



Annual  
Report  
2013



Food reaches survivors after a huge storm hits the Philippines. Ryan Worms/Caritas

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Front Cover: Caritas in the Middle East helped Syrians fleeing war. Sam Tarling/Caritas



'One Million Stars' events took place across Europe. Caritas Germany

# Who we are

Pope Francis said, “Caritas is the caress of the Church to its people, the caress of the Mother Church to her children, her tenderness and closeness.”

Caritas is the service of the Catholic Church to improve the lives of poor people. The Church acts through Caritas among others, to respond

to disasters, promote human development and advocate on the causes of poverty and conflict.

Through its over 160 national member organisations worldwide, Caritas Internationalis dedicates itself to lifting people out of poverty, regardless of their religion or race.

Working together and in partnership with the people we serve are key to Caritas organisations.

Inspired by the Gospel and Catholic teaching, Caritas Internationalis strives to promote peace between peoples, sustainable development, the right to food, safe migration, decent work and good health, especially for people living with HIV and AIDS.

Caritas Internationalis has its General Secretariat in the Vatican and delegations at the United Nations in Geneva and New York.

The confederation is made up of seven regions in Africa, Asia, Europe, Latin America and the Caribbean, the Middle East and North Africa, North America and Oceania.



Cardinal Oscar Rodríguez Maradiaga  
and Secretary General Michel Roy.  
Caritas Jordan

# Message from the Caritas Internationalis leadership

“Our faith in Christ, who became poor, and was always close to the poor and the outcast, is the basis of our concern for the integral development of society’s most neglected members.”

Pope Francis put the most vulnerable at the heart of his first Apostolic Exhortation, *Evangelii Gaudium*. It’s become a characteristic of his papacy.

“How can it be that it is not a news item when an elderly homeless person dies of exposure, but it is news when the stock market loses two points?” said the pope. He called on us all to challenge the economic *status quo* marked by a “globalisation of indifference” and to say “no to a financial system which rules rather than serves.”

Caritas promotes Catholic Social Teaching by practising both charity and justice. That’s why

Caritas Internationalis has launched a campaign to end hunger worldwide by 2025.

Our ‘One Human Family, Food for All’ campaign began with a formidable wave of prayer on 10 December 2013. Over 100 national Caritas organisations took part around the world. Thousands of parishes and people of faith were involved.

Throughout the campaign, and in so many other ways, Caritas was accompanied by Pope Francis. He asked us to go to the “periphery” to help the poor.

When Super-Typhoon Haiyan hit the Philippines last November, Cardinal Luis Antonio Tagle of Manila said to survivors, “You are not alone and will never be alone.”

Caritas Philippines was supported by over 30 different Caritas organisations from around the world. Working together, they reached over a quarter of a million people, making the solidarity that Cardinal Tagle spoke of solid and tangible.

In crises in Syria, the Central African Republic, Darfur, South Sudan and Mali, our staff and volunteers were often a last thin red line protecting and saving people from the unfolding chaos.

Speaking about the catastrophe in the Central African Republic, Msgr. Dieudonné Nzapalainga, Archbishop of Bangui, said, “The task is hard, but for God, nothing is impossible.”

With hope, faith and action, we are able to make a difference. Together as one human family, we can turn the globalisation of indifference into a globalisation of solidarity.

Through the Holy Spirit, we can bring about that change.

**H.E. Oscar Cardinal Rodríguez Maradiaga**  
*President*

**Michel Roy**  
*Secretary General*



A Caritas mobile clinic for Syrian refugees in Lebanon.

Danny Lawson/PA Wire

# Emergency responders

People's livelihoods, homes and safety can disappear in a flash – the result of a storm, an earthquake or a bullet. Or a long-term crisis can reach a tipping point. Suddenly, there's an emergency.

Caritas Internationalis responded to 25 major emergencies in 2013 through its strong grassroots network. The total budget for the Emergency Appeals was more than

€33 million. Over 1.9 million people received humanitarian aid through them. At least 39 Caritas members provided financial, technical or in-kind support.

The confederation also worked on the aftermath of long-running crises, marking a decade caring for people in Darfur, as new victims were displaced from their homes.

## Caritas assistance

- Storms and floods – India, Cambodia, Madagascar, Philippines and Mozambique
- Earthquakes – China and Pakistan
- Conflict – Somalia, Syria, Sudan, South Sudan, Myanmar and Democratic Republic of Congo
- Drought – Namibia
- Winter weather – Peru

## Suffering of Syrians

They flee only with the clothes they're wearing, minds full of terror, hearts full of grief. Or they remain trapped inside the country where once their life was peaceful.

