café project**

*“Sometimes I’ll call twenty landlords in two hours, but I rarely get invited to visit a home. When I explain that I am calling on behalf of a recognized refugee supported by a CPAS, the tone of the conversation shifts. Sometimes for the better, and sometimes not.”*

Recognized refugees, who are forced to leave reception centers to make room for asylum seekers, can be lodged in an Local Reception Initiative (ILA), individual reception spaces offered by a Public Social Services Center, where material assistance is temporarily extended. They have two to four months to find their own housing in the private rental market on their own. In 2018 we began collaborating more closely with the ILAs and brought as much attention as possible to the Housing-café concept.

Despite the political promises of a comprehensive approach to discrimination in the rental market and greater access to the rental market for migrants, little has changed. We can also add that:

- The new reception model has caused more people to register at Housing-café and there is a growing need for reception.
- The announced increase of the rental guarantee from two to three months complicates the housing search.
- The certificate of compliance required by the commune of Antwerp for all forms of housing is an obstacle for the Housing-café in Antwerp.
- While refugees’ socio-economic situation has not changed, rent indexation has remained vigorous. This complicates access to housing even more for financially insecure families.

#### Key figures from 2018

- 182 heads of family were enrolled in a Housing-café.
- 83 families found housing through a Housing-café.
- 76 families found housing themselves with the training and support offered by the Housing-café.
- 43 ILAs participated in our training sessions.
- 72 ILAs referred refugees to our Housing-café.



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## Resettled Refugees

Resettlement consists of sending refugees from a country where they sought protection to a third country where they can receive permanent residence.

The pilot project Peer2Peer launched in 2018 is made up of three common components: personal development workshops, the ambassador program and an online information platform. In this regard we work in collaboration with Fedasil and the Local Reception Initiatives (ILA) who house resettled refugees.

- The Ambassador Program

In order to highlight the experiences and skills of refugees and to optimize our operations, we have formed a group of diverse ambassadors who are themselves resettled refugees that have been living in Belgium for more than two years and who have sufficient knowledge of French or Dutch.

- Personal Development Workshops

These workshops are interactive group sessions that touch on certain psychosocial topics and on the topic of citizenship. Four new workshops have been



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developed that include the following themes: managing expectations, culture shock, norms and values, family dynamics and role models, housing, and how to manage a limited budget.

Participation in these workshops is very interactive and the presence of intercultural collaborators along with that of the “ambassadors” allow people to express themselves in their native language and to learn from the exchange of experiences.

155 people have participated one or more times in our 13 workshops. There have been 258 total participants overall.

- Online Information Platform

In September we launched a closed Facebook group where resettled refugees could exchange information in their own language. This was a dynamic and effective tool. At the end of 2018 the group had 85 members.

**Hélène Leduc, Housing-café Liège**

*“We often share our knowledge at the Housing-café; however, at ‘Housing got talent’, the roles are reversed. Refugees and volunteers become musicians, dancers, actors, artists... What talent and richness the people we meet with everyday possess! We are deeply touched by their strength.”*

## 4 Support throughout Reintegration



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Since 2004, the Caritas International reintegration team has supported migrants who wish to return to their countries of origin. Migrants often make this choice because of the lack of future prospects in Belgium. They have many questions about what is waiting for them back in their home countries, especially when they have stayed for several years in Belgium or in Europe. The reintegration team meets with each person individually in order to best prepare them to return to their home country. When they arrive in their country of origin, our partner organizations take charge of providing assistance. They support returnees in paying rent, getting training, signing their children up for school, starting a small business, etc.

### ERRIN: A European Network

Caritas International has long been a partner with Fedasil, the Belgian federal agency tasked with voluntary return. For some years we have played an equally important role at a European scale. An increasing number of countries understand the importance of support in the country of origin. Given our extensive experience in this matter, we have engaged with our partners in several countries of origin through the European program ERRIN, which offers reintegration support to returnees in various countries.

### Nine Countries of Origin

Besides Morocco, Russia, Ukraine, Nepal and India, in 2018, Brazil, Nigeria, Ghana and Ethiopia were

also added to the list of countries of origin, which is composed mostly of English-speaking African countries. This means that Caritas handles applications from 18 European countries for people who wish to return to one of the countries listed above. We are unfortunately unable to meet personally with hopefuls who are not in Belgium but we speak with them over the phone.

Supporting returnees from different European countries with different profiles, different expectations, different situations and skills requires many areas of expertise. This is why Caritas organized its first training session in Nigeria with its African partners in November 2018. The goal of the meeting was to unite our African partners and ensure the success of the launching of ERRIN in these countries. Partner organizations from Nigeria, Ghana, and Ethiopia were also present. Such a meeting in a country of origin also gave our team the chance to better understand the workings of our Nigerian, Ghanaian and Ethiopian colleagues, and to apply some of their practices to our own operations. It was a great opportunity to meet with some returnees and to get a better sense of the difficulties and possibilities related to returning to Nigeria.

