

# 2019 OVERVIEW

Understanding Secours Catholique – Caritas France,  
its mission and its work.

## THE URGENT AND ESSENTIAL MOVE TOWARDS INTEGRAL ECOLOGY FOR OUR WORLD

At the time of writing, the world is experiencing an unprecedented health crisis that highlights social inequality, the shortcomings of our globalized economies and the impact of our way of life on our planet. In this context, the four changes which we want to support by working with those who are most vulnerable to these changes make more sense than ever: secure recognition for people's wisdom, to ensure that rights are accessible to all, to contribute to new sustainable development methods and, as the Gospel teaches us, to foster cooperation between communities of different cultural and religious backgrounds.

At the end of 2018, as the yellow vest movement was emerging in France, our delegates organized more than 150 workshops to capture the opinions of the most disadvantaged people who wanted to contribute to the public debate and demand social justice, fraternity and sharing. Their proposals gave substance to actions carried out in 2019 to rebuild connections across the territories, create activities that contribute to the empowerment of the poorest, to renovate unfit housing...

The global crisis triggered by the pandemic challenges our approach to supporting the most vulnerable, fighting inequalities and strengthening our social welfare systems. These challenges cannot be overcome without increased solidarity at all levels of our society, between the countries of Europe and with the rest of the world, nor without recognition of the fragility of life, which leads us to rethink our individual and collective ways of living. During lockdown, it is joyful to see the new forms of solidarity that are being invented every day to live in fraternity and to draw on spiritual resources when physical contact is no longer possible. We also see that, like the virus, concern for the most vulnerable has no boundaries.

**Véronique Fayet**  
National President



**Vincent Destival**  
Secretary General



**Hervé Perrot**  
Chaplain General



[secours-catholique.org](https://secours-catholique.org)

 [caritasfrance](#)  
 [Secours Catholique-Caritas France](#)



**ENSEMBLE,  
CONSTRUIRE  
UN MONDE JUSTE  
ET FRATERNEL**

# SECOURS CATHOLIQUE – CARITAS FRANCE

Secours Catholique-Caritas France is a branch of the Catholic Church in France, a member of the Caritas Internationalis confederation and an officially recognised non-profit organisation.

## OUR MISSION

Founded on the Gospel, the mission of Secours Catholique - Caritas France is to offer love and awareness of solidarity in France and around the world. Secours Catholique invites everyone to engage with and support others and experience the joy of fraternity. Its members work to increase everyone's ability to act so that people can live in dignity. Secours Catholique-Caritas France fights the causes of poverty, inequality and exclusion and proposes alternatives that serve the common good.

## OUR VALUES

**Trust:** believing in everyone, having hope for them and valuing their abilities.

**Commitment:** the desire to serve others, to receive and to give, to take action for justice.

**Fraternity:** quality relationships based on respect, affection, mutual support and the pleasure of being together.

## OUR PRINCIPLES FOR ACTION

- ▶ Work with people living in poverty.
- ▶ Pay attention to each person's spiritual needs.
- ▶ Take time to build relations and adopt a long-term approach.
- ▶ Work in partnerships and networks, locally and globally.



**ENSEMBLE,  
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## ACTIONS



▶ In France, 1,393,000 people were supported in 2,400 centres.



▶ Internationally, 586 operations were carried out in 2019, in 56 countries or regions, in association with the Caritas Internationalis network (165 Caritas groups). Within one year, nearly 2.9 million people benefited from international aid from Secours Catholique-Caritas France.

## OUR NETWORK

- ▶ On 31 December 2019 there were 73 delegations, divided into 3,500 local teams in mainland France and French overseas territories. Through its network of volunteers working in local teams, people are given emergency support, and assisted in every aspect of life to regain their place in society. Action is taken to support social interaction and integration into society through community shops, back-to-work courses and more...
- ▶ Network of 64,300 volunteers and 908 employees across the territory.

