Caritas Internationalis is a global confederation of 164 Catholic organisations under the umbrella of the Holy See, which responds to humanitarian disasters, promotes integral human development and lobbies on the causes of poverty and violence.

Inspired by Christian faith and gospel values, Caritas works in most of the world’s countries with the poor and oppressed, vulnerable and excluded, regardless of race or religion. It promotes just and fraternal societies where the dignity of every human being is enhanced.

Depending on the size of the Catholic community and the will of their bishops’ conference, Caritas national members range from small entities to some of the world’s largest social, humanitarian and development organisations. Combined, they have over a million staff and volunteers.

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

Caritas Internationalis also has delegations in New York and Geneva representing the confederation at the United Nations. The Caritas delegations work with other international institutions and nongovernmental organisations and in close association with the Permanent Missions of the Holy See.

Caritas Internationalis is made up of seven regions: Africa, Asia, Europe, Latin America and the Caribbean, the Middle East and North Africa, North America and Oceania.
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One Human Family, Zero Poverty

By His Eminence Óscar Andrés Cardinal Rodríguez Maradiaga, SDB, President

Caritas Internationalis marked the 60th anniversary of the beginning of the confederation in 2011. We were founded by 13 Catholic charities in 1951 to better coordinate the Church’s humanitarian work. The Caritas confederation has since grown to 164 members comprising the humanitarian relief and social development arms of national bishops’ conferences worldwide.

Today, Caritas members support millions of poor people in improving their own lives with local and international programmes ranging from disaster risk reduction, humanitarian response and reconstruction, peacebuilding and reconciliation, climate mitigation and food security, primary healthcare and education.

In all our work we cannot forget what we are about. The model for us as Caritas is the Good Samaritan. With his “heart which sees”, he saved a life and became the paradigm for our priorities.

Nothing can be more important than our duty to help people in need. Our mission is to serve and promote the poor and even more so the poorest of them first, inviting them to be the actors of their own development. This is our raison d’être and thus we are at the heart of the Catholic Church’s mission of *diakonia*.

For many people in need, Caritas is the loving face of Christ who brings relief and comfort, respect and recognition. As Caritas, we are called to witness His love and we do it with enthusiasm. We know that God is love and we know and believe that He has created every single person in his image.

One Human Family, Zero Poverty is more than just a slogan for our confederation. It is the summary of our will to fight injustice and poverty. It is a simple expression of our understanding of the world.

Yes, we are one family. We should not allow divisions, creating second and third and fourth worlds in our midst.

Zero is a starting point. From zero the positive and the negative numbers start. Zero can be conceived as a ‘condition of possibility’ for all the numbers. It’s an analogy for equality. We cannot negotiate about 2 percent or 20 percent of poor people. We can’t afford to lose one single person from our one human family without losing our own destiny. We would lose a brother or a sister.

Simplicity is a choice for all living as one human family. But poverty is dehumanising and cannot be accepted in our world. Where poverty is not chosen, but imposed by unjust structures and decisions, it affects the dignity of our brothers and sisters, who are all in their own right images of God.
Introduction

By Michel Roy, Secretary General

In 2011, we witnessed hope. We saw it in the line of Sudanese queuing up around the block at 5am in Juba waiting for the polling stations to open at 8am so they could cast their vote on independence for South Sudan. We found hope as young officials counted ballots late into the night with only torch light to see by. We found hope that after decades of conflict, a new nation was created through democracy.

Six months after the historic vote, I was fortunate enough to be in Juba for the birth of South Sudan on 9 July. People had travelled for days from all over the country to make it to the capital in time for the celebrations. There was no need for security because everyone was very happy. We celebrated and prayed together for unity for the future. And we look forward to working with the new Caritas South Sudan as it seeks to help the country on its road towards peace.

We kept our hope alive through the challenges of 2011. Hunger swept across East Africa, bringing hardship to millions of people unnecessarily. It’s a scandal that in the 21st Century we witnessed famine, this time in Somalia. We have the means to prevent hunger on this scale. The world must act more quickly in future.

Caritas brought short and long-term interventions to families in distress in East Africa. Caritas committed to expanding our long-standing development and immediate assistance programmes. It’s in addition to the many programmes we already have there which reach millions of people. All of this is done by, with and through the local Church, Caritas and other groups.

2011 was also a year of hope for the migrants who work in our communities as maids, carers and labourers. Although involved so closely with family life in households and being entrusted with the care of children or elderly people, these domestic workers are too often badly treated. Now they have hope for a brighter future after a new international convention providing for greater rights came into place.

Governments, employers and unions meeting at the International Labour Organisation’s conference in Geneva voted to approve the Domestic Workers Convention. Under the new international legal instrument, domestic workers will have rights such as an entitlement to social protection, to rest days and annual leave, collective bargaining and protection from abuse.

It’s a milestone in breaking the prejudice they face every day, especially if they are migrants. We now need to follow this up by urging governments to ratify the convention.

We found hope at the Caritas Internationalis General Assembly in May and at our 60th anniversary celebrations. The General Assembly saw 300 delegates from around the world come to Rome to share experiences, discuss and plan better ways to overcome poverty and to renew their solidarity with the poor through working together as a confederation on humanitarian aid, integral human development and better international policies.

The General Assembly was the final step in agreeing to our new Statutes and Rules to be given to Pope Benedict for approval. We received this from the Holy See in May 2012 along with a General Decree. Our new Statutes and Rules will modernise our work in delivering humanitarian assistance, lobbying and promoting integral human development. They will provide us with the framework to carry out our work as part of the mission of the Church as we start our next 60 years.
60th anniversary and the General Assembly: Caritas looking back, moving forward
**General Assembly**

“All that you say and do, the witness of your lives and activities, remains important and contributes to the advancement of the integral good of the human person,” said Pope Benedict XVI to delegates at the 19th Caritas Internationalis General Assembly in Rome in May 2011.

The humanitarian and development work of the confederation of 164 Catholic charities “will enjoy the assistance and support of the Holy See,” he said at an audience with 300 Caritas representatives from national members attending the assembly.

Caritas Internationalis President Cardinal Óscar Rodríguez Maradiaga addressed Pope Benedict on behalf of the confederation. “Caritas dares to dream of a world of communion and charity,” he said. “Poverty is unacceptable as it affects the dignity and equality of the human person and thus the whole human family.”

Caritas delegates, including 50 bishops, officials from the Holy See, representatives of international organisations, diplomats and members of other faith groups met for six days to discuss how Caritas can best reduce poverty. Cardinal Rodríguez said it was “as an authentic expression of its common mission within the Church: to serve the poor.”

Reflecting on the One Human Family, Zero Poverty theme of the General Assembly, Cardinal Tarcisio Bertone, Secretary of State for the Holy See said that Caritas “is called to demonstrate, practically and effectively, that the world is one family, the family of the children of God.”

Cardinal Robert Sarah of the Pontifical Council Cor Unum, Cardinal Peter Turkson of the Pontifical Council Justice and Peace and the preacher to the Pontifical Household Fr Raniero Cantalamessa OFMCap were also among the keynote speakers.

**A new strategic direction**

Delegates also agreed on the confederation’s strategic framework for the next four years. Caritas is focusing its efforts on the following goals in the poorest, most vulnerable, disadvantaged and oppressed communities.