*“Support during the reintegration process is not an activity, but a delicate mission that requires selfless action. We try to meet people’s psychosocial and economic needs with the goal offering them better living conditions.”*

Grace, a reintegration promoter in Ghana



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### Top 5 Countries of Destination from Belgium (Fedasil)

Country of destination	Number of people
Georgia	198
Brazil	64
Iraq	52
Ukraine	52
Armenia	33
Other	215
<b>Total</b>	<b>614</b>

### Reintegration from other European countries within ERRIN

Country of destination	Number of people
Russia	1.050
Ukraine	259
India	285
Nepal	9
Morocco	32
Nigeria	63
Ghana	16
Ethiopia	7
Brazil	26
<b>Total</b>	<b>1.747</b>

### Indra returns to Nepal

*“During the asylum procedure in Belgium, I worked as a dishwasher in a restaurant. When my request was denied, I lost my work permit and, along with it, my job. After four years in Belgium, I decided to return to my husband and children back home in Nepal.”*

#### Making Plans

*“Before leaving, I talked with Caritas about the possibilities in Nepal,” says Indra. “I thought about growing tomatoes and opening a small shop, but that quickly turned out to be easier said than done. I live in the remote region of Damjha where the number of potential clients is rather limited, and the supply of products is difficult because of poor access roads.” Caritas Nepal advised Indra to consult with her personal network to see if her acquaintances or family members could potentially work with her outside of her village.*

#### A Childhood Friend

*One of Indra’s childhood friends has had a store in the large town of Baglung for over 10 years. She was willing to share a part of her profits. “In exchange, I would invest in the store and I would work there,” says Indra. “It takes me a total of three hours a day to get to the store. That costs money and time, but at least I can work and get experience. My husband has supported my choices since the beginning, even if a steady income wasn’t guaranteed.”*

#### A Region with Purchasing Power

*“I started working during a Hindi holiday. It was the perfect moment because people were buying a lot of food,” beams Indra. “Since then, I’ve been off to a good start. Many people in Baglung receive money from their families abroad. They have more purchasing power than those living in other regions, which is a boon for our store.”*

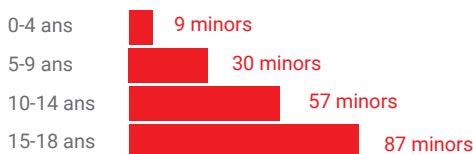
## 5 Guardianship of Minors

The team of guardians at Caritas International focused on three key tasks in 2018: guardianship of unaccompanied foreign minors, a helpdesk for (new) French-speaking guardians and support to unaccompanied transmigrants.

### Guardianship

In 2018, 11 guardians supported 183 minors. The guardians served as their legal representatives, defending their interests, supporting them, and searching with them for the most sustainable solutions for their futures in Belgium or abroad.

#### Ages



### Training and coaching French-speaking guardians

At the request of SPF Justice, the team of guardians has been in charge of training and coaching (new) French-speaking guardians since January 2016. They share their knowledge and experience, help them to expand their professional networks, and discuss concrete challenges and possible solutions. In short, they offer the education and support necessary to carry out their mission as effectively as possible.

In 2018, that mission consisted of:

- A helpdesk reachable by mail and phone on Mondays 10 am – 12 pm, Tuesdays 5 pm – 7 pm, and Thursdays 1 pm – 3 pm.
- 5 days of basic training about different units: legislation, psychosocial considerations, teaching, voluntary return and reception.
- 48 coaching courses (each consisting of three 2.5-hour-long sessions). The goal of these coaching

courses is to deepen the training guardians receive and to give them the opportunity to put it into practice.

- 36 individual support sessions for guardians who have encountered difficulties or who have been assigned a challenging case.
- 13 days of continuous training about important themes that make up guardianship: family reunification, labor laws, right of residence procedures.

### Unaccompanied transmigrants

Since February 2018, Caritas has been active in the ‘humanitarian hub’, the dispensary near the Maximilian Park in Brussels. Migrants in transit are very mobile and avoid all contact with authorities. The dispensary is a neutral zone where migrants can anonymously receive free medical, social and legal advice.

However, we notice that very few minors visit the hub. This is partially due to the fact that the hub is not adapted to their specific needs. “They need to go to a place that is really adapted to their needs,” explains Laurence Bruyneel, the coordinator for the guardianship team. “Such a place is difficult to find, as these young people are particularly vulnerable. They don’t just have a traumatic journey behind them. They’ve also been exposed to many dangers here in Belgium. Every ill-intentioned person who knows that there are minors at Maximilian Park has direct access to this extremely vulnerable group.”

This is why the team has thought of an alternative. Accompanied by fieldworkers, we actively seek out unaccompanied transmigrants near the hub and offer them individualized information and services. The project began in June and quickly became a success. One of the guardians also goes to the Immigration Office each day to ensure that minors hoping to submit a request for international protection are immediately helped. This is increasingly important given that at the end of 2018 a provisional quota was set to limit the number of asylum requests that can be processed each day.

## 6 Provision of Social Services

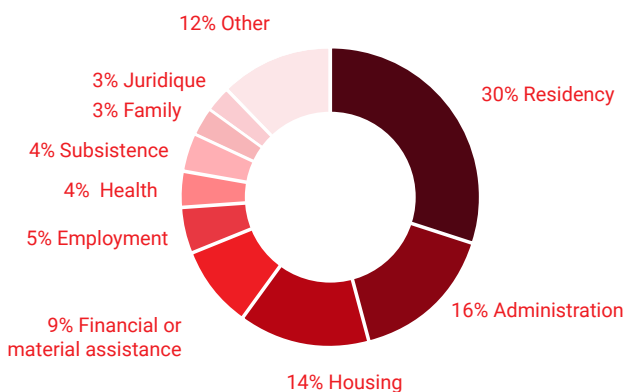


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### Primary care

Primary care, housing in Brussels (p. 24) and guardianship of unaccompanied foreign minors (p. 29) would not be possible without close collaboration between Caritas International and social services CAW Brabantia (Caritas branch). Caritas provides primary care to all foreigners regardless of nationality or status. In 2018, 718 cases were introduced comprising 84 different nationalities. These were mainly requests for assistance related to residence permits, housing and administration in the broad sense.

#### Nature of requests



### Family Reunification

The conditions for family reunification are complex and differ greatly depending on a case-by-case basis. This is why Caritas organizes public information sessions and individual support for those who wish to submit an application for family reunification.

