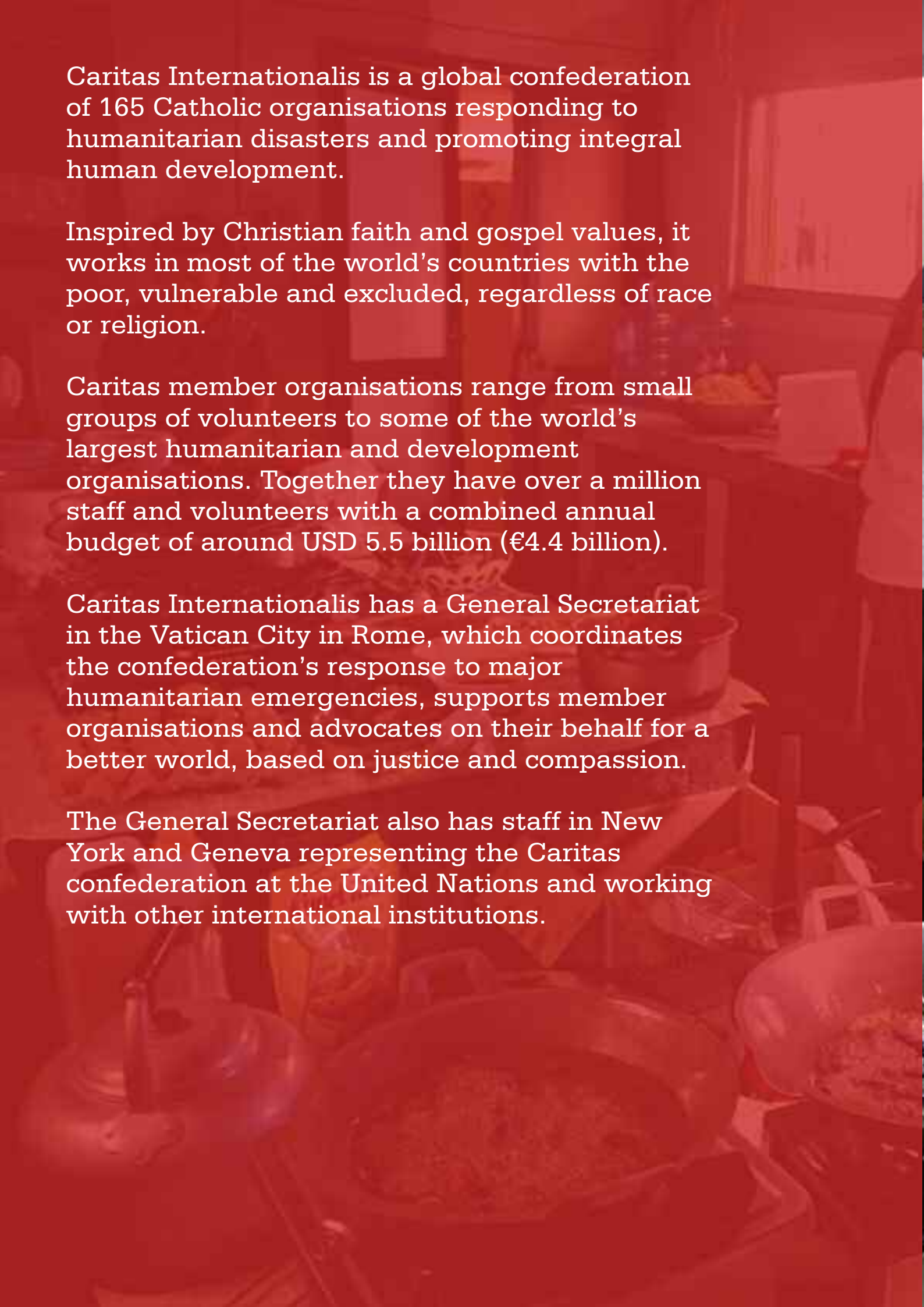


Caritas Internationalis

Annual Report 2009





Caritas Internationalis is a global confederation of 165 Catholic organisations responding to humanitarian disasters and promoting integral human development.

Inspired by Christian faith and gospel values, it works in most of the world's countries with the poor, vulnerable and excluded, regardless of race or religion.

Caritas member organisations range from small groups of volunteers to some of the world's largest humanitarian and development organisations. Together they have over a million staff and volunteers with a combined annual budget of around USD 5.5 billion (€4.4 billion).

Caritas Internationalis has a General Secretariat in the Vatican City in Rome, which coordinates the confederation's response to major humanitarian emergencies, supports member organisations and advocates on their behalf for a better world, based on justice and compassion.

The General Secretariat also has staff in New York and Geneva representing the Caritas confederation at the United Nations and working with other international institutions.

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Volunteers cook
for survivors after
an earthquake in
Indonesia.
James Alcock/Caritas

Front cover
Providing shelter in
Pakistan as millions
flee fighting.
Hamish Cairns/Caritas



We need greater global leadership to ensure that people honour their moral responsibility to help the poor

Cardinal Rodríguez visits the Sanctuary of Fatima, Portugal.

Our shared duty

**By H.E. Óscar Andrés Cardinal Rodríguez Maradiaga, S.D.B.,
Caritas Internationalis President**

In a world which is deeply divided between rich and poor, north and south, us and them, we urgently need to identify common values and a global ethic that can unite us as a human community.

The continuing global economic crisis we witnessed in 2009 is just one example of what can happen in the absence of ethics: the 'invisible hand' of capitalism that supposedly guides the market becomes a dishonest hand, full of greed.

The crisis offers a unique chance to refashion globalisation to work for the majority. We need greater global leadership to ensure that people honour their moral responsibility to help the poor in these difficult economic times.

Solidarity is a value that is especially necessary as we seek to cope with the effects of this crisis. Globalisation should be about more than international trade and commerce. It should include a realisation that we all have a responsibility towards each other. A globalisation that results in exclusion is an evil for society.

The emphasis on justice and the common good in Pope Benedict XVI's encyclical *Caritas in Veritate*, published in July, offers a new vision of economics, politics and society based on a shared duty to care for humanity and the environment. The encyclical offers a clear roadmap for true development.

Finance and business can work for all of humanity not just shareholders. The establishment of an equitable economic model based on collective responsibility is key to closing the gap between the haves and have-nots. Individuals in rich countries must be prepared to moderate their lifestyles and reckless consumption if we are to protect resources and the environment.

The message to humanitarian and development workers worldwide in *Caritas in Veritate* is that in our love of humankind we strive for justice and the common good. There is an affirmation in the encyclical that true charity looks at the causes of poverty and the means to overcome it.

Introduction

**By Lesley-Anne Knight,
Secretary General, Caritas Internationalis**

Caritas Internationalis owes its strength to the bringing together of so many diverse organisations in a common enterprise – the service of humanity. From the General Secretariat in Rome, we seek to nurture that unity and build upon it.

During 2009 we continued a review of the governance of the confederation, drafting new statutes and drawing up proposals for new governance and funding structures. We also strengthened our senior management team with director level appointments in the areas of humanitarian activities, finance, communications and policy. We carried out a review of our systems and processes and implemented a number of improvements that have increased our efficiency and effectiveness, particularly in emergency response, communications and finance.

Despite the global economic crisis, which has had a severe effect on many of our member organisations, the General Secretariat ended the year with a healthy balance sheet, as a result of careful management of costs and a number of generous donations.

New staff and systems were tested by fire in 2009, a year that saw a series of major natural disasters and conflicts to which we were called to respond. There was flooding in Africa, India, the Philippines and Cambodia; earthquakes and a tsunami in the Asia-Pacific region; and conflicts in Gaza, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Colombia and Pakistan that caused further death and injury and left millions destitute.

Our emergencies team responded to all these crises and more, assessing needs, launching appeals for funds across the confederation, coordinating the relief efforts of our member organisations and cooperating with the wider humanitarian community.

The world's poorest people continued to suffer the effects of increasingly severe

climate related disasters such as flooding and drought. 2009 was a pivotal year for advocacy in the run-up to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) conference in Copenhagen in December.

Caritas published 'Climate Justice: Seeking a global ethic', setting out a theological and practical basis for Caritas programming and advocacy on climate change. We joined other faith groups in collecting half a million signatures, took part in rallies, church services and discussions, and lobbied politicians.

The solidarity and partnership that binds our confederation was evident in this crisis and in many others during 2009

In the end, the conference failed to produce an accord that will help the poor in developing countries cope with the effects of climate change or reduce global warming to levels that ensure a sustainable future. The commitment shown by people from all over the world in the run-up to Copenhagen demonstrates a real desire for a strong climate change deal. Caritas will keep up the pressure on world leaders to deliver one.

Our advocacy work in 2009 also included an important campaign to promote greater access to Highly Active Antiretroviral Therapy (HAART) for children with HIV. The 'HAART for Children' campaign also called for better testing and measures to prevent mother-to-child transmission of HIV.