- Saving lives, relieving suffering and helping rebuild livelihoods so that women, men and children are able to survive and recover from humanitarian crises and live in a safe and secure environment.
- Promoting development so that everyone has equal access to essential services such as clean water, education and healthcare and the resources they need to live sustainably, with dignity.
- Striving to transform unjust systems and structures to enable people to influence the systems, decisions and resources that affect them and live under governments, institutions and global structures that are just and accountable.
- Building capacity within and strengthening Caritas so that it is better equipped to challenge global poverty, rooted in faith, through prayer and action in effective global partnerships.

The mandate of the President Cardinal Óscar Rodríguez Maradiaga SDB was renewed. Jürg Krummenacher was elected Treasurer and Michel Roy was elected as the Secretary General. Caritas Mongolia, Caritas Vietnam, Caritas Monaco, Caritas Sweden and Caritas Samoa joined the confederation.
The world comes to Rome

It took Sr Senolita Vakata two days to come to Rome from Tonga in the Pacific Ocean for the Caritas Internationalis General Assembly. Her return journey began after just seven days in the Italian capital.

“I wake up at 3am every morning because of jet lag, but it’s worth it. I feel as though I’m part of the family,” she said. Sr Senolita was just one of the 300 delegates from 160 countries at the General Assembly.

Dr Benedict Alo D’Rozario from Bangladesh said, “The General Assembly is a great forum for sharing resources. Caritas Bangladesh is here to offer its experiences as well as to learn from others; for example, our president will talk about our successful climate change projects.”

One of the Caritas confederation’s primary characteristics is its unity in diversity. The unity comes in many forms, such as solidarity in emergencies, collaboration on advocacy campaigns and in the spirit that runs through Caritas’ work. The assembly is vital for strengthening this unity among member organisations.

Msgr Carmel Farrugia from Caritas Malta explained why this is so important. “Coming from such a small country, the General Assembly gives me the opportunity to connect and share ideas with bigger members,” he said.

Gilio Brunelli from Development and Peace (the Canadian member of Caritas) gave the perspective of a much bigger organisation and yet echoed Msgr Farrugia’s thoughts.

“This is my fourth General Assembly;” he said. “It’s the chance to meet the directors of organisations we work with around the world. This makes working with them when there is suddenly an emergency much easier as we’ll have already built the beginnings of a relationship here.”

Peter Maduki from Caritas Tanzania said, “This opportunity to come together is very important as we look at what has gone well and not so well. We always take away with us the suggestions to improve the strategic framework for the next four years. People are sharing their concerns and we need these opportunities to transfer knowledge and skills.”

Laurence Banapour from Caritas Iran said that the meeting is not just an opportunity to talk about projects, but “to realise the importance of applying the Gospel to our work.”

Caritas renewed

The 19th General Assembly was an important moment for the renewal of the Caritas confederation as it moved to agree new Statutes and Rules among its members that recognise its privileged position within the Holy See.

Blessed John Paul II raised Caritas Internationalis to a ‘public canonical juridical personality’ by means of the Chirograph (or deed) ‘Durante l’Ultima Cena’ in 2004. This formally recognised that Caritas carries out its charitable activities in the name of the Catholic Church.

Since 2007, Caritas and Holy See representatives worked on revisions reflecting this new standing. Delegates at the General Assembly in 2011 approved a draft version that was then taken forward by staff of the Holy See and Caritas representatives.

On 2 May 2012, Caritas Internationalis President Cardinal Rodríguez received the approved updated Statutes and Rules and a General Decree from the Cardinal Secretary of State on behalf of Pope Benedict.

These confirm Caritas Internationalis as coordinating humanitarian, development and international activities on behalf of its members and the Holy See. They strengthen the relationship with the Pontifical Council Cor Unum, the Vatican office responsible for coordinating and promoting social pastoral work and charitable giving. They establish Caritas more fully within the Holy See.

“Our new Statutes and Rules will modernise our work in delivering humanitarian assistance and development in service to the poor,” said Cardinal Rodríguez. “They will provide us with the framework to carry out our work as part of the mission of the Church.”
60 years of service to the poor

Caritas Internationalis marked its 60th anniversary in 2011. With a million staff and volunteers providing humanitarian relief, integral human development and peacebuilding, Caritas is today at the heart of the Church’s mission, a sign of God’s love for humanity in Jesus Christ.

The first national Caritas organisation was launched in Germany in 1897, quickly followed by ones in Switzerland and Austria. The First World War showed that Catholic agencies needed to cooperate more at an international level and the further impact of World War II sowed the seeds that would become Caritas Internationalis. Cities had been destroyed, countries torn apart and refugees were wandering the world looking for a home. The Church’s answer to this was Caritas Internationalis, ‘love between nations’.

The confederation was founded in 1951 by 13 Catholic charities so they could share knowledge and experience and support each other both in times of disasters and in the response to poverty. They received support from Msgr Giovanni Battista Montini, who would become Pope Paul VI in 1963.

Msgr Georg Hüssler, a former president of Caritas Internationalis, said, “The idea was to structure the Church’s social activities in every country to create a national Caritas and then to have it join Caritas Internationalis. This way, Caritas Internationalis became a highly federal organisation covering the whole world.”

The Caritas confederation has since grown to over 160 members comprising the humanitarian and development arms of national bishops’ conferences.

Over the past six decades the world has seen incredible changes. Communism has fallen and computers have transformed the way we work and live. Desperate poverty has, in many countries, been turned into affluence. Hunger and poverty are much diminished.

Yet this affluence has not been distributed equally. Children are still dying of hunger in a world where there is enough food. There are 1200 billionaires today. But, the world’s bottom billion people live without access to adequate healthcare and education.

Many countries still struggle with poverty and injustice. There is much left to do for Caritas and its supporters in creating ‘One Human Family, Zero Poverty’.

The Caritas Express Train

To mark the 60th anniversary of the founding of Caritas Internationalis, a special historic steam train left the Vatican railway station and travelled to Orvieto in Umbria on 21 May. The Vatican station is used for departures by popes. In the past, trains containing Caritas relief supplies also left from the Vatican station.

As well as members of the public, officials from the Vatican and Ferrovie dello Stato (the Italian State Railway system supported the initiative), representatives from Caritas national organisations, diplomats from embassies to the Holy See and train enthusiasts were on board.

A heritage steam locomotive from 1915 departed from Vatican station with seven carriages from the 1930s. The State Parlour Car on this train was used by Pope John XXIII and was previously used by the Italian royal family and by presidents of Italy.

Cardinal Rodríguez said, “A train has many wagons, Caritas has 164 members. Caritas is like a big train of charity and love.”
Emergencies: Compassion in action

From the devastating famine in Somalia to the earthquake in Japan which killed 15000 people, to the ongoing response to conflict in Sudan’s Darfur region, Caritas Internationalis launched 30 joint confederation programmes in 2011, raising pledges of €59 million through appeals from its members.

Caritas works permanently in most of the world’s disaster prone areas. This presence on the ground means that in a second year of floods in Pakistan, Caritas was able to act quickly and effectively to help people in need. Local teams are able to call on the strong foundations of the confederation for additional support, as in Côte d’Ivoire when conflict threatened to tear the country apart.

The world endured its costliest year ever for economic losses from natural disasters at more than a third of a trillion dollars in damage. But it was the human loss that was most telling.

It was shameful that 2011 saw people die of famine again in Africa. Famine is declared when 30 percent of children are acutely malnourished, a fifth of the population is without food and deaths are running at two per 10000 adults or four per 10000 children every day. Parts of Somalia surpassed those levels in mid-2011.

As well as the unacceptable human suffering, it also costs more to respond after a crisis has happened than before. When famine threatened Niger in 2005, the cost of help before the crisis peaked was put at €5 a person. The world failed to act; hunger deepened; the cost of help ended up at €18 a person.