In 2018 we organized 6 training sessions specifically for guardians and 19 group sessions for interested migrants according to their status (refugee, subsidiary protection, regularized, etc.). A total of 254 people attended these events.



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Whoever is still in need of support can speak with Caritas. We offer administrative assistance (for example by filling out a visa application online). If needed, we also contact various authorities (embassies, the Immigration Office, etc.). In 2018, social services handled 627 cases, of which 421 were from first-time applicants and 35 were submitted by unaccompanied foreign minors.

Social workers remain available after family members' arrival in Belgium. One problem they often face is registering at the commune. The civil status documents recognized by the Immigration Office are not always common. Caritas works with these families to find a solution.

### Vists to detention centers

Our social services have visitation rights, along with other organizations, to detention centers in Belgium. In 2018, two colleagues would go once a week to the 127bis deportation center in Steenokkerzeel. Their mission was threefold:

- to offer a listening ear to detainees
- to inform detainees of their rights and to offer legal assistance
- to evaluate living conditions at the detention centers and to notify relevant authorities of any problems.

Most people are detained for administrative reasons: irregular residency, transitory migration, rejected applications, etc. Our colleagues visiting the detention centers are also part of the Transit Group, a platform created to consolidate the forces of visitors to the five existing detention centers.

Social workers have met with 121 detainees at the 127bis center. Those being sent back to their home countries are principally from the Maghreb, the Russian Federation, or from African countries. Those who must

be sent to another European country as part of the Dublin Convention are typically migrants who crossed over to Italy in a boat from Libya and who had their fingerprints taken when they arrived.

Beginning of August 2018, something in the 127bis deportation center changed. Closed units were implemented, meant to detain families with minor children. In 2018, five families were detained. Caritas is a partner in the "You don't lock up a child. PERIOD" campaign. This campaign demands that the government immediately stops imprisoning children in detention centers.

Moreover, in 2018 we noted that detention centers are increasing their capacity reserved for transmigrants. One of the hallways of the 127bis center has become the national administrative center for transitory migration. From there, the federal police can process documents for migrants in transit towards the United Kingdom. When the decision is made to proceed with detention, the person is placed in one of two other hallways.



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The power of people

# Advocacy



# 03



Analysis, advocacy, and awareness-raising: here is a summary of what our advocacy team has been up to. In 2018, our goal was to continue informing politicians and Belgian citizens about the link between migration and development. We hoped to challenge existing opinions and more actively involve other parts of society including the general public and politicians. “Correct information, and citizen and political involvement are crucial if we hope to put our society on the path towards sustainable development,” specifies advocacy coordinator Tom Devriendt.

## MIND: Migration, Interconnectedness, Development

In 2018 we had the pleasure of welcoming two new colleagues who will work until 2020 on a project financed by the European Commission entitled MIND – short for Migration, Interconnectedness and Development. The project is ambitious. It aims to collect illustrative stories of the links between development and migration and to demonstrate how migration and migrants contribute to development. Development is not only a matter of economic progress, but of social and ecological progress as well. This is something we wanted to provide more evidence of this year through a social media campaign with the hashtag #whatishome.

Apart from this campaign, we also made time for an analysis of existing political frameworks. What can we learn from migration and development and what are their impacts on the world? Tom Devriendt and his team focus on several questions: Is there a difference between migration and development? Are there misunderstandings regarding these phenomena? If so, can we influence them and, if need, correct them? What role do the EU and its member states play? Do they always make clear decisions? “*We are of the opinion that we can do better,*” says Tom. “Caritas wishes to improve related policy and make it more coherent. We want to show the consequences of European policy on migration and development and vice versa.”

## Underlying Reasons for Migration

Development has an impact on migration, but what does that mean in more concrete terms? What is its link with other underlying causes of forced migration?

Think about global warming, for example. The number of storms, droughts and floods has tripled over the last thirty years. Communities in the global south are the ones who take the brunt of the devastating consequences of these disasters. Migration is often the only recourse for these communities.

Think about (the lack of) food security. In Niger, communities prepare themselves each year to leave their villages. Circular migration has been a crucial survival strategy in a region where the land doesn't offer enough food to make it through the year. The last ten years in Niger, it has been commonplace for men, women, and children to migrate during the dry season to try and find work in neighboring countries, mainly the large cities in Nigeria, Libya, or Algeria. With this model, part of the harvest can be saved for those who stay behind, while those who leave can feed themselves with the money they make while they're away and can sometimes even send some money back home. Is this sustainable? Is this situation bearable? What is the impact of European foreign policy on migration in countries outside of Europe?

## Policy Recommendations

These are some of the questions to which Caritas is attempting to provide nuanced responses. We share our recommendations with politicians (in 2018 we contacted over 100 of them) and partner organizations – especially Caritas Europa, Commission Justice & Paix, 11.11.11 and CNCD. We have received positive and constructive reactions that we illustrate and support with stories and testimonies from our network. In 2018 we worked on the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration. We met often with representatives of the development department who were tasked with taking on this thorny matter for the Belgian government. Belgium signed the Global Compact, convinced that it would offer a solid framework for how to make migration a motor for development. This conviction is also held by us at Caritas. It reflects a positive approach which gives hope to our society and helps resolve conflicts, even if politicians are not always sure which path to take. For this reason, it is important to us at Caritas to continue formulating concrete policy recommendations and to propose solutions to make Belgian and European policy more just.

The power of people

# Education



# 04

At Caritas we strongly believe in the power of young people. We are convinced that young people are capable of great things and we are proud to use our on-the-ground experience to help them get involved in the fight for equality, justice, and human rights. Through our educational outreach programs, we educate students and their teachers about refugees and migration and invite them to do their part to make the world a fairer place.