Caritas staff from the General Secretariat and our offices in New York and Geneva

represented the confederation at most of the major international events relevant to our work. We were also pleased to welcome many visiting faith leaders, politicians, diplomats and senior non-governmental organisation directors to our headquarters in Rome. We were particularly honoured to welcome many of the African bishops who were in Rome for the Second Special Assembly for Africa of the Synod of Bishops.

During the course of the year I was privileged to be able to visit several of our Caritas member organisations in Europe, Africa, Asia and the Oceania Region, where I was especially pleased to visit Caritas Tonga and our newest member, Caritas Samoa. Just days after my visit, these two beautiful islands were hit by a tsunami that caused considerable loss of life and devastation. It was, however, heartening to see how our small local Caritas organisations rose to the occasion, delivering emergency assistance and beginning reconstruction, with the support of neighbouring Caritas members such as Caritas Australia and Caritas Aotearoa New Zealand.

The solidarity and partnership that binds our confederation was evident in this crisis and in many others during 2009, giving us renewed hope and determination to face the challenges of the future.



Lesley-Anne Knight



A nurse treats a patient in the Caritas health centre in Gaza.
Katie Orlinsky/Caritas

Emergencies: Rebuilding lives

Caritas Internationalis responded to more than 30 emergencies in 2009, launching appeals with a total budget of more than USD 80 million (€65 million).

The year saw a series of devastating humanitarian emergencies in many parts of the world, including drought in Ethiopia, Eritrea, Kenya, Somalia, Sudan and Uganda; floods in India, Nepal, Brazil, Central African Republic, Mongolia, Senegal, Niger and Burkina Faso; earthquakes in Italy, Indonesia and the South Pacific; and conflict in Gaza, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Democratic Republic of Congo, Colombia, Iraq, Afghanistan and Pakistan.

In addition to responding to immediate needs in times of disaster, Caritas works to help communities be better prepared for future crises.

The Caritas response to disasters in 2009 included:

- Meeting basic needs for medical attention, clean water, sanitation, shelter and food
- Helping to restore livelihoods and rebuild homes
- Supporting children to return to school
- Providing counselling and psychosocial care
- Working with communities to reduce the impact of future disasters





Aid arrives in remote areas of Indonesia following a large earthquake.
James Alcock/Caritas



A makeshift hospital treats survivors in Padang following the earthquake. James Alcock/Caritas

Rapid action in Indonesia

"I am lucky," said Elma, while getting treatment with her daughter in a medical tent supported by Caritas. "My family and I – we are alive."

When a violent earthquake struck the Indonesian island of Sumatra near the city of Padang on September 30, Elma was at home with her elderly mother.

"I screamed for my children because I didn't know where they were. My daughter Maisie almost collapsed with fear outside my house," she said.

The earthquake left over 1,100 people dead and hundreds of thousands in need of help to rebuild their homes and lives.

The Caritas initial response was rapid: teams went immediately to assess the damage, then members sent additional staff, tents, tarpaulins and food. Caritas helped 110,000 people with shelter, 43,000 with food, and 105,000 people with access to clean water in the immediate aftermath of the earthquake.

A community responds in Samoa

The newest member of the confederation, Caritas Samoa, found itself coping with a major emergency when a tsunami hit the Pacific Islands of Samoa, American Samoa and Tonga in September.

The fledgling Caritas organisation had just played host to the Caritas Oceania Regional Conference, during which a disaster simulation exercise was staged. Among those taking part were the President of Caritas Oceania, Ms Anne Dickinson, the chief executives of Caritas Oceania member organisations, the Secretary General of Caritas Internationalis, and Her Highness Masiofo Filifilia Tamasese, the wife of Samoa's Head of State, who attended the conference as patron of Caritas Samoa.

Little did they know that within days they would be doing it all for real. Caritas workers responded quickly, taking people to safety and providing them with shelter and water. Caritas Samoa is now building new homes for survivors.

Around 190 people lost their lives in the tsunami, most of them in Samoa.

"There were 14 people who died from our village. I survived because we lived in a two-storey building and the waves didn't reach the second storey," said Tuaoimaalii Iofi Su'a from Samoa.



Caritas took families to safety after a tsunami hit Samoa.
Caritas



Building shelter for those fleeing fighting in Pakistan.

Hamish Cairns/Pakistan



Sheirin and his nephew received aid during the Swat crisis.

Hamish Cairns/Caritas

Shelter from conflict in Pakistan

More than two and a half million people were forced from their homes as a result of clashes between the Pakistan army and militants in the Swat Valley. The district used to be known as the 'Switzerland of Pakistan' and attracted thousands of tourists who came for skiing and mountain walking – but that was before the fighting started.

Sheirin, who has lived for 70 years in the village of Malamjabar,

had to run for his life with his wife and eight children. "One of my nephews was killed," he said.

Thanks to Caritas, Sheirin and his family received a package of relief items shortly after reaching a safe refuge. Caritas supported 385,000 people who had to flee their homes in Swat in 2009, providing food, healthcare, shelter, sanitation, clean water and household items.

Earning a living in Darfur

Caritas Internationalis works in Darfur in cooperation with Action by Churches Together (ACT) helping 350,000 people, including 240,000 who have lost their homes. The implementing partner, Norwegian Church Aid, has two national Sudanese partners, the Sudan Council of Churches and Sudanaid (Caritas Sudan).

Miriam is a tailoring teacher in Bilel Camp, one of Darfur's relief camps. It is home to over 30,000 Sudanese who have fled violence. This is her story.

"My family came to Bilel Camp because of the fighting. It is still not safe for us to return. I come from Kukuja village which is only about 5 km from here. My husband and 10 children have been here with me for six years now.

"Back in my village, I was taught tailoring skills by my mother when I was very young. When I arrived in Bilel, after the community centre was established, they asked me if I would become a 'tailoring trainer' and teach the women in the camps.

"Over the past few months I have trained 106 women. Jobs are very scarce for women in the camps, so this training is vital. When they can make the shirts and school uniforms themselves, they sell them in the markets. This is excellent for their families. It is a very good way to make money.



Miriam teaches tailoring in a relief camp in Darfur.

Edwyn Shiell/ACT-Caritas

"The women receive sewing machines and a quantity of cloth so that they can start their own businesses. They form sewing groups to start these income-generating activities. The groups provide a place for the women of Bilel to come together and discuss their days. Without these groups, women in the camps are completely restricted."

Healthcare in Gaza's war zone



An ambulance donated to the Ahli Arab Hospital in Gaza.

Katie Orlinsky/Caritas

"This is not a regular ambulance. It can save more lives because it contains an intensive care unit for patients in a critical condition," said Jameel Khoury, Caritas Jerusalem Project Manager. The new ambulance has been provided by Caritas to Al-Ahli Arab Hospital in Gaza.

Home to 1.5 million Palestinians, Gaza is one of the most densely populated places on Earth. Border restrictions mean that people are trapped inside with limited access to goods and services.

Israel launched military operations in Gaza at the start of the year. In the months after the bombing, a Caritas mobile medical team travelled around Gaza offering counselling and medical support. Professionals helped people deal with the stress which is common among conflict survivors. Many cases involve trauma in children. If left unaddressed, mental health issues such as depression can develop.

"I have seen cases of eating disorders, insomnia, chronic fear, disorientation and trauma," said Maha Al Omari, a Caritas counsellor who worked for the mobile medical team.

Food for thought in Zimbabwe

Exam pass rates used to be high at Lupaka Primary School in Zimbabwe, but then food shortages began and the children didn't want to come to school any more.

"The reason is simple," explains head teacher Kembo Ndlovu. "Children who don't get enough food, don't have the energy to go to school, and if they do, nagging hunger pangs make it harder for them to learn."

The acute humanitarian crisis in Zimbabwe continued in 2009, with half of the population reliant on food aid to survive.

Caritas helped the students of Lupaka, providing daily meals of highly nutritious porridge to all 535 students. For many, it was the only meal they could count on each day.

"When the food was introduced you saw mothers bringing their children to school and attendance greatly increased. Now, students are highly motivated," said Ndlovu.

Hunger has severe immediate and long-term consequences. Malnourished children are more exposed to disease and illness. Without an education, they will be in a vulnerable position for life. School meals provide critical nutrition, but also encourage children to stay in school.



Lunch for students at Lupaka Primary School in Zimbabwe.

David Snyder/Caritas

Safety from the storm in Bangladesh

Caritas Bangladesh builds shelters that offer protection when cyclones hit. They work with villagers to make sure that everyone knows about evacuation plans and that there is enough food to last through the storms.



Tanjibul Hussain Sujon is a community volunteer in Bangladesh.
Claire Goudsmit/ CAFOD

Tanjibul Hussain Sujon is a community volunteer in Bangladesh. He said, "There is a group of us who keep in touch by radio. We receive early warning signals when a disaster happens and organise evacuations."

