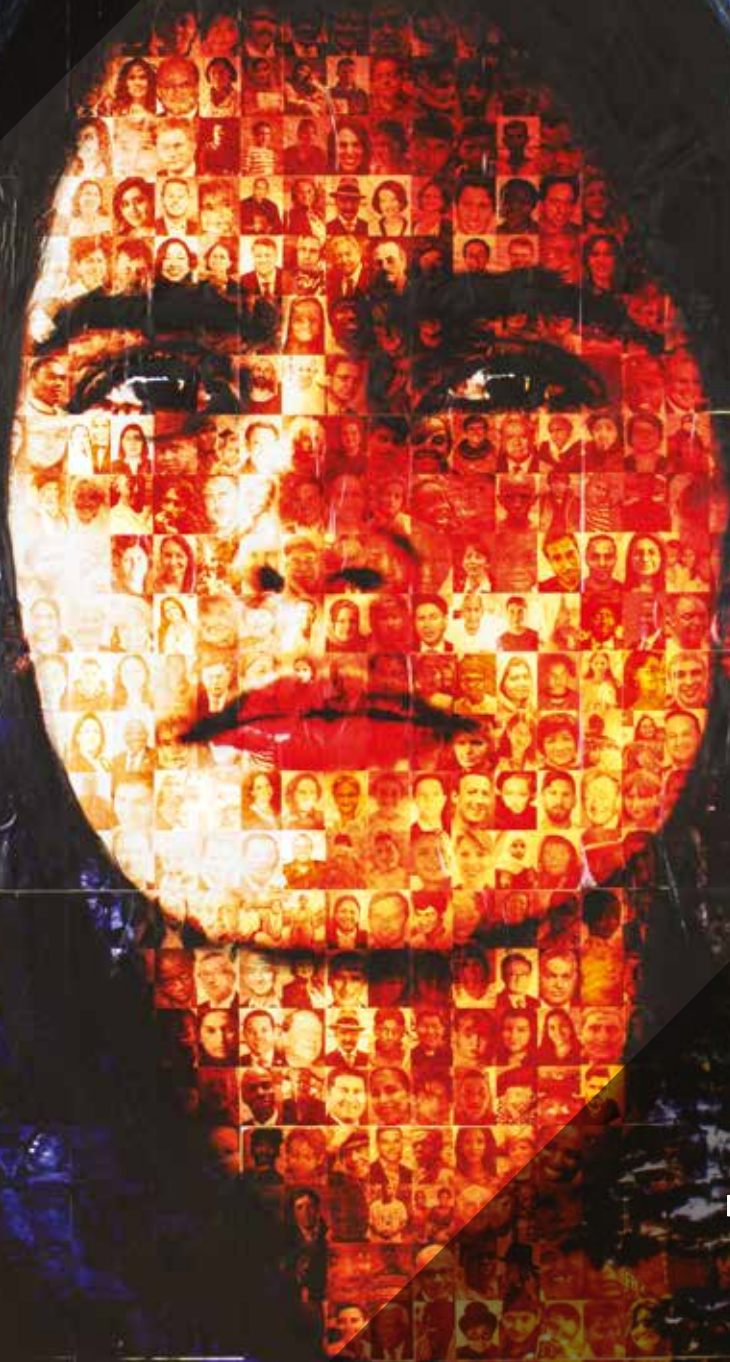


ANNUAL
REPORT
2019



 **Caritas**
Internationalis



**Caritas Internationalis
is a global confederation
of 162 national
Catholic organisations
whose work is inspired
by the Gospel.**

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CARITAS A RAY OF HOPE AROUND THE WORLD



*Caritas Internationalis president,
Cardinal Luis Antonio Gokim Tagle*

Dear Friends,

Caritas shines rays of hope in places where people face harsh realities, injustices and suffering. Even though violence, wars, natural catastrophes and self-interest have brought about untold difficulties to many people, Caritas remains a steady symbol of the care of the Mother Church for the poorest whom we serve.

Change is not only a moment of fear and anxiety, but also a time of renewal and hope for the future. A wind of change marked the 2019 General Assembly, with new confederation leadership chosen to maintain continuity in our mission while ensuring the confederation heeds the signs of the times. I welcome Aloysius John as the new secretary general and wish him success. I hope he will lead the confederation with courage towards greater unity based on a shared vision.



Photo by Caritas India

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Collage on cover created by Stefano Maria Girardi

Photo by Caritas / Tommy Trenchard

LOOKING AHEAD TO 2030 IN CREATIVE SOLIDARITY



*Caritas Internationalis
Secretary General, Aloysius John*

I am assuming this leadership as a mission received from the Holy Father to lead the confederation at the heart of the Church, in a spirit of service to those who are left at the wayside of our society. In speaking to the members of the confederation during our May 2019 General Assembly, Pope Francis gave us three keywords to guide our mission for the next four years: humility, renunciation and communion.

In this new mandate and with 2030 as our horizon, we will focus on three key areas: modernising our confederation; serving the most vulnerable with increasing professionalisation, transparency, accountability and safeguarding as key priorities; and keeping sight of our values and guiding principles.

