



# **2017 Annual Report**





## Cover picture



*Early morning in a camp for over 5 000 internally displaced persons in an Episcopal Church compound in Wau, South Sudan: a child wakes up, covering his head with a blanket. Most of the families here were displaced by violence early in 2017.*

*Caritas South Sudan has been supporting the displaced, while at the same time officials of the diocese have participated in a mediation effort coordinated by the South Sudan Council of Churches, which includes the Roman Catholic Church.*

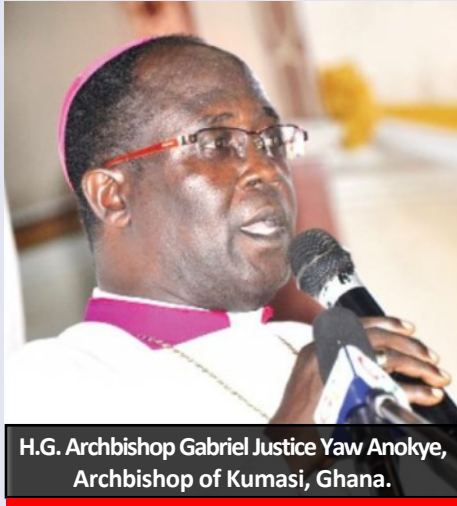
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Credit: Paul Jeffrey/Caritas.

# “Heaven helps those who help themselves.”



H.G. Archbishop Gabriel Justice Yaw Anokye,  
Archbishop of Kumasi, Ghana.

*“Praise the Lord, all you nations,  
Acclaim Him all you people  
Strong is his love for us  
He is faithful for ever.”*

*Psalm 117*

By God’s grace and with your support at different levels of Caritas in Africa, we were able to achieve some of our objectives. But the journey before us is still long as the paths to updating our Strategic Framework and Planned Actions beyond 2018 are very challenging.

**“ Full of Christian  
« hope which does not  
disappoint » (Rm 5,5),  
we encourage one and all  
to be fully committed  
to working as Caritas  
in Africa in season  
and out of season. ”**

We therefore count on your availability and your solidarity to journey with Caritas Africa, in communion and in the frame of the fraternal cooperation, to build up a strong Caritas network at the service of the Poor in our Region.

Full of Christian “hope which does not disappoint” (Rm 5,5), we encourage one and all to be fully committed to working as Caritas in Africa in season and out of season, for “Heaven helps those who help themselves.”

We wish to blend our voice with that of King David in expressing sincerest gratitude to God for guiding Caritas Africa’s work during the Year 2017. God’s Spirit inspired every initiative and event in the past 12 months. We are grateful to His Holy Name.

God is a Spirit. So he used our hands, our heads and our hearts in executing every programmed initiative and prosecuting our overall Action Plan for 2017 successfully to the end of the year. This is why we also thank all of you at the Caritas Internationalis General Secretariat, Sister Caritas Organisations, Caritas Africa Regional Commission Members, Caritas Africa Regional Secretariat and Technical Staff, Experts, Consultants, etc., for availing your humble selves as instruments in God’s hand for the work of Caritas in Africa. May God reward and award you all a hundred fold.

May God bless you, your generosity and your love.

Thank you !

**+ Gabriel Justice Yaw ANOKYE**  
**Archbishop of Kumasi**  
**President of Caritas Africa**



# Building a strong and dynamic Caritas network at the service of the poor



Albert Mashika,  
Executive Secretary, Caritas Africa.

**T**his Activity Report presents the achievements of the Caritas Africa Regional Executive Secretariat during the year 2017.

The culmination of the year was the holding of the 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting of Bishops of Africa on “The organization of the service of charity in Africa: the role of Bishops.” This was made possible thanks to the commitment of the

Bishops of the Africa Region as well as to the financial and technical support received from the Government of the Republic of Senegal, Northern Sister Caritas Members and African Caritas Members, whose mobilization in terms of travel expenses contributions for some of their delegates was remarkable.

The 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting of Caritas Africa Partners at the end of the meeting of Bishops was also a great moment for the appropriation of the progress made by Caritas Africa during the period 2016-2017 and to discuss the issues and challenges to be dealt with in 2018-2019.

The prospective evaluation of Phase 2 of the A2P-DIRO Programme raised questions that led Caritas Africa to reflect on the need for a coherent and inclusive Regional Strategy for Institutional Development and Capacity

Strengthening (IDCS), in order to materialize the commitments of the Kigali meeting (July 2016) with regard to the harmonization of approaches and tools for capacity strengthening and facilitation of the coordination of the IDCS initiatives in Africa to improve the impact of the interventions carried out by the different actors involved.

As a result, Caritas Africa commits itself, as from January 2018, to a participatory exercise to develop its Regional IDCS Strategy and, consequently, to review its Global Strategic Framework for 2019-2023, together with its resource mobilization plan, necessary for its implementation, which will have to be submitted to the approval of the Caritas Africa Regional Assembly in May 2019.

This exercise, which will extend throughout 2018, will involve moments of consultation, coordination and negotiation with the various stakeholders. This will require a certain availability of resources (human, financial and material). Caritas Africa is counting on the solidarity of both the Caritas Network and CIDSE insofar as the work that awaits us is the continuation of a journey that we began together, in communion, to build up, under the leadership of the Bishops a

strong and dynamic Caritas Network at the service of the poor, in our Region.

**Albert Mashika**  
**Executive Secretary**  
**Caritas Africa**

**“The culmination of the year was the holding of the 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting of Bishops of Africa on “The organization of the service of charity in Africa: the role of the Bishops.” ”**



# The Ecclesial Identity of Caritas

Caritas Africa's first Strategic Orientation requests the regional organisation to uphold the ecclesial identity of Caritas.

***Nurturing a common organizational culture based on the teaching of the Catholic Church, in particular her social teachings***

The Caritas Africa President participated in the Conference, organised by the Dicastery for Promoting Integral Human Development on the occasion of the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Encyclical *Populorum Progressio*, and which took place in Rome from 2 to 4 April, 2017. The aim of the Conference, entitled: "Prospects for service to integral human development: fifty years since *Populorum Progressio*," was to study the theological, anthropological and pastoral perspectives of the encyclical, especially in relation to the labour of those who work in favour of promoting the person, and to formulate guidelines for the activity of the new Dicastery.

The Caritas Africa President and Regional Coordinator as well as three members of the Caritas Africa Regional Commission participated in several Caritas Internationalis meetings, namely: ExBo Meetings (Bishop President) and CI Representative Council meetings (all of them) held in Rome in May and November 2017.

The Caritas Internationalis Secretariat Team meetings were held in Rome, in May 2017, and in Saly, Senegal, in September 2017. These meetings offer an opportunity to the CI Senior Management Team to meet the Regional Coordinators and discuss with them on the best ways to move forward the CI agenda.

The Caritas Africa Regional Commission met twice during the year: in Antananarivo, Madagascar in March and in Pretoria, South Africa in October. The Regional

Commission has set up an ad hoc committee to update the Caritas Africa Statutes in the light of the CI General Secretariat guidelines for all Regional Secretariats. This was also an opportunity to visit the local Caritas projects on the ground and to express the solidarity of Caritas Africa to those who are suffering at the grassroots level.

## Caritas Africa Strategic Orientation 1 Uphold the Ecclesial Identity of Caritas

***Consolidate the Caritas spirit and structures at all levels of the Church in Africa***

Caritas Africa actively participated in the Caritas Internationalis Ecclesial Identity working group meetings. This working group has produced a draft booklet entitled "Serving out of Love" which will be used as a guide for all those who are engaged in

Caritas at all levels. The booklet once approved will be published for the benefit of one and all.



Members of the Caritas Africa Regional Commission meeting Representatives of Caritas South Africa as well as young South African seminarians in Pretoria, South Africa.

Furthermore, the above-mentioned book-let will serve as a useful tool in the course of induction sessions for newly appointed Bishops Presidents, Executive Secretaries/National Directors and Caritas Staff members as well as for various Caritas stakeholders.

Caritas activities and challenges were on the agenda of the ACEAC Episcopal Conference Standing Committee meeting that took place in Bukavu, Demo-

cratic Republic of Congo, in January 2017. This was to make the Church's hierarchy be aware of the work, challenges and stakes of Caritas in Africa and to get the Bishops attend the meeting to be held in September in Dakar.

To mark the 5<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Kinshasa Declaration of Bishops, Caritas Africa organised the Second Meeting of Bishops in Dakar, Senegal from 18 to 20 September 2017. The theme of that meeting was: "Organising the Service of



Charity: the role of Bishops.” This event was well attended and saw the presence of 5 Cardinals, 20 Archbishops, 42 Bishops, Caritas Partners, Secretaries General and National Directors as well as guests from all the CI Confederation Regions. There were a total of 165 participants and 43 out of 46 Caritas Members in Africa were present.

