







In each section you will find a QR code like this one. Scan it to see the corresponding video.

Index

- 4 Message from the President of Caritas Internationalis
- Message from the Secretary General of Caritas Internationalis
- 6 Caritas at the heart of the Church
- 8 Reduce risk, save lives, rebuild communities
- 20 Promote sustainable Integral Human Development and Care for Creation
- 24 Global Campaigns
- 26 Building global solidarity
- 28 Caritas Internationalis 70th Anniversary
- 30 Fundraising
- 32 Increasing the effectiveness of the Caritas confederation
- 35 Women and Youth
- 36 Safeguarding
- Income statement of Caritas Internationalis General Secretariat

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT **OF CARITAS INTERNATIONALIS**

Cardinal Luis Antonio Gokim Tagle



pandemic on all aspects of daily life. Across the world armed conflicts, political and social unrest, poverty, discrimination, and natural disasters continued to undermine the dignity of people – especially of the poor and vulnerable – on top of the difficulties caused by the pandemic.

It was in this global context that Caritas Internationalis celebrated its 70th anniversary. Through seven decades, Caritas Internationalis has witnessed the pain of poverty, suffering and degradation as a result of indifference, manipulation, and unjust attitudes and political systems. But in these seven decades, Caritas Internationalis has also seen the transforming power of care, communion and compassion.

As the pandemic continued to disrupt life throughout 2021, Caritas always stood by the poor, expressing the love and concern of Mother Church towards them. While rich nations were campaigning to protect their citizens from the pandemic, nations in the Global South had limited access to vaccines. In response, Caritas Internationalis



immediately and continuously called for waiving patents to ensure vaccines were available to all. Meanwhile. Caritas also continues to campaign for

"debt forgiveness" and for funds to be directed towards promoting integral health in the poorest nations.

The smiles and lit up faces of the thousands of people Caritas has served over this last year is a testament to the positive impact we have in restoring people's lives. For those who are used to being neglected, compassion means everything. In turn, Caritas is always enriched by the lives and example of the poor – they are truly our masters and teachers in tenacious hope!

And I have great faith that Caritas will continue to be attentive to "the signs of the times" and go out to meet the needs of the poor throughout the world in spite of emerging challenges. We will continue to be an instrument of service, peace and harmony.

May God bless the mission of Caritas and its committed collaborators.

Caritas is at the heart of the Church and at the heart of the world and, in turn, the Church, the world and especially the poor are in the heart of Caritas.



MESSAGE FROM THE SECRETARY **GENERAL OF CARITAS INTERNATIONALIS**

Aloysius John



the more symbolic and significant at a time when Caritas continued to be at the frontline to support those who were affected by the pandemic.

The 70th anniversary was also marked by different events that brought to evidence the diversity of activities accomplished by the Confederation in the seven regions during these seven decades. It was a moment of witnessing at the global level the mission of Caritas to support, accompany and defend the poor.

After four years of Share the Journey, the global campaign on migration and defense of the people on the move, Caritas Internationalis launched the new global campaign "Together We". In the coming four years this campaign will focus on integral ecology, in the spirit of the encyclicals Laudato Si' and Fratelli Tutti, wherein the human person and defence of the environment will be at the centre of all humanitarian concern. The Confederation envisages to mobilise all members at all levels and precisely at the grassroots wherein the local communities will be the key actors in this campaign.



Throughout 2021 Caritas Internationalis sought to be a true voice for the voiceless by calling on decision makers to consider the interests of the

poor and the marginalised, especially regarding access to vaccines, relaunching the informal economy through micro finance and development programmes.

At a time when localisation is being concretised, Caritas Internationalis is giving prime importance to the institutionalisation of the Management Standards at the Confederation level, especially with the launch of the fifth standard, which aims at ensuring protection and safeguarding as a priority for all the Caritas.

In spite of the challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic, Caritas Internationalis was able to continue its mission with determination and commitment.

I take this opportunity to thank all those who have been journeying with Caritas during these seven decades.

A sincere thanks to the Holy Father, who expressed his continued support to the mission of Caritas as a service of the Church to combat poverty and injustice on the occasion of the 70th anniversary during the prayer of the Angelus.





Serving out of love and building a culture of participation of the poor and vulnerable

In 2021, Caritas Internationalis continued to fulfill the mission of serving out of love, thus affirming our identity as an organisation at the heart of the Church, taking inspiration from the Gospel and Catholic Social Teachings.

The Catholic Identity Committee initiated a discussion on the various means and ways to accompany the formation of the heart for Caritas staff and volunteers, and to support the animation of local communities and Church actors involved in our missions. To that end, the institution of the ministry of chaplains was recommended following the request from many church leaders and Caritas agents.

The majority of regions have now put in place reference groups on Caritas Identity whose mandate is, among others, to facilitate the formation on Caritas spirituality and to disseminate and make accessible the Church's documents on the service of charity.

To build a culture of participation of the poor and the vulnerable, and to challenge the tendency to treat them as mere beneficiaries, Caritas Internationalis committed to promote, among others, the World Day of the Poor. In November 2021, we jointly marked the World Day of the Poor and World Youth Day with a week of prayer and action. The new initiative, called *From Prayer to Action: A Celebration of the World Day of the Poor and World Youth Day*, was animated by Caritas Youth and took the form of an online calendar that guided participants through a series of See/Judge/Act prompts and online events (liturgies and webinars) to help them to reflect on the place of the poor in our world and in their own lives.