Caritas projects aim to make communities in East Africa better prepared by investing in sustainable farming. It helps them adapt to the more extreme and erratic weather patterns brought by our changing climate and to protect themselves and their livelihoods. Helping communities prepare ahead of time is key to our work there and throughout the world.
East Africa faces famine

In 2011 in Ethiopia, Kenya and the rest of the Horn of Africa, hundreds of thousands of people were on the verge of starvation created by the worst drought in half a century. In Somalia, drought and conflict combined to create a famine in parts of the country.

“I saw women collapse by the side of the road,” said Godfrey Godana, who works on Caritas’ hunger relief projects in the Marsabit diocese of northern Kenya. “The women work hard and when they don’t have food, they collapse.”

Crops turned to dust and dead goats lay in what once was pastureland. Even in the months before the hunger peaked, the signs of what was in store were everywhere.

“A baboon came into our kitchen and tried to get food from the pots,” said a 7-year-old girl called Europa. “My older sister threw stones at it.”

Eventually the animals began succumbing. “We’d see water buffalo and big elephants who had died from the drought,” said Emmanuel, who lives in a village in the Marsabit area. “There were so many bones.”

“We forgot there was such a thing as rain,” said Faustine, a parish volunteer in a Kenyan village.

Families spent their small savings, ate their seeds, tried to sell their dying livestock and journeyed for days to find water. But in the end nothing stood between them and hunger.

“The elderly and the widows without children – some of them died of hunger,” said Zeinabu, a widow with seven young children.

Caritas Australia trained villagers in alternative livelihoods like poultry raising, so that they were less dependent on pastureland. Trócaire and CRS (Caritas members from Ireland and the USA) paid impoverished villagers to improve water sources, protecting every drop they could.

Caritas groups aided Somalis fleeing violence and drought in their homeland, providing water at refugee camps. Caritas Kenya and the Ethiopian Catholic Secretariat (Caritas Ethiopia) distributed thousands of bags of food and supported clinics for malnourished children.

Near Europa’s village alone, the local Catholic diocese trucked in millions of litres of drinking water as part of a Caritas Switzerland programme. With help from donors to Cafod (Caritas England and Wales), villagers built dams and mothers received a nutritious food supplement for their children.

Caritas’ past work in the region helped prevent even worse calamity. Near Zeinabu’s village, a borehole that Cordaid (Caritas Netherlands) created in 2004 provided water to 3000 people. In Ethiopia, a deep well that CRS drilled in 2007 helped families and their flocks survive. Before the drought, 9000 people were using the well; during the drought, that rose to 50000 people. Established clinics helped Caritas weigh and treat children suffering from malnutrition.

“The mothers, they feel you have rescued their children,” said Peter Sangal, a local nurse.

The situation in parts of East Africa is still critical. Though rains fell in some areas in autumn 2011, water is still in short supply in many regions, especially in southern Ethiopia. Caritas continues working with communities, giving drought-resistant seeds to farmers and restocking herds for families who lost their only source of income, their animals.

Meanwhile, Caritas reached over a million people in East Africa with lifesaving help. Remembering the trucked-in drinking water in Marsabit, Emmanuel said, “If not for Caritas, we would have died.” Zeinabu echoes this. “I can’t express how grateful I am,” she said. “Please take our gratitude back to the people who gave.”
Volunteers help Japan after earthquake and tsunami

“I opened my door and water was flooding by. Everyone was shouting, ‘Hurry up and escape!’” Satoshi Onodera is over 60 and has lived on Japan’s east coast for years. But “I’ve never seen such a big tsunami,” he said of the massive wave that struck his hometown, Kamaishi, in March 2011. With hundreds of others, he and his wife ran uphill to a temple that became a makeshift evacuation centre.

“A second wave came. It was very big. The buildings were floating,” he said. “I couldn’t believe it was real.”

Along the coast, tens of thousands of people were fleeing to high ground, shouting for loved ones and watching their homes swirl away. The tsunami killed over 15000 people and caused billions of dollars in damage.

Onodera and his family were spared. A member of Kamaishi’s small but vibrant Catholic community, Onodera became one of the first survivors to start what would grow into the Caritas response to the disaster. As 250 people huddled in the cold at the temple – “there would be two or three blankets for 10 people,” he remembered – Onodera began working with other local leaders to help his neighbours. “The first priority was to get water,” he said. “Then three meals a day. We made 100 rice bowls each time, also milk, soup and pudding.”

Because the Japanese government and armed forces were able to provide food and many essential services in the first days of the crisis, the tsunami called for a different sort of response from Caritas. In Kamaishi and several other coastal towns, Caritas Japan filled in the gaps, mobilising thousands of volunteers over the course of a year. Those volunteers removed tons of mangled debris from neighbourhoods, cleaned mountains of mud from elderly people’s homes, helped fishermen recover their livelihoods and ran soup kitchens.

Creating “listening cafes” in church basements where survivors could share their fears and sorrows, Caritas volunteers comforted people who were traumatised by what they had experienced.

More than a year after the tsunami, Japan’s coastal towns are coming to life again and the survivors are beginning to heal. “I thank God I’m alive,” said Keiko Kikuchi, a 79-year-old woman who scrambled up a hill to escape drowning. Later, Caritas volunteers cleaned out her house and the roads near it. “Without the volunteers, nothing could have been done,” she said.

Thanks to Caritas donors across the world, Japan’s tsunami survivors have received concrete help. But beyond that, they’ve received moral support. They know they’re not alone.

More than 2500 people volunteered for Caritas Japan.

Wilfried Batuy/Caritas Japan
Migrant workers caught in Libya conflict

“When I left the capital, Tripoli, the situation was very bad,” said Salim, a 32-year-old construction worker from Bangladesh. “I saw a lot of demonstrations and fighting. I saw people get beaten and we could hear shots.”

The Arab Spring saw uprisings across North Africa, the Gulf and the Middle East. Conflict in Libya in particular put civilians in peril. Among them were over a million migrants workers from Africa and Asia.

“I had been working in Libya for a total of four years and only came back for visits to Bangladesh,” said Salim. “My wife stayed in Bangladesh and last year, our daughter Anise was born, so working in Libya and sending home money was a good way for me to support my family.”

Libya was one of the major destination countries for Bangladeshi migrants. Around 50000 to 60000 Bangladeshis lived there. Most were employed in the construction sector. When the fighting began, the companies the migrants had worked for had to shut their doors. Many fled to the Egyptian and Tunisian borders.

Sometimes, their employers gave the migrants money so that they could leave the country. Most of them pooled what they had to rent buses that would take them to the Tunisian border. But on the way, their money, electronic devices, mobile phones and even their SIM cards were often stolen.

“I didn’t feel safe there anymore, the situation was very dangerous,” said Salim. “As a foreigner, you had to be careful not to be drawn into the unrest. My mobile phone and some of my money was stolen, but apart from that, I was lucky nothing happened to me.”

Caritas sent two emergency teams to Libya’s borders with Tunisia and Egypt to provide emergency aid such as food, healthcare and counselling to thousands of stranded migrants. Caritas reception centres welcomed those fleeing, helped them find aid and a way home.

Supporting the Bangladeshi migrants was particularly challenging because not only were there so many of them, but because most spoke only Bengali with sometimes a few words of English. Caritas Bangladesh helped by sending three of its social workers to join the Caritas emergency team.

“My wife saw the unrest on TV and was very worried about me,” said Salim. “I reassured her by calling whenever I could and telling her I was fine, but she is glad to have me back here now.”