## Young Syrians in Exile

Young people are clearly not indifferent. As part of the Youth in Exile project, now in its fifth iteration, some 723 young Belgians wrote letters to young Syrians who had fled to Lebanon. In partnership with Caritas Lebanon, we encourage young people to share gestures of solidarity. We also seized the opportunity to correctly inform them about the conflict in Syria and the consequences it has for Syrians and the world overall.

## Encounters

Similarly, through our workshop Between 2 Worlds, which is carried out in schools, we aim to familiarize young students with topics related to refugees and migration. Due to our belief that these encounters with students are a decisive way to help them better understand certain concepts, and also because we believe in the power of refugees as agents of change, we launched a new project in 2018, inviting people who had been forced to leave their home countries to dialogue with students. Since the launching of this project, 13 volunteers have been able to benefit from intensive courses in personal narration and have spoken with 400 students.

## Causes of Migration

In 2018 we participated in a debate about the root causes of migration with Commission Justice et Paix, Red Cross Belgium, Centre Scolaire Saint-Adrien – Val Duchesse d’Auderghem. The goal of the debate was to speak with over 130 young people about migration,

natural resources, and conflicts and to encourage them to engage with one of these important topics. The exposition that the students put on at the end of the school year was impressive. They each managed to raise awareness among their teachers, classmates and teachers.

## Mobilizing Teachers

At the same time, the power of teachers and their ability to get things done cannot be underestimated. In 2018, 7 different events were organized during which we trained teachers and future teachers in topics related to migration, global conflict and refugees. We reached a total of 118 (future) teachers. This project was carried out in collaboration with various partners, including Commission Justice et Paix, 11.11.11. and catholic education in Flanders.

*"I think that it's very important to help the younger generation understand what is happening in the world. To help them understand what is happening behind the news stories they see about refugees on television. I work in the world of media and I know perfectly well that news outlets often provide incomplete information. The workshops I participate in force students to confront new questions and new points of view. That's a good start."*

Fady Al Ghorra – Volunteer, Between 2 Worlds



© Fady Al Ghorra / Caritas International

# Programs Asylum and Migration in Belgium

Title of project	Objectives	Duration	Financing	Costs directly related to the 2018 project in €
<b>Youth in Transit Liege</b>	Accompaniment towards life in autonomy, transition from material aid to the financial social assistance of unaccompanied foreign minors.	Since 07.16	Fedasil, Ciré	1.099.092
<b>Youth in Transit Brussels</b>	Accompaniment towards life in autonomy, transition from material aid to the financial social assistance of unaccompanied foreign minors.	Since 07.17	Ciré	319.385
<b>High Care</b>	Accompaniment of refugees who are seriously ill during integration process.	Since 09.17	Fedasil	619.679
<b>Transition to Independence (Adults)</b>	Facilitate the transition to self-reliance and life in Belgium for vulnerable refugees who have obtained a residence permit.	Since 03.16	Fedasil	1.480.670
<b>Integration : Housing-projects /coaching vulnerable refugees / Peer2Peer</b>	Facilitate access for first-time refugees to the private housing market. facilitate the integration of admitted and resettled refugees.	Since 11.15	Equity, Fedasil	988.901
<b>Health Care Antwerpen</b>	Reception of asylum seekers with medical problems.	Since 07.17	Ciré	838.155
<b>Individual reception Louvranges</b>	Reception of women and isolated mothers	Since 2010	Fedasil, Ciré	1.375.774
<b>Scherpenheuvel Welcome Centre</b>	Reception of asylum seekers in a collective centre:	Since 11.15	Equity	2.922.633
<b>APL Charleroi</b>	Sub-letting to admitted refugees in the Charleroi region	Since 01.14	Fonds propres	255.390
<b>Reintegration after voluntary return</b>	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	3.893.142
<b>Social service for foreign students and trainees</b>	Supports students in Belgium who hold a visa limited to studies and enrolled in a university or a high school.	Since 01.14	Fonds Orval en Scourmont	35.336
<b>Support to social service Brabantia</b>	Frontline service Guardianship	Since 1974 Since 2005	Equity Equity	126.979
<b>Community sponsorship – Syrian asylumseekers</b>	Support to welcomgroups receiving 100 Syrian asylumseekers	2018	Equity	40.459
<b>Financial support</b>	Exceptionally a small loan is granted for family reunification and rent guarantee		Equity	16.756