Taking the thought of Pope Francis on the plane that brought him back from Colombia, on 10 September 2017, according to which Africa is not a land to be exploited but a friend to love, to help to grow, Bishops committed themselves to:

- “stand on the side of the communities and individuals, whose God given resources and means of livelihood, including their land, are under threat of exploitation by both internal and external interests;
- pay more attention to migration and refugee problems, to the consequences of political crises and natural disasters and, where appropriate, to work pro-actively upstream in order to better contribute to the eradication of the causes of poverty on a continent that is rich in its populations, especially its young people, its cultures and its natural resources;
- involve themselves in the preparation and participation in the next Synod of Bishops on the Young People who are the wealth of the Church and of the nation and to do everything possible to make them feel at home in the Church;
- create with their partners opportunities for these young people to contribute to their integral formation and to their Christian and citizenship growth;
- strengthen the participation of women and make visible their contribution to the development of our families and communities;
- encourage responsible leaders and Elites who serve the common good and constantly denounce those who are corrupt and who maintain the impoverishment of the masses as a strategy for the maintenance or conquest of power;
- progressively adapt their socio-pastoral structures to those of the Dicastery for Promoting Integral Human Development, according to the contexts of our particular Churches;

- contribute to the improvement of governance in their socio-charitable works, by adopting appropriate constitutive texts and by appointing competent and appropriate persons;
- integrate into the religious and priestly formation the systems of the social teaching of the Church and the minima of the principles of transparent management of the property of the Church belonging to the poor;
- develop a genuine synergy of action at the level of the continent, sub-regions (zones), Episcopal Conferences and dioceses with a view to productive ecclesial communion in the service of integral human promotion;
- strengthen fraternal solidarity with Sister Churches, interfaith collaboration and cooperation with civil society organizations for peace building and development in our regions, while respecting our Catholic identity and avoiding

us to be guided by contemporary ideologies.”

This meeting was held thanks to the decisive support of the Senegal Government, the Bishops of Senegal, the CI General Secretariat, Caritas Sisters of Europe, Asia and North America and the Caritas Members of the Africa Region.



Participants attending the Second Meeting of Bishops in Dakar, Senegal - 18-20 September 2017.

***Enhance a culture of harmonious collaboration and synergy between all socio-pastoral sectors of the Church in Africa***

Caritas Africa invited Representatives from the SECAM and Religious Congregations to attend the Bishops meeting in Dakar, Senegal, in September 2017 to share their experiences in the work of charity and to shape the way to improve pastoral collaboration and synergy for a sustainable impact of this work. The SECAM was invited to attend as well the A2P-DIRO Program Stakeholders Assembly planned in November in Cotonou, Benin, but the meeting was postponed in January-February 2018.

At the country level, Caritas Africa MOs are working closely with other Church socio pastoral structures such as Justice and Peace, Education, Health, ... Commissions.



# Institutional Development and Capacity Strengthening

The second Strategic Orientation calls upon Caritas Africa to reinforce the institutional development and capacity building of its member organisations in collaboration and with the support of Caritas Internationalis.

***Develop a regional institutional development and capacity building strategy in collaboration and with the support of Caritas Internationalis***

The Caritas Africa Institutional Development and Capacity Strengthening & the Caritas Internationalis Management Standard (CA IDCS & CIMS) Reference Groups, set up since July 2016, have been active in 2017 and a Regional IDCS Strategy has been drafted. However, within the framework of the prospective evaluation of the A2P-DIRO Programme, the need was also felt of developing an IDCS Regional strategy and updating in a participatory way the Caritas Africa Global Strategic Framework for 2019-2023. It was suggested that a Consultant be hired to support Caritas Africa in this process.



Participants attending a Capacity Strengthening workshop in Nairobi, Kenya.

The Caritas Africa Regional Coordinator as well as the Chairperson (from Caritas Ghana) and a member (from Caritas Nigeria) of the Caritas Africa IDCS & CIMS Reference Group have also participated in CI IDCS Committee and CIMS Working Group meetings to share the experience and the work of Caritas Africa in this field in terms of process, outcomes, future strategies and how to continue the learning

process in Africa using Baobab, to feed reflections on documents to be produced by CI IDCS Department for trainings, etc.

## Caritas Africa Strategic Orientation 2 Reinforce Institutional Development and Capacity Strengthening

There have also been discussions with several Sister Caritas Organisations on the best way to develop and support IDCS initiatives according to the outcomes of the Kigali Meeting in July 2016 which identified the following: harmonization of approaches and tools,

facilitating of CS initiatives coordination in the Region, self-assessment using the CI Management Standards; development of an Improvement Plan; and mobilising Partners to support the Implementation of the Improvement Plans of targeted Caritas Member Organisations.

***Roll out of Caritas Internationalis Management Standards and ensure their compliance and monitoring***

Caritas Africa representatives participated in training sessions organised by Caritas Internationalis in Bucharest, Rumania, for Coordinators, and in Vienna, Austria for Regional Evaluators.

Furthermore, the Caritas IMBISA Zone Coordinator participated in the Caritas Internationalis Rev-Com (Review Committee) Meetings and seven delegates from Caritas Africa were invited by the CI Management Standards Team to participate in an Evaluation Workshop which was organised in Singapore.

The implementation of the CI Management Standards in Africa is on-going. In order to speed up the implementation, peer support and peer learning are being encouraged to facilitate capacity strengthening.



The following Caritas Members are actively engaged in peer to peer accompaniment: OCADES Caritas Burkina and Caritas Senegal supporting respectively Caritas Guinea and Caritas Gambia & Caritas Guinea Bissau; Caritas Democratic Republic of Congo supporting Caritas Cameroon in December 2017 for the development of its Strategic Plan, and Caritas Congo supporting Caritas Central Africa, as part of the IDCS Project.



Participants of Caritas Internationalis Management Standards Review Meeting in Nairobi.

The trained Regional Evaluators facilitated consultations on CIMS for National Directors in Dakar, Senegal to get their opinion on the CIMS implementation in Africa.

As at the end of 2017, the situation is as follows across the Caritas Africa region:

- There are 38 Coordinators and 41 Evaluators, who have been trained in the CI Management Standards;
- 24 Member organisations have signed the CI Code of Conduct and the Code of Ethics;
- 5 Member organisations have had their self-evaluation report validated by the CI Review Committee;
- 12 Member organisations have submitted to CI incomplete self-evaluation reports;
- 26 Member organisations intend to submit their self-evaluation reports by the end of 2018.

### ***Identify the needs of Member Organisations and develop a targeted accompaniment programme***

There were also, during the year, on-going discussions between Caritas Africa and various partners to support concretely member organisations in Africa, especially those in need and in organisational fragile situations.

In collaboration with CRS/Senegal Country Office, Caritas Senegal and Caritas Africa pulled forces together to support Caritas Gambia through a participatory diagnosis leading to its improvement plan.

Through Caritas Africa, Caritas Norway has supported a project to strengthen the capacities of Caritas Niger. Thus, CaDEV (Caritas-Développement) Niger was able to gather more than 80 participants composed of staff of the CADEV Niger, volunteers of the *Comité de Solidarité et de Développement* (Solidarity and Development Committee) and pastoral agents of the Catholic Church to discuss the conclusions of the evaluation of the old Strategic Plan, the lessons learned and recommendations, to take ownership of the new Strategic Plan (2017-2021) and to amend the forms and printed materials developed during the Technical Agents meeting. The Administrative and Financial Manager and the Accountants met for two days to exchange on the CI Management Standards (CIMS) in order to appropriate them. Technical officers from the National Office and the two Diocesan Offices were able to meet for the first time to provide/share their views and practices on projects and programs management.

With the financial support of *Secours Catholique* - Caritas France, Caritas Spain, Caritas Norway, CAFOD and the technical support from CI-IDCS Department, Caritas Africa has started a Pilot Capacity Strengthening Project (2017-2018) for three Caritas Member Organisations of the IMBISA Zone, namely: Caritas South Africa, Caritas Namibia and Caritas Swaziland with the participation of Caritas Lesotho as Zone Coordinator.