Where there are no cyclone shelters, Caritas helps to adapt existing buildings, such as schools, so that they can provide a safe refuge during extreme weather.

In remote Mothurapur in Bangladesh's vast Sundarbans forest, Caritas began work on improvements to the village school in July 2008, raising the level of the floors and cementing them, strengthening pillars, building water-sealed latrines, repairing roofs and fences and setting up a rainwater harvesting tank for drinking water. When Cyclone Aila hit in May 2009, 19 families along with their children, livestock and assets were able to take refuge in the school.

"The school saved us and our children from Aila, because there is no cyclone shelter near our village," said a community leader.

Caritas Bangladesh built the school in 2002. As well as providing a rounded education, the teachers include climate change issues in the syllabus. The community has named it 'Environment School'.

Colombia's forgotten refugees

More than three million people have been forced from their homes in Colombia. Fighting continues to affect people from all walks of life. The large number of displaced people hinders efforts at making peace.

While Colombia has the second largest number of internally displaced people in the world after Sudan, it still does not have the UN Security Council's full attention.

In May, Caritas members from Europe, North America and Latin America went to New York to advocate for greater protection for civilians in Colombia. They met individual members of the Security Council, the General Assembly and UN agencies.

"We urgently need political will from the Security Council, neighbouring countries and the Government of Colombia to address the root causes of the conflict," said Caritas Internationalis Permanent Delegate to the UN, Joseph Donnelly.



Luz Miriam Anzola was forced from her home in Colombia and she now receives support from Caritas in Bogotá. Jim Stipe/CRS

Caritas is helping poor communities in Bolivia deal with the impact of climate change.
Alexander Bühler/ Caritas Germany

Climate change: Seeking climate justice

The harsh effects of climate change are already becoming a daily reality for poor communities in many countries where Caritas works. Unpredictable or extreme weather is undermining the humanitarian and development work of Caritas and threatens to increase the number of emergencies in the future.

Caritas work on climate change in 2009 was aimed at:

- Influencing international, regional, and national policies
- Supporting adaptation and mitigation programmes in poor communities
- Promoting changes in individual and community behaviour
- Implementing sustainable work practices within the Caritas confederation

Calling for a new global ethic

The answer to the climate change crisis lies in the hands of humanity – in a revived sense of solidarity and a realisation that we all have a duty to work towards the common good.

Caritas published '*Climate Justice: Seeking a global ethic*' – a synthesis of the ethical, moral and theological dimensions of the



Villagers in the Andes develop their own solutions to melting glaciers.
Alexander Bühler/ Caritas Germany

crisis, an analysis of its impact on the poor and an overview of Caritas programming and advocacy on climate change.

Caritas argued that victory over climate change would only come at a price, and the lion's share of that price should rightly be paid by those countries who have benefited most from the growth and development that is causing climate change.

A year in campaigning

The year 2009 was a year of intense activity on climate change in the run-up to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) meeting in Copenhagen in December. Hopes were high for a binding deal to cut greenhouse gas emissions and increase financial and technological aid for poor countries.

Caritas Internationalis joined its Catholic sister network CIDSE



Caritas Asia takes part in a climate justice march at UN talks in Bangkok.
Caritas

in the "Grow Climate Justice" campaign. Supporters were asked to send postcards to their governments and sign an online petition calling for a just deal for the poor.

There were a series of important meetings throughout 2009 leading up to Copenhagen. Caritas representatives attended UN talks in Bonn, New York, Bangkok and Barcelona to persuade governments to agree a just deal.

At UN talks in Bonn, a report on the importance of low-tech climate change adaptation measures was launched. At the same time, a Caritas meeting in Malawi was discussing how best to prepare for the impact of climate change. Staff from Asia, Africa and Latin America were able to address the Bonn talks via a live web link.

In September, the Grow Climate Justice campaign brought a high-level delegation of bishops and climate experts to the UN in New York to meet world leaders. Cardinal Keith O'Brien from Scotland said during the visit, "Wealthy countries have an unequivocal moral duty to help developing countries who are already suffering the consequences of our profligate use of fossil fuels."

Green housing in the USA

The Foundation for Senior Living (FSL) has served the needs of vulnerable seniors and adults with disabilities in Phoenix, Arizona for over 30 years. A member of Catholic Charities USA (part of Caritas Internationalis), FSL builds homes that prioritise safety, comfort, low cost maintainability and gentle impact on the environment.

It aims to reduce landfill waste by 60 percent through the use of clean building materials. It uses local materials and achieves high energy ratings. Conservation savings help FSL pay for energy and water for their tenants. Income from the housing projects helps subsidise other social programmes that are under-supported by traditional funding sources.

"Not only is building green good environmental policy, but it tangibly improves the quality of life for our low-income residents," said Steve Hastings, FSL's Director of Real Estate.



Building greener houses saves money for poor communities in the USA. CCUSA



Caritas representatives took part in an ecumenical service in Copenhagen.
Patrick Nicholson/Caritas



Marching through Copenhagen .
Patrick Nicholson/Caritas



The climate justice balloon.
Caritas Denmark

Prayers and petitions at Copenhagen

The Copenhagen Summit on climate change brought together 119 heads of state and governments. Caritas representatives and bishops came from 25 countries, including Mexico, Zambia, South Africa, USA, India, Kiribati in the Pacific Ocean, Mozambique, Kenya, the UK, Spain, Ireland and Germany.

They prayed at a Mass presided over by Caritas Africa President, Archbishop Cyprian Lwanga of Kampala. They joined a special ecumenical service with the Archbishop of Canterbury Rowan Williams, at which the Catholic Church was represented by Caritas Mexico President Bishop Gustavo Rodriguez Vega.

They joined 100,000 people to march through Copenhagen. Caritas took part in a symbolic ringing of bells in Copenhagen and around the world. The bells were rung 350 times to represent the safe level of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere. In Europe, over 2,400 Catholic churches took part.

Caritas Europa President Fr Erny Gillen spoke at an event inside the conference centre on the role of faith. "What is key is not changing our ethics, but how to put life in them," he said. "The Church has the power to motivate people. We see this with the global campaign Caritas has been taking part in."

In the end, world leaders produced a weak deal that will not help the poor in developing countries cope with the effects of worsening weather conditions and has put millions of lives at risk. Their short-sighted approach means that the pressure must continue.

Caritas Bangladesh President Theotonius Gomes said at the end of the talks, "We have to take hope out of Copenhagen. We saw a huge mobilisation of people clamouring for justice. Those calls will grow. The momentum for change will become unstoppable."

A desert garden in Chad

Granite hills mark the horizon. The ground is carpeted with rocks. Apart from the dried up river beds (ouaddis) there is nowhere for vegetation to grow. Thorny shrubs are the only desert plant life. Nature is hostile in Eastern Chad.

"Annual rainfall normally varies from 300 to 500 mm," said Adoumadji, an agricultural technician working for SECADEV (Caritas Chad). "Less than 300 mm of rain fell last season. Crops dried up before they could yield anything."

Yassine Ibrahim harvested less than four sacks of millet this season, compared to previous years when he produced 23 sacks. "The little harvest I have got is finished and I am obliged to sell my cattle to feed my family," he said.

Extra demand means prices for cereals have risen so high they are unaffordable for most people. SECADEV supports community granaries in twenty villages. Residents share the food when prices are peaking, then top up the granaries from the next harvest.

Farmers are encouraged to diversify into other crops. Growing beet, carrot, tomato and turnip provides a more balanced healthy diet and an extra income. "The money I earn from selling my garlic and onions allows me to feed my children," said Achat Abderahim, a mother of two.



Women do the farming in Chad and put food on the family table.

Adoum Goulgué/SECADEV



A celebration at
Kitovu Hospital in
Masaka, Uganda.
Geir K. Lindahl/Caritas
Norway

Pandemic diseases: Promoting prevention, treatment, and care

Caritas works on behalf of those at risk from devastating pandemics such as HIV and AIDS, tuberculosis (TB) and malaria.

In the developing world, poverty itself is both a cause and an effect of pandemics that devastate the physical, social and economic health of entire regions.

Caritas work on pandemics in 2009 included:

- Provision of medicines and care
- Income generation activities
- Training for health workers
- Raising public awareness on prevention, stigma and discrimination
- Counselling
- Advocacy for universal access to care and treatment

Caritas raises awareness about AIDS issues around the world through training workshops. In 2009, it facilitated workshops in Asia, Africa and Oceania, with a particular focus on training young people.

It also published the Caritas Training Manual on AIDS in French and Arabic. Caritas is a member of CHAN (Catholic HIV and AIDS Network) which aims to strengthen the response of Catholic faith-based organisations to the HIV pandemic.



Showing how a healthy diet prevents disease in South Sudan.
Zanetti/Caritas Switzerland

HAART for Children Campaign

Children were at the heart of the Caritas response to AIDS during 2009. Every day, 800 children die from AIDS-related diseases.