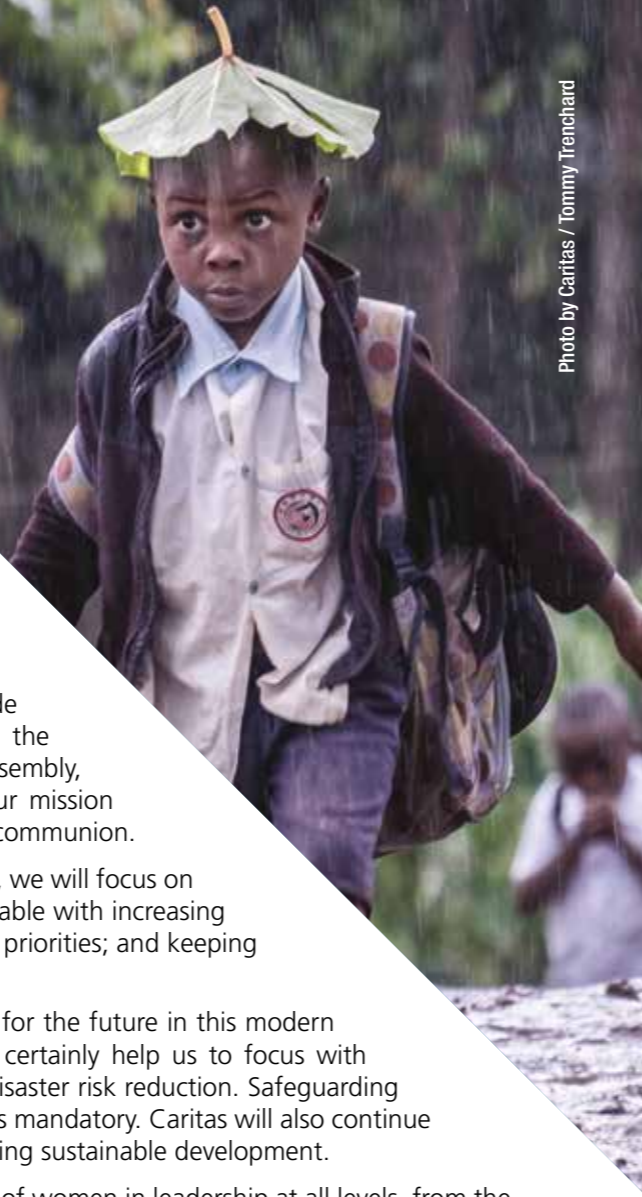
This will also lead us to reflect on what type of confederation we want for the future in this modern world which is constantly changing. A strengthened membership will certainly help us to focus with greater efficiency on disaster response, disaster preparedness and also disaster risk reduction. Safeguarding will be mainstreamed in the whole confederation, not as an option but as mandatory. Caritas will also continue to promote peace and reconciliation as the only precondition for promoting sustainable development.

The confederation will continue to give importance to the place and role of women in leadership at all levels, from the community to the governance level.

The Holy Father calls us to be actors of creative solidarity, to be open to the signs of times and to adapt our working methods to societies which are changing so we can be true witnesses of universal love for the poorest.

Finally, I wish to extend my heartfelt thanks to Michel Roy, who during these eight years was able to lead the confederation as a service of the Church, entrusted with the mission of promoting the work of charity.

Photo by Caritas / Tommy Trenchard



POPE FRANCIS' WORDS TO THE CARITAS INTERNATIONALIS GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Pope Francis told over 300 Caritas delegates from around the world during the opening Mass to kick off the 2019 General Assembly: **"Going out of oneself is the fundamental reform."**

Like the Apostles following the death and Resurrection of Christ, the Holy Father invited Caritas organisations to be guided by **humility, renunciation and communion.**

Speaking in Saint Peter's Basilica, the Holy Father prayed that Caritas organisations avoid worshipping themselves and their own abilities rather than worshipping in front of the many "living tabernacles that are the poor".

The Holy Father spoke to Caritas organisations about obsessive organisation, saying the Lord doesn't send an answer, he sends the Holy Spirit.

Pope Francis said that the early Christians came to renunciation through the humility of listening. He emphasised how humility arrives by letting the voices of others into ourselves so that we really listen to them.

Pope Francis also met Caritas delegates towards the end of the General Assembly in a private audience at the Vatican during which he reflected on charity, integral human development and communion.

“The Holy Spirit doesn't come bearing an agenda, but comes like fire.”



Photo by Caritas / Asmaa El Khalidi

CARITAS AT THE HEART OF THE CHURCH

In 2019, Caritas deepened its reflection on how to live **faith in action** and build the values and an organisational culture that binds Caritas members and actors around the same vision.

In the encyclical *Deus Caritas Est*, Pope Benedict emphasised how those who work in the Church's charitable activities need not only professional training but also **"a formation of the heart"**. In 2019, we provided spaces and opportunities in Brazil, Togo and Thailand for Caritas staff to share practices and experiences of the faith dimension of our work and on the identity of Caritas.