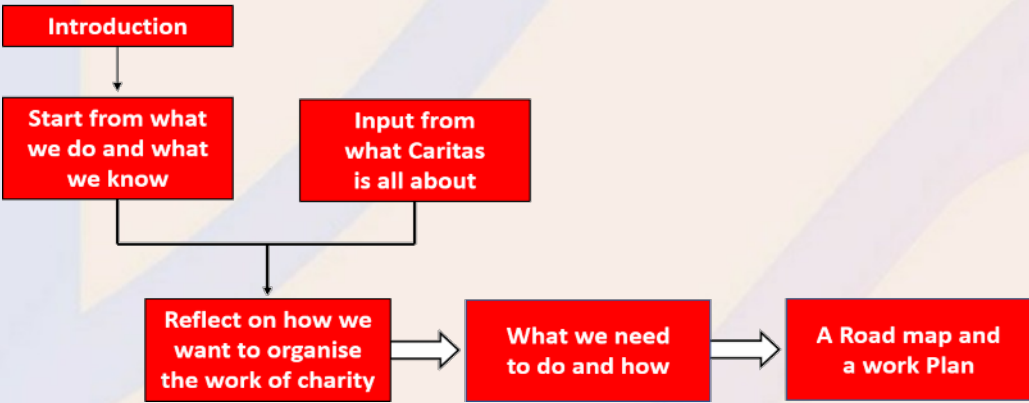
The project's specific objective for these three countries is to create an enabling environment for building up a learning, stronger and sustainable Caritas network, within the targeted countries.



A workshop was held in June, in Pretoria, South Africa, at the Padre Pio Spirituality Centre for participants from Namibia (3), Swaziland (2) and South Africa (27).



The learning path of the workshop, which was held in Pretoria, was as follows:

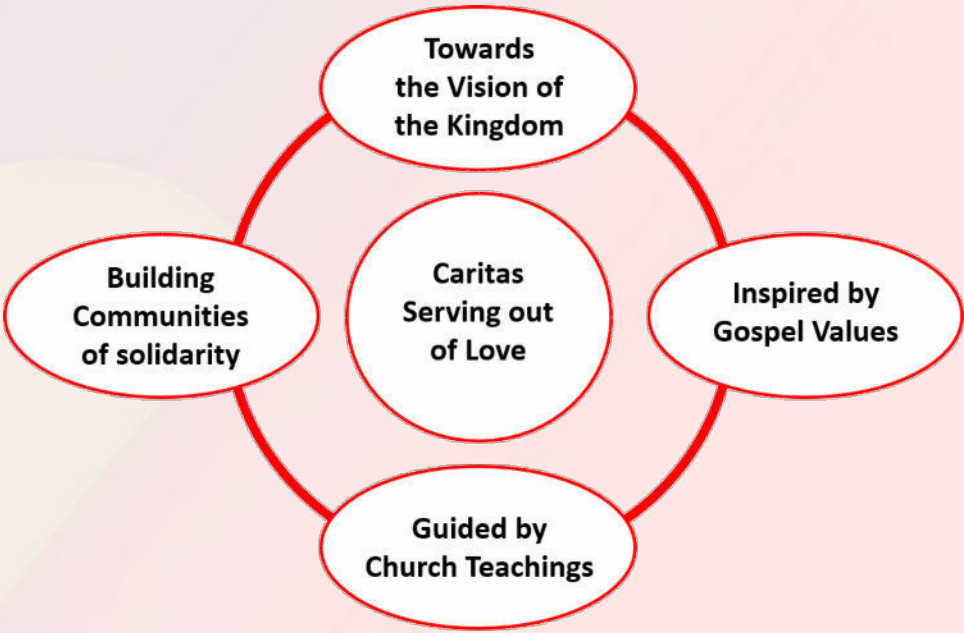


In conclusion, participants acknowledged that “the Human person is at the centre of all the activities of Caritas”. As the “caress of the Mother Church to her children, her tenderness and closeness (Pope Francis), Caritas through compassion, unconditional love and self-less commitment, stands for the dignity of the human person created in the image and likeness of God. Their work for charity is inseparable from the promotion of justice, equity, solidarity and respect for all. They shared the conviction that “the Preferential option for the poor whom we are called to serve, accompany and defend (Pope Francis) is not a choice but a spiritual and moral

obligation. We believe that the encounter with the poor represents a call for personal conversion for each one of us and for all the faithful, leading to the building of an inclusive society, where each member contributes to the well being of all. We recognize the need to let ourselves be evangelised by the poor, their experience of the suffering Christ (cf. *Evangelii Gaudium*), their humility and their generosity.



(Credit: L'Osservatore Romano/Pool Photo via AP.)



**THE LOVE OF CHRIST URGES US ON (2COR 5,14)**



Participants valued the capacity of the poor to be protagonists of their own development and they seek to create the conditions for their full implication and participation in all that they will do.

### *The A2P-DIRO Programme*

The Secours Catholique-Caritas France, together with 14 National Caritas Africa Member Organisations and the Caritas Africa Regional Secretariat joined forces to engage in a prospective evaluation and in on-going discussions to develop Phase 3 of the A2P-DIRO Programme to be transferred to Caritas Africa for its implementation.

Thus, the Caritas National Directors concerned met in Dakar in April 2017, while the Steering Committee met in September 2017, again in Dakar, to analyse and own the major findings of a prospective evaluation of the Programme, carried on by an independent Consultant.

### *Exposure visits*

Exposure visits have proved to be very useful tools to strengthen the capacity of National Caritas members by providing concrete examples of good practices to their respective management and staff. Thus, in September 2017, after the meeting of Bishops in Dakar, two Bishops and the National Director of Caritas Cameroon visited Caritas Senegal to learn from the experience of the latter.

One Caritas Africa staff member (the Accountant) visited Caritas Niger with a special attention on financial aspects of multi-countries projects management in May.

In the frame of the pilot project mentioned above, in September 2017, the management of Caritas Guinea visited Caritas Burkina Faso with particular attention to the following objectives:

1. learn about experiences, strategies and constraints in managing a large national Caritas such as OCADES-Caritas Burkina;
2. work on resource mobilization and management strategies for a national Caritas, including techniques for the design and management of programs and projects of various kinds, with particular emphasis on the monitoring and evaluation system of activities of the General Secretariat and Diocesan Offices;



3. visit a diocesan Secretariat of OCADES-Caritas Burkina to better understand the synergy between the General Secretariat and Diocesan Offices in the implementation of projects and programs; and
4. draw together a strategy to support the OCPH-Caritas-Guinea by OCADES-Burkina in the framework of this institutional and technical capacity building initiative according to the needs expressed.

In terms of lessons learned from this visit to Burkina Faso, the delegation of OCPH-Caritas Guinea noted that:

- The commitment of Bishops at all levels is decisive for the establishment of a strong Caritas, well anchored in the community;
- Functional governance bodies, clear basic texts & Management Procedures Manual that takes into account Management Standards are essential for a credible Caritas, that manages its resources in a transparent manner.

### *Collaboration with other CI Regions and Actors on the IDCS issues*

Caritas Africa has been working in close collaboration with Caritas Europa, Caritas MONA, Caritas LACar and Caritas Asia on the IDCS initiatives/ideas. It also got in touch with the International Council of Voluntary Agencies (ICVA) for the same purpose.



# Poverty Eradication and Good Governance

The third Strategic Orientation of Caritas Africa calls upon the Regional organisation to contribute to the development of Church policies to address various forms of poverty in Africa. Some activities under this Strategic orientation were implemented with a support from Caritas Australia (CAKES - Caritas in Africa Knowledge, Exchange and Sharing - Platform, development of the RECS Project,...).

## *Caritas – World Bank pilot Initiative*

A joint Caritas-World Bank pilot initiative focuses on the accompaniment of three Caritas Member Organisations in Africa, namely: Caritas Guinea, Caritas Niger and Caritas Central Africa. These Caritas Members need special attention given that they operate in fragile countries and, hence, have to face extremely difficult situations with very limited human and financial resources at their disposal.

A start-up workshop was held in Dakar, Senegal, and then it was followed by 3 other workshops at the country level (Conakry, Guinea; Niamey, Niger; Bangui, Central Africa) to reflect with different stakeholders on the way to move this partnership ahead. Another workshop took place in Lomé, Togo, to develop an intervention strategy based on the principle of subsidiarity, complementarity, dialogue and consultation with governments and other civil society organisations and a participatory approach, which develops through the involvement and the empowerment of grassroots communities in all phases of project implementation, ongoing facilitation, enhancement of local capacities and skills.

This Strategy is structured around 3 pillars namely:

1. **Strengthening people's resilience**, with particular emphasis on improving access to basic social services (education, health), conflict prevention and management,

## Caritas Africa Strategic Orientation 3 Eradicate Poverty and promote Good Governance



reception and assistance to refugees and internally displaced persons and support for their voluntary and dignified return;

2. **Job creation and economic transformation**, strictly related to the first orientation, with a specific focus on the integration (and/or reintegration) of women and young people into society;
3. **Combating climate change**, with special attention to **food security and capacity building** in Disaster Risk Management (DRM).

Two cross-cutting issues remain in the background of any action envisaged and thus integrate with the three pillars identified above:

- Inclusion and strengthening of youth and women's participation;
- Capacity building, in terms of internal human resources and Caritas organizations as members of civil society, or beneficiaries.