### 3 CENTRES:

- ▶ La Cité Saint Pierre is a centre in Lourdes that welcomes pilgrims living in poverty from all cultures, religions and nationalities. It is also a training centre where experiences are shared and fraternal service is the norm. (Budget: €4M)
- ▶ La Maison d'Abraham in Jerusalem provides shelter for vulnerable pilgrims of all religions, particularly those from the Middle East, but also for members of the Caritas network and the Church diaconia. (Budget: €1M)
- ▶ The CEDRE Asylum Seeker and Refugee reception centre aims to support the network of delegations in the reception of overseas nationals and to welcome and accompany vulnerable asylum seekers in Ile de France. (Budget: €1M)

## GOVERNANCE AND CONTROL

**The General Assembly** has 180 members, divided into two categories: 146 active members - qualified administrators, presidents and vice-presidents from delegations, and one treasurer per region - and 32 honorary board members. The age limit is 75 years old. 56% of the active members are men, 44% are women.

**The Board of Directors** comprises 21 members, all voluntary: 12 are presidents or vice-presidents from delegations, nine are qualified individuals. Each member has a three-year term of office, renewable twice. The Board meets 11 times per year. The committee is made up of a president, two vice-presidents, a treasurer and a secretary. The general chaplain and the general secretary attend committee and board meetings, without a deciding vote.

# SOURCE OF GLOBAL FUNDING 2019

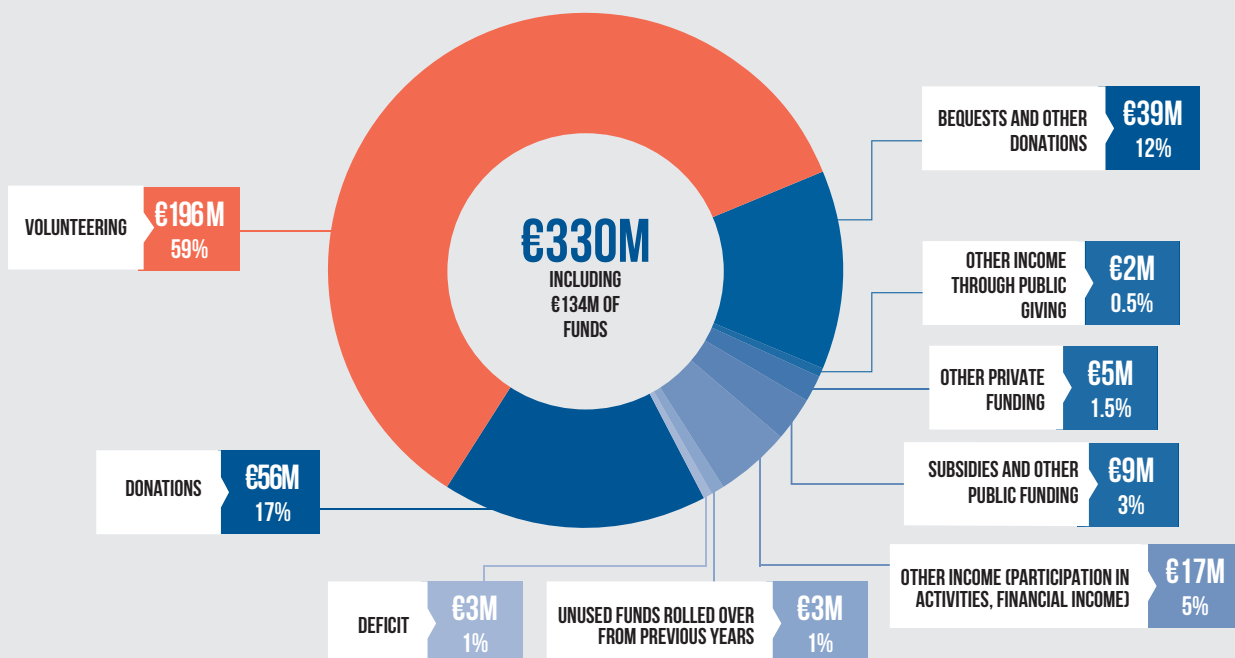
The **socio-economic model** of Secours Catholique-Caritas France is underpinned by the commitment of 64,300 volunteers. Most of the estimated value of €330M comes from support from civil society and is primarily based on voluntary work and financial resources from public giving.



**Value of volunteer involvement:** Our database recorded the activities of the 64,300 volunteers who dedicated time to Secours Catholique in 2019. Each volunteer gave an average of just over 25 days over the year. Based on the hourly minimum wage ('SMIC' including social security), or twice the 'SMIC' rate for volunteers in positions of responsibility, this donated time is valued at €192M, added to which are costs not reimbursed to volunteers (€2M). On top of this amount is the donation of skills and holiday vouchers received for families supported (€1M), support in kind received and goods made available (€1M).