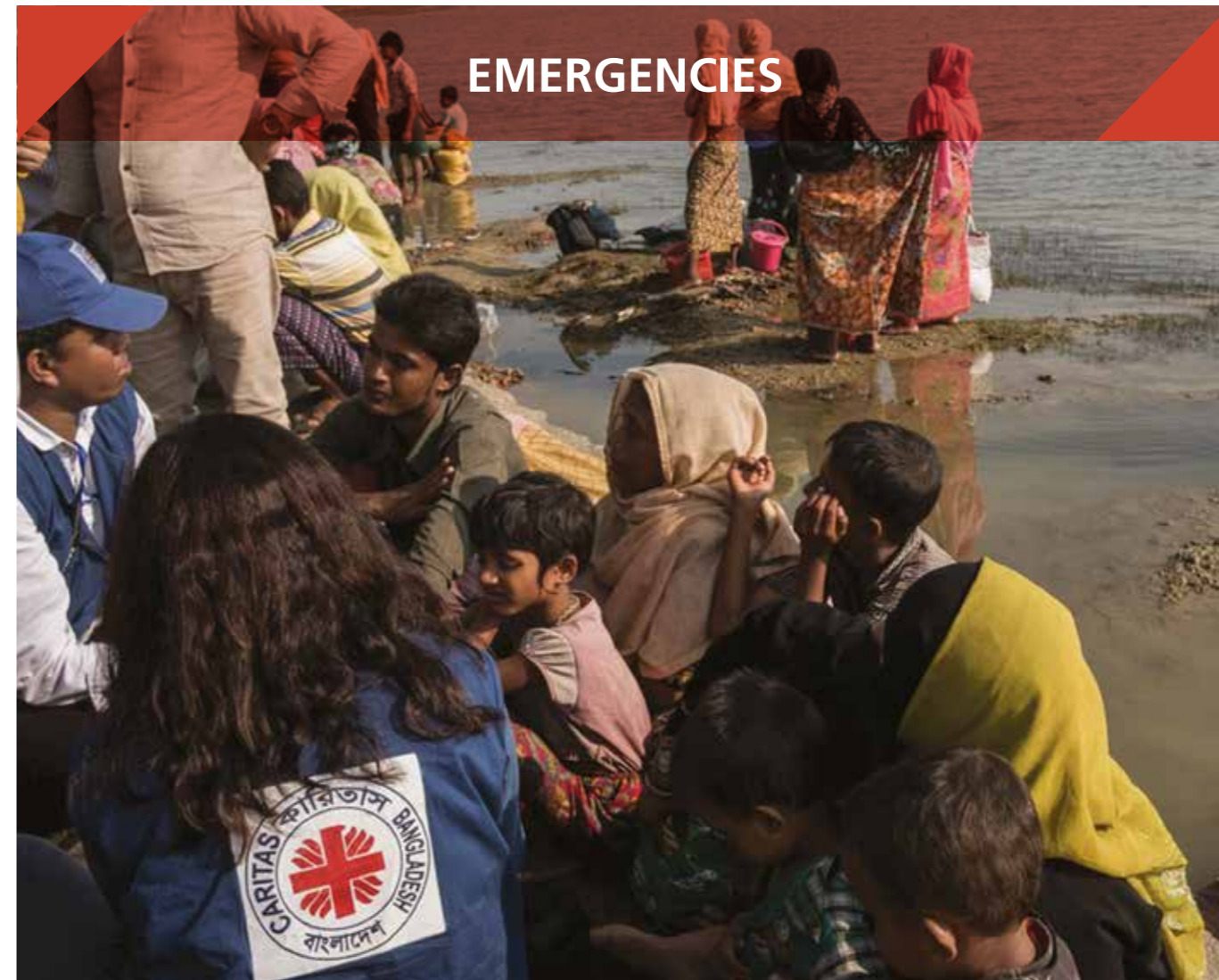
We gave input on the social dimension of evangelisation to new guidelines for the training of priests in Africa. We also strengthened relationships with regional Bishops Conferences and raised awareness about our work with bishops visiting Rome from around the world.

We continued to work across ecumenical and inter-religious platforms to promote the **ecumenism of charity** and a **dialogue for peace**, giving particular attention to our relationships with partners such as the Lutheran World Federation (LWF) and the King Abdullah bin Abdulaziz International Centre for Interreligious and Intercultural Dialogue (KAICIID).

We promoted the celebration of the "World Day of the Poor" in November by Caritas members across the world.

“dialogue for peace”

Photo by CAFOD



EMERGENCIES

Saving lives and bringing hope at times of crisis

Caritas saves lives and brings hope in the midst of war, drought, flooding, displacement and disease in countries across the world. Through our **34 emergency appeals** for crises across the globe in 2019, we harnessed the human, financial, material and spiritual resources within our confederation to mobilise and strengthen communities facing emergencies and build resilience in the face of future disasters.



Photo by Caritas / Dooshima Tisee

Rebuilding communities of hope in Southern Africa after the storm

Cyclone Idai was one of the worst tropical cyclones to ever affect Africa and the Southern Hemisphere. Its catastrophic power swept across Mozambique, Zimbabwe and Malawi in March 2019, killing 1,300 people and ripping lives and livelihoods to shreds.

One survivor said, “**We were left with absolutely nothing.** No food, no water, no clothes or blankets to keep us warm and nowhere to go as water was everywhere.”

CI member organisations joined forces to provide a quick and effective response and provide experts, funding and material resources to help Caritas Mozambique face the unprecedented disaster. A senior CI emergency responder who spoke Portuguese and knew Mozambique - the worst-hit country - well was sent from Rome to ensure fluid coordination among member organisations, the United Nations and national and local authorities.

Urgent help was given in the form of food, heavy-duty tarpaulins, medicines, hygiene kits, clothing, bedding, technical assistance and tools and seeds to tens of thousands of desperate families in Mozambique, Zimbabwe and Malawi.

The water supply in all countries was contaminated by the floods. Caritas focused longer-term efforts on building latrines in homes and schools, building boreholes and providing solar pumps in Zimbabwe. A safe and easily accessible water supply and a strong sanitation system saves lives and also time for the women and girls who have to fetch water. **Such simple changes in communities can have a massive impact on people’s lives in the long-term.**



EMERGENCY
APPEAL

MOZAMBIQUE: € 731,500 to help flood and cyclone victims for three months

ZIMBABWE: € 1,054,000 to provide for immediate needs and improve water access and sanitation infrastructures for one year

MALAWI: € 559,000 to save lives and protect livelihoods



Photo by Caritas / Tommy Trenchard

Caritas’ grassroots power helps in the fight against Ebola

The Democratic Republic of Congo saw the second largest outbreak of Ebola in history in 2019. Of those infected, only 33 per cent survived the rare but often fatal disease.

Over 2,000 people died in the 2018-2019 Ebola outbreak in the Democratic Republic of Congo, ten of whom were Kahindo’s family members.

When Kahindo returned home after being treated for Ebola, her surviving relatives and neighbours shunned her. “**I felt abandoned and alone,**” she said.

Caritas Congo staff, such as Emmanuel Bofoe, reached out to survivors like Kahindo by going into the Ebola zone daily, teaching prevention, supporting survivors and the bereaved, distributing food and household items and setting up handwashing stations.

“More than 70 per cent of people in DR Congo are part of the Catholic Church,” explained Emmanuel. “The Church has powerful communication channels, through parishes, schools, clinics and radio stations.”

Caritas is part of the vast grassroots power of the Church that was a driving force behind the Ebola response in DRC. Caritas workers explained to Kahindo’s remaining family that she was no longer contagious. They set up a monthly supply of rice, beans, oil and salt. Farmers hadn’t been working the fields like before, so food and money were scarce.