## *Survey on Caritas practices in measurement of poverty in Africa*

This is a joint Secours Catholique – Caritas France and Caritas Africa project linked with the new UN programme "Transforming Our World" by 2030 and building peaceful, just and open societies.

The study consists in identifying and analyzing tools and procedures used by Caritas Members in Africa to measure the populations' poverty level. The objective is to improve the quality of the answers / responses, projects and advocacy approaches implemented by the Caritas organisations.

22 out of 29 targeted National Caritas organisations have so far responded. The report will be presented in January 2018 during the A2P-DIRO Programme Stakeholders Meeting in Cotonou, Benin.



### *Survey on Caritas involvement in Microfinance*

A survey has also been initiated on the commitment of Caritas Africa Member Organisations in Microfinance. Four members have responded. They are Caritas Burkina Faso, Caritas Senegal, Caritas Congo Asbl and Caritas Rwanda.

### *Commitment of Caritas in SDGs monitoring in Africa*

Another survey has been carried in order to measure the commitment of Caritas Africa Member Organisations in the monitoring of the Sustainable Development Goal n° 2. Caritas Africa has received responses from 13 Member Organisations.

Then, Caritas Africa obtained a financial support from the CI Regional Development Fund to implement a "Caritas Africa Mobilization Enhancement Support Project in Advocacy for the Promotion of the Right to Food." Six countries were selected to be part of the PARCAP (*Projet d'Appui au Renforcement de la Mobilisation de Caritas Africa dans le Plaidoyer pour la Promotion du Droit à l'Alimentation*) which consists of the Capacity Strengthening on Advocacy techniques for the monitoring of the SDG2 implementation process.

Caritas Asia has invited Caritas Africa to share its experience in the Regional Workshop on Justice and resilience in the climate crisis, in December, in Bangkok, Thailand. A delegate from Caritas Ethiopia participated in this event to make a presentation on behalf of Caritas Africa on **"Climate action, SDG and Food Sovereignty"** to make the position of the Church and the work of Caritas in Africa well known on this topic.

### *Active participation of Caritas Africa*

Caritas Africa has, all through the year, participated in several Caritas Internationalis Committees and Working Groups as well.

As an example, Caritas Internationalis, in collaboration with Catholic Relief Services and Cordaid, was looking to support CI Member Organizations in their health impact, specifically engaging with the Global Fund. As such, a meeting

was held in Geneva, Switzerland, on 26-27 September 2017 in order to strategize how to more fully engage in programming supported by the Global Fund. For that purpose, a survey was launched to help the co-organizers to better understand expectations, learn more about participant background and engagement with the Global Fund, as well as identify issues to be addressed in the meeting.



**Bishops from ACEAC meeting Congolese refugees in Burundi.**

The following Caritas Africa Member Organisations namely Benin, Burundi, Côte d'Ivoire, Democratic Republic of Congo, Nigeria and Rwanda and the Regional Secretariat of Caritas Africa participated in the said meeting and are members of the Caritas Internationalis Task Force set up on the partnership Caritas - Global Fund. A working action Plan was developed at the same occasion.

### *The Global Campaign "Share the Journey" in the Region*

Caritas Africa is actively participating in the Caritas Internationalis "Share the Journey" Global Campaign on Migration, launched by Pope Francis on 27 September 2017.



Taking advantage of the meeting of Bishops organized by Caritas Africa in Dakar, Senegal from 18 to 20 September 2017, the Global Campaign was launched in the region a few days ahead of the official launch in Rome.

It was a great opportunity to get all the Bishops present to adhere to this Global Campaign on Migration, an issue that calls for great attention all over the Africa Region.

### *Strengthening the resilience of vulnerable communities in Africa*

Caritas Members in Africa have been committed in initiatives to strengthen the resilience of vulnerable communities in Africa. These include a project, benefitting from the financial support of Caritas Korea, will be implemented in 2018. It is entitled: “Resilience Enhancing and Capacity Strengthening on Food Security in Eastern Africa Countries (RECS)/ Kenya, Ethiopia, Uganda and South Sudan.” It was developed to respond to needs identified in the CI SitRep on the Horn of Africa published in May 2017.

Caritas Africa has also been involved in disseminating information on calls for proposals and on initiatives/policies of the African Union (AU), the United Nations (UN), the World Bank (WB), the European Union (EU) as well as other organisations to encourage Caritas Members to be more committed in the monitoring of their implementation or to submit their project proposals.

Caritas Africa and Caritas Europa have jointly engaged in Advocacy work in the frame of the AU-EU Heads of States Summit held in November 2017, in Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire.

### *The CAKES Platform*

2017 saw the finalisation of CAKES (Caritas in Africa Knowledge Exchange and Sharing) Platform (<https://www.cakesplatform.info>). The Platform has been presented in various Caritas Africa Forums, where many Caritas Africa members gave positive feedback that Platform will be a useful tool for information sharing and gathering. The platform has information on Caritas Africa members activities based on SDGs and documents repository as well as the 3W mapping of Caritas partners in Africa.



Caritas in Africa Knowledge Exchange and Sharing Platform

LANGUAGES | LOG OUT

CAKES ▾

PARTNERS ▾

SHARE ▾

NETWORK ▾

CAKES NEWS

DOCUMENTS ▾

### About CAKES

Caritas in Africa Knowledge Exchange and Sharing platform (CAKES Platform), is a knowledge sharing platform which will allow Caritas Member Organizations to gather information, review, comment and version their contents and comments to enable unified collaboration, stimulate knowledge sharing and collective learning, exchange lessons learned and discuss insights on sustainable development.



Caritas members in Africa have a vast wealth of experiences and lessons learnt from their various regions. This information can now be shared and accessed on the CAKES Platform. The rich information gathered from partners, stakeholders and target beneficiaries for Caritas organizations in the Africa region will help members know each other and learn from each other in areas of

There are two main objectives of the CAKES Platform;

- i) Gather and map quantitative and qualitative data from National Caritas to provide information on the 3W's (Who is doing, What, Where)
- ii) Map information on Member Organisations, their strengths and areas of expertise, their weaknesses and areas they need support and capacity building.

These objectives of the CAKES Platform will help in creating synergy in implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) based on the Social Teachings of the Church (STC) for Mutual Learning and Knowledge Sharing. It will also create a harmonized space for reflection and dialogue on the role of the Church on the implementation of the SDGs and 2063 African Union Agenda and to deepen the understanding of the STC in relation to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in Africa. The Platform will strive to promote knowledge exchange and peer learning that contribute to fundamentally shaping our understanding and approaches towards strategies in the implementation of the SDGs and stimulate informal interaction and facilitate mutual learning. CAKES Platform will seek to manage, identify synergies and facilitate institutional innovation from knowledge generated from Caritas in Africa Member Organizations programs and projects. This will involve effective processes of capturing, distributing and utilizing internal and external knowledge to achieve the visions and missions of the Caritas organizations in Africa. Knowledge sharing can contribute to better development results as it is critical to organisations, building capacity and creating sustainable solutions for greater growth and equity especially with the Sustainable Development Goals. Sharing knowledge paves the way for a greater percentage of populations in developing countries to benefit from growth. Through our Sign

During this period, Caritas Africa incorporated two University Interns in Nairobi sub-office who greatly assisted in desktop research on partners mapping (3W mapping), information that was posted in the CAKES platform. This included the data received from the SAHEL region and from CI on the Horn of Africa drought crises. The platform has incorporated Mailchimp, a web-based email service



programme for effective interaction with the platform and bulk communication on the platform and an interactive registration process for invitation and verification for acceptance to the platform and subsequent notification.

The platform is currently hosted by Amazon with monthly maintenance fee. It will be rolled out to the members in 2018 once it has been officially launched for members to start interacting with the platform.

### ***COATNET Meeting in Brasilia***

COATNET held its biennial meeting from the 10 to 14 November 2017 in Brasilia, Brazil. The main objective of the meeting was to enhance capacity of members in advocacy strategizing. The Network's advocacy strategy was developed step by step focusing on its thematic priorities: trafficking in maritime industry, trafficking for labour and exploitation, trafficking in crisis. There were joint sessions with the Anglican Alliance and Salvation Army representatives working on human trafficking



**Members of COATNET gathered in Brasilia to deepen their knowledge about strategies of political influence in dealing with human trafficking.**

and looking for better cooperation among the networks. Participants have learnt about the experience of various religious groups and organizations in ending human trafficking in the Latin America and Caribbean region. This was an opportunity to promote networking and experience sharing among the participants including the use of the new Baobab and implementation of a COATNET database. Participants shared their projects and communication materials in a “market place”.

Caritas Africa Representatives from Nigeria, Zimbabwe, Rwanda, Gambia, Mali, Tanzania, Uganda and Ethiopia attended the event.