The Caritas 'HAART for Children' campaign urged governments and pharmaceutical firms to develop and provide 'child-friendly' HIV and TB medicines as well as low-cost/low-technology testing methods to diagnose these infections.

HAART stands for "Highly Active Antiretroviral Therapy", the combination of medicines that help prolong the lives of both children and adults living with HIV. These medicines also help to prevent mother-to-child transmission of the virus.

"We simply do not have enough paediatric formulations and dosages of antiretrovirals," says Msgr Robert Vitillo, Caritas Internationalis Special Advisor on HIV and AIDS. "Without them, more than half of children with HIV die before their second birthday. This tragic situation can no longer be tolerated – Caritas and other Catholic Church-related organisations can turn the tide through this campaign."

Organisations and Catholic religious orders in Africa, Asia, Europe, North America and Oceania joined the campaign. Children themselves took part by writing letters to governments and drug companies, urging them to produce child-friendly medicines.

In October 2009, a Caritas AIDS conference in Rome brought together HIV and TB experts from across the world to discuss



concerted action to save children's lives through better treatment and diagnosis.

Caritas India launched their own national 'HAART for Children' campaign in November at a special event in New Delhi.

Treatment for children in South Africa

When seven-year-old Mosipho was brought to the Thabang Society in Parys, South Africa, she was close to death. She had been diagnosed with HIV in January and was seriously ill.

"She was suffering from pneumonia and had a swollen abdomen and swollen legs. She wasn't far from death," said paediatrician Dr Almud Pollmeier.

Mosipho, who has lived with her grandmother since the death of both her parents, was discharged from hospital after three weeks. Her health had improved but she still wasn't on antiretrovirals (ARVs) and once she came out of hospital she started to deteriorate.

Mosipho was taken to a specialist paediatric unit in Johannesburg where extra-pulmonary TB was diagnosed.

The Thabang Society receives antiretroviral medicines from Caritas, but treating a child with TB medication and ARVs at the same time is problematic.

"It can cause a severe immune reaction and the child can suffer a lot," explained Dr Pollmeier. "We had to find a way of treating Mosipho because we realised we didn't have much time."

The Thabang Society arranged for Mosipho to stay in an orphan home and to be looked after by two carers when she



How Mosipho got her smile back.
Michelle Hough/Caritas

started the ARV treatment.

"We were lucky because she didn't experience major side effects," said Dr Pollmeier. "She's getting her smile back and she's getting stronger every day. She's gone back to school, back to her family... she's getting to be a big girl!"

Training in Papua New Guinea

Papua New Guinea (PNG) has the highest HIV infection rate in the Pacific region. The true figure of people living with the disease in 2008 was estimated by the United Nations organisation UNAIDS at around 54,000 (out of a population of six million) although only half that figure was officially reported.

Caritas supports an extensive network of centres in PNG providing quick, economical testing, as well as follow-up

counselling, under the sponsorship of the Catholic bishops of the country.

The regular supply and distribution of HIV rapid test kits ensures centres are well stocked. The demand for test kits has risen significantly as increased awareness of the facilities encourages more people to be tested.

The care centres also provide counselling for couples and promote prevention of mother-to-child transmission. They offer treatment and support to orphans and vulnerable children.

Msgr. Robert Vitillo, Caritas Internationalis Special Advisor on HIV and AIDS, travelled to PNG in 2009 to take part in training workshops for staff of these centres. While there, he met with UNAIDS officials and leaders of Christian churches to promote ecumenical collaboration in response to the epidemic.



Care centres in PNG are creating awareness on HIV.

Justine McMahon/Caritas Australia

TB care in North Korea

Tuberculosis affects a large number of people in North Korea. The country's international isolation and poverty mean drug supply is unreliable. Resistance to tuberculosis can develop if patients receive inconsistent or partial treatment. If multi-drug resistant TB (MDR-TB) does occur, it can be harder and more expensive to treat.

Caritas is one of the few aid agencies able to work in North Korea. Teams regularly travel there with medical supplies to support TB care centres. Caritas also provided generators to a TB hospital in Hadan in 2009. Surgeons will now be able to carry out operations with electricity and light.

TB is a preventable and treatable disease. Yet, an estimated 1.8 million people died from TB in 2008. Caritas Internationalis took part in the World Stop TB Partnership Forum in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil in March.

Representatives presented models developed by faith-based organisations that focus on grassroots efforts, partnerships with governments, international donors and other members of civil society, and integrating HIV and TB diagnosis, care and treatment.



A TB patient in a clinic in North Korea.

Wolfgang Gerstner/Caritas Germany



Farmers improve agriculture and business skills in Sudan.
Zanetti/Caritas Switzerland

Economic justice: Putting people first

Caritas seeks to challenge unjust systems and promote the common good, addressing the structural causes of poverty. Caritas believes that economic structures should put people before profit; we support fairer trade, further debt cancellation and increased aid, more wisely spent.

Caritas work in 2009 on economic justice included:

- Providing the vulnerable with social services
- Promoting livelihoods in poor communities
- Advocating for economic structures that put people first
- Holding governments in rich and poor countries to poverty reduction commitments

The fallout from the 2008/2009 global economic crisis pushed more vulnerable communities into extreme poverty. The poor in Asia were badly hit. Caritas Cambodia said that the garment industry, construction, tourism and agriculture had all been affected. As factories closed and unemployment rose, more people were in need of their services, while aid levels dropped.

An increasing number of people in Europe and North America faced poverty in 2009 due to the global economic crisis. Thirteen percent of Italy's 58 million people were considered poor, according to Caritas Italy, with a rising number just above the poverty line. The situation was similar in the rest of Europe.



Migrants learn to be pizza chefs in Rome.

Michelle Hough/Caritas

Children, the elderly, unemployed and disabled were particularly hard-hit. Higher food and fuel prices meant that working and retired people were also in need of help. "Some families have real trouble making their income last until the end of the month," said Francesco Marsico of Caritas Italy.

Economic crisis hits poorest

Progress towards the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), which aim to halve poverty by 2015, is under threat because of the global crisis. Through its advocacy work, Caritas Internationalis sought to keep poverty on the agenda of world leaders.

Caritas Internationalis delegation at the UN in New York coordinates the MDG Convening Group, building links between NGOs, faith-based groups, and experts. Caritas works closely with the Millennium Campaign's Global and European programme.

Caritas representatives went to the World Economic Forum in Davos and the World Social Forum in Belém, Brazil, to G20 and G8 meetings in the UK and Italy, and a UN food summit in Rome to lobby for action.

Caritas Zambia's Milimo Mwiba joined supporters from CAFOD (Caritas England and Wales) and other Caritas members in London in April for the G20 Summit of developed and emerging economies.

Zambia was hit hard by the global recession. The copper town of Luanshya lost more than 3,000 jobs when the local mine closed. The town's 60,000 residents were dependent on the mine. They now face extreme poverty with no social welfare system to cushion them.

"I'd like to think that my voice and those of billions of other Africans penetrated that secure room where the G20 leaders were trying to sort out the mess their greed had created," said Milimo.

The G20 meeting ended with more commitments to uphold past promises on aid, but few concrete proposals. Caritas hoped for firmer



Fr Joe Komakoma and Milimo Mwiba from Zambia march in London at the G20. Adrian White/CAFOD

plans at the G8 meeting of the world's most industrialised countries in the earthquake-hit Italian town of L'Aquila in July.

Increased aid has led to an improvement in the lives of poor people. In the last decade, 33 million more children are in school in developing countries and four million fewer children are dying each year.

The G8 reaffirmed their commitment to the 2005 promise to double aid to Africa by 2010, but without saying how they would do it. Latest figures for 2009 showed they would deliver less than half the extra USD 50 billion (€40 billion) promised, leaving the poor in need and the reputation of the G8 badly tarnished.

Another world is possible

One hundred and fifty Caritas representatives from 14 countries attended the World Social Forum (WSF) in Belém, Brazil. The WSF is seen as a vital opportunity for social movements, NGOs and civil society networks to discuss the issues of poverty and the effects of globalisation.

"For Caritas, the World Social Forum is an opportunity for the



Caritas at the WSF in Belém.

globalisation of solidarity, something which is crucial in the construction of another world," says Cristina dos Anjos, National Director of Caritas Brazil.

Latin America has some of the greatest disparities between rich and poor. A quarter of the 500 million population live on less than a dollar a day, while the world's richest man, a Mexican, is worth USD 53 billion (€42 billion).

Caritas Latin America and the Caribbean hosted a workshop on a solidarity-based model of sustainable development. "We believe that the power of the Word and the Spirit can convince the whole of society that promoting development that is beneficial to everyone and doesn't harm the environment is possible," said Fr Antonio Sandoval, Regional Coordinator for Caritas Latin America and the Caribbean.