Floods in Pakistan for a second year

“I still remember the night of 22 July,” said Shakeela Mohammad Bakhsh, who lived in Badin, Pakistan. “Suddenly we heard the noise of flood waves reaching our house. The water level was rising fast, too fast for us to carry some household items. We heard the cries and moans of people around us calling for help and rescue.”

A second flood hit Pakistan in the summer of 2011, almost exactly a year after floodwaters devastated huge swathes of the country. After watching their homes, crops and livestock washed away in 2010, Pakistanis watched it happen all over again.

“It seemed like forever until some rescue teams came for us and carried us to a safer place,” said Shakeela. “Before that, we were alone and had nothing to eat or drink. My brother fell ill and we did not know where we would find the money to arrange his treatment.”

Within a few days, a Caritas Pakistan team reached the area. They distributed food for a month, kitchen utensils, quilts, bed sheets and pillows.

The floods of 2011 were less deadly, but did plenty of damage. In a southern part of the country called Sindh, over 8 million people were affected and over 2 million bales of cotton, a key cash crop for impoverished farmers, were lost.

Caritas Pakistan gave food to over 5000 families. In the areas where Caritas worked, malnutrition rates remained low. Caritas provided 8000 tents or temporary shelters to the flood victims, making sure to work in accordance with local norms. Caritas ran over 100 free medical camps and helped at other health clinics, treating 250000 patients who had problems like scabies, respiratory tract infections, snakebites and fever.

To prevent diseases spread by mosquitoes and dirty water, Caritas distributed soap, antiseptic, detergent and mosquito nets to more than 5000 families. Caritas also led hygiene sessions for 45000 patients, giving families basic information about how to avoid becoming ill.

After their crops were washed away and their animals drowned, Pakistan’s villagers needed help rebuilding their farms. Caritas gave seeds to 2000 farmers and fertiliser to 1600, also helping them prepare their land in time for the next growing season. To keep remaining livestock healthy and because farmers earn money by selling milk and meat, Caritas treated or vaccinated 70000 animals like cows, water buffaloes and goats.
War returns to Côte d'Ivoire

“The soldiers came at night. They shot and killed people. I fled with my two children,” said Patricia, a young mother living in Man, Côte d’Ivoire. “I haven’t been able to find my husband since.”

The West African state had descended into civil war by February 2011 after a long political impasse when the incumbent president Laurent Gbagbo refused to step down from office following his electoral defeat by Alassane Ouattara the previous November.

Patricia was five months pregnant when soldiers attacked her village. She hid in the forest at the home of a friend for a week, but then the soldiers attacked again so she left for Liberia. Finding no shelter or food in Liberia, she returned to her village in Côte d’Ivoire.

Nearly 220000 people were forced to other parts of Côte d’Ivoire and 200000 others fled to neighbouring countries. Caritas Côte d’Ivoire worked at 20 sites providing thousands of people like Patricia with emergency relief, food and a safe haven.

A shaky peace has returned to the country but much work needs to be done to rebuild it. “I’m afraid to go back home,” said Jacques, who fled his village of Benouin in April after it was attacked.

“It’s a question of bringing the various communities closer together with a nationwide programme as the crisis has affected the whole country,” said Jean Djoman, the national coordinator of humanitarian operations for Caritas Côte d’Ivoire.

“Parish workers are trained in reconciliation and peacebuilding procedures using the tool kits developed by Caritas Internationalis and in partnership with the Justice and Peace Commission.”

Jean Djoman said that if the process of reconciliation and the promotion of social cohesion is to succeed, refugees and internally displaced people must be helped to go back home.

“This return depends on bringing peace to all parts of the country and rehabilitating badly-damaged homes. Schools need to be reopened. Agricultural production needs to start quickly,” he said. “If these conditions are met, the reconciliation process could bind together the new Côte d’Ivoire.”

One million lives helped in Darfur

2011 was a historic year for Sudan. It saw the secession of the southern part of the country from the North after one of Africa’s longest running civil wars.

But in Sudan’s Darfur region the fighting continued. More than 300000 people have been killed since 2004 in Darfur and over 2.7 million people forced from their homes. Conflict, high food prices and an economic downturn combined to increase malnutrition in 2011, with rates in some places as high as a third.

Caritas members provide aid to over a million people in West and South Darfur through two programmes of work. Catholic Relief Services (CRS is a US Caritas member) runs a programme meeting the immediate and long-term development needs of more than 500000 people. Caritas also works with the Act Alliance of Protestant and Orthodox aid agencies in a unique ecumenical cooperation helping another 500000 people.

In West and South Darfur, Caritas and Act work mostly in camps for people forced from their homes but 15 percent of the aid also goes to host and rural communities to reduce tensions. The main focus is providing emergency relief, clean water, healthcare, nutrition and in peacebuilding.

Solar power is also making an extraordinary difference in the camps, by providing much needed water to those living there. In Khamsadigay camp, which houses just under 20000 people, a solar powered water pump provides 29 litres of water to each person living in the camp each day, using only a very small amount of the power it generates.

“By investing in solar energy, we are cutting costs and improving sustainability,” said Caritas Internationalis Humanitarian Director Alistair Dutton. “By teaching clean hygiene and sanitation to people we are reducing the number people who fall sick.”
Haiti rebuilds

“Just a little while ago, it was very hard for me to find something to eat. I didn’t feel strong, I didn’t know what to do and had no one to help me. Now I’ve got my energy back,” said 60-year-old Olivia Jean Louis. She is part of the Caritas Les Cayes Elders Assistance and Supervision Programme set up by Caritas Haiti in partnership with Caritas Spain after the massive earthquake (called the goudougoudou in Creole) of 12 January 2010 in Haiti.

“The elderly were hit badly by the earthquake,” said Juan Manuel Diaz Parrondo, Caritas Spain’s representative in Haiti. “Some of them lost their homes in Port-au-Prince or Jacmel and returned to the communities where they originally came from. But their families are already very poor. They can’t take them in, feed, house and look after them.”

There are no pensions in Haiti. The elderly rely on their children. But many of these children had moved to the cities to work. Some of them died in the earthquake, while others lost everything including their homes and jobs. Without them, the elderly are left to look after themselves and live in extremely difficult conditions.

The programme aims to provide food for poor older people and give them the healthcare they need. It also enables them to develop small farming and commercial activities to boost their self-sufficiency.

“We’ve settled the poorest of the community’s elderly in a house,” said Fr Aldagène Louisnel, head of the local Caritas. “We can feed another 25 elderly people every day as a result. They’re looked after by a nurse. They’re supervised and take part in various activities to help them become part of communities again or increase their income support themselves.”

Caritas members are keeping up their efforts to help the hundreds of thousands of people affected by the disaster. After giving immediate assistance such as food, hygiene kits and temporary shelter, Caritas members have turned their attention to more long-term aid projects.

Thousands of homes have been rebuilt, which as Caritas Haiti said represents “a victory over the earthquake and a fresh start for the most vulnerable families”. Caritas is also working to provide people with better access to healthcare and adequate sanitation. This work has become a high priority since a cholera epidemic in Haiti in October 2010, which continues to threaten many regions of the country.

Caritas members also support the rebuilding of schools and the improvement of access to education for children from poor families. Caritas helps farmers to improve their output and fight malnutrition.