In collaboration within the Church on support for the Caritas mission, various encounters for reflection, dialogue and joint initiatives took place, including at the highest level of the Church. The Holy Father showed again his closeness and interest in Caritas work and encouraged us to be creative in this post-pandemic context. On various occasions he called for a Caritas which is truly at the service of the poor, as part of the Church, and invited us to use responsibly the resources at our disposal, making sure that we do not

dedicate them to build up costly structures and, in any case, to ensure that the structures put in place can be justified by the quality of the service that we render to the poor. The same support was expressed by the Secretary of State and other Vatican and Holy See authorities in recognition of the work of Caritas in the Church and in society.

We continued to play a constructive role in the COVID-19 Commission in collaboration with the Dicastery for the promotion of Integral Human Development. Important meetings were held with other dicasteries such us the Dicastery for the Promotion of Christian Unity, the Pontifical Council for Inter-religious Dialogue, the Synod of Bishops, as well as the Dicastery for Communication. A series of consultations took place and will continue with the superiors of religious congregations in Rome in view of undertaking joint initiatives in the service to the poor through research, advocacy, emergency response, and collaboration in reinforcing safeguarding and protection within our organisations and in the Church.

It's good to mention that Caritas at the Regional and National levels have also taken up the mission to strengthen collaboration and synergy in the work of charity and justice with Regional and National Episcopal Conferences.

Caritas Internationalis has also launched a reflection on the place and role of Regions in Caritas in consultations with the Regional Commissions.

Saint Francis "heard the voice of God, he heard the voice of the poor, he heard the voice of the infirm and he heard the voice of nature. He made of them a way of life. My desire is that the seed that Saint Francis planted may grow in the hearts of many".

Fratelli Tutti, 48



The second year of COVID-19 pandemic across the world

COVID-19 continued to affect communities worldwide and Caritas Member organisations were on the frontline of the response. In spite of restrictions and limited funds, local organisations took the lead in taking grassroots actions to provide people with immediate relief and other supports to help improve their livelihoods. Caritas programmes addressed health, hygiene, water and sanitation, and food insecurity. Access to food, nutritional kits and cash assistance to households were distributed to millions of people in countries affected by the pandemic.

The COVID-19 Response Fund

In 2020, together with the Vatican's Dicastery for Promoting Integral Human Development, Caritas Internationalis launched the COVID-19 Response Fund (CRF) with the aim of allowing Caritas organisations in the field to respond immediately and effectively to the needs of communities affected by the pandemic through a wide range of programmes.



In 2021, during the second round of projects, CRF provided support to 15 organisations for a total amount of EUR 12 million.
15 projects have been implemented to help 5.3 million people in 14 countries.

In two years, CRF supported 44 projects to help 23.5 million people in 40 countries for a total amount of EUR 3.8 million.



INDIA

Coimbatore district: food security and response to basic needs of the most vulnerable families

India is one of the country's most affected by COVID-19 in the world. 38 out of 38 districts in Tamil Nadu were affected by the pandemic, with Chennai and Coimbatore being the worst-hit districts. The major challenge of the pandemic was on food systems. The impact of lockdowns and the increasing level of infection in the district led to the loss of employment opportunities and other incomerelated activities, especially among migrants, marginalised communities, and people living in remote areas. The Caritas project implemented in the Diocese of Coimbatore complemented government aid. It assisted 7.500 people in need and aimed at reducing malnutrition and food insufficiency by providing food kits and enhancing awareness to prevent the spread of the virus.

Poongadi, 48, lives at Pollachi and she belongs to a gypsy community. She has four children. Her husband knits fish nets for their survival. The pandemic highly affected them. They had to be under lockdown. No job and not enough money to complete the house's construction despite government aid. At this juncture, the Coimbatore Diocese came forward to extend a warm and welcoming hand by supporting them with food support and hygiene kits to improve their livelihoods: "a timely help when we could approach nobody for assistance".



SENEGAL

Cash assistance in the Sahel context: a multi-sectoral and protracted crisis

The impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the local economy disrupted supply chains for food and other essential items, which slowed imports and led to falling exports. The pandemic came on top of many other crises that affect the Sahel region and Senegal including global warming, environmental degradation, unemployment and growing poverty, land grabbing and food insecurity.

COVID-19 has caused a health crisis that has serious repercussions in Senegal, not only in terms of morbidity and mortality rates, but also because it has exacerbated existing vulnerabilities. Faced with this situation, Caritas Senegal has been asked by the government to contribute to the National Response Plan to strengthen food security and resilience of local communities.

The project contributed to the fight against hunger, food insecurity and malnutrition, and helped 10,120 people in need through cash assistance in the dioceses of Kolda, Ziguinchor and Kaolack in the south of the country. Families in need had been identified in coordination with community committees and this support allowed families to choose the priority goods to be bought.

"Caritas has received increasing solicitations in the pandemic context. This project addressed the need of fast responses with flexible and efficient procedures".

Caritas Senegal, October 2021





EMERGENCY APPEALS

In 2021, when the waves of the COVID-19 pandemic still affected the world, Caritas Internationalis continued to stay with the most marginalised communities affected by diverse crises. Special attention was given to protracted and forgotten crises in Venezuela, Syria, Yemen, Central African Republic, the Sahel Region and South Sudan through locallyled multi-sectoral actions. Caritas action is characterised by a holistic approach and is based on a long-term perspective to support affected communities through emergency relief, recovery and reconstruction, peace and social cohesion. Preparedness and disaster-risk reduction are key areas in which Caritas is increasing investment and implementing good practices.