# Aid and Development

## Co-financing programs (private and institutional funds)

### Emergency relief and reconstruction

Country	Project	Time frame	Budget	Sponsor	Expenditure in 2018 in €	Contribution Caritas International
<b>Burundi - Niger - DR Congo</b>	Program to support the resilience of populations vulnerable to disaster risks (PRRC)	2016-2018	5.293.689 EUR	DGD	2.392.752,74	0
<b>DR Congo</b>	Monotoring and Humanitarian Response program	2017-2018	585.393,09 USD	UNICEF	229.045,27	15.255 USD
<b>DR Congo</b>	Monotoring and Humanitarian Response program	2018	349.419,45 USD	UNICEF	163.102,51	12.630 USD
<b>DR Congo</b>	RRMP - Rapid Response to Population Movement, Mbuji-Mayi, Kasai	2017 - 2018	82.798 USD + 43.099 CHF	UNICEF + Swiss confederation	111.511,06	0
<b>DR Congo</b>	Promotion of digital devices for the humanitarian coordination in the region Kasai van digitale hulpmiddelen voor de humanitaire coördinatie in de regio Kasai	2018-2019	1.420.000,40 EUR	DGD	237.916,33	0
<b>DR Congo</b>	Emergency intervention South Kivu	2018-2019	1.192.553,83 EUR	DGD	21.958,29	0
<b>Palestina - Gaza</b>	Medical services and protection of vulnerable groups - Gaza	2016-2018	1.060.077 EUR	DGD	50.776,73	0
<b>Serbia</b>	Voedselhulp voor migranten in Zuid-Servië	2017-2018	1.152.000 EUR (672.000+cofin)	ECHO + CRS	194.557,32	CI.be (159.200 EUR) + CRS (320.800 EUR)
<b>Syria</b>	Humanitarian aid en support for rehabilitation to vulnerable families Aleppo	2018	100.000 EUR	Buza Vlaamse Regering	100.000,00	0
<b>South Sudan and Uganda</b>	Foodsecurity and income-generating for farmers and displaced persons in Yei en Maridi and for refugees in Uganda	2017-2019	418.188 CHF	Swiss confederation	155.510,28	0
<b>South Sudan and Uganda</b>	Emergency aid for displaced persons in Yei (South Sudan) and sustainable foodsecurity en income-generating for South Sudanese refugees in Uganda	2017-2018	1.293.490,21 EUR	DGD	978.251,00	0
<b>Total</b>					<b>4.635.381,53</b>	

## Development

Country	Project	Time frame	Budget in €	Sponsor	Expenditure 2018 in €	Contribution Caritas International
Burundi	Creation of added agricultural value through the pooling of public and private resources	2016 - 2019	950.000,00	EU	279.782,36	25%
Burundi	Multi-stakeholder program to improve food security in the municipality of Cendajuru, Gisurue en Kinyinya	2013-2018	1.764.706,00	Belgisch Fonds voor Voedselzekerheid / BTC-Enabel / WBI	332.475,00	15%
Burundi	Initiatives to develop family farming in Mosso	2016-2019	778.000,00	BTC-Enabel	156.520,00	0%
Burundi	Activities supporting family farming in Imbo	2017-2019	450.000,00	BTC-Enabel	134.055,00	0%
Burundi	Increase resilience of communities in Buyenzi	2018-2021	1.715.000,00	EU		5%
Burundi	Local development program to promote income generating opportunities	2018-2021	298.874,00	Wereldbank	-	0%
DR Congo, Burundi, Rwanda, Haiti, Niger, Ethiopia, Belgium	EMMo - Empowerment in een wereld in beweging - vijfjarenprogramma	2017-2021	12.839.807,99	DGD + 11.be	2.663.706,40	20%
Ethiopia	Economical resilience and income-generating activities	2017-2019	1.474.814,00	EU Reset	336.546,00	10%
Ethiopia	Improvement of resilience in the context of climate change in in eastern Tigray	2016-2018	240.001,00	EU/ Civil Society Fund	-	15.000 EUR
Ethiopia	Better access to drinking water and hygiene in schools of the Irobdistrict	2018	54.719,00	Fonds Amélie & Elisabeth	9.479,55	13.945 EUR
<b>Total</b>					<b>3.912.564,31</b>	



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## Equity programs

### Emergency programs with the Caritas network

Country	Crisis	Expenditure 2018 in €
Bosnia-Herzegovina	Refugees	20.000,00
Burkina Faso	Food crisis	20.000,00
Cambodja	Floods	20.000,00
DR Congo	Humanitarian aid for returnees in Mweka	130.000,00
DR Congo	Reintegration of 500 refugee families and hosting families in Molegbe	60.000,00
Ethiopia	Food crisis	130.000,00
Philippines	Rehabilitation after typhoon Yolanda	176.519,35
Greece	Refugees	20.000,00
Haiti	Rehabilitation after cyclone Mathew	90.000,00
India	Floods	20.000,00
Indonesia	Tsunami	150.000,00
Jordan	Humanitarian crisis (refugees Middle East)	75.000,00
Libanon	Humanitaire crisis (vluchtelingen Midden-Oosten)	54.518,98
Mongolia	Floods	29.208,00
Nepal	Reconstruction after earthquake	75.000,00
Niger	Food crisis	130.000,00
Uganda	Hunger - Food crisis	66.670,00
Palestina	Healthcare Gaza	20.000,00
Rwanda	Aid to Burundese refugees in Mahamacamp	75.000,00
Somalia	Food crisis	50.000,00
Syria	Food crisis	200.000,00
South Sudan	Food crisis	125.000,00
<b>Total</b>		<b>1.736.916,33</b>

Socio-economic projects

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

Country	Number	Expenditure in 2018 in €
Burundi	4	14.638,00
Cambodia	1	16.569,00
DR Congo	1	21.857,35
Indonesia	2	10.000,00
Irak	1	98.000,00
Laos	1	14.000,00
Libanon	2	20.000,00
Thailand	2	7.500,00
Uganda	1	27.842,00
<b>Total</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>230.406,35</b>

Capacity building: Caritas partners

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

Country	Organization	Expenditure 2018 in €
Asia	Caritas Asia (regional conference and leadership program)	15.000,00
Bosnia- Herzegovina	Caritas BosniëaHerzegovina	10.000,00
DR Congo	BDD	50.000,00
Ethiopia	Caritas Ethiopia	25.000,00
Haiti	Caritas Haiti	23.030,00
Libanon	Caritas Mona	20.000,00
Macedonië	Caritas Macedonië (via Caritas Europe)	8.000,00
Moldavië	Caritas Moldavië(via Caritas Europe)	2.000,00
Niger	Caritas Niger - Maridi	14.300,00
<b>Total</b>		<b>167.330,00</b>