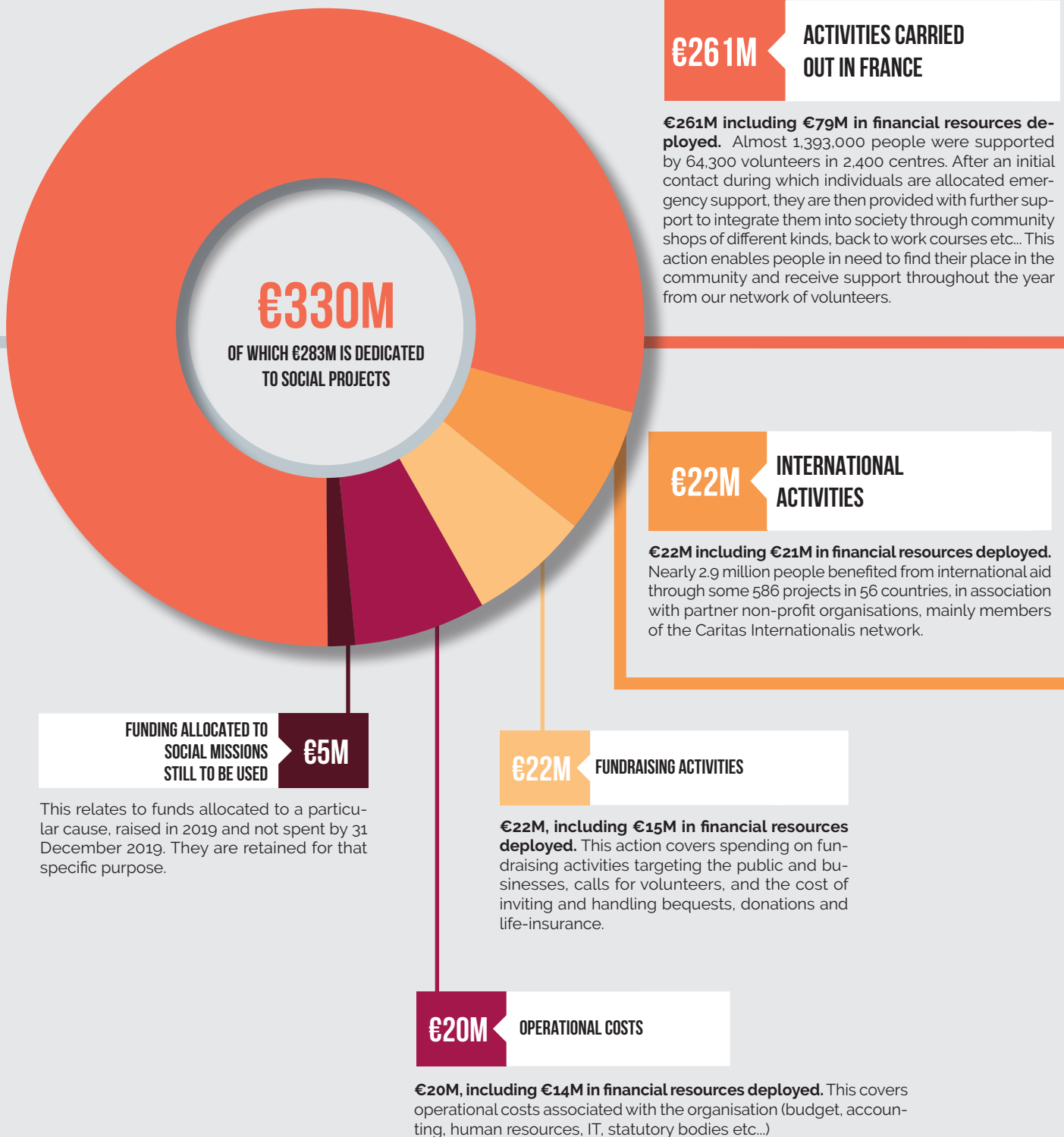


**Public generosity is the main resource** that allows Secours Catholique-Caritas France to operate. Donors have continued to be very generous (€56M), although donations have declined, due mainly to difficult economic and social conditions. Including bequests, donations and life insurance which total €39M and events which raised €2M, public giving amounted to €97M (72% of total funds). Public subsidies remained stable (€9M). Movements in other private funds (€5M) and other income (€17M) offset each other. In addition, €3M in funds rolled over from previous years can also be taken into account. Through fundraising for the year and previous years, public giving financed €75M in charitable activities, €12M in fundraising activities and €12M in operational costs.