One of the highlights of the 2009 WSF was a 60,000-strong march through the old town of Belém in solidarity with the indigenous people of the Amazon. As they sang, danced and celebrated, the Caritas delegation carried a banner with the words "Globalising Solidarity", reaffirming the struggle for a world order based on putting people before profit.

1 in 6 go hungry

World hunger reached an historic high in 2009 with over a billion people going without enough food every day. Malnutrition increased by 13 percent in Asia, 8 percent in Latin America and the Caribbean and 6 percent in Africa.

Caritas Australia launched a report 'Food: The Fundamental Right'



Supporting small-scale farmers in Haiti.

David Snyder/Caritas

in which they called for food to be recognised as a right through national and international policies. Caritas members went to a UN food summit in Rome in November calling for radical changes in the way resources are managed.

Michael O'Brien from Trócaire (Caritas Ireland) said during the meeting, "The liberalisation agenda promoted over the last decades by the World Bank and others has categorically failed. There is a real need to strengthen small farmers' involvement in policy making and implementation."

Caritas also lobbied the UN General Assembly's Economic and Social Council Emergency Session on the Food Crisis, highlighting agriculture, farmers, nutrition and the role of women.

Empowering the poor in Europe

European Caritas members set up various projects to help the poor. Some provided specific rehabilitation initiatives for particular sectors of the population such as street children, the mentally ill or homeless women. Others offered advice, a meeting place or a hot meal to anybody in need.

Caritas not only provided food, shelter and basic necessities to the most vulnerable. It also sought to empower people, value their skills and encourage them to take control of their lives.

The common focus is dignity, putting people at the centre. Homeless people at Caritas in Stuttgart, Germany, transformed bottles into art, expressing their hidden talents and challenging the prejudices of mainstream society.

In Voralberg, Austria, Caritas gives teenagers who dropped out of the regular school system a second chance. Supported by professional instructors, the teenagers produce wood products and renovate furniture until they can be guided towards vocational training or employment elsewhere.



An art project for the homeless in Germany.

Klemens Böchner, Caritas Germany



Caritas works to protect the rights of migrants such as this woman from Portugal doing seasonal work in France.
Elodie Perriot/Secours Catholique

Migration: Supporting migrant rights

Many people in poor countries are forced from their homes by conflict, poverty or climate change.

Caritas wants migration to be a choice, not an obligation. If people decide to migrate, Caritas members around the world offer them support at all stages: pre-departure, during their journey and stay in a foreign country, and on their return home.

The number of women migrating is increasing. Many women migrate alone. Migration is fraught with risks for them. They may fall victim to traffickers. They may end up in work in which they are abused and their rights are not respected.

Caritas helps migrants through:

- Advocacy at an international, national and community level
- Awareness raising about the risks
- Legal support in protecting their rights
- Counselling
- Assistance for a sustainable return



Children are often left behind as parents search for work. Providing social services to divided families is part of the Caritas mission.

Xavier Schwebel/Secours Catholique

Advocacy

In April and October at the UN in Geneva, Caritas highlighted that women who migrate and work in people's homes can be exploited and abused. Caritas made recommendations on how to improve the situation of migrants, based on a study of experiences collected from members and partners.

Caritas attended the annual consultations of the UN refugee agency (UNHCR) in Geneva. Caritas contributed to the session on urban refugees, presenting a case study about Colombian refugees in Ecuador. Caritas highlighted the failure by governments and the UN to protect women and girls in conflict situations from rape and other forms of violence and exploitation.

Caritas took part in the Civil Society Days at the Global Forum on Migration and Development in Athens in November. Caritas advocated for rights, stability and security for migrants to contribute to their own development. Together with Christian partners, Caritas urged the international community to give migration policies a more human face.



Martina Liebsch, Director of Policy for Caritas Internationalis.

A lifeline for Iraqi refugees in Turkey

"I was told to leave my country or die," said Sanaa*. "They didn't say why." So in 2009, Sanaa left all she had worked for in Baghdad to go and live in Istanbul. She had friends in the Turkish capital, but nothing else.



There might be as many as 2 million Iraqi refugees living in Turkey, Jordan, Syria and other countries. David Snyder/Caritas

"Things are hard here. I left behind my house, my friends, my family and my job. I was a dentist in Iraq but I don't have a job in Turkey because the language is very difficult," said Sanaa.

"I'm zero here. I don't know what my future is. I depend on myself for everything. Before, my family used to help me," she said.

Caritas Turkey supports Iraqi refugees through the Women's Solidarity Group in Istanbul. The group is a lifeline for Iraqi women, for whom the challenges of being alone in a new country are enormous. It helps them tackle their sense of alienation and offers an environment in which they can express themselves freely.

"I met people with the same problems as me and I made new friends," said Sanaa. "We talked about our country and we looked at the psychological impact of leaving our Iraq. We also did handicrafts together and made things. The group made me feel less lonely."

*Name changed to protect identity.

Pakistan's child camel jockeys get a fresh start

Falak Sher took his young son and his nephew from their rural village in Pakistan's Punjab region to race as camel jockeys in the United Arab Emirates (UAE) in 1998. He was in search of a fortune, but found a nightmare.

Once there, his children were starved to keep their weights at the minimum for racing. They were given electric shocks as punishments for minor mistakes. "We were not allowed to leave the premises. It seemed we had landed in a prison," he said.

Camel racing is a hugely popular sport in many Gulf States. As children weigh less, the camels go faster. Although the UAE repatriated 3000 child jockeys in 2005 to Pakistan, Bangladesh, and Sudan, the use of children as jockeys in the Gulf States is still reported.

Reintegrating the children has been a challenge. Despite a government scheme to get them back into school, many were reluctant. Parents and children had to be counselled on the benefits of education.

"This gap was filled by Caritas Pakistan. Its programme for advocacy and networking against human trafficking carried out a comprehensive research study on camel jockeys," said Amir Irfan, National Coordinator of the Livelihood Programme, Caritas Pakistan.

The survey began in 2009 with the help of supporters like the Child Protection Bureau. Caritas Pakistan prepared questionnaires



A former child jockey in Pakistan wears a cap urging an end to trafficking. Shahzada Irfan/Caritas

for children, parents and agents. It has been part of the process of the community coming to terms with issues.

Caritas Pakistan is now working with the communities in Punjab to send their children to schools or to skills training centres for those over 18 years old. Caritas also organised a day of prayer for the victims of human trafficking in August.

Basti Khurasan is a village where Caritas works with former child jockeys. Under a makeshift bamboo roof by the village mosque, some 30 children keenly listen to their teacher. They could now be children studying their lessons anywhere in the world.

A way home for a Ukrainian mother

Olga had left her three children in the Ukraine to find work in Belgium. When she realised there could be opportunities to return to the Ukraine and set up a business in her home town, she turned to Caritas.

Caritas Belgium's repatriation programme gives returnees help in finding a home and a way to make money. It offers medical and financial support as well as education and training. In 2009, Caritas prepared 215 people for repatriation. Of these, 186 went back home.

They helped Olga, who is a single mother, return home to her children. Once there, Caritas Ukraine, as part of the Solidarity Net, studied the business possibilities for Olga in the area. Her town didn't have a hairdressers so Caritas Ukraine gave Olga money to buy the equipment she needed to set up a hairdressing business.

"We act as a bridge for migrants between Belgium and their home country, where we work closely with other Caritas members," said Anne Dusard, Head of Social Programmes for Caritas Belgium.

Olga is now happily settled into her new life where she has the security of a job but can also take care of her children. But more importantly, she will see her children grow up and will be there for them along the way.



Olga and her counsellor in Ukraine.
Caritas Belgium



One of the worst hit areas of Gaza. Addressing trauma in children helps prevent serious mental illness.
Katie Orlinsky/Caritas

Peace: Finding new ways to end conflict

Caritas peacebuilding is making a difference. From urging dialogue in Uganda, the Holy Land and Sri Lanka to promoting reconciliation between Catholics and Muslims in the Philippines, Nigeria and Tanzania, Caritas plays a critical role in peacebuilding around the globe.

As well as providing aid in conflict situations, our work in 2009 included:

- Helping communities to find their own solutions to conflict
- Brokering peace deals between warring parties
- Holding military forces to the Geneva Conventions
- Collaborating with regional and global actors to seek peace

The north of Congo experienced renewed attacks by Lord's Resistance Army (LRA) fighters, which also spilled over into the Central African Republic, Chad and Sudan. Villages and churches were destroyed, women and girls abused, and children abducted.

Caritas provided aid and lobbied governments for better security in Congo. Caritas helped survivors come to terms with the tragedy by hosting cultural events where people of different ethnic backgrounds sang, danced and performed in plays expressing compassion for those murdered, raped or abducted.

"These cultural events help the population overcome the trauma of the massacres and also act as a challenge to the government to



Art classes in Tbilisi help children in Georgia overcome the recent conflict. Caritas

restore peace," said Benoit Kinalago, a local Caritas Congo partner.