## Partnerships programs

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

Country	Number of projects	Expenditure 2018 in €
Bangladesh	1	8.290,00
Benin	2	14.899,18
Burundi	1	2.000,00
Cambodia	1	3.082,00
Cameroon	1	42.788,61
DR Congo	12	73.413,63
Ethiopia	1	8.830,25
Haiti	3	21.095,64
Libanon	2	50.511,75
Mali	3	23.575,15
Niger	2	21.750,25
Nigeria	1	2.300,00
Philippines	1	5.631,21
Rwanda	3	22.140,55
Senegal	1	3.415,83
South Africa	2	7.397,00
Syria	1	17.406,05
Tanzania	1	5.176,30
Togo	1	25.764,60
<b>Total</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>359.468,00</b>

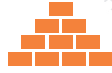


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# International cooperation



Emergency aid and reconstruction



Emergency aid  
Reconstruction  
Development



Development

## Africa

Burkina Faso  
Somalia  
South Sudan

## Asia

India  
Indonesia  
Mongolia  
Nepal

## Europe

Greece  
Serbia

## Middle East

Jordan  
Palestina (Gaza)

## Africa

Burundi  
DR Congo  
Ethiopia  
Niger  
Rwanda  
Uganda

## Asia

Cambodia  
Philippines

## Central America

Haiti

## Europe

Bosnia-Herzegovina

## Middle East

Syria

## Africa

Benin\*  
Cameroon\*  
Mali\*  
Nigeria\*  
Senegal\*  
South Africa\*  
Tanzania\*  
Togo\*

## Asia

Bangladesh\*  
Laos  
Thailand

## Europe

Macedonia  
Moldavia

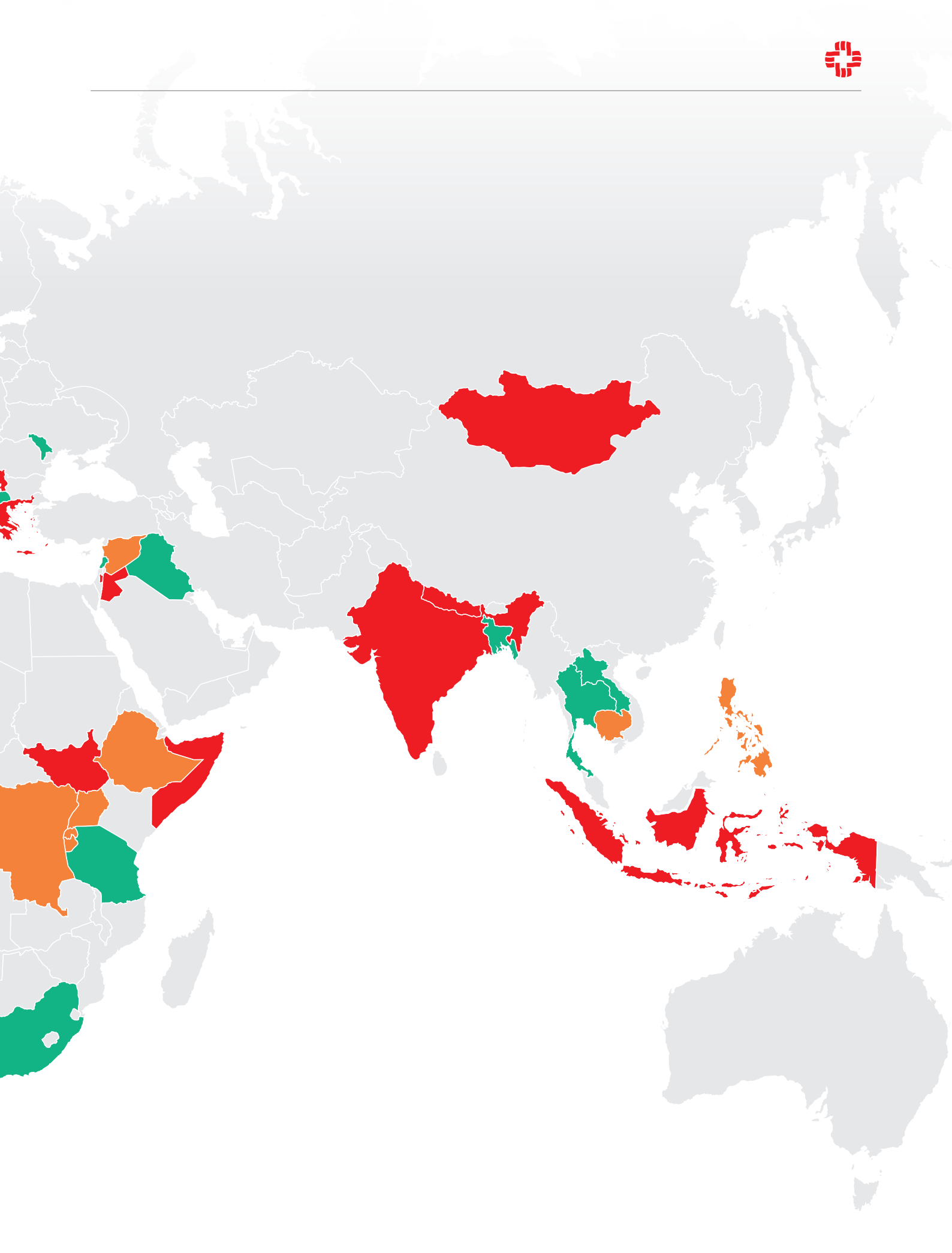
## Central America

Haiti

## Middle East

Irak  
Libanon

\* Partnership programs in collaboration with Belgian organizations.