### ***The Catholic German Commission of Justice and Peace (CGCJP)***



The CGCJP has invited Caritas Africa to attend its Conference in Arusha, Tanzania, from 16 to 18 November, 2017. Caritas Rwanda was appointed to attend, on behalf of Caritas Africa, the event, which focused on the following theme: “Promoting Respect in the Human Right to Health.”

As a reminder, the Catholic German Commission of Justice and Peace has some years ago established a working group on “Human Rights and Cultural Traditions” in order to explore interactions between human rights and local cultural practices or traditional convictions. In this conference, the working group has focused on practical consequences of the relation between human rights and traditions in the “Human Right to the Highest Attainable Standard of Health”.

### ***Work for peace building and reconciliation and support the democratization process in Africa***

CRS (Catholic Relief Services) has invited Caritas Africa to attend its Training workshop in Arusha, Tanzania, in September. Unfortunately, due to some logistics issues, their attendance was not possible.



# Humanitarian Preparedness and Response

The fourth Strategic Orientation requests Caritas Africa to:

1. Coordinate and facilitate Capacity building activities in the field of Community Managed Disaster Risk Reduction.; And
2. Provide support to the Caritas Member Organisations of the Africa region.

## ***Support to Caritas Kenya (writing of an Emergency Appeal)***

At the request of Caritas Africa Humanitarian Team (CAHT) Chairperson, the Caritas Africa Humanitarian Program Officer travelled to Kenya to accompany the National Caritas in the drafting and submission of an Emergency Appeal for the preparation

## **Caritas Africa**

### **Strategic Orientation 4**

#### **Enhance Humanitarian Preparedness and Response**

approval before finalizing the Emergency Appeal.

The last part of the accompaniment consisted in writing the project narrative and budget

of a response to drought in the most affected areas in the country. This work first consisted in gathering secondary data available, contacting several stakeholders such as the other actors, technical partners operating in the country as well as other members of the Caritas network, such as the dioceses.

After drafting the major orientations of the project, a validation workshop was convened to ensure coordination and national

proposal, using the new template from the Caritas Internationalis toolkit. This support from Caritas Africa, provided to one of its members, lasted 15 days and resulted in the finalization of an EA file, which was submitted to the CI network for a request for funding of 1 723 953 euros for the response to needs identified in 6 dioceses of Kenya. This project targeted a population of 97 943 people. At the end of 2017, the financial support received was 612 988 euros, that is 42,1% of the total budget.

## ***Support to Caritas Congo (Brazzaville)***

Caritas Congo (Brazzaville) has a long experience in the management of emergency projects but has never executed a project funded by the US Government. In partnership with the CRS program in the Republic of Congo and the Democratic Republic of Congo, Caritas Congo has benefited from USAID/OFDA funding for rapid Non-Food Item (NFI) assistance to 1 000 displaced families in the Pool region. USAID/OFDA is the Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance (OFDA), an organizational unit within the United States Agency for International Development (USAID).

For a financing of about US\$ 200 000 this project had to be implemented within 2 months in 3 Dioceses, namely: Kinkala,



**Cardinal John Njue kicks off, in March 2017, the distribution of more than 80 tons of food to the drought stricken populations of northern Kenya.**



Nkayi and Brazzaville. In order to put all their assets on their side, Catholic Relief Services (CRS) and Caritas Congo negotiated with Caritas Africa to benefit from a special assistance, during a period of 2 months, for the implementation of this emergency project. The stakes were twofold: this project was an opportunity to test Caritas' ability to work according to the management procedures used for US public funds; and it called upon Caritas to meet the quality standards required by CRS.

The support provided by Caritas Africa has greatly contributed to the achievement of the project objectives that all the stakeholders have described as total success. This support enabled a collegial management



**US Ambassador Haskell helping with the distribution of relief supplies - Pool Region, Republic of Congo.**



**Non Food Items distributed to 1 000 displaced families of the Pool Region of the Republic of Congo.**

of the major stages of the project: targeting, selection of beneficiaries, exercise of accountability, compliance with Sphere standards. The main result was the early launch of an additional project in the same sector with the same partners with a larger objective.

### ***Partners Meetings of Caritas South Sudan***

The meeting was held in Rome on 22 and 23 March 2017. It was a space for sharing mutual concerns and issues related to fraternal cooperation with a focus on capacity building and writing of its Emergency Appeal (sharing information, meetings with in-country partners, and contacts with diocesan Caritas members).

The meeting was also to look for ways to address the concerns and to find a long-term solution.

The meeting Objectives were as follows:

- To build mutual trust and confidence between Caritas South Sudan and the Member Organisations to implement the emergency response and the Recovery programs with close coordination;
- To mutually share the different strengths and weaknesses of Caritas South Sudan;
- To understand the aspirations of Caritas South Sudan to witness as the local church and find ways to help the local structure;
- To ensure coordination of support to Caritas South Sudan in the different fields of need, the Emergency Response and to see how Caritas South Sudan can collaborate with the Member Organisations to learn by doing;
- To initiate a coordinated Capacity Strengthening and Accompaniment Process through the new strategic plan; and
- To ensure the organisational and institutional sustainability of Caritas South Sudan.



**Caritas International Belgium reaching out to South-Sudanese families.**



## ***Creation of a surge capacity in Africa for rapid response to emergencies in collaboration with Caritas Internationalis***

Two basic training sessions in Emergency Preparedness and Response were held in Nairobi/Kenya in May 2017 and Grand-Bassam/Côte d'Ivoire in July 2017, with the support from Catholic Relief Services, Caritas Singapore, Caritas Spain and the CI WG on the Sahel.



**Caritas response at Bidi-Bidi refugee camp: within days volunteers helped to distribute 10 000 hand tools and 10 tonnes of vegetable seeds to allow refugees to grow pulses and vegetables so they can improve their diet.**

The aim of these training sessions was to give the opportunity for the participants, to analyze their own practices and the way the disaster response is carried out.

The participants have been taken through an overview of the fundamentals to give a common understanding on the different concepts of Disaster and how the disaster happens and the integral disaster management process. This resulted in reflecting on how to reduce the effects by taking preventive measures. A special attention has been given to the Disaster Response as Church based organization.

By the end of these training sessions, the participants were able to:

Understand the importance of coordination in emergencies and the key tasks related to coordination;

Familiarise with the Emergency Response Framework, Protocol for CI Coordination in Emergency Response and Protocol for Sectoral Working Groups;

Understand the role of the Rapid Response, Emergency Appeal and Protracted Crisis Appeal funding mechanisms in the broader picture of CI funding options for emergency response ; and

Use the CI Toolkit effectively.

Major results of these training sessions:

- 37 participants from 30 National Caritas Africa Member Organisations have been trained - that is 63%;
- 24% of the trained staff were women;
- One delegate from Caritas Jordan and three delegates from Caritas Haiti also attended the training sessions on behalf of the fraternal cooperation between the CI Confederation Regions.

### ***Project PEOPLE (Preparing for Emergencies by strengthening Organisational Procedures, Learning and Exchange)***

A project submitted to the European Commission in the framework of a consortium led by CAFOD will bring together Secours Catholique/Caritas France, CRS, Caritas Africa and CHS Alliance for its implementation. CHS, that is Core Humanitarian Standards for Quality and Accountability, is a direct result of the Joint Standards Initiative (JSI), a project for which HAP International (Humanitarian Accountability Partnership), People In Aid and the Sphere Project have joined forces to improve coherence between humanitarian norms and make them simpler to use.



**Focus on human needs.**

The main purpose of the program is to strengthen the capacity of ten participating organizations in Liberia, Nigeria, Sierra Leone and Zimbabwe to prepare for and respond to humanitarian crises and strengthen their network and volunteer management systems. This is for a period of 24 months from April 2018.



The program will support three partners to initiate the process of becoming certified EU host organizations contributing to enhance European solidarity at an international level.

This program will make a difference to people affected by crises by enabling organizations to improve the quality and effectiveness of their humanitarian preparedness and response capacity. It will build partner capacity to develop and manage an effective volunteer management systems and emergency preparedness by engaging community, office and international volunteers.

Learning and good practices from this program (on both strengthening organizations' humanitarian capacities and the role of volunteers in humanitarian action) will be widely disseminated.

***Reinforcement through advocacy and communication initiatives of the visibility of Caritas work and its capacity in emergency response***

Caritas Malawi and Caritas Mozambique are the 2 Caritas Africa Representatives to the CI Humanitarian Committee. They participated in the two CI Humanitarian Committee meetings in Rome in Italy and Bonn, Germany.

The first Committee Meeting adopted the Terms of Reference and operational plan for the group, and elected the leadership. Caritas Denmark and Caritas Mozambique are the Chair and the Vice-chair, respectively.

Humanitarian crises and CI Emergency Appeals were the main subjects discussed. This discussion was aimed to share and overcome challenges related to CI Emergency Appeals. Three main decisions/questions on this are:

1. CI Humanitarian Department recommendations should be addressed by the requesting Caritas before launching an Emergency Appeal.