In 2021, through 29
Emergency Appeals launched on behalf of member organisations affected by crises, Caritas Internationalis mobilised EUR 21 million to serve 1.3 million people facing emergency situations around the world.



AFGHANISTAN

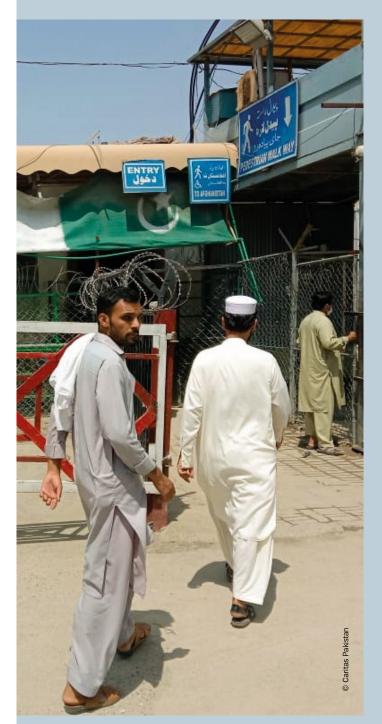
Support for Afghan migrants and refugees fleeing war, chronic drought and poverty

Since August 2021, Afghanistan experienced a new crisis that has aggravated the already precarious humanitarian situation in the country. After forty years of war, recurrent natural disasters, chronic poverty, drought and the COVID-19 pandemic, the fall of the Kabul Government created a chaotic situation that pushed many Afghans to emigrate.

Many Afghans opted to move to Pakistan where, according to the local government, more than 300,000 refugees crossed the borders in the last few months of 2021. The extreme winter in Pakistan that year also created additional miseries for refugees living in poor conditions.

Caritas Pakistan provided immediate assistance to 1,100 households through food packages, tents and non-food items which were distributed through the diocesan Caritas. Health and hygiene kits, which included vital information about COVID-19 and the necessary precautionary measures needed to prevent infection, were distributed to refugees.

Since many existing refugee families in Pakistan hosted new-arrival Afghan refugees into their homes, Caritas prioritised the need to maintain hygiene supplies, particularly to prevent the spread of COVID-19 infections, and protect the health of local communities.



ETHIOPIA

One of the worst and forgotten crises in the world

The rapidly expanding conflict in the Tigray region came at a time when Ethiopia was already facing multiple crises caused by regional displacements, a desert locust infestation, drought-induced food insecurity and the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic. According to UNOCHA, more than 9 million people are in need of food assistance across northern Ethiopia due to the ongoing conflict which has led to more than 2 million persons to be displaced.

Caritas Ethiopia, with the support of the Confederation, launched an appeal to alleviate the suffering of affected communities in the areas of Afar, Amhara, Oromia and Tigray. The project aimed at serving 200,000 people in need, including 10,000 children, through programmes such as: social cohesion between ethnic groups living in war-affected areas, basic assistance through nutrition support for children, food and non-food items, water and sanitation, hygiene kits, and unconditional cash assistance.





INDONESIA

Response to frequent emergencies and investment in preparedness efforts

At the beginning of 2021, at least 27 per cent of the local population were still in need of decent housing after the devastating earthquake and tsunami that affected Palu, Central Sulawesi, in September 2018. Caritas Indonesia have been implementing emergency and recovery activities since the disaster happened with the support of the entire Caritas Confederation.

Caritas Indonesia built on the experience gained in the previous years' response to the Palu earthquake and tsunami. Non-food items were distributed to 8,000 people, local communities were provided psychosocial assistance and disaster risk reduction training, 14,300 people received multipurpose cash assistance, and 2,600 people were provided with a provision of 649 shelters and latrines.

During 2021 Caritas Indonesia planned to continue its intervention in Central Sulawesi and contributed to the recovery of the affected population by strengthening community water and sanitation through the construction of 60 transitional shelters and latrines. In addition, a wide-scale training and empowering capacity building programme was started for local communities to develop mitigation actions and measures.

Young people also played an important role in the housing programme in Palu, especially in the diocese of Manado, where the diocesan Caritas opened an extraordinary dialogue with the community and community leaders.



GAZA

Primary healthcare, protection and psychosocial support to conflict-affected people

Gaza had faced one of the worst escalations of violence since the war in 2014. This had a heavy impact on civilians' lives and essential civilian infrastructure, including medical facilities. In June 2021, the UN reported more than 250 persons killed, around 2,000 injured, and the displacement of Palestinians. The cumulative number of internally displaced persons (IDPs) in Gaza rose to 113,000.

Caritas launched two Appeals in 2021. The first appeal was a rapid response focused on health, in which more than 15,000 persons had access to primary health care, including 6,500 children. The second emergency appeal was an integrated response to the crisis in the areas of primary healthcare, mental health, protection and psychosocial support, access to potable water, and financial support for more than 20,000 conflict-affected people.

The people of Gaza have lived through many wars over many years, but everyone agrees that this time it is completely different. They are trapped in this densely populated strip of land at the mercy of intense air bombardment with nowhere to flee for safety."

Sr Bridget Tighe, Secretary General of Caritas Jerusalem



CROATIA

Providing safe and dignified living conditions for earthquake-affected people

On Tuesday 29 December, a 6.4 magnitude earthquake struck central Croatia about 30 miles southeast of the capital Zagreb, near the towns of Petrinja and Sisak. The quake killed seven people and left dozens more injured. Tens of thousands of people have been displaced. There was widespread damage to buildings and infrastructure, including the region's largest hospital and a variety of other health facilities. Hundreds of thousands of people were left without electricity and travel was largely disrupted due to damage to roads, bridges and local airports. Strong aftershocks continued throughout the country.