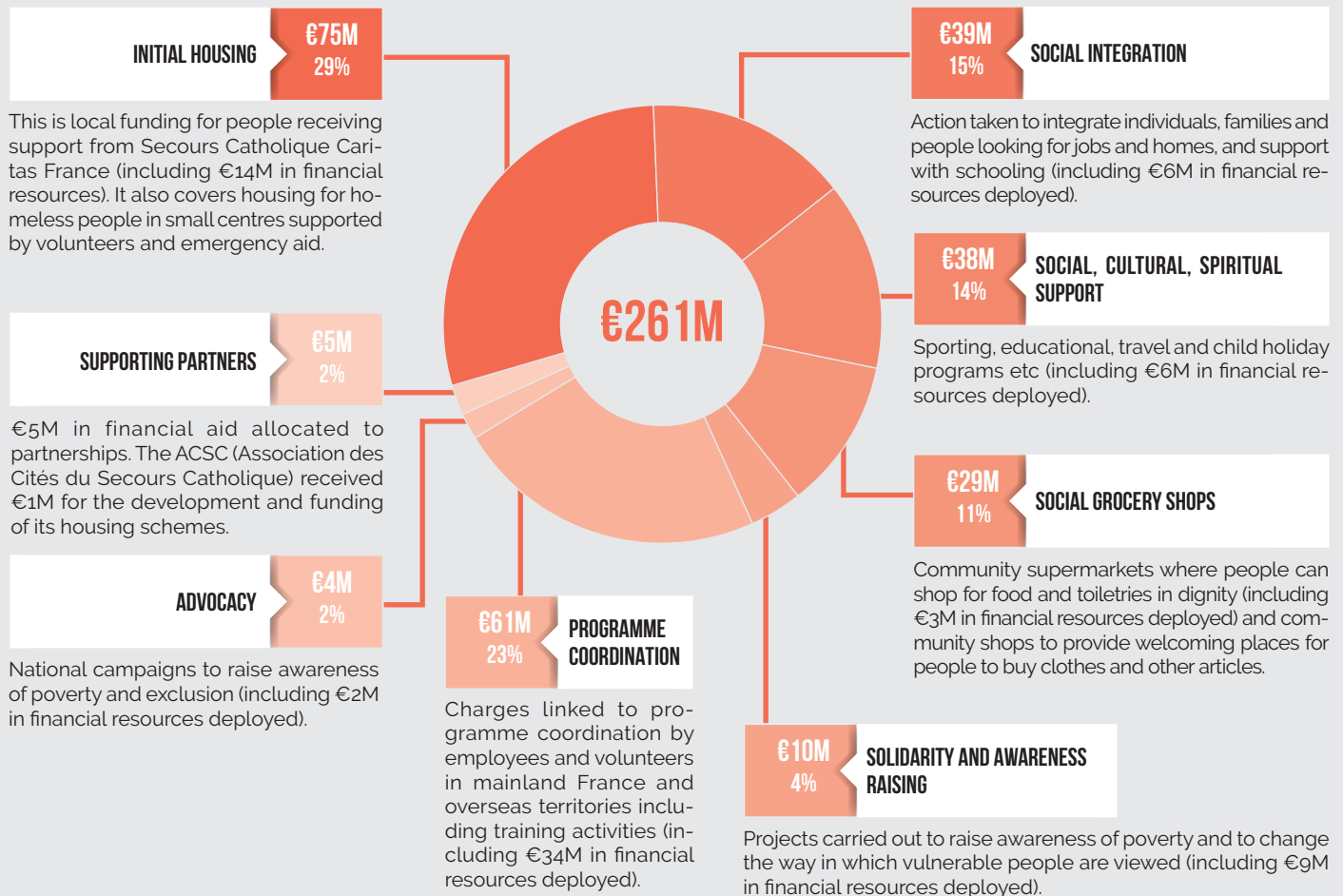


# EMPLOYMENT AND SOCIAL PROJECTS 2019

Secours Catholique carries out community actions to combat poverty and exclusion and involves public institutions to raise the profile of its activities and to promote social justice. It carries out its mission in France through 3,500 local teams of volunteers who supported 1.39 million people, and internationally through 586 projects which supported 2.9 million people.