2. How to overcome challenges linked to EA and institutional funds?
3. Pledges and transfer delay: What internal systems allow quick transfer of funds?

***Emergency Appeals concerning Africa***

In 2017, Caritas Internationalis has launched ten (10) Emergency Appeals in favour of the Caritas Africa region. The areas and countries concerned were the following:



Caritas Sierra Leone intervening rapidly after a heavy landslide that occurred in Freetown, Sierra Leone.

Darfur in Western Sudan, Madagascar, Burundi, Democratic Republic of Congo, South Sudan, Rwanda, Kenya, Niger, Central African Republic and Uganda.



# Resource Mobilisation

*Encourage diversification of sources of funding to support Caritas/Church social and development programmes*

A major difficulty for Caritas organisations at all levels as community, parish, diocesan, national and regional is to find ways and means of mobilising resources in a sustainable way: human, financial and material.



Participants attending a Capacity Strengthening workshop in Nairobi, Kenya.

In order to build up the capacity of Caritas Members in Africa, a training session geared towards the Development of Resource Mobilisation was organised in Nairobi, Kenya from 2 to 4 October 2017 by Caritas Africa with the support from the CI GS. Through a participatory approach and with practical cases, the 28 participants (14 men and 14 women from 26 Caritas Member organisations) contributed to the development of the different modules and took note mainly of four fundraising tools namely good governance, effective communication, a good image of the institution and prayer.

A Resource Mobilisation Reference Group, comprising one representative from each of the six zones (ACEAC, ACERAC, AMECEA, CEDOI-M, IMBISA and

## Caritas Africa

### Strategic Orientation 5

#### Develop Resource Mobilisation

RECOWA-CERAO), was set up at the end of the workshop with the objective of continually supporting Member Organisations in the Region with regard to opportunities in the field of resource mobilisation.

The Regional Office has also shared information on calls for proposals launched by donors.

#### *The Caritas Africa Solidarity Fund*

Ten National Caritas Member Organisations of the Africa Region contributed to the Caritas Africa Solidarity Fund in 2016 and in 2017. The total amount available for 2016 and 2017 was € 46 105. This includes an amount of € 15 876 left over from 2015. The table below lists the contributions received.

Contributions to the Caritas Africa Solidarity Fund		
<b>2015</b>	<b>Amount left over</b>	<b>€ 15 876</b>
<b>2016</b>	Caritas Burundi	€ 4 667
	Caritas Congo Asbl	€ 1 000
	Caritas Rwanda	€ 1 739
	Caritas South Sudan	€ 1 000
	Caritas Mauritius	€ 2 500
	<b>Total</b>	<b>€ 10 906</b>
<b>2017</b>	Caritas Seychelles	€ 1 000
	Caritas Mauritius	€ 4 000
	Caritas Senegal	€ 4 500
	Caritas Togo	€ 4 573
	Caritas Nigeria	€ 5 000
	Caritas Benin	€ 250
	<b>Total</b>	<b>€ 19 323</b>
	<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>€ 46 105</b>

At the request of these  
4 Caritas organisations,  
their contributions have  
been transferred to  
Caritas Sierra Leone.



Caritas Africa was able to use the contributions received to support several Caritas Member Organisations in Africa. The table below gives a detailed account of the support provided to Caritas Members in Africa from the contributions received by the Solidarity Fund.

### Contributions made from the Caritas Africa Solidarity Fund

<b>2016</b>	Caritas Congo	Support following severe floods	€ 2 801
	Caritas South Sudan	Support to Internally Displaced People	€ 3 000
	Caritas Niger	Support following heavy flooding	€ 2 500
	Caritas Rwanda	Support to refugees from Burundi	€ 2 500
	Caritas Eritrea	Support following drought	€ 3 500
<b>2017</b>	Caritas Madagascar	Support following drought	€ 2 500
	Caritas Sierra Leone	Support following heavy flooding	€ 2 500
	Caritas Sierra Leone	Support following mud slide	€ 14 073
	<b>Total</b>		<b>€ 33 374</b>



Pope Francis greets immigrants and representatives of Caritas Internationalis during his general audience in St. Peter's Square at the Vatican Sept. 27.

Credit: PAUL HARING/CNS

### 2nd Caritas Africa Partners Meeting in Dakar

Following the Bishops meeting in Dakar, Caritas Africa held its 2nd Partners meeting. The objective was to have a mid-term review of the Caritas Africa achievements of during the year 2016-2017, per strategic orientation. and it was agreed on the following:

1. Promote the image and credibility of Caritas organisations in Africa;
2. Promote Caritas day at all levels. On November 19, 2017 at the request of HH Pope Francis, the Church was invited to celebrate the first World Day of the Poor. This was a unique opportunity for Caritas at all levels to engage in this celebration by focusing on the role the poor have in our communities and actions;
3. Support peer to peer learning in the area of resource mobilization;
4. Develop a fund-raising strategy;
5. Support the core costs for Caritas Africa Regional Secretariat.



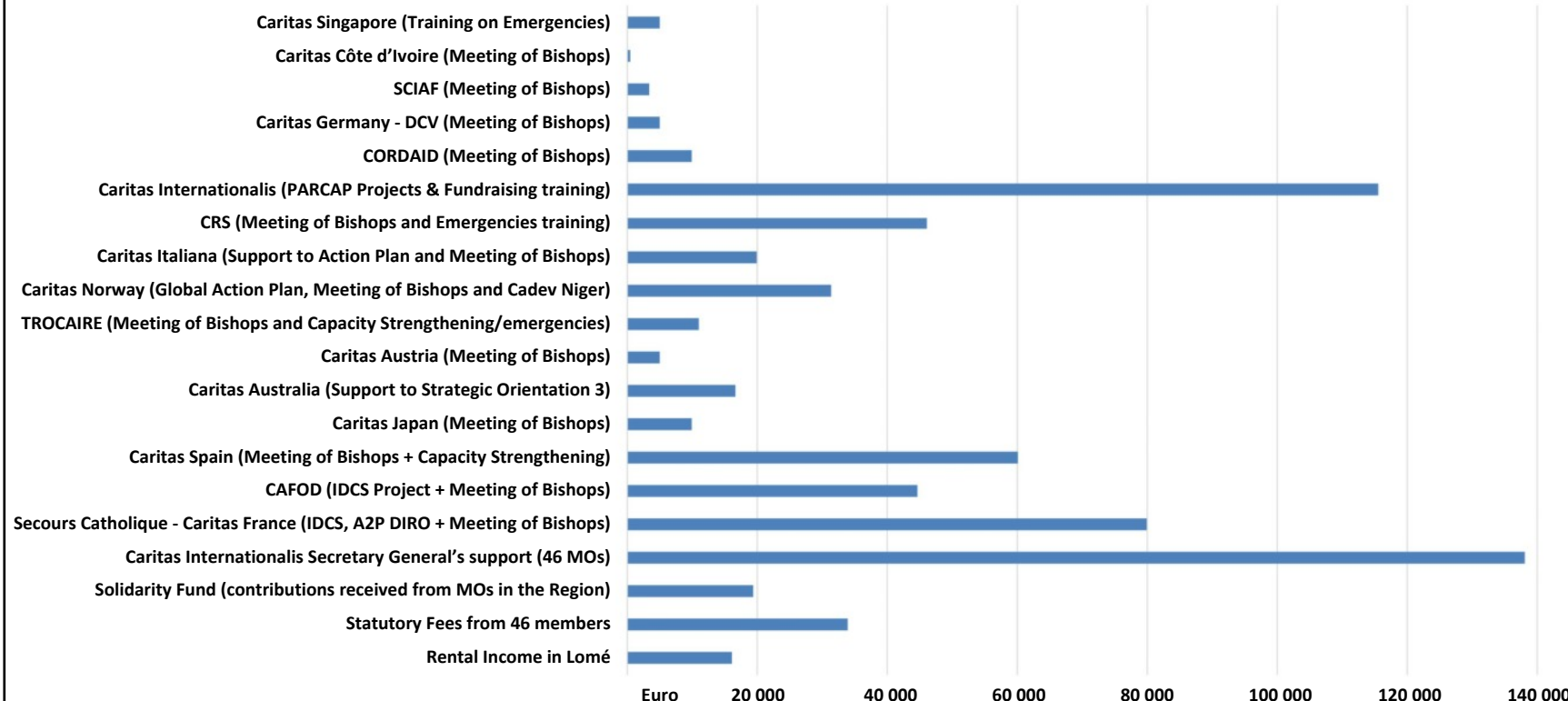


## Continued support from Caritas Internationalis and Caritas Members

Caritas Africa is particularly grateful to Caritas Internationalis as well as to the following Caritas Members for their continued and active support.