The overall objective of the Caritas response was to enable earthquake-affected people in rural areas near Petrinja, Sisak and Glina to live in safe and dignified conditions. The eight-month emergency response looked to cover gaps in shelter assistance by achieving the specific results of providing people with prefabricated modular containers, and providing cash assistance to the most vulnerable whose homes were damaged by the earthquake and needed repair.

"At this challenging time we've seen a miraculous humanitarian response within our country, with many people sending food and clothes and construction items to the affected areas. Decent shelters and the rebuilding of homes are a primary focus for us and we will stick with these communities until we have achieved this."

Suzanna Borko, deputy director of Caritas Croatia



HAITI

Immediate response to the earthquake and recovery phase

A violent earthquake measuring 7.2 on the Richter scale struck Haiti on 14 August. It took place in the southern region of the country and heavily affected the essential services. The disaster severely affected the areas of Grande-Anse, Cayes and Nippes, but the shocks were felt in almost all departments of the country. Severe damages to structures and persons had been observed. More than 690,000 persons were directly affected, 40 per cent of the population of the three departments.

Caritas responded quickly to the disaster by launching a rapid response programme focused on actions aimed at ensuring support to the surviving families. Around 1,400 households were assisted with food, access to water and hygiene kits, and primary health centres in the affected areas were equipped to provide primary healthcare.

Later on in the year, Caritas launched an emergency appeal focused on recovery and rehabilitation actions for affected families including: protection and support to 3,000 families and 10,000 children traumatised by the earthquake; the revitalisation of 3,000 farms through agricultural products, supplies, seeds and poultry; the rehabilitation of agricultural infrastructure in approximately 20 communities; rehabilitated housing, that met earthquake and hurricane resistant standards, for 150 families; cash assistance for 3,000 families to support access to basic social services such as schools, healthcare and food.

"The Church is at the frontline and often represents the only hope for the poor. Poverty is raging in Haiti and this disaster only adds to the drama."

Cardinal Chibly Langlois, Bishop of Les Cayes



Promote Sustainable Integral Human Development and Care for Creation

COVID-19 Vaccines: Nobody should be left out

On 5 February 2021, in a joint appeal signed by Cardinal Luis Antonio Tagle, President of Caritas Internationalis, Cardinal Peter K. A. Turkson, then Prefect of the Dicastery for the Promotion of Integral Human Development, and Aloysius John, Secretary General of Caritas Internationalis, the Caritas Confederation urged decision makers not to leave out the Global South from access to vaccines. It also recommended strengthening local health systems to enable less developed nations to respond to the pandemic.

Throughout the year, the Confederation reiterated on several occasions its call for equitable access to vaccines – including at the World Health Assembly in May 2021 – along with a strong call for a temporary patent waiver on vaccines to allow production by local manufacturing facilities already existing in many countries, especially in Africa, Asia and Latin America.

In March 2021, Caritas Internationalis' advocacy committee also set up a Task Group on vaccines, with a focus on the patent waiver.

"Since every life is inviolable, nobody must be left out. The poor, minorities, refugees, the marginalised are the most exposed to the virus. Taking care of them is a moral priority because abandoning them puts them and the global community at risk. Our collective wellbeing depends on how we care for the least."

Caritas Internationalis' statement on equitable access to vaccines

Cancelling the debt of poor countries in light of COVID-19

Since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic, Caritas Internationalis has intensified its commitment to calling for poor countries' debt cancellation. Caritas specifically emphasised that the cancellation of all debt payments, including those to private creditors, is the quickest way to get funding to where it is most needed, to rebuild the future and eliminate injustice.

Through its grassroots presence in some 200 countries and territories worldwide, the Caritas Confederation constantly witnesses the dramatic consequences of debt on the people in developing countries. In a recent study undertaken by the Caritas network, the repayment of debt by Zambia since 2012 was undertaken to the detriment of core services to the population, including vaccines, education, healthcare, water and sanitation.

In 2021, a number of reflection sessions were organised throughout the Confederation. Caritas Internationalis also cooperated in this regard both with the African ambassadors to the Holy See and with the Dicastery for the Promotion of Integral Human Development.

The CI Advocacy Committee also set up a task force to support the Confederation's work on debt. This Task Force developed a baseline pedagogical paper called Debt, root causes and consequences to guide further regional and national reflections.

Bringing the voice of the poor to relevant international forums

"It is impossible to 'build back better'" without cancelling the debt of poor countries and reinvesting these funds in COVID-19 response and recovery, and to combat the climate crisis". This was the appeal of Caritas Internationalis to the G7 leaders who met on 11 June in Cornwall.

In 2021, the Caritas Confederation seized every opportunity to echo the voice of the poor and ask decision makers to take concrete action. Four were the asks to the G7 leaders: stop debt payments to private creditors; new financing for COVID-19 response, recovery, and climate crisis; new issuance of Special Drawing Rights (SDRs) to support countries in the Global South; tackling the climate crisis seriously, including a commitment to end fossil fuel subsidies.

From Cornwall to Rome, the Confederation invited the G20 leaders who met in late October "to honour promises and accelerate the global response" especially ensuring equitable access to COVID-19 vaccines for less developed countries.

At the 26th United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP26) Caritas Internationalis urged governments to adopt pro-poor climate policies that ensure environmental care and social justice.