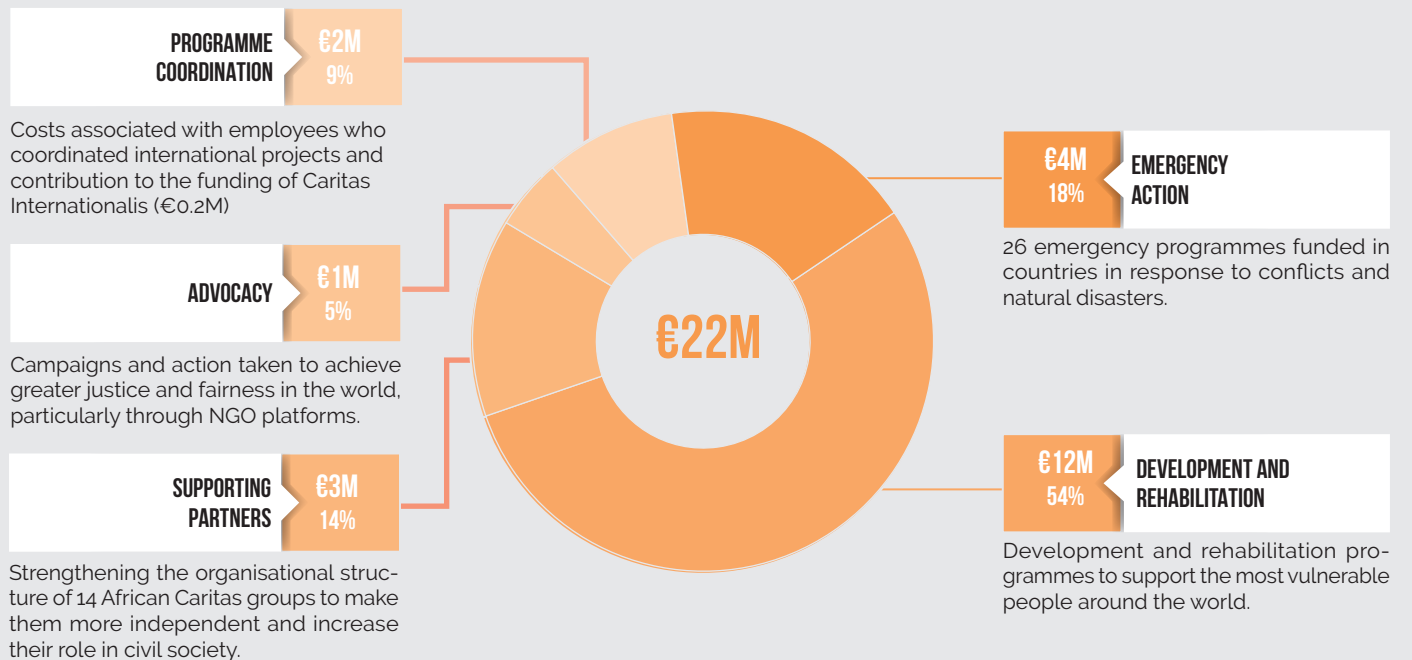


## 1.39 MILLION PEOPLE SUPPORTED IN FRANCE



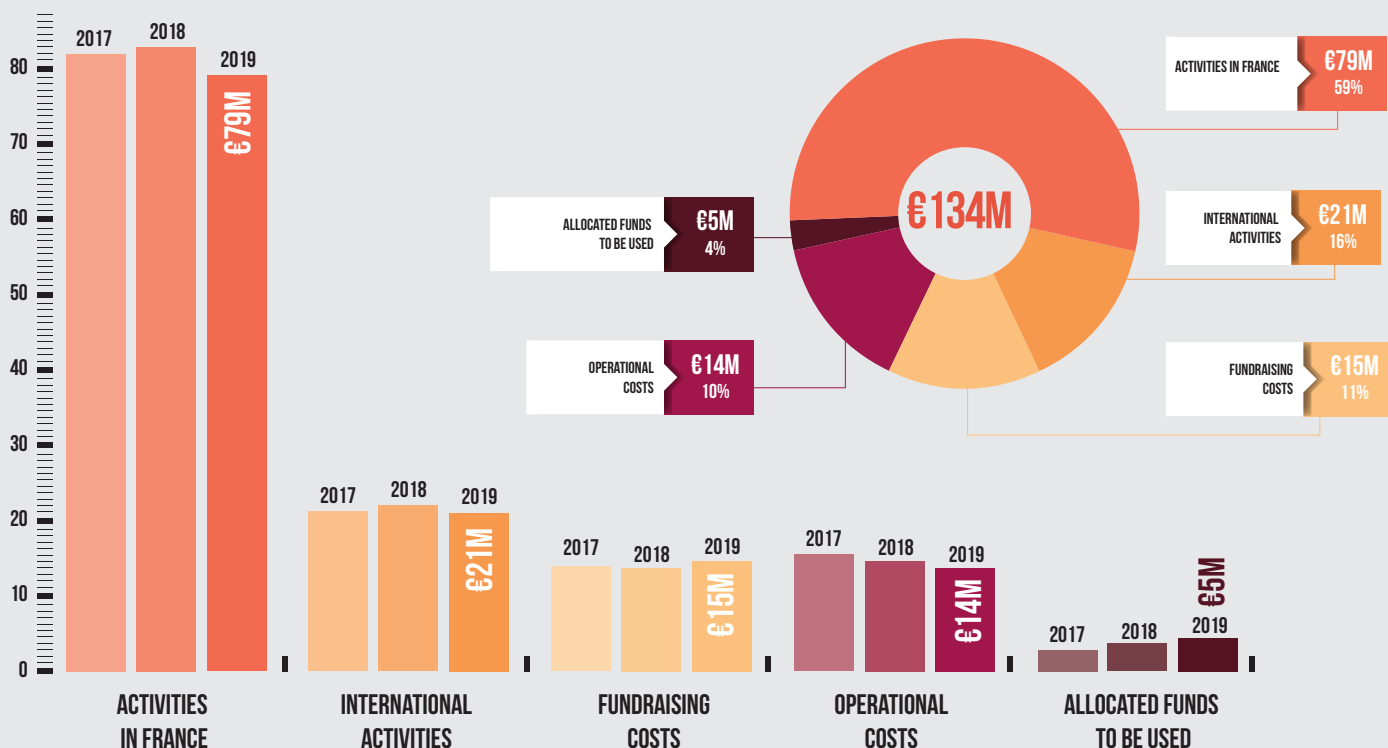
## 2.9 MILLION PEOPLE SUPPORTED OVERSEAS

586 operations were carried out in 56 countries, in association with international partners, mainly members of the Caritas Internationalis network.



# USE OF FINANCIAL RESOURCES 2019

Funding of activities carried out in France, not including the value of volunteer involvement, amounted to €79M. Activities carried out locally by the network of volunteers amounted to €76M and funds allocated to other partner organisations totalled €3M, including €1M to the ACSC (Association des Cités Caritas). International activities amounted to €21M. Fundraising costs were €15M and operational expenses were €14M.



**Methodology:** Using the analytical Accounting Plan we can directly allocate the cost of community programmes carried out in France and internationally, to fundraising and operational expenditure. Employee costs and costs not directly attributable to this employment were divided on the basis of predefined codes according to the main direction and activities.

## SUMMARY BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2019

Fixed assets (€72M) were essentially made up of property assets used to support people. Current assets (€84M) mainly covered investment securities and available funds. In terms of liabilities, the accumulated surplus included capital of €68M and reserves of €50M as well as the result of the financial year - €3M. Debts (€31M) are made up in part of €6.1M in funds to be paid to international partners for their projects and €10M in social security and fiscal debts.

ASSETS (IN €M)	2019	2018	LIABILITIES	2019	2018
FIXED ASSETS	72	68	ACCUMULATED SURPLUS	115	119
REALISABLE AND AVAILABLE ASSETS	84	90	DEDICATED FUNDS	10	8
			DEBTS	31	31
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>156</b>	<b>158</b>	<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>	<b>156</b>	<b>158</b>

### RESERVE POLICY

The capital was mainly made up of the consideration for property owned. Secours Catholique retained in its accumulated surplus the consideration for its properties, the working capital reserve (€45M) corresponding to the funds required for its current activities (6 months), in line with its statutes and the reserve fund (€5M) for one-off projects that become necessary during its activities.