### Caritas Africa - Mobilization of Resources - 2017



**Caritas Japan**  
カリタス ジャパン



**Cáritas Española**

**CAFOD**  
Just one world

**TROCAIRE**  
Working for a Just World



**Caritas**  
AUSTRALIA



**Caritas**  
Norge



**Caritas Italiana**  
organismo pastorale della CEI



**Caritas**  
CÔTE D'IVOIRE



# Networking and Communication

## *Ensure the visibility of Caritas work at all levels*

Caritas Africa has, all through the year, been very active in promoting the free flow of information at all levels of the Caritas organisation, that is at regional, national, diocesan and parish levels.

In order to foster networking and communication, a training workshop was organised in Nairobi, Kenya, from 5 to 9 October 2017, with the support of CIMOs, including Caritas Spain, for the benefit of National Caritas Communication Officers, in order to reinforce their skills in communication strategy. There were 23 participants, comprising 10 women and 13 men from 20 Caritas Africa Member Organisations.

The aim was to contribute to a better visibility, at all levels, of Caritas activities in communities, parishes and dioceses, as well as at national, even continental and international levels. The workshop was organized by Caritas Africa in collaboration with Caritas Internationalis.

Caritas Africa aimed at providing the Caritas Africa Communicators Team (CACT) with the capacities, tools and techniques necessary for the optimal functioning of the communication units or departments of their respective Caritas, so that they be more effective in fulfilling their missions in the service of the most deprived members of society.

This included encouraging the Communicators of these national Caritas Members to actively use various channels of communication and to build credible sources of information within and beyond the Caritas Confederation; to make full use of the means of mass communication, the Internet and social media to communicate with their respective publics; to ensure that Caritas is firmly rooted in the Church in Africa.

## **Caritas Africa Strategic Orientation 6 Promote Networking and Communication**

Alternating the theory in plenary with practice in group work, the Workshop Facilitator led the participants to the elaboration of a communication strategy. They carried out a situational analysis of their Caritas at all levels before identifying objectives to be attained. Once these objectives were identified, the facilitator asked the participants to prioritize them. They then listed their target audiences at various levels, classifying them according to their power and interest in Caritas work. Learners

then listed the media and techniques they intend to use to achieve the goals already identified.

A Reference Group of Communicators, composed of 6 members, one from each zone, was set up at the end of the workshop.

### ***The Caritas Africa e-magazine***

Caritas Africa publishes four times a year an e-magazine on the activities of Caritas all over Africa. This e-magazine is distributed free of charge not only in Africa but all over the world. It is also available on the Caritas Africa website so that anybody, anywhere, can read the e-magazine



**National Caritas Communication Officers, from Africa, participating in the training workshop organised by Caritas Africa, in Nairobi, to foster networking and communication in the region.**





on line or even download it. Articles are available in the three Caritas Africa working languages: English, French and Portuguese.

Each issue of the e-magazine comprises an editorial by the Caritas Africa Executive Secretary, a message by the Caritas Africa Bishop President and information about Caritas Africa and Caritas Internationalis. There are also articles on activities taking place in the Region.

The table on the two following pages lists all the articles published in the Caritas Africa e-magazine in 2017 and about activities taking place all across the Caritas Africa Region.

On average, the four Caritas Africa e-magazines, published in 2017,

have each been downloaded 1 500 times. Caritas Africa members are invited to download every Caritas Africa e-magazine, have it printed and shared with Caritas workers as well as with our sisters and brothers.

No doubt, the Caritas Africa e-magazine is an important source of information and it can also be a great source of inspiration. Activities organised in a particular country given specific conditions, may often

be a source of inspiration for another Caritas. The activities do not have to be copied but they may be adapted and amended to answer local conditions and needs.

It must be pointed out that articles published in the Caritas Africa e-magazine are also used as reference articles. It is quite common to note that e-magazines may still be downloaded as many as 20 times during a month, more than two years after its publication.

### *Presence of Caritas Africa on Internet*

Caritas Africa maintains an active presence on the Internet. Its website [www.caritas-africa.org](http://www.caritas-africa.org) is regularly updated and provides as much infor- (Continued on page 26)





Zones	Countries	Issues	Caritas Africa e-magazine articles published in 2017
ACEAC	Rwanda	March	Everybody's collaboration needed for successful natural family
	DR Congo	March	Caritas Congo Asbl's commitment to the implementation of SDGs
	Burundi	March	Burundi Food Security Information Collection Service
	Rwanda	March	Spotlight on family and life protection
	DR Congo	June	Caritas committed to strengthening the resilience of vulnerable communities to disaster risk
	Rwanda	June	Campaign to combat malnutrition and promote hygiene and sanitation
	DR Congo	June	South-south Cooperation: Caritas Togo and Caritas DR Congo exchange their experiences
	DR Congo	September	Grand Kasai, Democratic Republic of Congo: Humanitarian tragedy following violence by the Kamuina Nsapu phenomenon
	Burundi	September	CI Secretary General visited Burundi at the end of June 2017
	Burundi	September	Caritas Burundi: Support to more than 10 000 food insecurity victims
	DR Congo	December	Bishops of the Congo Basin in Amazonia: For the conservation of tropical forests, the Churches of America and Africa are standing shoulder to shoulder
	Rwanda	December	<i>A vade mecum</i> for the Caritas animator
	Rwanda	December	Visit of Catholic Bishops of Rwanda and Burundi to Mahama: Lots of hope for Burundian refugees
ACERAC	Central African Rep.	March	Caritas Central Africa 2017 Agricultural Fair of Bozoum
	Congo	June	Fraternal cooperation within Church communion
AMECEA	Zambia	March	The Environmental Crisis, Everyone's Concern
	Ethiopia	March	Church Working to Ensure Holistic Development of Women in Ethiopia
	Ethiopia	June	The Catholic Church gives physically disabled and deformed children the opportunity to run and enjoy childhood
	Tanzania	September	Bringing about sustainable development through women, children and youth dignity promotion
	Uganda	September	Caritas Uganda empowers over 100 South Sudanese refugees through livelihood skills
	Kenya	December	Capacity building: Caritas Africa Member Organisations undergo fundraising training in Nairobi
	Kenya	December	Communication strategy: Capacity Building for 23 Caritas Africa Communicators
CEDOI-M	Region	March	News from the CEDOI-M Zone
	Madagascar	March	South of Madagascar: Persistent Food Insecurity
	Mauritius	June	Pastry and Bakery Employability Programme for Young Mauritians
	Mauritius	September	Mauritius expertise in the fight against illiteracy in Mayotte
	Madagascar	September	Access to drinking water: a major challenge for Madagascar
	Mauritius	December	Caritas University

(Continued on next page)



<b>Zones</b>	<b>Countries</b>	<b>Issues</b>	<b>Caritas Africa e-magazine articles published in 2017 (Continued)</b>
IMBISA	Angola	March	Facing the severe drought in the southern region of Angola
	Swaziland	March	“Coming to the help of orphans and widows in their hardships” (James 1:27)
	Mozambique	June	Caritas Mozambique closest to communities in need
	Lesotho	June	Working with communities to reduce the incidence of HIV among adolescent girls and young women
	Swaziland	June	Improving the life of our communities for a better world
	South Africa	June	Workshop - 18-22 June 2017: South Africa-IDCS Project Accompaniment of 4 National Caritas Members from IMBISA Zone
	Lesotho	September	Caritas Lesotho launches its Conference Centre
	South Africa	December	Caritas Africa Regional Commission meeting - Pretoria, South Africa, 18 - 21 October 2017: An opportunity to see Caritas at work in South Africa
RECOWA- CERAO	Burkina Faso	March	OCADES Caritas Burkina draws paths for years to come
	The Gambia	March	Catholic Development Office, The Gambia: Prevention and Control of Malaria
	Côte d'Ivoire	March	Caritas Côte d'Ivoire and CRS support Saint Marc Church destroyed by fire
	Côte d'Ivoire	March	Workshop on Terrorism
	Togo	March	Initiatives to reduce post-harvest losses
	Côte d'Ivoire	March	Fight against preventive detention: Caritas Côte d'Ivoire supports FIACAT
	Burkina Faso	June	World Environment Day: OCADES Caritas Burkina helps build a healthy living environment
	Nigeria	June	Faith-based organizations collaborate with other stakeholders to end AIDS
	Sierra Leone	September	Freetown seriously affected by a twin-disaster: severe floods and mudslide
	Senegal	September	Dakar 17-21 September 2017: Meeting of Bishops President of Episcopal Conferences and Presidents of Caritas in Africa
	Côte d'Ivoire	September	Caritas Africa provides tools its members so that they better respond to emergency situations
	Senegal	December	Dakar: Bishops' meeting
	Ghana	December	Caritas Ghana launches nation-wide e-waste management project
	Togo	December	Caritas - World Bank Partnership: A common and shared strategy to make this pilot initiative a reality
	Burkina Faso	December	Alfred DIBAN Catholic Solidarity Fund: The Church family of God in Burkina getting ready to self support humanitarian crises
	Burkina Faso	December	OCADES Caritas Burkina: Thanks to SILC, community-empowerment is on the way
	Togo	December	OCDI/Caritas Togo: 50 years in the service of vulnerable populations



(Continued from page 23) mation as possible on the activities of Caritas in the Africa Region as well as elsewhere. The Caritas Africa e-magazine can be either downloaded from the Caritas Africa website or it can be read on line.