The people of Syria are the focus of Caritas's biggest emergency operation. Inside the country, Caritas Syria continues to help people of every faith, despite terrible risks, while Caritas staff and volunteers in the region assist refugees.

Hundreds of thousands of Syrians have been given food and shelter. Children are a particular focus of the relief operation as fears grow for the next generation. Caritas Lebanon helped with school fees and special education sessions, Caritas Jordan with mobile clinics and Caritas Turkey with trauma counselling.

In September, 100 000 people of all faiths joined Pope Francis in a vigil in St Peter's Square to pray for the people of Syria.

Blankets for Syrian refugees facing a cold winter in Jordan. Patrick Nicholson/Caritas





A devastated Tacloban City after a huge storm hit the Philippines. Kent Truog/CRS

## Great storm hits the Philippines

The sheer scale of the devastation wrought by Typhoon Haiyan - the strongest storm ever to make landfall - stunned even the most seasoned relief workers.

The Caritas frontline response to the terrible suffering of Filipinos was fast and efficient: emergency food supplies were distributed within days. Desperately needed shelter materials quickly followed, along with sanitation and health supplies. This was despite enormous logistical difficulties.

Caritas volunteers worked round-the-clock to create family survival packs. A cleanup operation was mobilised to prevent disease. Members of a Caritas Internationalis Humanitarian Team linked up with parishes and Caritas Philippines staff to ensure a rapid local response and outreach to remote areas.

Caritas helped 350 000 people in the crucial first 10 days. Many hundreds of thousands more have received assistance since.

## Crises in fragile African countries

Caritas kept a watchful eye on four troubled African countries: Mali, Central African Republic, Sudan and South Sudan. When armed conflict intensified in all of them, Caritas was able to react quickly.

In Mali and its neighbours, relief efforts were stepped up for people fleeing war. Families were given food rations or cash to buy new livestock. Solar cookers, tents and seeds and tools were distributed so that people could restart their upturned lives. Caritas members from Mali, Burkina Faso, Niger and Senegal joined forces to boost capacity.

When the Central African Republic was pulled apart by violence, Caritas raised the alarm. Msgr. Dieudonné Nzapalainga, Archbishop of Bangui, travelled the country with Muslim leader Imam Kobine Layama and Protestant pastor Franco Mbaye-Bondoi, preaching reconciliation.

Catholic missions sheltered families of all faiths, providing protection, food and medical



Refugees from Mali received food and farm tools. Simone Stefanelli/Caritas

care. With a food crisis on the horizon, our staff helped farmers to grow food collectively when they became too scared to go out and plant their own fields.

As conflict resumed in South Sudan, Caritas again worked for peace, broadcasting radio messages promoting dialogue. When many families fled their homes, Caritas provided immediate emergency relief for tens of thousands of people, distributing food, shelter, clean water and medicines.

In partnership with the ACT Alliance, Caritas continued to provide essential services like solar-powered water pump systems to families in Darfur's camps. Our clinics in this troubled part of western Sudan vaccinated children, treated wounds and malaria and made sure underweight babies got more food. Caritas programmes also protected women from violence, supported schools, improved hygiene and helped families in the camps earn a living.



Providing food and healthcare as violence engulfs the Central African Republic. Matthieu Alexandre/Caritas



A wave of prayer launched the first ever global Caritas campaign.  
Caritas Thailand

# Voice for change

“Solidarity must be lived as the decision to restore to the poor what belongs to them,” said Pope Francis in his first Apostolic Exhortation, *Evangelii Gaudium*.

Advocacy is a priority for Caritas Internationalis: persuading governments and international bodies to change the

way our world is run is key to ending poverty, inhumanity and injustice.

Caritas focuses on the right to food, humanitarian policy, peacebuilding, our changing climate, development, decent work, health, HIV, migration and trafficking to bring attention to the need for greater solidarity.



Pope Francis gave his support to Caritas.  
Michelle Hough/Caritas



Campaigners in St Peter's Square, Rome.  
Michelle Hough/Caritas

## One Human Family, Food for All

Food is essential to a dignified life.

In December 2013, Caritas began a major global campaign to end hunger by 2025 and to make the human right to adequate, nutritious food a reality for all.

Pope Francis lent his support, calling the one billion people who still suffer from hunger today a “global scandal.” He said, “We cannot look away and pretend this does not exist.”

A wave of prayer in over 100 nations swept across the world to give the campaign a great start.