Through the delegations in Geneva and New York, Caritas Internationalis raised its voice for peace, respect of human rights and social cohesion with specific attention to the situation of protracted crises in Syria, Central African Republic, Myanmar, Venezuela and the Sahel region. A continuous work is also done on human mobility, with a particular focus on the impact of COVID-19 on the human rights and protection of migrants. The Confederation's commitment against human trafficking has been renewed by joining efforts with other Faith Based Organisation. Caritas contributed to the World Prayer Marathon on February 2021 through witnesses from the different regions on the theme "An economy without trafficking".



"Caritas Internationalis launches a moral call for unconditional engagement and responsibility of richer States to protect poorer populations in developing countries, which are rendered vulnerable due to climate change, even though they are not responsible for it."

Caritas Internationalis' statement for COP26

The pathway to food justice: put human dignity first

Today, food insecurity and malnutrition are on the rise, exacerbated by multiple humanitarian crises, particularly by the consequences of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Caritas Internationalis strongly believes that achieving the right to adequate food and ensuring food security for all is part of a vision aimed at integral human development.

This was the Confederation's call on the occasion of two relevant forums in 2021, the UN food systems presummit held in Rome in July, and the UN Food Systems Summit organised in New York in September. On the eve of both meetings, Caritas Internationalis urged all discussions and decisions about the world's food systems to include local communities.

It also asked to preserve and incentivise local food systems by investing in community-based agriculture, promoting local markets, and adopting a circular economy model for the entire food value chain. Furthermore, the Confederation also warned about the over-reliance on technology and innovation as the solution for the future while encouraging to invest in agroecology as the main pillar of food systems through adequately funded public programmes.



We are aware that individual, self-centred and conflicting - but powerful - economic interests prevent us from conceiving of a food system that responds to the values of the Common Good, solidarity and the "culture of encounter".

Pope Francis' message to the Pre-Summit on the "Food System Summit 2021"

Global Campaigns



The year 2021 was extremely significant for Caritas Internationalis' Global Campaigns. It saw the closure of Caritas' 4-year campaign *Share the Journey* on 15 June and the launch of *Together We: Act Today For A Better Tomorrow* at the end of the year on 13 December.

In response to Pope Francis' call to create a culture of encounter, Caritas' global *Share the Journey* campaign sought to create spaces and opportunities for migrants and refugees to come together with communities, exchange their stories and experiences, and learn from one another. At the closure of the campaign, just days before World Refugee Day, Caritas had supported 130 initiatives throughout the world to create a sense of fraternity within and among communities. Our Global Solidarity March covered over 600,000 kilometres and more than 430 people lit a virtual candle on the Caritas Internationalis website to express a sense of solidarity with migrants and others who have left their families and homelands behind.

In continuation with our work on global migration, the Together We: Act Today For A Better Tomorrow campaign seeks to focus on the intersection between human mobility and climate change. Inspired by the encyclicals Laudato si' and Fratelli Tutti and their call to ecological conversion and social justice, this campaign calls people to create new forms of solidarity and togetherness in our interconnected world and care for our Common Home. Caritas organisations are called to raise awareness and create activities around the causes and effects of environmental degradation on local and vulnerable communities, and how they can take action together to become part of the solution. The Together We campaign will conclude in December 2024 to highlight and celebrate how the entire Caritas Confederation together united to create and strengthen communities of care throughout the world.

The Confederation-wide mobilisation and all actions that will be undertaken in this regard aim to generate changes in attitudes and policies and to lead to social transformation.

A campaign toolkit with several mobilisation resources was shared in English, French and Spanish in early November 2021, including a campaign song in four languages. While 2022 will be dedicated to raising members' awareness, 2023 will take stock of Caritas' action around integral ecology, and in 2024, we will celebrate our collective achievements.



I encourage the international "Together We" campaign, founded on the strength of the community in promoting the care of creation and the poor. The wounds inflicted on our common home have devastating effects on the least. But communities can contribute to the necessary ecological conversion. This is why I invite you to join Caritas Internationalis' campaign.

POPE FRANCIS, ANGELUS, Sunday, 12 December 2021



From a communications perspective, 2021 was a year of growth and consolidation for Caritas Internationalis. In the second year of the pandemic, the Confederation's commitment to advocate for the rights of the most vulnerable was at the heart of our communications.

Caritas Internationalis echoed the cry of the poor at all the most relevant events on the international scene, namely the G2O, the G7, the Pre-Summit and the UN Food Systems Summit. Following the words of Pope Francis and the global news, Caritas Internationalis missed no opportunity to raise awareness and provoke decision-makers on important issues such as: worldwide access to vaccines, the lifting of sanctions, debt relief, migrant rights and food security.

Besides covering the dramatic effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, which especially affected the lives of the poorest and most vulnerable in countries such as India and Brazil, Caritas Internationalis also promptly informed and raised awareness about regrettably forgotten emergencies and crises. Thirty-two articles were published during the year. The public, the Confederation and the media were informed about the work of Caritas and the local situation in countries such as Croatia, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Haiti as well as in Gaza where a severe conflict began in May 2021.

Specific in-depth features consisting of information and stories were dedicated to Syria, on the occasion of 10 years since the beginning of the war, and to South Sudan, which celebrated 10 years of its independence in 2021. Caritas communicators also covered the occasion of the Holy Father's two apostolic trips to Iraq in March and to Cyprus and Greece in December. Information and testimonies about Caritas' work in these countries were also collected and sent to the media and the Confederation.