Kahindo started to help at a Caritas-run crèche that looked after and vaccinated children of people who had had Ebola.

Caritas and the Church together reached almost 6 million people in DRC to raise awareness, promote precautions and help communities free themselves of Ebola. **Together we are stronger!**



EMERGENCY
APPEAL

€ 424,500 to help respond to Ebola



Photo by Catholic Relief Services / Ismail Ferdous

Safety and stability for the Rohingya people

Our mission is to walk side by side with the most vulnerable people in their hour of darkness. Amina, a Rohingya refugee in Bangladesh, could be considered one of the most vulnerable of one of the most vulnerable ethnic groups on the planet.

She fled violence in Myanmar, where she was brutally gang raped and her husband was shot dead.

“I had severe bleeding and passed out. When I regained consciousness in the middle of the night and in severe pain, I managed to escape,” she said.

She arrived in Bangladesh with nothing but the company of her mother and brother after a treacherous six-day walk across mountains. There she joined almost one million Rohingya living in vast camps where many Rohingya had already been living after repeated waves of violence, but Amina was among a huge influx of people who arrived after a spike in violence against them in August 2017 on the other side of the border in Myanmar.

Caritas provides Amina with shelter, food, water, blankets and other household items to meet her most basic needs. Most of all, she is grateful that Caritas gives her a place where she can feel safe and secure after the horrible nightmare she went through. Caritas social workers help her to cope with her traumatic experiences.

It is thanks to your continuing support that we have been able to help people have been able to help people like Amina feel safe and cared for in the midst of a humanitarian tragedy.



**EMERGENCY
APPEAL**

€ 13.4 million to provide shelter, training, water and sanitation and protection to the Rohingya people in Bangladesh.



Photo by CRS / Sara Fajardo

Nourishing the future of Venezuela

Malnourished, impoverished and uprooted, many Venezuelans faced a bleak 2019. Over 4.5 million people had left their homes and 14 percent of children under five years old monitored by Caritas Venezuela were showing signs of acute malnutrition. The daily challenges to survival for much of the population were enormous.

Caritas launched a ten-month programme in 2019 aimed at boosting the nutrition levels and access to food of children and pregnant and nursing women, creating greater access to healthcare and medicines, ensuring increased access to clean water and improving hygiene in households.

The humanitarian crisis, where many foods and medicines were beyond the reach of most people, means Lucilda often had nothing to give her ten children to eat. When she did, all she could provide was a traditional soup with rice.

When Lucilda took her two-year-old twins to a Caritas feeding project near her home in Sierra de Perijá, the doctor said they were malnourished and prescribed nutrients through a therapeutic feeding project.

Lucilda’s twins started to change before her eyes. She has started to believe they can have a future.

Good nutrition in early life improves future physical and cognitive health and thus improves the chances of escaping from the cycle of poverty. **Caritas’ nutritional programmes are an investment in the future of Venezuela.**

WHAT OF THE FUTURE? Caritas organisations met in Cucuta, Colombia in October 2019 to devise an action plan for Venezuela. In the joint statement, ‘A Church Without Borders, Mother of Everyone’, they said Venezuela is facing a humanitarian emergency, not just a political crisis. Caritas urged the Government to show solidarity with the people and respect the humanitarian principles of impartiality, neutrality and independence.



**EMERGENCY
APPEAL**

€ 745,000 to improve survival rates and strengthen communities



Mobile clinics for Gazans

Gaza is a strip of land about 40 km long and 6 to 12 km wide. It is home to about two million people and is one of the most densely populated areas in the world.

As wars, droughts and floods come and go in many parts of the world, the enduring humanitarian disaster in Gaza continues to smoulder and devastate lives.

Over ninety percent of water is undrinkable, many households don't have access to nutritious food and Gaza lacks a robust primary healthcare system.

In 2019, Caritas launched an appeal to finance a mobile medical clinic with the task of doing check-ups and screenings, diagnosing and treating illness and supporting child and maternal health and nutrition.

Children such as Ahmad are brought to Caritas Jerusalem's project for sick and underweight children because often their parents have nowhere else to take them.

At six months old, Ahmad was sick, underweight, had sunken eyes and fragile skin when his mother brought him to the Caritas Jerusalem clinic in Al Shati Camp. He was seriously ill.

Caritas helped Ahmad's mother to feed him a nutritious diet. He gained weight and became more mentally alert. At one year old he had surgery to correct a cleft palate.

He is now in good health, eating normally and his family has one less thing to worry about in facing the future.



**EMERGENCY
APPEAL**

€ 160,400 to provide a mobile medical team

Photo by Caritas / Asmaa El Khaldi

COORDINATION AND UNITY THE KEY TO WORKING WELL

Responding to humanitarian emergencies around the globe requires, speed, efficiency and a great deal of humanity to be able to inspire hope in the face of suffering.

Staff and volunteers in the Caritas confederation provide a vast network of skills, expertise and experience that draws on resources from across the globe, and they are called upon to provide essential technical support when disaster strikes.

The dedicated Emergency Response Team in Rome is constantly working to monitor and adapt to quickly evolving emergencies such as Cyclone Idai through Real Time Evaluation, which is a requirement of the CI Protocol for Emergency Response.

CI's emergency response department trains key Caritas staff at national and diocesan levels in the CI Emergency Toolkit and the confederation response protocols. The aim is to improve the response and coordination between members and ensure timely in-country accompaniment to national Caritas organisations coordinating a large scale emergency response with members and other actors.

To catalyse professional development and quick deployment of specialist staff in emergency responses, Caritas Internationalis coordinates three sectorial working groups on shelter, WASH (Water, Sanitation and Hygiene) and accountability while maintaining a strong link with the Protection Mainstreaming Working Group composed of three members, CAFOD, Caritas Australia and Catholic Relief Services.