Caritas member organisations began pressing their governments to adopt laws and programmes making food accessible to everyone. A dedicated website – [www.food.caritas.org](http://www.food.caritas.org) – was created to help them with campaign resources.

## Climate change and food

The need to lessen the effect of climate change on the poor is urgent.

As Caritas works at the grassroots level to end hunger in over 200 countries, it is aware of the impact of climate and weather variations on the ability of people to grow enough nutritious food.

A report, "What climate change means for feeding the planet", was launched to highlight the importance of building the resilience of vulnerable farmers, of adopting sound policies and of caring for the common resources of creation, such as land, water and biodiversity.

Caritas wants to put the right to food at the heart of governments' policy decisions on climate change with practical actions – such as promoting small-scale and communal food production schemes.



Farmers in Peru saw floods devastate their crops.  
Caritas Peru



At the World Social Forum in Tunis. Caritas

## Ending human trafficking and the abuse of migrant workers

Caritas member organisations gave food, water and hygiene kits to tens of thousands of Ethiopian migrant workers who were expelled from Saudi Arabia. It's just one example of our practical service on the ground. Meanwhile, concerns about the rights of migrants were raised at the international level.

Caritas continued to advocate for just protection and fair treatment for the millions of women who go abroad to work every year, especially those involved in domestic work.

Caritas also focused on children, representing their needs to the UN body overseeing their rights. Caritas is especially concerned about the obstacles being created which prevent child migrants from getting healthcare. Caritas also

advocated to end the detention of child migrants. The confederation urged governments to comply with their obligations under the UN's Convention on the Rights of the Child and guarantee medical services.

COATNET – the faith-based network which Caritas Internationalis coordinates – also continued its work to eradicate the trafficking of people for exploitation in the work place, launching new initiatives in Africa.

"Human trafficking is a crime against humanity," said Pope Francis last year. COATNET has offered its services to the Interreligious Global Freedom Network as a platform for efforts to stamp out this abuse of vulnerable people.

## Access to health and HIV care

Caritas urges care and respect for the whole person, whether it is access to better nutrition or better healthcare.

In 2013, Caritas continued its work to secure age-appropriate testing and medicine for children suffering from HIV and AIDS with its 'HAART for Children Campaign'. HAART is a common term for the drug therapy that suppresses HIV. Caritas worked with UNAIDS on its Global Plan to eliminate new infections in children and to keep their mothers healthy.

Caritas expanded its work to combat the non-communicable illnesses – such as cancer, diabetes and lung and heart diseases – which go hand-in-hand with poverty. It brought the voices of the poor to high-level meetings of international bodies such as the World Health Organisation – and to the 2013 World Health Assembly.



HIV education volunteers at a clinic in Papua New Guinea. Patrick Nicholson/Caritas

Pope Francis greets pilgrims in St Peter's Square. Mazur/catholicnews.org.uk

# Pope Francis

On 13 March 2013, a man of humility, of startling simplicity and with a determined dedication to the poor appeared before the waiting crowds. Pope Francis began his papacy by asking the crowds which had gathered to pray for him.

A few days later, in his first Mass, Pope Francis told hundreds of thousands of people what a pope should do: "He must open his arms to protect all of God's people and embrace with tender affection the whole of humanity, especially the poorest, the weakest, the least important."

Days later, on Palm Sunday, Pope Francis said, "My grandmother used to tell us children, 'A shroud has no pockets!'" The pope was saying to us that we cannot continue to hold money above everything – we must help the poor.

If there was any doubt, Pope Francis spelled out his wishes at his first meeting with the press – he aims to shape "a church that is poor and for the poor."

This last phrase will be the inspiration for Caritas as it plans its work for the next four years.

## A Church without charity does not exist

In the Caritas confederation, the messages of Pope Francis are understood to be in clear continuity with those of Pope Benedict XVI. "You are the heart of the Church," said Pope Benedict to Caritas Internationalis before his retirement. Now, we see the placing of charity at the heart of Christian life continuing beyond his pontificate.

In May 2013, when Pope Francis met with the leadership of Caritas Internationalis, he said, "A Church without charity does not exist."

Among his first initiatives were visits to the poor at a Caritas centre in Assisi and on the island of Lampedusa, the destination of poverty-stricken migrants off the Italian coast. He has said that "fighting poverty, both material and spiritual, building peace and constructing bridges is the most important work we can do as human beings."

For the launch of the Caritas global campaign against hunger, Pope Francis led pilgrims in St. Peter's Square in chanting "One Human Family, Food for All".