The work of the General Secretariat's communications team was also accompanied by the newly formed Communications Committee, which met for the first time in 2021 and identified three areas of work for the Confederation in the field of communications: the

systematisation of existing communications tools, finding new tools and ways of working together to guarantee the consistency of our communications, and the development of a crisis communication plan. In October, Caritas Internationalis started producing in-house videos with the intention to supplement and amplify the message and work of Caritas so as to reach more people who are engaged and present in the digital space. This is an important asset for the Confederation and the General Secretariat, as evidenced by the 20 videos produced for Caritas Youth's initiatives for the World Days of the Poor and Youth. The new resource has also enabled the implementation of a successful social media strategy that has led to increased engagement from public audiences.

Caritas Internationalis also intensified its cooperation with Embassies to the Holy See during 2021 in order to deepen and raise awareness on specific issues. In May, a roundtable on debt relief was held with the African ambassadors to the Holy See and, in June, a meeting with the Latin American ambassadors was held to discuss the COVID response and access to vaccines in the region. Additionally, a webinar on the ecological concerns in Oceania was organised in partnership with the Australian Embassy to the Holy See in May.





The 70th anniversary of Caritas Internationalis was an intense moment of witness. It was a time to recall the history of the Confederation, focus on the work done by Caritas organisations around the world, and shed light on the many ongoing crises, including the forgotten ones. Caritas Internationalis wanted to celebrate its anniversary by putting the poor and the most vulnerable at the centre, and encouraging the participation of the entire Confederation.

The celebrations began on 3 October, with the first tweet recalling the Constituent Assembly held in Rome between 12-14 December in 1951. For each of the 70 days leading up to the date of the anniversary on 12 December, a photo and an event of a Caritas milestone was posted on Caritas Internationalis' social media channels. His Holiness Pope Francis also expressed his solidarity with us and tweeted, in eight different languages: "Today I would like to extend my best wishes to Caritas Internationalis on its 70th anniversary. May you continue to witness to and incarnate the love of the Church for the poor and the most vulnerable all over the world! @iamcaritas."



In the seven weeks leading up to the anniversary from 28 October to 7 December, there were seven webinars dedicated to the seven Regions of Caritas Internationalis. Starting with North America and continuing with Europe, Oceania, Africa, Latin America and the Caribbean, MONA, and Asia.

All the Regions and their respective MOs had the chance to share their work and bring the various local crises and emergencies to the media's attention. Around 150 people participated in each of these regional webinars and was a time for the Confederation to be united and to learn from each other.

The webinars also had great external resonance, with streams on Cl's YouTube channel reaching more than 1,900 views and a dedicated article for each event on Vatican News. The Vatican Dicastery for Communications also ensured greater visibility and outreach for Caritas' different initiatives . The final conference was held at the Urbaniana Pontifical University and was also streamed on the Vatican News portal in the four languages of the Confederation – Italian, Spanish, French and English – enabling the entire Confederation to attend the conference and allowing the participation of a large external audience. To date, our YouTube videos have reached more than 11,500 views.

The 70th anniversary was also a time to look back over seven decades of the Confederation's history through a photo exhibition and a photobook called *Witness and Solidarity:* 70 Years of Caritas Internationalis which is to be published in 2022.





Fundraising for Caritas Internationalis means, first of all, building solidarity networks and creating a connection between the benefactors and the people we serve.

The year 2021 was a new year of growth for Caritas Internationalis fundraising, which saw private donations increase by 16.3% compared to 2020, reaching more than EUR 1.7 million. The growth in terms of total and number of gifts is accompanied by a conspicuous growth in the Caritas donor community that, with 2,314 new donors, reached 3,065 benefactors who supported Caritas Internationalis during the year.

The number of benefactors who continue to donate, showing their trust in Caritas Internationalis, is also growing. In 2021, a further positive development was the inauguration of a recurring donation programme. In the first year, more than 100 benefactors decided to subscribe for regular monthly donations in support of the Confederation.

This trust is nurtured by constant and timely relations and communication between the fundraising team and the benefactors and also by virtual meetings with Caritas on the ground. In 2021, Caritas Internationalis organised a webinar on the situation in Lebanon one year after the tragic explosions in Beirut in August 2020. Caritas Lebanon's response was strongly supported by Caritas Internationalis donors who continued to help our Lebanese brothers and sisters in a significant way throughout 2021. Another webinar was organised one month after the earthquake that hit Haiti, another crisis that prompted much solidarity from Caritas Internationalis donors. Other fundraising appeals were launched in 2021 to support the humanitarian crises in Ethiopia, Croatia, the Gaza strip and Venezuela. Considerable support also went to communities that have been violently affected by the first, second and third waves of the COVID-19 pandemic, such as Brazil and India.

Finally, during the seven regional webinars organised for the 70th anniversary of Caritas Internationalis, seven projects were promoted in support of seven crises, including forgotten ones. Each region had the opportunity to propose a project implemented by one of its MOs or the Regional Secretariat. The programmes were in Haiti, Kyrgyzstan, Lebanon, Mozambique, Ukraine, Venezuela, and Oceania.







Caritas Internationalis Management Standards and Capacity Strengthening in the COVID-19 context

2021 was crucial to consolidate the Management Standards as a key tool of the Caritas Confederation for organisational development. With the introduction of the new Standard on Safeguarding as an integral part of the tool for organisational assessment, the governing body took a key decision by reaffirming the Management Standards as a requirement for all Member Organisations to fulfil.