Photo by Caritas Jerusalem

PARTNERSHIP WITH LOCAL COMMUNITIES

People are at the heart of Caritas' action. We work to raise the voices of communities through respect and collaboration and we make them partners, strengthening their ability to respond to the challenges they face.

Through localisation, Caritas strengthens its commitment to fraternal cooperation and partnership by relocating the decision-making process to - and enabling leadership within - the communities that are living the reality of today's humanitarian challenges.

“Listening to everyone's voice is always important, especially the littlest and the last. In the world, those who have more possibilities speak the most, but it must not be like this among us because God loves to reveal himself through the smallest and the least.”

Pope Francis, homily to Caritas Internationalis 2019, General Assembly

In 2019, CI laid out its vision to empower communities through partnership in the document *Our Commitment to strengthen localisation and partnership in humanitarian action*.

In collaboration with partners, we are urging UN agencies to develop a global framework and an action plan on localisation and partnership. This will mark a shift from sub-contracting to a widespread culture of partnership.

CARITAS AT THE HUMANITARIAN CONFERENCE

Nearly 50 Caritas staff from 30 member organisations took part in Caritas' second annual Humanitarian Conference in the Greek capital, Athens, from 19th to 21st February 2019. Staff from regions and the Caritas Internationalis General Secretariat joined together with them in developing positions in key policy areas for the confederation and the wider humanitarian community.

A key focus area was safeguarding, while the humanitarian conference also created a platform for agreeing on practical approaches as well as the exchange of experiences, challenges and trends on the major humanitarian crises and issues of the moment.



Photo by Caritas / Fr Aurelio Gazzera

GOODBYE FROM MICHEL ROY

Michel Roy, CI secretary general emeritus

My eight years as secretary general were most of all characterised by relationships: new ones built, old ones strengthened and other ones revitalised.

We worked hard to energise our relationship with the global Church, other Christian Churches and faith-based organisations. The bonds we built always put the poor at the centre.

We ploughed energy into raising the bar for professionalism and accountability across the confederation through our Capacity Strengthening and Management Standards programme. We laid the groundwork to create structures and procedures for safeguarding and protecting the most vulnerable.

We responded with more professionalism to the multiplying and deepening humanitarian crises such as in Central African Republic, Bangladesh, Venezuela and Ukraine.

Our confederation took the voices of the poor to the centres of power and challenged the UN and international organisations on major issues like food security, climate, health and HIV/AIDS, migration and human trafficking and peace and reconciliation.

We also mobilised public opinion through the global campaigns Food for All and Share the Journey driven by the vision of One Human Family.

“Our confederation took the voices of the poor to the centres of power”

Michel Roy gives Cardinal Tagle and María José Alexander, director of Caritas Somalia, a lift in his FIAT 500 during the 2019 General Assembly.
Photo by Caritas

Photo by Caritas / Marcella Haddad



A voice for the voiceless

The vision of a just world is possible only when our societies can grow and flourish, when people's rights are protected, responsibilities are met and no one is left behind. But sadly, in many places around the world, the rights of the most vulnerable people are often trampled under self-interest.

Caritas Internationalis aims to connect the daily injustices suffered by the poor and marginalised across the world to political processes at a global level. By taking the voices of the poor to the tables of power we want to influence decision makers so that the world is made better for everyone.

Deepening relationships to work better together: UN Global Compacts on Migration and Refugees

As global human mobility reaches astonishing levels, the dignity and the respect of the basic human rights of migrants and refugees are a prime concern for Caritas organisations around the world. Internationally, Caritas organised two side events at the Human Rights Council in Geneva in June 2019, one on the trafficking of children, the other on guaranteeing access to social services for migrants and refugees as stipulated in the Global Compacts on Migration and Refugees and based on Caritas Brazil's experience in implementing the compacts.

Caritas organisations at the Global Refugee Forum in December 2019 in Geneva launched the *Caritas Global Pledge* as part of the confederation's commitment to promoting community engagement with refugees. The UNHCR-organised forum was an opportunity to share Caritas' experiences in the global Share the Journey campaign with other faith-based organisations and with the UN, and to show commitment to the Global Compact on Refugees.

Caritas has participated in the process of the Global Compacts on Migration and on Refugees from the beginning and urges that safe and legal pathways of migration are prioritised. We say that access to services, especially health care, and return and reintegration, combatting the trafficking of children and child protection in general, are also key in the implementation phase.



Photo by Caritas / Asmaa El Khaldi

Breaking the chains of modern day slavery

Caritas wants to break the chains of modern day slavery by ensuring the rights of human trafficking victims are protected and their voices are heard. At the Strategies to Combat Human Trafficking Workshop in Taiwan in July, Caritas promoted the message of safe and legal pathways for those who migrate. **Confronting human trafficking means offering safe forms of migration but also working on the root causes of migration, such as poverty.**

In 2019, Caritas worked with like-minded associations to empower local organisations in Malawi, South Africa and Swaziland to prevent trafficking by identifying vulnerable people and creating partnerships.

International solidarity conference on the Venezuelan refugee crisis

Caritas organisations joined forces with EU member states and institutions, UN agencies and the countries most-affected by the Venezuelan refugee crisis at an International Solidarity Conference with Venezuelan refugees in October. Caritas Venezuela spoke out at the conference and asked that countries show solidarity towards Venezuela by harmonising migratory policies. Caritas's vision is that "each Venezuelan is seen as a human being who can contribute to the development of the country where they arrive".

Caritas also expressed concern about the dire humanitarian situation and lack of nutritious food affecting millions of people in Venezuela at the Human Rights Council and worked with other faith-based organisations and NGOs to urge the UN Security Council to take action to protect Venezuelans



Photo by Caritas Venezuela

Mining in Brazil

In March 2019, CI brought the issue of the Brumadinho dam which had collapsed in Brazil to the Human Rights Council, saying mining companies had violated the rights of local communities. During the event, one of the victims, who was part of the Caritas delegation, said, "This was not an accident. The mining model in Brazil is wrong if it only maintains profit for businesses."