As bombs fell on Gaza and Israel in January, Caritas staff met Israeli and Palestinian officials at the United Nations and in Jerusalem along with local Jewish, Christian and Muslim communities to open avenues for dialogue. Caritas lobbied for humanitarian access to Gaza, protection of all civilians and an end to the military action.

"The Gospel reassures us that God can make all things new, that history need not be repeated, that memories can be healed, that the bitter fruits of recrimination and hostility can be overcome," said Pope Benedict on his pilgrimage to the Holy Land in May.

Surf the web, stop conflict

Peacebuilding has become crucial in an age in which the nature of war and conflict has changed. In the past, most major conflicts were triggered by territorial ambitions and fought in contained theatres of war. Today it is more likely the enemy is not a far away, foreign army but a fellow citizen or neighbour.

The new reality of war means civilians become the primary targets and actors in armed conflicts. And it means traditional methods of high-level diplomatic talks, ceasefires and peace agreements are no longer sufficient for tackling the root causes of conflict and creating lasting peace.

In 2002, Caritas produced its "Peacebuilding Training Manual". The book contained case studies, information and exercises regarding peace, reconciliation and conflict resolution to help train community peacebuilders. The trainers would then go out into communities and use the manual to tackle the root causes of conflict.

Jesse Agustin used the manual as a Caritas trainer in East Timor following the conflict there. "Young people were encouraged to trace their family tree. As a result they discovered the genetic lineages of East and West Timor were inextricably linked, which lowered people's suspicions towards each other," he said.

Just as war has entered the 21st Century, so has peacebuilding. The manual has now been expanded and put online. Caritas launched the online "Peacebuilding: Web Toolkits for Trainers" in March 2009. With more than 200 pages, the web toolkit covers the



best peacebuilding materials published.

Users can pick and choose from a large selection of activities, handouts, case studies and resources for teaching skills in non-violence, negotiation and peaceful integration of people from diverse religious, ethnic or other backgrounds.

Cardinal Renato Raffaele Martino, serving at the time as the President of the Pontifical Council for Justice and Peace, praised the site. "The toolkit is a treasure house," he said.

Caritas presented the toolkit to the African Synod of Bishops that met in the Vatican in October. The theme of the Synod was 'The Church in Africa in Service to Reconciliation, Justice and Peace'.

Caritas Africa members had held meetings and seminars before the Synod on peacebuilding so they could feed into its conclusions. Caritas organised the first ever national peacebuilding conference in Uganda, inviting local religious and cultural, political and government leaders.

Sri Lanka's children celebrate

In early 2009, the 25-year-old conflict between the Tamil rebels and the government of Sri Lanka reached a bloody end. Up to 250,000 people were trapped between the two sides in the final stages of the war.

Caritas was one of the few aid agencies given permission to work in the combat zone throughout the fighting. Caritas Sri Lanka (SEDEC) staff remained alongside the people, enduring months of daily shelling and hardship. Now the fighting is over, Caritas is working with the affected population to provide aid, but is also building greater understanding between the country's people.

"Children are victims of this absurd, monstrous ethnic war. We should not divide them," said Caritas Sri Lanka staff. In October, Caritas organised a celebration of the Deepavali festival of lights for Hindu and Christian former child soldiers in a state-run rehabilitation centre.

A crowd of 200 people including Buddhist soldiers, and Hindu and Christian children joined the celebration. Children wearing colourful clothing sang Tamil songs, shared sweets and exchanged gifts. The Buddhist soldiers also joined the children for a traditional lunch, served on banana leaves. By encouraging



Caritas in Sri Lanka continues to work for a just peace.
Caritas Sri Lanka

dialogue and meetings among young people, Caritas hoped to create a bridge for the future, across the ethnic and religious divide.

Singing for peace in Uganda

Karamoja is Uganda's land of warrior nomads. Armed with automatic weapons from Congo and Sudan, young men engage in tit-for-tat cattle raids against rival clans. The scale of the raids can be huge with hundreds of fighters involved and several thousand cattle stolen in a single night. The death toll is high.

The government has tried to disarm the warriors. Its soldiers, tanks and armoured personnel carriers watch over key roads. They have brought the number of ambushes down (there was a 90 percent chance of not reaching your destination in 2006. Daytime carjacking is rare now). But they have failed to stop the raids.

Cattle raiding is a cultural issue, not a political one. Caritas supports activists who work at a parish level to try to change attitudes. Caritas has set up "peace groups". They hold social and sporting events promoting peace and development. Widows and orphans who are members of the groups sing songs about shattered lives.

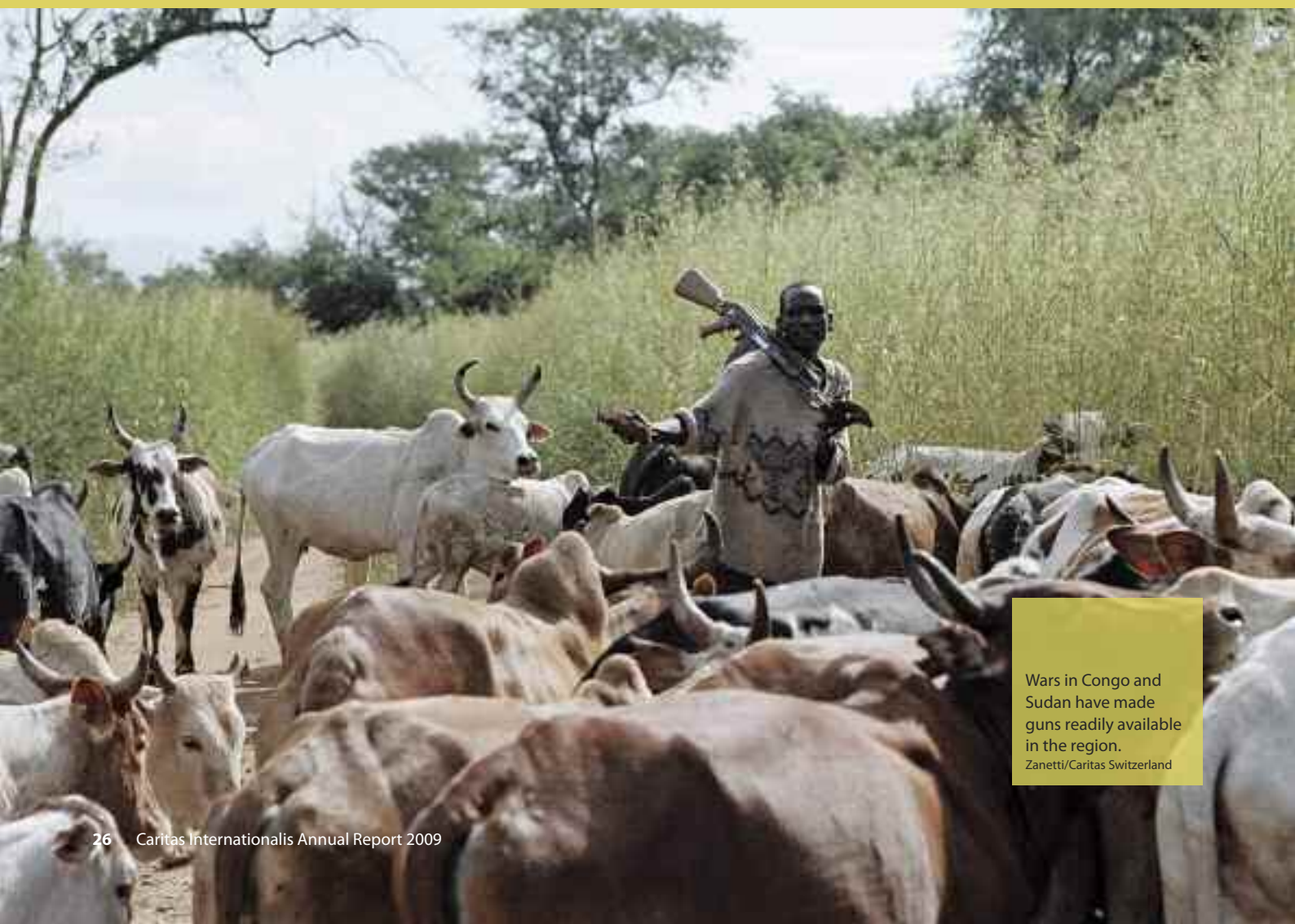
"We sing about stopping the raids," said Magdalena Gila, a 21 year old who lost her husband in a raid. "We sing about the challenges we face after losing sons, husbands and fathers. We sing about joining peace groups and getting involved in development."



Widows in Uganda sing songs against cattle raiding.

Patrick Nicholson/Caritas

Former warriors explain to their peers how their own lives have changed for the better after giving up raiding. "There is only one likely outcome if you carry on raiding. You die," said John Longwee, a former warrior. "So we show how getting an education can open up new possibilities."



Wars in Congo and Sudan have made guns readily available in the region.
Zanetti/Caritas Switzerland

Caritas workers in the Philippines after the storms hit.