Caritas has also provided counselling to people traumatised after the earthquake, especially children. Caritas has helped women to start up new businesses to make them more self-reliant and to improve the living standards of their families. The initiatives are as diverse as the needs of the Haitian people.
Emergency Appeals 2011

- A total of 30 Emergency Appeal (EA) programmes were carried out in 27 countries
- Over 2.9 million people received humanitarian support through EAs
- The combined EA budget appealed for was €70907017
- 84 percent of appeals were covered
- At least 83 Caritas members provided financial, technical or in-kind support through the appeals
- The total amount pledged in 2011 was over €59M
Number of appeals launched by region 2011

- ASIA: 12
- AFRICA: 9
- EUROPE: 1
- LATIN AMERICA & CARIBBEAN: 4
- MONA: 4

Types of emergency covered by appeals 2011

- EARTHQUAKE: 5
- CONFLICTS: 10
- DROUGHT/FOOD INSECURITY: 3
- CYCLONES/HURRICANES/TYPHOONS: 2
- ANNUAL FLOODS: 10

Amount pledged by appeals by region 2011

- ASIA: €27684212.85
- AFRICA: €21929243.97
- EUROPE: €327143.00
- LATIN AMERICA & CARIBBEAN: €2734533.72
- MONA: €7033393.85

Total amount pledged by appeals vs. amount unmet 2011 (84% covered)

- ASIA: €59708527.39
- AFRICA: €11198489.64
- EUROPE: €234462.00
- LATIN AMERICA & CARIBBEAN: €2734533.72
- MONA: €7033393.85

Total pledged vs. balance outstanding by region 2011

- ASIA: 84% covered
- AFRICA: 83% covered
- EUROPE: 58% covered
- LATIN AMERICA & CARIBBEAN: 43% covered
- MONA: 153% covered

- TOTAL AMOUNT PLEDGED
- TOTAL AMOUNT UNMET
- TOTAL PLEDGED
- BALANCE OUTSTANDING
Advocacy: A voice for change

Caritas calls for a better world. It calls on behalf of the poor, on behalf of the marginalised and on behalf of the world, which is not ours to continue to treat badly. Caritas’ voice is strong because it is the sum of hundreds of thousands of voices. And Caritas’ voice is heard. It’s heard by governments and policymakers and by the poor themselves, who listen in hope.

Sometimes though, it can seem as if no one is listening. It can take years – even decades – of investing in determined moral advocacy for change to happen. This may well be the case with Caritas’ work on climate change and climate justice. UN negotiations in Durban on creating a new convention on greenhouse gas emissions ended with a disappointing outcome.

Often the persistence works. Caritas celebrated in June 2011 when the International Labour Organisation adopted a new convention which aims to ensure that domestic workers are treated with respect and their employers are held accountable if they are not. Caritas was part of a network which lobbied for the convention and is now urging its adoption.


Caritas sent a ten member delegation to the Annual Consultations of UNHCR in Geneva and co-sponsored a session which called for more robust opportunities for refugees to resettle in other countries as a way to protect them.
Rights for domestic workers

Often they live in luxurious homes with nice furniture and several cars in the garage. There is a house in the country for weekends. But they’re starving.

Each year, thousands of women leave impoverished places like Nepal and fly to Lebanon, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia and other countries to become live-in housemaids. They work long, hard hours, hoping they’ll earn enough money to support the families they have had to leave at home.

Some are treated well. But others have abusive employers. The maids cook for the family. Then the kitchen cabinets are locked, the refrigerator is locked and the door to get outside is locked.

“I ate rotten fruit and four-day-old leftovers,” said Fay,* a maid from the Philippines who lived in Beirut. “They would give me one small piece of cheese once a day,” said Rekha, a girl from Nepal who also lived in Lebanon.

Daily hunger is not all these women face. Some maids are raped or are so badly beaten they become disabled. Caritas members have reached out to abused domestic workers. Caritas provides shelters so women will be safe and legal aid so they can seek justice. Caritas also offers women training to give them other employment options.

But until governments recognise that domestic workers need special laws to protect them and these laws are enforced, the abuse will continue. In June 2011, thanks to the campaigning work of Caritas and other charities, the International Labour Organisation adopted Convention 189 with joint Recommendation 201 – a major breakthrough in making sure that domestic workers are treated with respect and that their employers are held accountable if they are not. Convention 189 includes provisions such as the regulation of international recruitment agencies and written job descriptions and contracts.

Some national Caritas in Latin America – such as Caritas Uruguay – strongly supported the Caritas campaign by using an advocacy card created by Caritas Internationalis and by mentioning the campaign in their publications. Uruguay has ratified the Convention. Caritas is part of a network lobbying other countries to do the same.

*All names have been changed.

Oxana was struggling to get by as a cleaner in Belgium. Caritas helped her to get home to Ukraine and find work. Caritas Ukraine
Stopping human trafficking

“The middlemen see that the girl’s family is poor. They tell her parents, “I’ll marry your daughter and find her a good job.” At a refugee camp in eastern Nepal, a high school counsellor describes how criminals target teenage girls. “They say, ‘She’ll earn a lot of money and send it home. It will change your life’.

Across Nepal, across Asia, across the world, human traffickers tell the same kinds of lies to poor and desperate young women and their families. The women’s lives are changed – but not for the better. All too often they are taken out of their country and are sold into unpaid labour or forced prostitution.

To fight this exploitation of women, as well as the men and children who also become victims, Caritas has gathered together many groups into COATNET – The Christian Organisations Against Trafficking in Human Beings NETwork.

COATNET is a network of 36 organisations from 28 countries of the world. They have been working together for ten years. In November 2011 all the members had their biennial meeting in Brussels where tackling trafficking for labour exploitation was identified among the main concerns of the network.

COATNET members – including Catholic, Protestant and Orthodox Churches’ organisations – contact each other across countries and continents, trying to find people who have gone missing or are in trouble.

COATNET members in Africa, Asia, Middle East, Oceania and Europe work together to give skills training and counselling to survivors and provide legal aid to those who want to prosecute their traffickers. Members also cooperate with government agencies on enforcement and act as consultants to police forces.

COATNET advocates for the rights of victims and lobbies for safer ways of migration which can reduce people’s vulnerability to trafficking. COATNET submitted information to the report of the United Nations Special Rapporteur on Human Trafficking concerning a rights-based approach to the prosecution of trafficking cases.

COATNET’s primary goal, however, is to prevent people from being bought and sold in the first place. In small African villages, in the slums of Asia, wherever traffickers operate, COATNET members run telephone hotlines, hold awareness sessions in schools, broadcast warnings on the radio, put up posters in bus stations and make sure people at risk are informed. At the refugee camp in Nepal, another counsellor trained by Caritas said, “If we can save the life of just one girl, we will be happy.”
Disappointment at Durban climate conference

“We look at farmers in Kenya and wonder if they have a future. For us, flood follows drought.” Samson Malesise sees firsthand the suffering inflicted by climate change as he and Caritas Kenya colleagues respond to crisis after crisis.

Samson carried the hopes and pain of Africa’s poor – who suffer disproportionately – to Durban in November 2011, where the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) tried to hammer out how the Kyoto Protocol on greenhouse gas emissions should be extended. He rode the Trans Africa Caravan of Hope – six buses and 300 people – who journeyed from Burundi to South Africa, raising awareness and support. “Over 17 days and 4000 miles we projected the African voice. Then we worked on unifying African countries into one position for the negotiations.”

The lack of a common position is a major obstacle to agreeing what happens after Kyoto. Even between the G77-plus-China group of developing nations there is a lot of distance. Between them and the developed world there is even more. Essentially the argument is – who cuts emissions first and who pays to support the hardest-hit countries? Caritas advocates for an agreement which is fair, ambitious, legally binding and which funds adaptation methods to help the world’s poorest people.