# STAFF AND ORGANISATION

Our colleagues as of December 31, 2018



**Management committee:**

- François Cornet
- Anne Dussart
- Gilles Cnockaert
- Florence Lobert
- Hubert Thienpont
- Bernadette Van Raemdonck
- Eliane Vastenavondt

### Breakdown by age group and gender

Ages	Men	Women	Total
<24	2	2	4
25-34	22	34	56
35-44	14	24	38
45-49	8	6	14
50-54	2	8	10
55-59	8	8	16
>60	4	4	8
<b>Total</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>86</b>	<b>146</b>

### Employees In /out

Number on 01/01/18	In	Out	Number on 31/12/18
145	31	30	146

### And also:

- A central data management system (Customer Relationship Management–Enterprise Resource Planning [CRM–ERP]) has been worked out and implemented in 2018. To optimize the information flow within our organisation, the system has been integrated in a new Intranet called Carinet.
- In 2018 it was decided to have the support services working for all the Caritas organisations (Caritas International, Caritas Vlaanderen, Caritas Francophone and Brabantia – antenna Caritas International). For efficiency reasons the department Human Resources is now working with only one and the same service provider for all matters concerning personnel management. The team Human Resources was expanded and some procedures have been modified. These innovative measures will be continued in 2019.
- 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 288 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.



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# Campaigns and Communications



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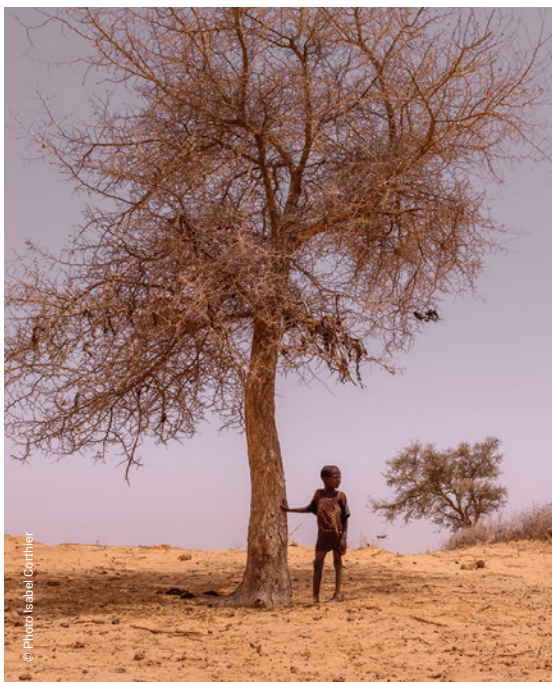
## A taste for the unknown

As part of the global Caritas campaign "Share the Journey", launched by Pope Francis in 2017, we participated in the Week of Action in June 2018. Our event was called "A Taste For the Unknown". Indeed, we set up a rather special experience for the shooting of a TV commercial where a migrant person and Belgians met at a restaurant table with a hidden camera! Each encounter was warm and enriching. We also offered in-person encounters and shared meals at various events at our reception and integration facilities in Louvranges, Scherpenheuvel, Antwerp and Brussels. It was a new experience but one that fostered the culture of encounter promoted by the global Caritas network and Caritas International Belgium.

## An awareness-raising campaign

In the summer as part of the #whatishome campaign we questioned the connections between migration and development by asking people what "home" meant to them. It was a campaign that aimed to raise public awareness about the root causes of migration. With a nice online collection of numerous interviews with experts and analysts, personal stories and the support of many different people, the campaign was a true success!





© Photo Isabella Corthier

## Lorsque les dernières feuilles seront cueillies, il sera trop tard.

Lisez s'il vous plaît la lettre jointe à votre journal.



### Calls for donations

In September, as part of our annual campaign, we invited our donors to support vulnerable local families to fight hunger during the lean season between harvests in Niger. Crop yields are far too meager because of the drought. Donations were submitted on paper through Kerk&Leven and Dimanche, but also through our online platform. Our supporters responded in a big way, bringing together €930,000. Thanks to you, we were able to help 7,560 people. Thank you! Our donors also responded to various crises, notably in Congo and Syria. We closed out 2018 with €3,542,119.55 euros in donations thanks to our generous donors.

### 12-12 Emergency

At the end of September, Indonesia was struck by natural disaster. Four earthquakes and a Tsunami caused hundreds of deaths on the island of Sulawesi. Caritas International and its partners came together through the 12-12 Consortium to launch a call for emergency aid. Through 12-12 we collected €210,723.51. If you add to this the donations collected for Indonesia through our account BE88 0000 0000 4141, the total collected rises to €659,342, which helped us to rebuild the lives of those affected by this crisis.

### Internal Communication developed through CariNet

In a completely different vein, 2018 was also marked by the launching of a new intranet meant to bring together all our colleagues from Caritas International, Caritas Vlaanderen, the Caritas branch of CAP Brabantia, and Caritas Francophone. Launched October 1, 2018, this new network was christened Carinet. With it comes a package of tools for communication and digital collaboration. CariNet's goal is to better inform our colleagues of the direction that our organization is taking, to give ourselves the means to achieve our goals, and to connections between our employees.



# 2018 Financial Report \*

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The year 2018 ended with a loss of €3.096.609. This amount is deducted from allocated funding.

Income totaled €28.119.317 and spending totaled €31.215.927. The difference of these two amounts gives the above result. We propose to transfer the amount of €72.730 from the reserves as a provision for social liability. The resulting loss is thus €3.023.879 and will be deducted in full from the allocated funding of 2019.

Allocated funding is funding available to Caritas International that is set aside for the implementation of its projects. These funds were €13.134.693 at the end of 2017. With the decrease of €3.023.879 during the 2018 financial year, they amount to €10.110.814 at the end of 2018.