Thanks to the joint and fruitful work with the Regional Secretariats, the number of organisations involved in the process of assessment and development of an improvement plan significantly increased, both at the level of awareness and ownership, and of participation in training and capacity strengthening initiatives.

One of the main challenges was to continue supporting the work of Regional Secretariats and Member Organisations remotely, due to the COVID-19 restrictions and impossibility of travelling, while at the same time maintaining motivation, targeted support and effectiveness in addressing different needs. By responding to the signs of the times, we decided to transform this into an opportunity to reach more persons in a shorter timeframe, to strengthen work relationships with the Regional Secretariats in order to better contextualize the

different initiatives, and to guarantee regular communication channels for specific support and accompaniment to Member Organisations. A major achievement of the year is that 31 online training sessions for leaders, persons responsible of capacity strengthening and safeguarding, management standards coordinators and assessors have taken place to strengthen awareness of the revised Management Standards. More than 450 participants from around 130 organisations participated in these sessions.

"The CI Management Standards provide an opportunity for all Caritas Members to strive towards common standards of accountability, transparency and safeguarding. These standards reflect our shared commitment to centring human dignity in all that we do. In 2021, Caritas Oceania Members felt the full support of the global Caritas family in this journey, including through training and accompaniment. For CI Members to know they are part of a global commitment to dignity and accountability is invaluable, and we are engaged to continue this journey together."

Sophie Jenkins, Caritas Australia

Today we have the following global figures:

Member
Organisations have been assessed against the CI Management Standards since 2015

Member
Organisations have an ongoing improvement plan to address the main organisational risk areas

Member
Organisations were
engaged in the
assessment process
at different stages
in 2021

Management
Standards assessors
and 19 safeguarding
assessors are
active across the
Confederation

Caritas Internationalis Organisational Development Solidarity Fund

Working to empower Member Organisations for their longterm sustainability and for enabling them to respond effectively to the needs of their communities are key objectives of our mission as a Confederation.

The richness of our network is due to the diversity of contexts and needs, and one of the key roles of the Confederation is to provide adequate support to those Member Organisations in a situation of fragility.

In 2021, after a long reflection at regional and global levels, the Organisational Development Solidarity Fund became a reality, through the implementation of a pilot phase in close collaboration with the Regional Secretariats. The aim is to

"Caritas Kyrgyzstan is a very young organisation, and we still lack several significant policies and systems that are very important for the development and sustainability of our organisation. At the same time, as an emerging Caritas dependent on external funding, we do not have sufficient capacity and funds to invest on staff training and organisational development. The Solidarity Fund offers us the opportunity to obtain financial and technical support from the Confederation. We strongly believe that it is a very useful instrument to support new Member Organisations to establish a solid foundation and become sustainable, and a concrete expression of Fraternal Cooperation. We will definitely optimise this chance."

> (Sher Abdugapirov, Caritas Kyrgyzstan National Manager)

help Member Organisations who request support to start or bolster a process of capacity strengthening.

Through the joint efforts of the General Secretariat and the Regional Secretariats who closely accompanied the Member organisations concerned, 7 project proposals from 4 regions have been approved and are now in their implementation phase. The commitment with the Solidarity Fund does not stop with the project approval, but continues through regular support monitoring of the activities and a permanent dialogue with the Member Organisations, and by also involving other Caritas partners.



Women and Youth

After the decision to have two representatives of women and two representatives of youth in the Representative Council in 2019, the work of the Confederation on these cross-cutting priorities has taken on a new momentum as a collective commitment at all levels.

Two new officers have been recruited at the General Secretariat to promote women's and youth leadership. These officers are working to facilitate and coordinate our global work on these subjects by bringing together voices from different regions so as to animate the Confederation with concrete initiatives and programmes. A Youth Committee and a Committee for Women's Leadership Equality and Participation have been created with representatives from the seven Regions, and are now active to mobilise members and to encourage reflection and concrete actions.

"This is a sign and a recognition of the contribution of women in the mission of the Church and of their commitment at all levels in the structures of Caritas from the grassroots up to the coordination bodies. We still need further efforts to include more women in the decision-making process and value their contribution in the service of charity." Patricia Adèle Félicité, Member of the Representative Council

"Tangible steps have been made to promote women's leadership in the Confederation. The work is guided by the theological foundations of the role and place of women in the Scriptures and in the Catholic Social Teaching. I am confident that the work we are doing will promote a cultural change to enhance the female role in Caritas, in the Church and in society and will allow all of us to walk together for a new humanity." Martha Skretteberg, Member of the Representative Council

"The Youth Committee is instrumental in carrying out key initiatives and raising awareness about Caritas among young people. We are committed to give our contribution in all areas of work to look at the future with consciousness of our value and hope." Erin Shuler, member of the Representative Council

A series of four webinars on challenges and aspirations of women in the COVID-19 context were organised in the month of March 2021, with more than 250 participants from the Caritas Confederation. The initiative showed how COVID-19 is a co-cause of the feminisation of poverty and increased the vulnerability of women worldwide, and at the same time clearly indicated how women have been pillars for their communities and society during the pandemic. Women play a key role in the family, community sensitisation, responding to emergencies and enabling access to basic services like education, healthcare and food security.

As a key initiative of the year, Caritas Youth animated a new initiative for the World Day of the Poor and the World Youth Day in the month of November. Through social media, the website and the testimonies of young staff and volunteers from all regions of the Confederation, the youth invited the entire Caritas network to celebrate together through prayer and common actions, to reflect on the place of the poor in our world and in our work, and to turn these reflections into concrete actions to serve, accompany and defend the poor. The initiative saw the participation of over 40 youth through prayers and testimonies which were viewed over 70,000 times on social media. In addition, resources on the website had over 1,400 views.