Cardinal Óscar Rodríguez Maradiaga, President of Caritas Internationalis, discussed the difficulties of reaching an agreement with the President of the G77-plus-China group, while a side event and a march brought attention to the right to food as a guiding principle. Caritas helped present an Interfaith Dialogue on Climate Change to the UNFCCC Executive Secretary and at a special Mass, the Cardinal pointed out that less than a week before, torrential rain had brought suffering and loss to Durban.

It is not only in Africa though where Caritas member organisations must respond to climate change crises. In Asia and Central America severe floods eroded people’s capacity to cope. Dr Anwara Shelly, representing both Caritas Bangladesh and her government, advocated for a “loss and damages fund” to help severely affected countries and for climate refugees to be given recognition and rights. Scientists believe 17 percent of Bangladesh will be underwater by 2050 unless the world takes enough action to clean up its act. Millions of people will be displaced and food production will collapse.

In the end, there was a deal. Governments will work together towards a treaty binding everyone to cutting emissions. They will meet again in 2012. Caritas welcomes the progress. But it is not enough. While governments talk, the world’s very poorest people – one billion of them – bear the brunt.
Praying for peace in Sudan and South Sudan

“East Africa’s newest nation #6, the United Nation’s country #193...” So flashed the statistics on the independence countdown clock in South Sudan’s capital, Juba. New recycling and rubbish bins lined the streets under signs reading “Keep Juba Clean and Green” and the Church declared a Day for Prayer and Cleaning in a symbolic act of purification and reconciliation.

The world’s newest nation was born on 9 July 2011, welcomed with festivities and celebrations and a special Mass the following day in St Theresa’s Cathedral of Juba. When Cardinal John Njue, Archbishop of Nairobi and the Holy See’s representative to South Sudan, rose to say the homily and to bless South Sudan’s independence, the congregation erupted in cheers and applause. But the Cardinal warned that though “we have come from far, we still have far to go.” The Mass was the culmination of a calendar of events of spiritual preparation for the independence declaration, when the bishops of Sudan asked for people of all faiths all over the world to join them in praying for peace. The bishops also asked for trees to be planted in every diocese in South Sudan.

The difficult road ahead is revealed in South Sudan’s other statistics. A third of children do not see their fifth birthday, half the population lives in extreme poverty, only a third of people are literate.

In the run up to the January 2011 elections which gave the country its independence, Caritas worked in partnership with the local Catholic Church to provide 100000 people with water, food, shelter, health and education. It continued its long running peacebuilding campaign with radio broadcasts and practical courses to help people gain the skills for jobs, not fighting.

Sadly, separate conflicts in the Nuba Mountains and Abyei spiralled into serious humanitarian emergencies. Clashes between Sudan and South Sudan and with rebel fighters have forced people from their homes, leaving them with only the clothes they stand up in.

Caritas has warned that the situation is perilous and has joined calls for peace and justice. Secretary General Michel Roy, who represented the Caritas confederation at the independence celebrations, said: “It’s time for unity, for all Christians to give inspiration to their leaders, to that they will go the right way, away from conflict.”
Advocacy on AIDS

“AIDS is an important disease that we should all know about,” said fifteen-year-old Shareen Awad. “Our classmates asked many questions and through a comedy routine we put on, we taught them how to avoid HIV.” Shareen was trained as a peer educator by Caritas Jordan’s HIV/AIDS Awareness Project and now spreads the word in a country where conservative attitudes could leave the door open for the virus to spread.

Dr Ammar Burgan of Caritas Jordan said his medical colleagues also needed to be given the correct information. “Caritas is the first in this country to discuss HIV correctly and clearly.” Jordan is just one of the more than 100 Caritas members who continue their grassroots work with people affected by HIV and AIDS.

At the international level, Caritas Internationalis continued to advocate for appropriate and affordable Highly Active Retroviral Therapy through its HAART for Children campaign. Caritas Internationalis Head of Geneva Delegation Rev. Msgr. Robert J. Vitillo was also appointed to the steering group of the Global Plan to eliminate new HIV infections in children by 2015 and to keep their mothers healthy, which is sponsored by UNAIDS and other international agencies.

At the High Level Meeting on HIV and AIDS, held during June 2011 at UN Headquarters in New York, Caritas co-sponsored a side event on the ‘Impact of Cutbacks and Flat-lining of funding for AIDS programmes in Low Income Countries’.

World Youth Day and the World Social Forum

“Life is a song – what better director than Christ to guide the song of our lives?” Caritas Internationalis President Cardinal Óscar Rodríguez Maradiaga used an image young people are familiar with to reach out to them for World Youth Day 2011. Half a million young Catholics registered for the event, which was held in the Spanish capital, Madrid, from 16–21 August, culminating in a Mass led by Pope Benedict XVI. Young pilgrims came from as far afield as the Horn of Africa and Japan. Representatives from Caritas Australia said they would use the spiritual journey to also promote their campaign, “A Just Climate.”

As migration was a major focus of the World Social Forum held in Dakar, Senegal, Caritas hosted a workshop on climate change and forced migration. Caritas Cambodia described its training programme for young people to help them stay in their villages, while Caritas Bangladesh explained how new drip irrigation methods can guarantee food security in the face of extreme weather, so preventing migration.

Secours Catholique (Caritas France) used a board game featuring migrants’ real stories to highlight the difficulties they can face. A link-up by computer camera allowed players to discuss the benefits of the free movement of people with observers in Paris, some of whom were migrants themselves.
“As I am fond of saying to Karina’s donors — and I am sure they will remember me for this! — although programmes of work are our spearhead, it is proper and accountable financial management that will build the reputation of any national Caritas!” Sophie Töligi of Karina, the national Caritas of Indonesia, points out that just six years after being established, Karina has full funding of its emergency programmes and is confidently approaching donors to extend its areas of work.

Sophie is enthusiastic about the Improving Financial Management and Transparency Programme which was introduced by Caritas Internationalis in early 2011. It offers member organisations the support to assess their own strengths and weaknesses, pinpointing any needs for training, systems and best practices. Working collaboratively, members will then create new standards of management and transparency.

Caritas Internationalis is the steward of valuable resources, holding them in trust and making them work as effectively as possible to meet the needs of the world’s poorest people. In a fast-changing world, both beneficiaries and donors increasingly expect Caritas to be professional and responsible. By strengthening Caritas, it will have a greater capacity to deliver real change to the people it serves.
Regional round up

Caritas Internationalis is made up of seven regions: Africa, Asia, Europe, Latin America and the Caribbean, the Middle East and North Africa, North America and Oceania. Here are some selected highlights from 2011.

• Archbishop John Onaiyekan of Abuja, Nigeria, gave the keynote address at the Caritas Africa Regional Conference in Rome in May. He said that Africa has for a long time been the beneficiary of funds, relief materials and even personnel from other regions, but the time has come when Africans must organise themselves to give from the little that they have. Caritas Africa had already set up a Solidarity Fund to ‘develop relations of solidarity between dioceses and within the Episcopal conferences themselves’. A Caritas Africa Emergency Management Team has also been set up to help coordinate emergency response on the continent.

• Caritas Europa produced a report on ‘Bridging the Gap between Policy and Practice on the European Consensus on Humanitarian Aid’. The European Consensus is the EU’s policy framework for humanitarian aid. Caritas asked that EU governments work to ensure that humanitarian aid does not become a crisis management tool whereby the lines between military operations and humanitarian aid become blurred. The report was broadly disseminated among the representatives of EU Member States and the European Commission and some of its findings were welcomed.