This significant deficit has been the focus of management's attention for several months. Losses have increased in the work related to Asylum and Migration, forcing the organization to reconsider its role. Many initiatives have been undertaken to reduce this deficit, including renegotiating some financing and reducing spending on some projects. All this must be done while maintaining maximum impact on our target audiences.

We also engaged in somewhat less activity than what was planned when the 2018 budget was drafted, which was particularly ambitious in terms of international cooperation.

In 2018, we revised our approach to accounting for subsidies. Until the end of 2017, subsidies were recorded as income when they were received. From 2018 onwards, we have chosen to add up subsidies as projects are carried out. This approach is more in line with economic realities.

If we hadn't changed this approach, the total in 2018 would have been €1.679.320 higher. In contrast, if we had had the new accounting method in place in 2017, the 2017 total would have been €1.077.404 lower and the 2018 total would have been €1.077.404 higher.

## Fundraising

The public's generosity in 2018 was unchallenged.

- There was significant response to the humanitarian crisis caused by the tsunami in Central Sulawesi.
- Caritas International was mentioned in several wills and was thus able to benefit from significant donations from bequests. These amounts are difficult to estimate in advance and the amount we received in 2018 was higher than we expected.

## International

- During the "Famine in the Horn of Africa" crisis in 2017, many projects were carried out through the Caritas network.
- We pursued two critical programs with the DGD (the 5-year EMMo program and the Disaster and Risk Reduction program). The DRR program was being finalized at the end of the fiscal year.

## Asylum & Migration

- This year, following political changes, the Scherpenheuvel center was closed in September and reopened urgently under a new model in October. This resulted in additional costs.
- Income and spending related to the reintegration after voluntary return program and the program for the integration of refugees and migrants in Belgium have increased.

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\* Result as presented by the Board of Directors at the June general meeting.





## Balance sheet 2018

Assets	in €
Intangible fixed assets	307.781,51
Tangible fixed assets	3.559.976,22
Financial fixed assets	50,00
Amounts receivable within 1 year	3.716.949,29
Cash investments	5.111.050,49
Liquid assets	5.619.013,72
Accruals and deferrals	871.624,11
<b>Total</b>	<b>19.186.445,34</b>

Liabilities	in €
Funds of the organization	2.880.472,41
Social liability	2.215.691,09
Designated funds for defined projects	10.116.449,59
Capital subsidies	334.884,34
Provisions	441.645,64
Debts payable within 1 year	3.197.302,27
<b>Total</b>	<b>19.186.445,34</b>

## Results 2018

Revenue	in €	%
Donations	3.942.754,51	14,02
Donations consortium 12.12	234.283,37	0,83
Legacies	2.913.567,89	10,36
Brussels Capital Region	127.628,30	0,45
Provinces, towns and communities	10.250,00	0,04
Multilateral institutions	255.038,58	0,91
Enabel	328.095,59	1,17
Fonds belge pour la sécurité alimentaire	1.367.402,00	4,86
Belgian government - DGD	4.065.754,33	14,46
Ministry of Justice – Ministry of the Interior	108.507,01	0,39
Belgian government - Fedasil	8.023.787,80	28,53
Coordination et Initiative pour Réfugiés et Etrangers	2.145.653,02	7,63
11.11.11	72.944,75	0,26
European Union	531.549,40	1,89
Vluchtelingenwerk Vlaanderen	2.185,29	0,01
Foundations, other Caritas organizations, ...	1.378.255,43	4,90
European Reintegration Network	1.281.740,45	4,56
Subsidies for employment (Actiris, Maribel, ...)	303.355,39	1,08
Other operating revenue	519.329,45	1,85
Financial products	178.092,21	0,63
Exceptional products	329.142,61	1,17
<b>Total</b>	<b>28.119.317,38</b>	<b>100</b>

Expenditure	in €	%
Reception of asylum seekers	9.240.208,00	29,60
Migrant programs (frontline, guardianship, integration)	1.318.114,42	4,22
Voluntary return	3.893.141,84	12,47
International cooperation	12.515.372,60	40,09
Communication and fundraising	1.416.137,02	4,54
• Education	99.126,31	0,32
• Fundraising	612.790,77	1,96
• Advocacy	160.026,71	0,51
• Ext communication	461.744,77	1,48
• Int communication	82.448,46	0,26
Operating costs	2.832.952,79	9,08
• General operating costs	2.038.212,35	6,53
• Inheritance taxes	794.740,44	2,55
<b>Total</b>	<b>31.215.926,67</b>	<b>100</b>

Results	- 3.096.609,29
Increase / decrease of destined funds	3.023.879,29
Social passive endowment	72.730,00
<b>Result to be reported</b>	<b>0,00</b>

# Word of thanks

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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 / Acodex / 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, CESSMIR Gent, 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 / Fonds européen pour les Réfugiés / Fonds européen pour le Retour / Asylum, Migration and Integration fund (AMIF)
  - The Federal Government**  
Direction de la Coopération au Développement (DGD) / Belgian Development Agency (Enabel) / 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 en Vorming
  - 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) / Bruxelles Environnement



François Cornet

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**“Without the precious support of numerous people, associations and organisations, all our projects could not have been successfully completed.”**

François Cornet, general director

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## COUNTRIES

WHERE WE IMPLEMENT  
INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION  
PROGRAMS

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## AGENCIES

INCLUDING CARITAS INTERNATIONAL,  
MAKE UP THE WORLDWIDE CARITAS  
NETWORK

# 22

## EMERGENCIES

WHERE WE SUPPORT THE  
INTERVENTION OF OUR CARITAS  
PARTNERS



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