Religious leaders mobilising communities around HIV/AIDS

More than three million children are living with HIV/AIDS, the majority in sub-Saharan Africa. Caritas' GRAIL project trains and mobilises religious leaders to act as potential case-finders and mythbust on paediatric HIV/AIDS so that families are accompanied in the process of taking their children for testing and treatment. Caritas' vast grassroots network in low-income countries is a vital resource for reaching out to families who are living with HIV/AIDS.

GRAIL - Galvanising Religious Actors for better Identification and Linkage to paediatric HIV anti-retroviral treatment (ART)

In 2019, GRAIL yielded impressive results in getting its message across to communities in Nigeria and the Democratic Republic of Congo. Religious leaders part of GRAIL reached over 60,000 women, men and children with age-appropriate messaging that dispelled fear and stigma. Thanks to their efforts, over 22,000 children were tested for HIV; of those, 150 were diagnosed HIV-positive and now they are on life-saving treatment.



Photo by Caritas / Marcela Haddad

Hear the cry of the poor and of the Amazon

Church leaders and people from the Amazon region gathered together at the Vatican for a groundbreaking Synod for the Amazon in October 2019.

CI organised the event *Cáritas: Bem Viver, Esperança, Resistência e Profecia na Casa Comum Comum* (*Caritas: Well-being, hope, resistance and prophesy in our common home*) in partnership with Caritas Brazil, to present the reality and the work done in the Amazonian States of Brazil.

Brazilian colleagues highlighted Caritas projects to prevent sexual violence against children and teenagers; they raised awareness about migrants and refugees crossing borders, often at the risk of trafficking and abuse.

CI also co-organised with REPAM (the Pan-Amazon Ecclesial Network) an advocacy side event entitled *Los Espacios Internacionales de Incidencia*, where CI highlighted how it advocates to defend the Amazon in international processes.

Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

CI organised a side event on Bringing Agenda 2030 to Life regarding the role of faith groups in implementing the 2030 Agenda by accompanying local communities. This provided an opportunity to showcase faith actors' contribution to the 2030 Agenda.

Advocacy at the United Nations in New York

As part of the steering group to End Homelessness to Protect the Right to Adequate Housing, Caritas helped push forward the process to make sure the right to housing was put on the UN agenda for first time and to make it a UN theme in 2020.

Caritas is also part of the UN Multi-Faith Advisory Council to the Interagency Task Force on Religion and Sustainable Development where it works with religious leaders involved with UN agencies to save lives, deliver on the SDGs, respect humanity, fight hate speech and all forms of violent extremism, and foster peace and reconciliation.

Photo by Caritas / Paul Jeffrey

CAPACITY STRENGTHENING AND CI MANAGEMENT STANDARDS



Journeying together to strengthen our confederation

We are many - 162 national organisations - yet we are one confederation. **Our unity in diversity is part of our strength and we will only get stronger in our mission to serve the poor if we journey together.**

Institutional Development and Capacity Strengthening (IDCS) focuses on strategies to strengthen systems, policies and accountability within our Caritas organisations across the world. Capacity strengthening empowers people with new skills and knowledge. This has become an essential means for our confederation to support organisations towards autonomy and long-term sustainability.

The Management Standards (MS) are a key tool that CI introduced in 2015 to strengthen Caritas member organisations by making them more professional, transparent and accountable. Since January 2019 they have been an official and permanent tool of our confederation and all member organisations are called to implement them.

“The Management Standards assessment really helped us to scrutinise our organisation in terms of what was lacking, our strengths and what the future should look like. I received targeted training and the whole process has made me more accountable not only in my duties as a Caritas staff member, but in my responsibilities as a person working with vulnerable communities,” says Caritas Namibia programme manager, Richard Matanda.

The close collaboration with the regions through the IDCS Regional Committees helped us to promote a tailored approach and peer-to-peer learning. We saw great leaps in strengthening Caritas organisations in 2019 in many areas of the world: South Sudan, Guinea, South Africa, Central Asia, Jerusalem, the Dominican Republic - to just mention some of them.

Caritas Fiji and Caritas Kyrgyzstan joined our confederation in 2019. Accompanying our newest organisations to create a new structure and to ensure they grow and flourish is a key goal of IDCS for now and the future.

“True good cannot be done unless people care for each other.”
Pope Francis to Caritas Internationalis’ General Assembly on 2019.

Together we strengthen our confederation



19 member organisations assessed in 2019

68 assessed across the globe since 2015



55 improvement plans developed after the assessments and in ongoing implementation



63 CIMS coordinators trained in 2019 globally



53 CIMS assessors trained in 2019 globally

Photo by CIRS / Sara Fajardo



IMPROVING SERVICE TO COMMUNITIES IN SOUTH SUDAN

Caritas South Sudan (CSS) is one of the newest Caritas organisations, having joined the confederation in 2015. The country's 2011 independence was followed by conflict and displacement, which presented vast humanitarian challenges.

By taking part in the CIMS self-assessment between 2018-19 they discovered that they needed to improve internal systems, policies and procedures. They managed to achieve good results in creating statutes, and improving strategic planning, advocacy, human resources management and leadership.

Now Caritas South Sudan is seeking the human, material, financial and technical resources necessary to put its plan into practice. “The CIMS assessment was for us a learning process. **As Caritas South Sudan we are committed to improving and growing so we offer a better service to our communities.** We are convinced that we can share this journey with our partners, because together we are stronger,” said Gabriel Yai, director of Caritas South Sudan.

SAFEGUARDING

Working together to protect against abuse

In 2019, Caritas Internationalis scaled-up its work on mainstreaming safeguarding across the confederation.

We focused on strengthening our policies, prevention systems and response mechanisms. A safeguarding task force was established at CI's Humanitarian Conference in Athens in February 2019, comprising safeguarding specialists from across the confederation. The same month, bishops from around the world gathered in the Vatican for an unprecedented Protection of Minors in the Church meeting to prevent abuse within the Catholic Church.