• Against a backdrop of severe droughts across the Central Pacific, Caritas Oceania representatives from eight different nations gathered in Auckland, Aotearoa New Zealand in April for their annual forum. Many of the states represented, such as Tonga and Kiribati, are among the most vulnerable to climate change. Amelia Ma’afu, Programmes Officer for Caritas Tonga, said they were experiencing more coastal erosion and contamination of drinking water. Young people were planting mangroves for coastal protection, but “there’s a sense of hopelessness”, because they are isolated, contribute so little to climate change and are feeling effects more acutely than many other places.

• Caritas Middle East and North Africa (MONA) held a special session on the Arab Spring at the Caritas Internationalis General Assembly in May. Professor of Islamic and Arabic culture, Samir Khalil Samir, SJ, said that there has been a subsequent exodus of Christians. But he nevertheless believed that “the future lies in collaboration” between all and that Christians should propose initiatives that create greater equity, spread a culture of peace and democracy, promote solidarity and act for a common development.

• Caritas Asia members promote organic agriculture and farmers’ rights across the region through the Sustainable Agriculture and Farmers’ Rights (SAFaR) programme. The Farmers’ Conference (FC) is one of the major yearly events of the programme, held in the Philippines in September 2011. Here grassroots level farmers gather together, learn and share their concerns and raise their voice to protect their rights. Srot Lory was one of the two indigenous farmers who attended the conference with the support of Caritas Cambodia. “It is my first time joining such a great event like this and I’m so thankful to Caritas for offering me this rare chance. I will share what I learn with the people in my community,” he said.

• Caritas North America is a unique region with just three members. They work together to promote the profile of Caritas Internationalis, support one another in various areas of common interest and promote opportunities for collaboration with Caritas Latin America and the Caribbean, holding joint meetings. Caritas North America has been particularly active on supporting climate justice communications work across the confederation by helping to coordinate a quarterly newsletter on the issue.

• Caritas Latin America and the Caribbean played a leading role on emergency response. When storms caused destruction and wiped out years of development in Guatemala, El Salvador, Honduras and Nicaragua in October, Caritas members in Central America implemented a coordinated response based on community strengthening, the recovery of farming and livelihoods and provision of humanitarian aid. Caritas Latin America and the Caribbean has also worked closely with Caritas Haiti to support their response to the 2010 earthquake and their institutional development.
Summary of Emergency Appeals 2011

JANUARY

Sri Lanka
After monsoon floods left thousands of people homeless in Sri Lanka, Caritas cooked food for 15000 people and gave dry food rations to 27000 families. Caritas also gave people drinking water, hygiene kits and building material to repair damaged shelters and livelihood support. Budget: €287096.

Caritas also continued helping families affected by the country’s lengthy civil war. The assistance provided includes: shelter, water and sanitation, livelihood and education support to over 4000 families and 4000 children who suffered from displacement or other consequences of the civil war. Budget: €3.6 million.

Brazil
The floods and mudslides that struck south eastern Brazil were the worst natural disaster the country had experienced in 40 years. More than 800 people died and thousands were left homeless. Caritas Brazil gave 1400 families food, hygiene kits and emergency shelter. The second phase of the programme continues with the construction and reconstruction of 100 houses.

FEBRUARY

Côte d’Ivoire
Turmoil in Côte d’Ivoire caused thousands of people to flee their homes. Caritas Côte d’Ivoire focused its response in Zouan-Hounien in the west and in Agboville and Abidjan in the south by providing food to 5000 people, non-food items to 2100 households, 1500 school kits, healthcare through 8 health centres and protection to vulnerable people, particularly women and children. Revised budget: €1 million.

Niger
Many families in Niger lost their homes and belongings after heavy rain falls and floods in August 2010. After providing mosquito nets to affected people in 20 villages, Caritas Niger (CADEV) planned to help over 200 families recover by giving them seeds and digging or rehabilitating wells. Revised budget: €121296.

LIBYA
When political turmoil engulfed Libya, thousands of migrant workers tried to flee the country, but were stranded at borders without food or water.

Catholic Relief Services (CRS) led Caritas’ intervention at Salloum on the Egyptian-Libyan border for third-country nationals fleeing the conflict. The CRS/Caritas team distributed an average of 3000 meals and 3000 bottles of water each day in March and April to migrant workers to supplement the daily food and bottled water ration provided by UN agencies. Caritas staff from CRS, Caritas Lebanon, Caritas Ireland/Trócaire and Caritas Switzerland were also able to provide psychosocial support, interpretation services and inter-agency coordination.

Budget: €174584.

On the border with Tunisia, Caritas helped stranded workers waiting for repatriation or resettlement. An estimated 35000 migrant workers, chiefly Bangladeshi, received
information and services available at the camp and were referred for additional assistance. Budget: €80000.

At the Niger border, 3300 migrant workers received blankets, mosquito nets, hygiene kits and other emergency aid as well as support in reaching their homes in Niger. With the funds received (approx. €650000), Caritas Niger included food and healthcare in its intervention.

Throughout the crisis, the Caritas network was able to quickly draw on key Caritas expertise and staff from countries like Bangladesh to provide linguistic and culturally appropriate support to the many migrants awaiting repatriation.

**Peru**

When floods struck Peru in January and February 2011, Caritas Peru provided 2800 households with food, water and sanitation and shelter kits. Caritas Peru then shifted its attention to addressing the rehabilitation needs in the region Madre de Dios. Budget: €341442.

**March**

**Japan**

A 9.0 magnitude earthquake and tsunami struck eastern Japan on 11 March, killing over 15000 people and destroying more than 300000 houses. In the first months after the disaster, Caritas Japan provided meals and emergency items to nearly 10000 people. It also set up four volunteer centres and mobilised 2900 volunteers to clear debris from homes and businesses. The budget for the first phase of Caritas Japan’s relief work was €2.4 million.

**Pakistan**

As Pakistani families struggled to recover from the floods of summer 2010, Caritas continued to help them by providing 360000 people with shelter, water, livelihood support, sanitation and education. Building on a previous emergency appeal, the requested budget was €15.7 million.

**April**

**Chad**

Near the border between Chad and Sudan, the situation of refugees from Darfur remains difficult. Caritas Chad (SECADEV) is helping 34000 Sudanese living in the Kounoungou and Milé camps, as well as 9000 locals from surrounding villages, with projects in water, sanitation, livestock, agriculture, cultural activities, training and more. Budget: €878626.

**Myanmar**

A magnitude 6.8 earthquake struck North-Eastern Myanmar on 24 March, affecting around 18000 people. An Emergency Appeal with a budget of €263384 was launched to provide 2000 earthquake victims with emergency food aid, temporary shelter, building materials and counselling. Community infrastructures, waster systems, latrines and schools are also being rebuilt.

**May**

**Chile**

Caritas Chile continued providing aid to those affected by the earthquake and tsunami of 27 February 2010. Its rehabilitation programme supported the reconstruction or repair of houses, as well as livelihoods recovery, psychosocial intervention and more. Budget: €1.5 million.

**South Sudan**

Building peace and helping the vulnerable in South Sudan (which became independent in July) is crucial given the many challenges facing this newly-formed country. Caritas is providing water, food, shelter, health and education to 100000 conflict-affected people, including people who had to flee their homes. Caritas is also using an established network of radio stations to broadcast information about emergency situations such as sudden displacements and natural disasters. Budget: €5.9 million.