Working in the Democratic Republic of Congo to build peace after years of war. Isabel Corthier/Caritas Belgium



World Youth Day in Rio. Michelle Hough/Caritas

## World Youth Day in Rio

"Go and make disciples of all nations!" That was the theme of World Youth Day 2013, celebrated in Brazil in July. Pope Francis gave a special Mass before an estimated three million people on Rio de Janeiro's Copacabana beach.

"Go, do not be afraid, and serve," the pope said. "When we face challenges together, then we are strong, we discover resources we did not know we had."

The president of Caritas Internationalis, Cardinal Oscar Rodríguez Maradiaga, was also

in Rio. He said to young Caritas staff and volunteers, "The disciples believed in the Lord and followed his suggestions. What they received was relief from their material and spiritual hunger."

Young Caritas supporters also took part in a missionary week leading up to World Youth Day and in a march against hunger, with support from Caritas Brazil, showing the importance of passionate and dedicated young people to the Caritas mission.

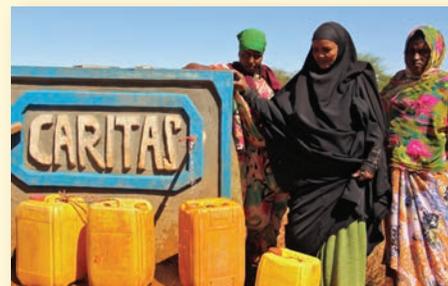


Caritas organisations work together to deliver lifesaving aid in Somalia.  
A.Gichigi/Trócaire

# Strengthening Caritas

Inequality is increasing in our world, making it more and more unstable. As the gap between rich and poor grows, so does competition for the resources to solve the problem. To carry out its charitable mission for the poor, Caritas must be fully fit for the job.

Member organisations are working hard to help both themselves and fellow members to be as ready and responsive as possible. Building individual members also means building the Caritas network too.



Caritas Internationalis responded to 25 major emergencies in 2013. Caritas Switzerland



New management standards will make Caritas more accountable. Elodie Periot/SC

## Management standards

In 2013, work continued on the development of Management Standards for all members of the Caritas confederation. Caritas members were extensively consulted both in writing and during regionally-based seminars, with their views taken into account.

The Management Standards are regarded as crucial in today's international environment of increased transparency, accountability to donors and beneficiaries, financial management and solid governance. Strengthening these standards builds stronger trust in Caritas as an organisation and attracts funding for its work on behalf of the poor.

The process moves forward to the use of the new Management Standards by all members by the start of 2015. Caritas organisations will be expected to share their learning and to adopt rigorous processes to account for their financial and other assets. They will also be expected to submit themselves for assessment during a pilot phase.



Emergency response became quicker and more effective. Matthieu Alexandre/Caritas

## Emergency response

Major steps were made to further improve the Caritas Internationalis instruments for the launch of Rapid Response and Emergency Appeals, making them quicker, more effective and better fit to meet the needs of people caught in crises.

## Institutional development

To achieve its new Management Standards, Caritas decided that extra focus was needed on helping its members be better equipped to do their jobs.

A new Institutional Development and Capacity Strengthening Department has been introduced at the Caritas Internationalis General Secretariat. Discussions allowed members to work out a coherent and coordinated response to boosting capacity, with an emphasis on fraternal cooperation.

## Fundraising for the confederation

Fundraising at the General Secretariat in Rome has become a strong and well-established function after a period of institutional development.

In 2013, the Fundraising Department held workshops for 25 Caritas members in Africa, Asia and Europe to guide them in establishing their own robust fundraising operations.

## Communications

In 2013, the Caritas Internationalis website – [www.caritas.org](http://www.caritas.org) – was re-launched in three languages with new navigation systems and information and new tools to manage social media.

The Caritas internal communications platform, Caritas Baobab, continued to grow with 2000 staff now signed up. Workshops were held by Caritas Internationalis and Caritas Africa to promote communications on the continent.



New look [www.caritas.org](http://www.caritas.org) website.



The Syrian crisis has been the primary focus of Caritas Middle East and North Africa.

Matthieu Alexandre/Caritas

# Caritas in the Church and the World

## January

- Caritas Latin America and the Caribbean marked four years since the devastating earthquake in Haiti. As well as helping rebuild the country, members from the region have supported Caritas Haiti with their goal to better serve the poor.

- Caritas Tonga responded to an urgent lack of drinking water in the central Ha'apai group of islands caused by drought and salt invasion due to rising sea levels.

## February

- Caritas Internationalis marked a decade of life-saving assistance and care to people in Darfur as part of an ecumenical partnership with the ACT Alliance.