We advocate for a shift in culture, values, and attitudes across our confederation to ensure a survivor-centred approach is integrated through prevention, response and oversight. We are pushing for positive change in safeguarding across the humanitarian sector through our work with members of the confederation and peer organisations.

We will move forward together to ensure that all people, especially children and vulnerable adults, are protected against all forms of exploitation and abuse.



WOMEN

Caritas creates more leadership spaces for women

The role of women in the confederation's leadership was a key concern that was addressed at the Caritas Internationalis General Assembly in May 2019. The GA was opened by two young women: Caritas Somalia's Maria José Alexander, the youngest female director of any Caritas in the world, and Rebecca Rathbone, youth programmes coordinator for Development and Peace-Caritas Canada.

The day before the start of the assembly, the Caritas Women's Forum held an event on how to promote women's participation in leadership positions within the Caritas confederation. Proposals included:

- **More women in decision-making bodies at CI.**
- **The creation of guidelines to encourage member organisations to adopt equality policies.**
- **Monitoring the inclusion of women in leadership processes.**
- **Equal opportunities for women and men in terms of pay and labour flexibility.**

In November 2019, as a result of these discussions and other reflections, Caritas Internationalis' governance approved a proposal to ensure one third of the confederation's Representative Council (RepCo) was composed of women, and acted on it. There were five female members on the RepCo at the end of 2019, it was decided two more would be added in 2020.

The fact that there will be an increased representation of women in one of the most important governance bodies of Caritas is an important step forward for the global Caritas confederation.

It is my hope that the invaluable role of women in society may be increasingly acknowledged worldwide and that all forms of injustice, discrimination and violence against women come to an end...Every form of violence inflicted upon a woman is a blasphemy against God.

Pope Francis addressing the Diplomatic Corps accredited to the Holy See.

Photo by Caritas / Louise Norton

OCEANIA SETTING THE PACE

When Caritas Fiji was welcomed to the Caritas confederation in 2019, with Agatha Ferei Furivai at its helm, Caritas Oceania became the region with the most women leaders in the whole confederation.

The region is heralding change, not just with the leaders it chooses but with its focus on the environment and on the future and involving communities in change.

In the sixth edition of the State of the Environment Report 2019, Caritas organisations in Oceania listened to young people, indigenous people, scientists and those living close to the land and ocean and raised their voices to help the region deal with issues such as rising seas and coastal erosion, extreme weather, access to safe local food and water.



Photo by Caritas Aotearoa New Zealand



Photo by Vatican Media

SHARE THE JOURNEY

The future is made of us, let's Share the Journey with migrants and refugees

Caritas inspired even more communities to come together and share stories and experiences with migrants and refugees in the third year of its global Share the Journey campaign in 2019.

The General Assembly in Rome saw the unveiling of a giant collage of faces entitled "The future is made of us, let's share the journey". The faces included migrants, refugees, world leaders, Caritas staff and famous migrants and refugees such as Albert Einstein.

In an event in Saint Peter's Square, Caritas delegates from each region pasted in a photo of a migrant or refugee who represented hope. Caritas president, Cardinal Luis Tagle pasted in a photograph of his grandfather, a child migrant from China to the Philippines. Pope Francis later completed the collage with a photo of his migrant parents.

Artistic activism week

The Share the Journey collage provided the launch pad for a global week of action around artistic activities in October. Communities in many varied countries across the world nurtured and promoted migrants' and refugees' artistic talents for the fun-packed week, aimed at bringing people together and changing the perception of migrants and refugees.

Caritas Greece chose to recreate Homer's epic journey in the Odyssey with a group of young refugees. The actors, from Afghanistan, Pakistan and Iran all agreed that acting made them feel more part of their new community.

Caritas Venezuela produced a powerful photo exhibition in which migrants and photo journalists told the story of Venezuela's migrant crisis.