Mr Wawvike and his family escaped Libya. They received help from Caritas on the Egyptian border. Donal Reilly, Catholic Relief Services
**J U L Y**

**Philippines**
Caritas is providing shelter for people who lost their homes following super typhoons Ketsana and Parma, which struck in autumn 2009. Caritas is helping 415 families with damaged homes by providing the means for permanent or transitional housing. Budget: €566831.

**A U G U S T**

**Kenya**
East Africa’s worst drought in sixty years affected millions of Kenyans. Rivers dried up, livestock died and people suffered severe hunger and thirst. Caritas Kenya designed a programme worth €3.9 million which has been alleviating the immediate suffering of the most affected households by providing food and water as well as supporting the recovery of households by distributing seeds, restocking/feeding livestock and supporting communities to undertake water infrastructure rehabilitation and construction activities. In all, 30420 households in the 14 most affected dioceses of Kenya will be assisted.

**Ethiopia**
Two consecutively poor rainy seasons left an estimated 4.5 million Ethiopians without food or a way to make a living. Caritas members helped 65000 beneficiaries by providing food and water, protection and recovery of livelihoods and improving the nutritional and health status of vulnerable individuals. Budget: €1.4 million.

**Somalia**
This programme responds to the refugee crisis caused by drought, conflict and famine in Somalia. More than 250000 Somalis fled their country in 2011, often walking on foot to already overcrowded refugee camps in Kenya. Existing water taps, washing facilities and latrines at the camps were not sufficient to accommodate the new arrivals. This project, run by Catholic Relief Services, is providing sanitation and water systems for over 10000 refugees in Kambioos Camp in Dabaab, Kenya.

**Bangladesh**
When heavy monsoon rains struck the Khulna and Mymensingh regions, Caritas Bangladesh gave rice, cooking oil and other food to over 8700 families. Caritas is supporting flood-affected people to repair damaged houses, culverts, roads and embankments. Budget: €414227.

**Japan**
In the wake of enormous tsunami damage from the March earthquake, Caritas Japan continued to meet people’s basic human needs, especially elderly people who lost their homes. Caritas helped small businesses rebuild and distributed heating supplies to 45000 people living in transitional houses. Budget: €5.8 million.

**Pakistan**
A severe flood struck southern Pakistan in late summer 2011, compounding the damage done by a massive flood in summer 2010. Caritas Pakistan provided tents to 8171 families, along with food, soap, mosquito nets and more to over 5400 families. Caritas ran rural health centres that treated 250000 patients. Catholic Relief Services (CRS) and Trócaire are targeting a total of 35000 households – or 240000 individuals – in the affected areas of Sindh, Punjab and Balochistan.

Because many families are dependent on livestock, Caritas treated 68031 animals such as cows, buffaloes, and goats. It also gave seeds to 2288 farmers. Budget: €1.5 million.

**Cambodia**
Severe floods affected over 150000 families in autumn 2011. Houses were flooded, schools, pagodas and other buildings were damaged and vast amounts of the rice crop were destroyed. Caritas Cambodia distributed food, hygiene items and other essentials to 7000 flood-affected families and helped them restore their livelihoods. Budget: €264290.
October

Philippines
Two severe typhoons (Nesat and Nalgae) hit Northern and Central Luzon from 27 September to 1 October 2011. Caritas Philippines is providing food, hygiene items, household and shelter material through the distribution of vouchers so that families have the flexibility to choose the supplies they need. Budget: €326098.

South Sudan
Caritas South Sudan and Cafod are helping families who fled attacks by the Lord’s Resistance Army (LRA) in Western Equatoria State, South Sudan. At least 25000 beneficiaries are receiving food, shelter assistance, education, access to basic healthcare and use of water and sanitation facilities. Budget: €1.5 million.

Thailand
Responding to the massive floods of autumn 2011, Caritas provided food and non-food items for households and those in temporary shelters, volunteer health services, rice seeds and vegetable seeds for farmers and microfinance grants. The total budget of €667000 helped to assist some 44000 people in the Archdiocese of Bangkok and the Diocese of Nakhonsawan.

Turkey
A 7.2-magnitude earthquake struck eastern Turkey in October, leaving more than 600 dead and causing great damage to houses. Caritas Turkey distributed children’s coats and shoes, along with stoves to households most in need of heating. Caritas is also helping villagers repair their homes. Revised budget: €561605.

Guatemala, El Salvador, Honduras and Nicaragua
In October 2011, downpours in Guatemala, El Salvador, Honduras, and Nicaragua led to floods, landslides and crops being wiped out. Caritas ran ‘Food for Work’ programmes, giving rice, beans, corn and more to villagers in return for cleaning and rehabilitating community infrastructure. Caritas is also helping families rebuild their homes and farmers recover from the disaster. Budget: €3.3 million.

December

Sudan (Darfur)
Caritas and its ACT partners continue to provide lifesaving services to people who fled violence. The programmes support six clinics and three nutrition centres in West Darfur and a nutrition centre in South Darfur. They also construct and rehabilitate schools and provide school materials. The programme improves sanitation in schools, provides solar power and creates boreholes. It also works to build peace among groups in conflict. Budget: €8.7 million.
Financial information

Confederation

Caritas Internationalis member organisations spent a total amount of €2.1 billion in 2010/2011, this was 2 percent less than in 2009/2010. Of that, €1.3 billion was spent on international programmes (humanitarian relief and development) and €0.6 billion on domestic poverty relief programmes.

The activities of the confederation were funded by private donations (church collections, individual donor programmes, legacies, corporate sponsoring, contributions by trust funds) for €1.0 billion. Governments, international governmental organisations and multilateral organisations provided a total of €1.0 billion.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Consolidated figures for Caritas Internationalis Member Organisations (in billion euro)</th>
<th>2010/2011</th>
<th>2009/2010</th>
<th>Variation</th>
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<td>Private donations</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other contributions</td>
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<tr>
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<td><strong>2.18</strong></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Note: the above figures incorporate information from audited annual accounts of members, complemented by estimates. 2009/2010 figures have been revised on the basis of information received since May 2011.

General Secretariat

The work of the confederation is coordinated by the General Secretariat in Rome. Its annual budget includes contributions to the costs of regional offices and the meeting costs of the confederation’s governance bodies and amounts to over €3 million.

In 2009 the General Secretariat received an exceptionally large amount in private donations. The surplus that this created in 2009 is gradually being spent in the years 2010–2012.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>General Secretariat Audited Accounts 2011 (€)</th>
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<tr>
<td>Other income</td>
<td>1098656</td>
<td>691293</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Contributions</strong></td>
<td>3228886</td>
<td>2798660</td>
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<tr>
<td>Financial Income</td>
<td>-38125</td>
<td>156004</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Income</strong></td>
<td>3190761</td>
<td>2954664</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charged to reserves</td>
<td>509207</td>
<td>863044</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>3699967</td>
<td>3817708</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| **Expenditure**                             |     |     |
| General Secretariat Expenses                | 3029844 | 2931953 |
| Regional Structures Expenses                | 342700  | 529703 |
| Governance Bodies Expenses                  | 325368  | 348692 |
| **Total Operational Expenditures**          | 3697912 | 3810348 |
| Financial Expenditures                      | 2055   | 7360 |
| **Total**                                   | 3699967 | 3817708 |

A full financial summary can be found on [www.caritas.org](http://www.caritas.org)
Lalomanu in Samoa was badly affected by a tsunami in 2009.
Mark Mitchell/Caritas Aotearoa New Zealand