"Taking part in this initiative and discussions energises me to put into action youth endeavours in my Caritas. I am looking forward to actively engaging in more initiatives of such nature and beyond." Vincent Tenthani, Caritas Malawi

Women's leadership



Youth leadership





In 2021, Caritas Internationalis continued to scale up its work to promote a safeguarding culture across the Confederation. The creation and implementation of the Management Standard on Safeguarding was the key activity of the year and has been undertaken in close cooperation with the Institutional Development and Capacity Strengthening unit. In order to update all key Confederation stakeholders and to promote and correctly implement the new tool, a high number of online training sessions on content, procedures and implementation of Caritas' safeguarding standards took place. Around 300 participants from 125 Member Organisations attended 20 Safeguarding webinars. These online webinars also enhanced cooperation among Member Organisations and between regions.

The assessment against the Standard on safeguarding remains a priority to ensure every Caritas Member has in place the adequate frameworks and tools related to Safeguarding. By the end of 2021, 90 member organisations completed the self-assessment phase. One Senior Safeguarding Officer has been recruited at the General Secretariat in order to facilitate and coordinate the implementation of the safeguarding activities and to support the management of sensitive cases and complaints.

The Safeguarding Task Force, comprised of representatives from all seven regions, played an instrumental role in the development, promotion and dissemination of safeguarding policies and systems across the entire Confederation. In parallel, a new Safeguarding and Complaints Committee has been established with the aim to oversee mainstreaming safeguarding within the Confederation and act as an advisory body for sensitive complaints' handling.

A tool to report cases of sexual exploitation and abuse has been developed and launched for the whole network. This is a key step for the Confederation to strengthen accountability, report relevant data to key stakeholders and a larger public in a proper and timely manner, and better understand the reports across the Confederation to shape future safeguarding strategies accordingly.

Caritas has continued to actively promote the Inter-Agency Misconduct Disclosure Scheme of the Steering Committee for Humanitarian Response. By the end of 2021, 19 Member Organisations were implementing it. An online introductory training on safeguarding has been developed in cooperation with the Australian Council for International Development. It looks at the foundations of safeguarding: what is safeguarding, why safeguarding is important, key terminology, expected behaviour, and responding to safeguarding concerns. It is available in English and accessible to all Caritas Member Organisations through the Baobab intranet platform. In 2021, 182 persons completed the course. Translations in French and Spanish have been completed and the course will be soon available in these two languages as well.



"Not only we had continuous and constructive dialogue with the General Secretariat and the Member Organisations but we are progressively strengthening interregional cooperation. Caritas Africa and Caritas MONA, for example, jointed their efforts on safeguarding through their regional resource persons, with the aim to help the highest number of organisations to be assessed and to develop realistic improvement plans"

Albert Mashika, Regional Coordinator, Caritas Africa

Income
Statement
2021
of Caritas
Internationalis
General
Secretariat

The mission of Caritas Internationalis is to promote cooperation among its 162 Member Organisations, so that they join forces in their work of assisting the poorest and most vulnerable people in the world in a spirit of charity and justice. The following income statement shows the support Caritas Internationalis received to enable it to fulfil its mission.

Member Organisations provide almost 50 per cent of the income through membership fees and voluntary contributions, while external donors contribute the other half.

The Confederation's expenditure is entirely at the service of its mission, under which it carries out tasks of coordination, mobilisation, representation and the development of Members' competencies.

The Rome-based CI General Secretariat's primary mandate is to convene its Members (both informal governance bodies and working structures) to facilitate collaboration in different areas and topics, as well as to represent the Confederation and its Members at the global level to ensure close cooperation with the Universal Church.

The second central task of the General Secretariat is to coordinate the implementation of the Confederation's strategic plan, which is organised along the five strategic orientations as outlined in the Income Statement.

INCOME	2020	2021
Membership fees	2.029.628	2.092.235
Contributions		
Contributions from member organisations	3.553	0
Contributions from external donors	915.606	1.049.896
Legacies	170.244	300.023
Other Income	2.769	0
Total contributions unrestricted	3.121.800	3.442.154
Contributions from member organisations	293.777	58.500
Contributions from external donors	1.278.302	1.599.976
Total contributions temporarily restricted	1.572.079	1.658.476
Financial income		
Realised financial income	70.695	146.931
Unrealised financial income	251.538	630.480
Total financial income	322.233	777.411
TOTAL INCOME	5.016.112	5.878.041

EXPENDITURE	2020	2021
Operational expenditure by strategic orientation		
General secretariat administration & office costs	1.429.014	1.261.585
Regional structures	468.890	810.748
Governance	13.500	34.114
1. Caritas at the heart of the Church	94.845	100.588
2. Reduce risk, save lives, rebuild communities	850.192	403.874
3. Promote sustainable integral human development and care for creation	629.545	553.957
4. Build global solidarity	461.727	467.357
5. Increase the effectiveness of the Caritas confederation	308.676	467.888
Total Operational Expenditure	4.256.390	4.100.112
Financial Expenditure		
Realised financial expenditure	24.502	28.036
Unrealised financial expenditure	116.241	0
Total financial expenditure	140.742	28.036
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	4.397.133	4.128.148
RESULT OF THE YEAR	618.979	1.749.893



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

www.caritas.org