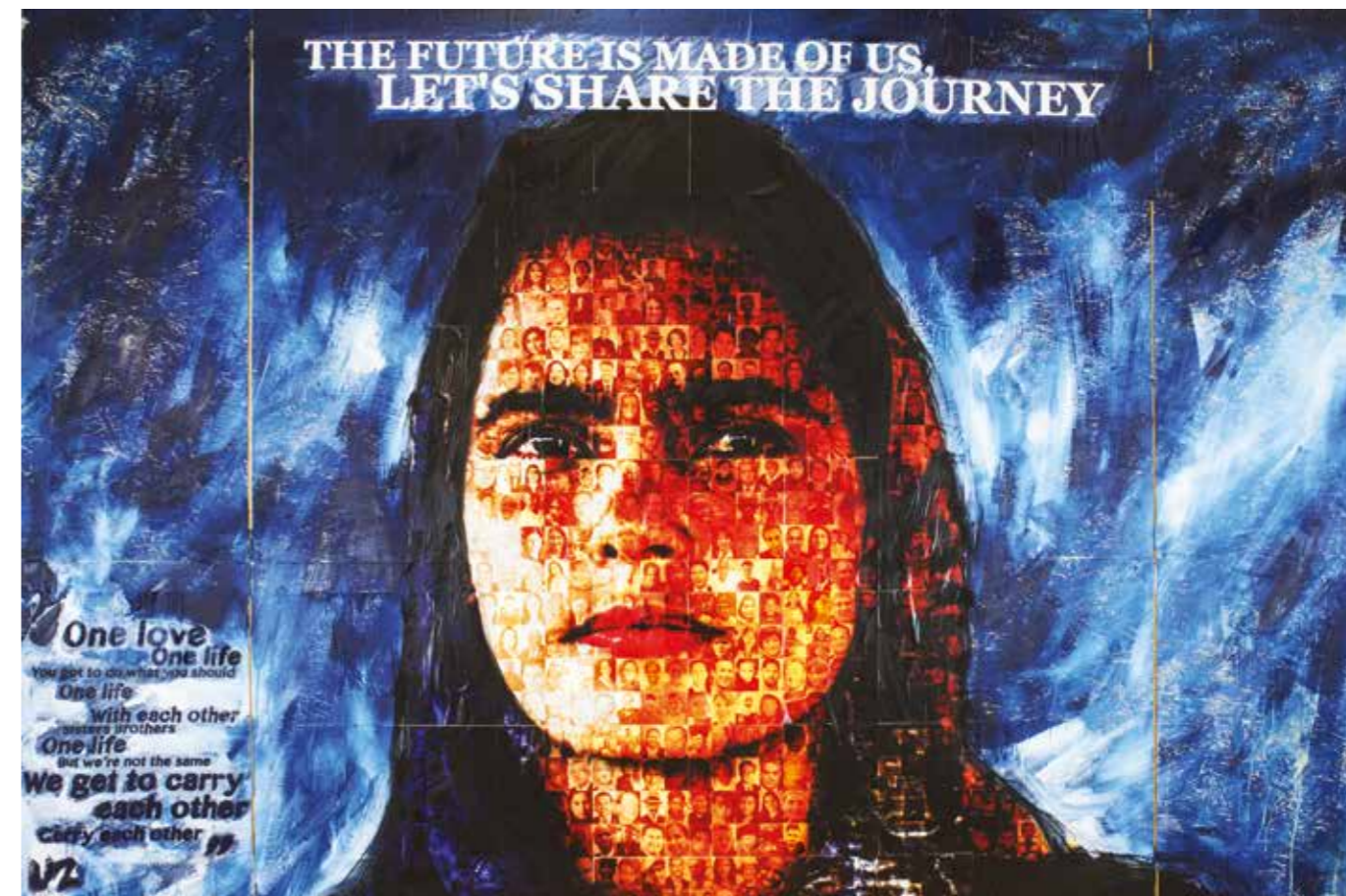
In Bulgaria, Caritas Sofia gathered together "Travelling Stories" written by asylum seekers and accompanied by children's pictures. These were just some of the inspiring activities.

Caritas showcased the activities from the global week of action at the UN refugee agency UNHCR's Global Refugee Forum in Geneva in December 2019.

The future of humankind isn't exclusively in the hands of politicians, of big leaders, of big companies. Yes, they do hold an enormous responsibility, but the future is, most of all, in the hands of those people who recognise the other as a YOU and themselves as part of an US.

WE ALL NEED EACH OTHER.

Pope Francis



Collage by Stefania Maria Girardi



Photo by Caritas

YOUTH

The year 2019 started off with a bang as a group of young Caritas people from the Americas and Europe gathered in Panama City for World Youth Day together with Cardinal Tagle.

More than 800 young pilgrims took part in an interactive activity on the culture of encounter. The aim was to learn more about Pope Francis' teachings on the culture of encounter in the context of Caritas' Share the Journey campaign on migration.

For the first time in the confederation's history, a Caritas Youth Forum was held ahead of the General Assembly in May 2019 to prepare young Caritas delegates and observers for the GA and to provide a space for idea sharing, networking and professional and spiritual formation. Highlights of the forum included a learning session about the governance structures of Caritas Internationalis, a Caritas youth panel in which young representatives from each region shared their youth engagement work and a professional development workshop that focused on leadership skills.



Photo by Caritas

FUNDRAISING

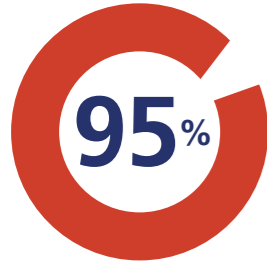
Impact Investing

Through impact investing, **Caritas Internationalis aims to mobilise resources to expand social enterprises across the network and to promote actions that empower communities to develop their own means of livelihood while caring for creation.**

Impact investments are made with the aim of serving the poor and vulnerable and generating a measurable social and/or environmental justice impact alongside a financial return.

Caritas Internationalis' Working Group on Impact Investing and Social Enterprise seeks to expand these activities throughout the network of Caritas Internationalis with the goal of creating 'an inclusive economy that promotes sustainable development, human dignity and solidarity'.

BUDGET



The CI General Secretariat spends 95% of the money raised on charitable activities.

Euro	2019	2018
Membership fees	1,933,637	1,933,637
<i>Contributions</i>		
Contributions from Member Organisations	4,528	0
Contributions from External Donors	479,390	524,077
Legacies	956,537	919,362
Other Income	184	102,206
Total Unrestricted Contributions	3,374,274	3,479,282
Contributions from Member Organisations	301,113	508,622
Contributions from External Donors	1,228,266	1,167,634
Total contributions Temporarily Restricted	1,529,379	1,676,256
<i>Financial Income</i>		
Realized Financial Income	165,714	6,191
Unrealized Financial Income	6,599	0
Total Financial Income	172,313	6,191
TOTAL INCOME	5,075,967	5,161,729
<i>Operational expenditure by Strategic Orientation</i>		
General Secretariat administration & office costs	1,675,659	1,388,507
Regional Structures	548,073	483,492
Governance	65,355	349,452
1. Caritas at the heart of the Church	115,678	114,241
2. Save lives, rebuild communities	583,606	575,396
3. Promote sustainable integral human development	691,494	691,152
4. Build global solidarity	802,343	650,996
5. Make the Caritas confederation more effective	402,787	564,258
Total Operational Expenditure	4,884,995	4,817,495
<i>Financial Expenditure</i>		
Realised Financial Expenditure	4,708	115,899
Unrealised Financial Expenditure	0	71,079
Total Financial Expenditure	4,708	186,977
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	4,889,703	5,004,472
RESULT OF THE YEAR	186,263	157,257

Let's end the 'throwaway culture': most of the paper we produce is thrown away and not recycled

Pope Francis, *Laudato Si'*

Photo by Caritas



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