Debbie DeVoe/CRS



Better safety for aid workers

Aid agencies need to reach the most vulnerable people, but from Afghanistan to Gaza, Sri Lanka to Sudan, this central pillar of humanitarianism was eroded. Providing a safe environment for aid workers is essential.

Caritas united in sorrow for the staff of its members and of partners who were killed or injured as they worked on behalf of the most vulnerable.

Ricky Agusa Sukaka, 27, was shot dead in North Kivu, Democratic Republic of Congo, on 15 July. A Congolese national, he worked as an agricultural engineer with Secours Catholique-Caritas France.

"Raj" Anthonipillai Uthayaraj, 26, was killed in Mullivaikal, Sri Lanka on 8 May while helping civilians who were seeking safety from the fighting between government and rebels. He was a driver for SEDEC-Caritas Sri Lanka. In the same conflict, Caritas Vanni Director Rev. Fr. T.R. Vasanthaseelan and Rev. Fr. James Pathinathan were seriously injured in shelling in April.

A bomb went off in a church in Nepal while Caritas Nepal Director Fr. Silas Bogati was celebrating Sunday Mass. A woman and a girl were killed.

Caritas also said goodbye to...

Caritas lost a long-serving colleague, Mark Snyder of American Caritas member Catholic Relief Services (CRS), in July, due to complications from malaria. Brian McKeown, the inspirational founding director of the Irish Caritas member Trócaire, passed away in July. Elena Chaves, a distinguished volunteer for the Caritas Internationalis office at the UN in New York for more than 20 years until 2006, died in June. She died shortly after her husband, José Chávez, a former Colombian Ambassador, who also assisted Caritas advocacy at the UN.



Mark Snyder

We urgently need to identify common values and a global ethic that can unite us as a human community



Caritas works in complex emergencies such as in the Democratic Republic of Congo.
Elodie Perriot/Secours Catholique

Summary of Emergency Appeals 2009



JANUARY

ZIMBABWE: Due to drought and economic collapse, food insecurity affected over five million people. An appeal was launched for USD 7.6 million (€6.1 million) to provide support to 165,000 people across eight dioceses of the country.

HOLY LAND: The Israeli offensive in the Gaza Strip in response to repeated rocket attacks from there affected the entire population of 1.5 million Gazans. Access for humanitarian experts and relief supplies was limited and subject to constantly changing rules and procedures. A USD 1.6 million (€1.5 million) programme building on existing Caritas health facilities within the Gaza Strip as well as the local parish volunteers provided emergency medicines, medical supplies and ambulances to four hospitals. Six Caritas-operated medical points and a medical centre were supported. Emergency food packs, hygiene kits, blankets and cash support were provided to 10,600 families.

KENYA: The food security of 10 million Kenyans was affected by a combination of late rains, poor harvests, a surge in global

food prices and post-election violence that displaced over 300,000 people and decimated crop planting and production. A USD 4.1 million (€3.3 million) programme provided support to 32,000 families through food-for-work projects, supplementary feeding for 5,500 people and drought-resistant seeds for 4,400 farming families in 14 of the most vulnerable dioceses in the country.

FEBRUARY

INDIA: Caritas continued to address the health and early recovery/ rehabilitation needs of 11,500 families in 14 districts of Bihar state, following the 2008 flooding.

MARCH

COSTA RICA: A 6.2 magnitude earthquake in January caused extensive damage to infrastructure and livelihoods across 71 communities of the country. The initial response was undertaken primarily through local resources. The confederation assisted in a recovery/rehabilitation programme with a total budget of USD 765,988 (€616,965), assisting 282 families in 13 affected communities to restore their homes and livelihoods.

SRI LANKA: Amidst reports of increasingly intense fighting and new displacements, the annual Caritas programme in response to the protracted conflict between Sri Lanka government forces and the LTTE in Sri Lanka was launched on 31 March. As events throughout April and May unfolded, the programme was reshaped and revised to address the needs of more than 280,000 people held in military controlled internally displaced people camps. The USD 2.3 million (€1.9 million) programme aimed at ensuring complementary food and basic requirements for the preparation and consumption of food, hygiene items, psychosocial assistance, and basic health care for up to 75,000 new internally displaced people as well as temporary and permanent shelter, education and livelihood assistance for older caseloads of people displaced by the fighting.

APRIL

SOMALIA (SOMALILAND): For Somaliland, the estimated rural population in 'Acute Food and Livelihood Crisis' was 45,000. The urban poor continued to struggle with hyperinflation, with 30,000 people in 'Humanitarian Emergency' and 110,000



more in 'Acute Food and Livelihood Crisis'. A programme appealing for USD 394,645 (€317,859) was launched on behalf of Caritas Switzerland to assist 17 communities to sustain their livelihoods through improved access to water for livestock, food and fodder production as well as safe potable water for human consumption.

PERU: Reconstruction work continued in Peru following the devastating 7.9 earthquake of 2007. A new programme was launched to assist 120 families reconstruct their homes and undertake school reconstruction for 1,170 students.

INDIA: Following the devastating floods in Bihar and Orissa during the summer of 2007, Caritas set up a 3-year capacity-building/disaster preparedness programme for 112 village communities, including 275,732 families, which continued throughout 2009.

MAY

CHAD: An Emergency Appeal was launched to ensure continued support to 56,473 Sudanese refugees residing in three refugee camps managed by Caritas in

Eastern Chad as well as 11,500 families in nearby villages heavily impacted by the presence of so many refugees. A budget of USD 2,386,607 (€1,923,077) was required to secure and maintain water systems in surrounding villages, ensure camp refugees can organise and maintain proper waste disposal systems within the camps, provide or replace various non-food items required by camp refugees and ensure refugee children have access to education in sound and appropriate classrooms.

BRAZIL: Persistent and torrential rains in the North and North-East of Brazil during much of May affected over 800,000 people. An USD 993,000 (€800,000) programme supported 5,000 families with food and hygiene kits and helped 200 families to rebuild their devastated homes and recover their livelihoods.

JUNE

PAKISTAN: The Pakistani army launched a major military offensive against insurgents throughout the Swat Valley, forcing close to two million people to flee the area. Five Caritas members responded

to the emergency and an appeal was launched for USD 7 million (€5.6 million) to provide basic shelter, food, water and sanitation, non-food items, health and protection services to 384,700 people.

BANGLADESH: At the end of May, Cyclone Aila caused widespread destruction of homes and livelihoods across 14 districts of the country, affecting over 3.8 million people. A response programme with a budget of USD 1.8 million (€1.5 million) was launched to support 15,000 affected families with emergency water and water storage containers, income through community cash-for-work initiatives aimed at restoring or repairing community infrastructure, such as embankments and feeder roads, and support for 3,000 families with repair or construction of their homes.

INDIA: Sixteen Districts of West Bengal State in India were severely hit by Cyclone Aila, affecting 5.3 million people. A response programme requiring USD 1 million (€811,511) was launched to support 20,000 families with emergency food rations, repair and reconstruction of damaged homes, livelihood restoration,



and community disaster risk reduction initiatives.

DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO (DRC):

Protracted conflict between various militia groups and government forces continued to rage across Eastern DRC, with disastrous effects on the civilian population. Over 1.7 million people were displaced. A comprehensive programme to address basic food security, non-food, health and education needs of over 400,000 persons was launched with a total budget of USD 12.5 million (€10 million).

JULY

CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC: Torrential rains caused flooding in the capital Bangui, leaving 10,813 people homeless. A USD 334,000 (€269,165) programme provided 600 families (5,896 people) with kitchen utensils, bedding, mosquito nets and materials for the construction of temporary shelters.

AUGUST

MONGOLIA: Heavy rain throughout the second half of July led to severe flooding

in several districts of the capital Ulaanbaatar and the Gobi-Altai province. An estimated 20,000 people were affected. A USD 176,000 (€142,000) programme to ensure adequate shelter (traditional gers or yurts) and water for 168 families prior to the onset of winter was launched.

SEPTEMBER

SENEGAL: Torrential rains caused havoc in the capital, Dakar, and outlying areas, affecting 264,000 people. Rapid, unplanned urban expansion of recent decades exacerbated the problem. A USD 450,000 (€361,296) programme provided food, hygiene kits, mosquito nets, and construction materials to 2,638 families. Local authorities were provided with tools and training for the clean-up operation.

BURKINA FASO: Torrential rains over a short space of time affected 50 per cent of the capital, Ouagadougou, and several other dioceses of the country. Over 150,000 people were directly affected and close to 25,000 homes were destroyed. A response programme worth USD 685,000 (€522,507) assisted 20,500 people with

food and non-food items, health services, school kits, and recovery of lost documents.

NIGER: Close to 100,000 persons were affected by floods caused by heavy rains in the regions of Agadez and Tillabery. Caritas provided USD 894,918 (€720,000) to assist 1,173 families with temporary shelter, hygiene kits, blankets, mosquito nets and kitchen utensils.