Caritas Africa is also present within the social media. Its Facebook and Twitter pages are regularly visited and provide much facilities to all those stakeholders who want to network with the organisation.

Caritas Africa also contributes to the development of the Caritas Internationalis Baobab Platform and sensitizes its members to register on that platform and take advantage of the networking facilities offered.

The 2016 Caritas Africa Annual Report was published in the three Caritas Africa working languages: English, French and Portuguese.



Members of the Caritas Africa Regional Commission meeting  
Caritas Madagascar representatives in Antananarivo, Madagascar.

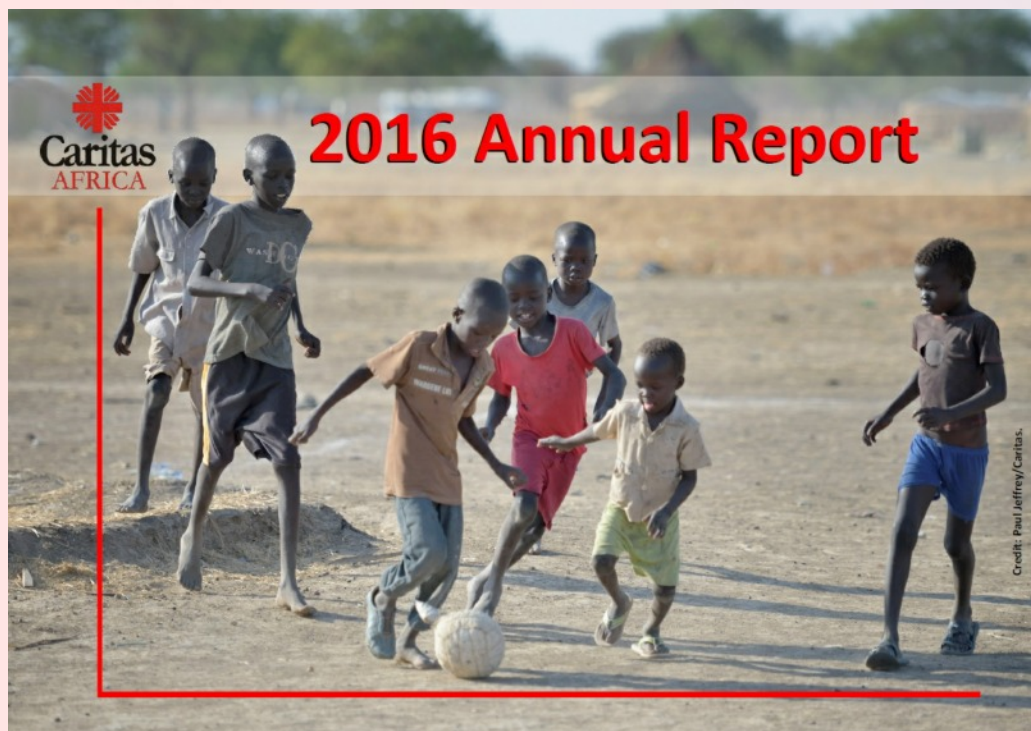
***Effective liaison and presence in Regional Civil society platforms and fora; collaboration with African and International institutions with presence in the Region***

In the frame of meetings held in 2017, the Caritas Africa Bishop President and/or the Executive Secretary visited several Caritas Africa members including the following: Caritas Senegal, Caritas Niger, Caritas Central Africa, Caritas Madagascar, Caritas Benin and Caritas Côte d'Ivoire.

They also visited other CI Regions: Caritas MONA, on the occasion of the Caritas MONA Regional Conference and Partners Meeting in May 2017 in Amman, Jordan; and Caritas Asia, to participate in its Conference & Partners Meeting in June 2017, in Bangkok, Thailand.

The Caritas Executive Secretary also participated in the RECOWA/CERA0 Zonal meeting which was organised in Dakar, Senegal in September 2017 and which saw the participation of 11 out of the 15 National Caritas organisations of that Zone.

The Lusophone Caritas Forum was organised in Praia, Cape Verde, in October 2017 and regrouped Lusophone Caritas Members from Asia, Europe, South America and Africa.





**2017 CARITAS AFRICA BUDGET – MOBILIZATION AND IMPLEMENTATION AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2017**

N°	Item	Estimates €	Mobilisations €	%	N°	Item	Estimates €	Implementation €	%
<b>1</b>	<b>RESOURCES</b>				<b>2</b>	<b>EXPENSES</b>			
<b>1-1.</b>	Internal Resources	19 200.00	16 188.75		<b>2.1</b>	<b>Governance</b>			
<b>1-2.</b>	Statutory fees from members in the region	36 800.00	33 981.65		<b>2.1.1</b>	Provision for 2019 Caritas Africa Regional Conference	24 500.00	24 500.00	
<b>1-3.</b>	Contribution from Caritas Internationalis	138 000.00	138 000.00		<b>2.1.2</b>	Regional Commission Statutory meetings	33 981.65	29 993.28	
<b>1-4.</b>	Caritas Africa Solidarity Fund	46 000.00	19 324.42			<b>Sub-total Governance</b>	<b>58 481.65</b>	<b>54 493.28</b>	<b>8.11</b>
	<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>240 000.00</b>	<b>207 494.81</b>	<b>86.46</b>	<b>2.2</b>	<b>Management and Coordination</b>			
<b>1.5.</b>	Funds raised – Support to projects	670 200.00	464 087.77		<b>2.2.1</b>	Personnel	91 000.00	94 526.06	
	<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>670 200.00</b>	<b>464 087.77</b>	<b>69.25</b>	<b>2.2.2</b>	Overhead expenses	35 000.00	34 438.52	
					<b>2.2.3</b>	Equipment renewal	12 000.00	10 490.47	
					<b>2.2.4</b>	Administrative and financial management costs	16 188.75	4 882.54	
						<b>Sub-total Management and Coordination</b>	<b>154 188.75</b>	<b>144 337.60</b>	<b>21.49</b>
					<b>2.3</b>	<b>Programmes, Projects, Animation and Follow-up</b>			
					<b>2.3.1</b>	Ecclesial Identity of Caritas	166 165.92	88 059.12	
					<b>2.3.2</b>	Institutional Development and Capacity Strengthening	65 441.00	35 290.94	
					<b>2.3.3</b>	Poverty eradication & Promotion of Good Governance	75 575.00	55 076.33	
					<b>2.3.4</b>	Emergency Preparedness Strengthening & Response	86 405.62	66 775.95	
					<b>2.3.5</b>	Mobilization of resources / Animation and sensitization of Communities on Caritas work	44 857.65	43 028.30	
					<b>2.3.6</b>	Promotion of Networking and Communication	44 967.00	36 242.47	
						<b>Sub-total Prog., Projects, Animation and Follow-up</b>	<b>483 412.19</b>	<b>324 473.11</b>	<b>48.31</b>
	<b>TOTAL RESOURCES</b>	<b>910 200.00</b>	<b>671 582.58</b>	<b>73.78</b>		<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>696 082.58</b>	<b>523 304.00</b>	<b>77.92</b>
						<b>BALANCE</b>		<b>148 278.58</b>	<b>22.08</b>
	<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>910 200.00</b>	<b>671 582.58</b>	<b>73.78</b>		<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>696 082.58</b>	<b>671 582.58</b>	<b>100</b>

*Note: This balance of 148 278 euros is due to the late arrival of certain supports (hence the postponement in 2018 of certain activities), thanks to the savings realized by Caritas Africa following the effort made by a significant number of African Caritas organisations to cover the travel expenses of their delegates. It should also be noted that 12 delegates from Caritas organisations of the Sahel were taken over by the GTCIS during the emergency training.*





In 2017, Caritas Central Africa has again managed to organize the great Agricultural Fair of Bozoum, created in 2004 to encourage farmers and cooperatives. It is known as the "Feast of the Proud Peasant" !

Caritas believes that there is no Peace without development and hence continues to encourage the efforts of women and men of good will, who are convinced that only work, patience and passion can build a person's dignity.

The Fair is an exhibition space (to highlight the "beautiful" face of agriculture) as well as a space to sell agricultural products: in 2013, before the war, sales reached Euro 84 000! According to estimates, sales in 2017 have reached Euro 22 900.



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