## March

- Caritas members worldwide celebrated the role of women farmers in recognition of International Women's Day.
- Caritas sponsored an art exhibit at the UN Council on Human Rights in Geneva to bring attention to the need for early diagnosis and treatment for women and children living with HIV and AIDS.

- At this year's World Social Forum meeting of civil society in Tunis, Caritas raised issues such as the impact of migration on development, trafficking, the right to food and corruption and tax evasion.

## April

- Caritas organisations in the region joined together to help better protect the people, environment and biodiversity of the Amazon, which is currently at risk of irreversible damage.
- Msgr. Georg Hüssler, the former president of Caritas Germany and twice President of Caritas Internationalis, died aged 91. He attended the first General Assembly of the Caritas confederation in 1951.
- As governments began signing the first international treaty to regulate the trade in conventional weapons, Caritas celebrated. Caritas has advocated hard for such a treaty.

## May

- Under the theme "Live with us... You'll understand", around 400 Caritas Lebanon young volunteers gathered in Beirut to celebrate their work. Cardinal Leonardo Sandri, Prefect of Congregation for Oriental Churches, invited them to be "protagonists of history". Caritas Middle East and North Africa had worked with its members throughout the year to promote their engagement with young people.

## June

- International Domestic Workers' Day was marked with a discussion in Rome supported by Caritas Internationalis.
- Catholic peace advocates marked 50 years of the groundbreaking *Pacem in Terris* papal encyclical with a conference in Washington attended by Caritas staff and senior Vatican officials.
- Caritas Czech Republic was awarded the prestigious *Gratias Agit* prize in recognition of its humanitarian work.

## July

- Caritas Germany and Austria helped victims of unprecedented flooding.

## August

- Caritas members worldwide celebrated International Youth Day.

## September

- Caritas Kenya was a frontline responder to the needs of survivors following the terrorist attack on the Westgate shopping centre in Nairobi, providing water and food to survivors.
- The UN General Assembly held a special event "to follow-up efforts made towards achieving the Millennium Development Goals". Caritas Internationalis Secretary General Michel Roy introduced a side event bringing the voices of the poor to discussions on the Post-2015 agenda.



Conflict returns to Sudan and South Sudan. Paul Jeffrey/Caritas



Caritas reached 350 000 people following Typhoon Haiyan. Kent Truong/CRS

- Development and Peace – Caritas Canada – launched a new campaign for justice in the mining and extractive industries.
- Caritas Europa launched a report and discussion programme called "The Future of the Welfare State". It is an examination of what five European welfare state models look like now and what could be created for the future.

## October

- Caritas Albania celebrated its 20th anniversary.
- Caritas Internationalis joined Pope Francis and others worldwide to pray for the victims of illegal trafficking when a boat sank off the Italian island of Lampedusa.

## November

- Caritas India and SCIAF – Caritas Scotland – participated in the annual United Nations climate change talks. Events at the Warsaw talks explored how faith-based organisations could further respond to the effect of climate change on the poor.

## December

- Caritas joined church leaders from all denominations in South Sudan in calls for peace and a rapid end to a resurgence of fighting.
- Caritas Australia began celebrating 50 years of work on behalf of the poor at home and overseas.



Inside a Catholic mission  
in the Central African  
Republic.  
Matthieu Alexandre/Caritas

# Finances

As a global confederation of over 160 member organisations, Caritas Internationalis maintains a small General Secretariat in the Vatican and delegations at the United Nations in New York and Geneva.

The Secretariat provides coordination, communication, representation, advocacy and capacity building to the confederation and is funded through contributions from members and private donations.

An external international auditing firm reviews its accounts annually.

Financial information on individual Caritas members is available from their own websites. Links to these can be found at [www.caritas.org](http://www.caritas.org).

Expenditure	2013	2012
Administration of confederation and General Secretariat	474,072	556,738
Humanitarian coordination	742,127	695,402
Advocacy	706,529	802,599
HIV/AIDS and human trafficking programmes	300,675	305,427
Cooperation & capacity building within the confederation	407,173	474,716
Communications	649,324	859,958
Support to regional structures	362,118	459,959
Miscellaneous	12,095	38,692
<b>Total expenditures</b>	<b>3,654,114</b>	<b>4,193,491</b>

**“What counts above all else is ‘faith working through love’ (Gal 5:6). Works of love directed to one’s neighbour are the most perfect external manifestation of the interior grace of the Spirit.” Pope Francis, *Evangelii Gaudium***

# www.caritas.org



Palazzo San Calisto  
V-00120  
Vatican City State  
+39 06 698 797 99

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