Cleaning up after hurricanes in Haiti and preparing communities for future disasters.
David Snyder/Caritas

OCTOBER

PHILIPPINES: Typhoon Ketsana raged across the Philippines and in the space of 24 hours dropped the equivalent of one month's rainfall on Metropolitan Manila, causing the worst flooding in 42 years. Over 1.8 million people were affected. A USD 830,00 (€666,813) Emergency Response Programme was launched to assist 10,000 families with rice, hygiene kits, shelter and bedding, mosquito nets and medicines.

CAMBODIA: Having caused havoc in the Philippines, Typhoon Ketsana continued on its destructive path across the north and east of Cambodia, where over 23,000 families were directly affected. Caritas assisted 3,000 families in 65 villages with food, hygiene kits, shelter materials, household utensils, basic health services and trauma counselling at a cost of USD 344,000 (€277,551).

INDIA: Torrential rains triggered some of the worst flooding in over 100 years in the states of Karnataka and Andra Pradesh. Over three million people were affected. A USD 1.8 million (€1.5 million) appeal was

launched to assist 35,500 families in 711 of the worst affected villages, including food, water, clothes, shelter materials, bedding, household utensils and access to basic health services.

SAMOA: On 30 September, an 8.3 magnitude earthquake generated a tsunami affecting Samoa, American Samoa and Tonga. Food, water, psychosocial assistance, shelter and education were provided to 5,000 people, mainly on the Samoan island of Upolo.

PHILIPPINES: A second typhoon within a few weeks caused extensive damage to the central and northern areas of the main island of Luzon. A rapid response programme to address the immediate food, non-food and health needs of 10,000 families across five dioceses was launched with a budget of USD 796,000 (€642,044).

INDONESIA: A devastating 7.6 earthquake struck off the coast of Sumatra, leaving over 1,000 dead. The trail of destruction was particularly heavy in and around the city of Padang, with its population of one million. Several Caritas members

responded to address the shelter, food, hygiene, health, agriculture/livelihood needs of the victims.

AFGHANISTAN: After two years of drought and high food prices, coping mechanisms among rural communities had been severely eroded. Many had sold off productive assets and their ability to withstand further shocks over the winter was seriously compromised. A USD 6 million (€4.9 million) programme to support 10,000 households in the provinces of Bamyan, Ghor and Herat was launched on behalf of Caritas member Catholic Relief Services. The programme ensured families could meet their immediate basic needs throughout the winter via cash-for-work projects, food for vulnerable households unable to participate in cash-for-work projects, as well as a voucher programme through which families could restore and replenish productive assets.

SUDAN: In Southern Sudan, the states of Western and Eastern Equatoria both faced food emergencies, but for very different reasons. In Western Equatoria, communities had been displaced and

brutally terrorised by LRA attacks, while in Eastern Equatoria, recurrent drought cycles limited people's ability to produce or access food. An appeal for USD 4 million (€3.3 million) was launched to support 10,000 people with food, seeds training and water until the next harvest in Eastern Equatoria. In Western Equatoria, 25,000 people were supported with food, non-food items, basic shelter, water and hygiene. The World Food Programme provided Caritas with food in Western Equatoria with funding from the confederation amounting to USD 2.8 million (€2.3 million).

NEPAL: Three days of torrential rains triggered a series of flash floods and landslides across 11 districts of Western Nepal resulting in 58 deaths and affecting 15,000 households. An early recovery programme for USD 221,963 (€178,817) was launched to provide food and non-food items to 132 affected families and support 1,800 families with income-generation and livelihood recovery initiatives.

NOVEMBER

NEPAL: Caritas Nepal has been working since 1990s on providing relief to Bhutanese refugees and is the implementing partner of United Nations High Commission for Refugees for the Bhutanese Refugees Education Programme (BREP) for secondary education and other education related activities in refugees camps. A USD 258,868 (€208,569) one-year rehabilitation programme was launched to provide education support to 3,926 refugee children, education supplies, staff training and financial support to 869 refugee teachers.

BENIN: Two months of heavy rain contributed to flooding of the Mono river. An appeal was launched to help the 200 most badly affected families in the Diocese of Lokossa and provide materials for shelters, school materials for 1,200 primary school pupils and seeds for 400 farmers.

DECEMBER

MAURITANIA: In a country characterised by chronic droughts, exceptional rainfall in August and September caused severe problems in the southern regions of Hodh, Assaba, Brakna as well as in Rosso and Nouakchott cities. Caritas Mauritania's 10-month programme assisted 23,800 people to restore agricultural and livelihoods. The most vulnerable households in rural areas were provided with drinking water, sanitation facilities and food.

SRI LANKA: After the end of the war, Caritas Sri Lanka engaged with key presidential, ministerial and provincial authorities in an effort to encourage and support the rapid resettlement of the many Internally Displaced People (IDPs) in camps. Caritas continued to support the remaining 130,000 IDPs in Jaffna, Vavuniya-Chettikulam, Trincomalee and Mannar camps, as well as returnees, families staying in host communities and transit facilities and war-affected families across the country. Caritas Sri Lanka's USD 2.5 million (€2 million) programme includes appropriate shelter with proper water and sanitation facilities for families who have lost their homes, livelihood facilities for war-affected families, and complementary food for IDPs in the camps and new returnees, educational assistance for war-affected students and psychosocial support for war-affected populations across the country.

SOMALIA (SOMALILAND): A one-year emergency and recovery response programme with a budget of USD 650,000 (€524,677) was launched to sustain livelihoods in drought-affected areas of Somaliland (particularly in the Haud plateau of Togdheer and Maroodi Jeeh) through improved access to water for livestock, and improved sanitation and safe drinking water for 12,500 households.

MYANMAR: The recovery programme following Cyclone Nargis continued, with the emphasis shifting from housing and community infrastructure to sustainable

livelihoods and the strengthening of community structures with targeted sectors including livelihood restoration, social protection, disaster risk reduction and institutional strengthening for 17,750 households in the Ayeyarwady Division.

ETHIOPIA: The Ethiopian government estimated that about 6.2 million people were in urgent need of humanitarian assistance as a result of continued drought in most parts of the country. A total of 68,309 people are receiving help from Caritas across five dioceses (Awassa, Hararghe, Adigrat - Main Office and Mekelle Branch - Gambella, Soddo Hosanna) with supplementary feeding, outpatient therapeutic feeding, health interventions, water, sanitation and hygiene promotion, natural resources management and livelihood recovery. Total budget for the programme is USD 1.6 million (€1.3 million).

SUDAN: The humanitarian situation in Darfur remained very serious with 2.7 million people displaced from their homes. Many of them have been living in temporary camps for up to six years and are largely reliant on the international aid programme in order to survive. Although the level of violence appeared to have subsided in many areas, widespread lack of security continued to discourage people from returning to their homes. A USD 8.6 million (€7 million) one-year programme is focused on effective delivery of life-saving services to the displaced people and host populations, through support to small-scale micro-credit groups and skills training, as well as the capacity-building of the two national partner organisations.

Caritas Internationalis

General Secretariat financial summary

	Euros, year ending 31/12	2007	2008	2009
Income				
Membership fees		1,926,950	1,986,399	2,045,990
Fundraising		511,887	492,850	4,709,799
Financial Income		297,277	303,158	210,019
Other Income		67,826	14,985	10
		2,803,940	2,797,391	6,965,818
Expenses				
General Management and Administration		1,061,654	1,044,640	1,091,827
Communications		303,859	283,567	341,093
Humanitarian Activities		231,037	264,120	305,346
Advocacy / Delegations		820,258	731,687	579,499
Fundraising				22,381
Total General Secretariat Expenses		2,416,808	2,324,014	2,340,146
Regional Structures		487,340	478,854	401,020
Governance Bodies		186,550	318,951	280,995
Financial Expenditure		162,802	200,351	101,946
		3,253,500	3,322,171	3,124,107
Net Income/Expenses		-449,560	-524,780	3,841,711
Specific programmes and projects*				
Income for Specific programmes and projects				
Member Organisations Contributions		121,191	**2,875,801	528,808
External Donors		897,904	270,676	181,965
		1,019,095	3,146,477	710,773
Expenditure on specific programmes and projects				
Emergency Appeals and other specific programmes		1,210,413	1,319,118	**3,503,864
General Secretariat projects***		98,187	163,322	225,294
		1,308,600	1,482,440	3,729,158
Net increase/decrease of Funds		-289,505	1,664,037	-3,018,385

* These are funds received for and expended on emergency appeals as well as private donations received for specific goals which are expended in accordance with the indications given by the donor.

** The expenditures of 2009 include €2.7 million for Myanmar (flooding emergency) received in 2008.

*** Projects under responsibility of the General Secretariat for which funding is raised from Members and third parties. In 2009 these were (the coordination of) the Catholic HIV and AIDS Network and a project on the Millennium Development Goals.

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