# THE CARITAS FRANCE NETWORK



The Caritas France network was formed by Secours Catholique-Caritas France to bring together organisations it helped to create, or which share its values, outcomes and principles for action. Its purpose is to encourage innovation and cooperation, combining the skills and resources of its members to increase overall support and help people living in precarious situations or exclusion to take action. It also aims to awaken solidarity and fraternity and to work on the causes of poverty. Four new members joined the network in 2018: the Solidarauto Federation, the Eco-Habitat network, the Foncière Chênelet and the Social Housing Estate Agency (AIS) Caritas Ile-de-France.

## HOUSING AND ACCOMMODATION

### ASSOCIATION CITÉS CARITAS

Established in 1989, the purpose of the ACSC is to support and house and to help people who are in vulnerable situations, are socially excluded or have disabilities, to find their place in the workplace.

[acsc.asso.fr](http://acsc.asso.fr)

### CARITAS HABITAT

Established in 2015, Caritas Habitat is a property company intended to facilitate access to social and solidarity housing such as social housing schemes, hostels and community shops, by using solidarity saving funds.

[www.caritashabitat.org](http://www.caritashabitat.org)

### FONCIÈRE CHÊNELET

Established in 2009 near Calais, Foncière Chênelet develops good quality, low cost, social housing, predominantly in rural areas.

[www.fonciere-chenelet.org](http://www.fonciere-chenelet.org)

### AGENCE IMMOBILIÈRE SOCIALE (AIS) CARITAS ILE-DE-FRANCE.

At the end of 2018, Secours Catholique and the ACSC set up the AIS Caritas (social housing agency) to give people direct access to conventional housing, bypassing emergency or temporary housing.

### RÉSEAU ECO-HABITAT

Established in 2014 at the initiative of the Picardy Secours Catholique groups, the Eco Habitat network brings together field workers to enable very low-income households to carry out energy efficiency improvements to their homes with up to 90% subsidy.

[www.reseau-ecohabitat.fr](http://www.reseau-ecohabitat.fr)

## EMPLOYMENT AND INCLUSION

### TISSONS LA SOLIDARITÉ

Founded in 2004 by Secours Catholique-Caritas France, the Tissons la Solidarité network today numbers 70 businesses and professional inclusion programmes.

[www.tissonslasolidarite.fr](http://www.tissonslasolidarite.fr)

### COMITÉ CHRÉTIEN DE SOLIDARITÉ AVEC LES CHÔMEURS ET LES PRÉCAIRES

Established over thirty years ago, the CCSC (Comité chrétien de solidarité avec les chômeurs et les précaires) aims to maintain focus on the consequences of unemployment.

[ccscfrance.com](http://ccscfrance.com)

### FÉDÉRATION SOLIDARAUTO

Solidarauto is the brand of solidarity garages set up by groups from Secours Catholique-Caritas France to facilitate professional and social integration through the sale of second-hand cars, maintenance and repairs and vehicle hire.

[www.solidarauto.org](http://www.solidarauto.org)

## PHILANTHROPY, INNOVATION, RESEARCH

### LA FONDATION CARITAS FRANCE

Set up by Secours Catholique-Caritas France in 2009, Fondation Caritas France encourages philanthropy by supporting foundations which are dedicated to fighting poverty, raises funds to support projects run by Secours Catholique-Caritas France and its network, and backs research and experimentation.

[www.fondationcaritasfrance.org](http://www.fondationcaritasfrance.org)

### LA FONDATION JEAN RODHAIN

The Jean Rodhain foundation was established in 1981 to contribute to Christian thinking on charity in its wider sense, to promote the study of the theology of

charity in university research, to develop dialogue with field workers through the words and experience of people living in poverty.

[www.fondationjeanrodhain.org](http://www.fondationjeanrodhain.org)  
[www.servonslafraternite.net](http://www.servonslafraternite.net)

## PRESENCE IN ALSACE

### FÉDÉRATION DE CHARITÉ CARITAS ALSACE

Founded in 1903 by Monseigneur Paul Müller-Simonis, the Fédération de Charité Caritas Alsace has been operating for over 100 years in the Diocese of Strasbourg.

[www.federation-de-charite.org](http://www.federation-de-charite.org)



Le Secours Catholique-Caritas France belongs to the **Caritas Internationalis** network, a confederation of 165 Catholic organisations that operate around the world. Caritas shares the same mission as the Church. Caritas responds to disasters, promotes integral human development and fights poverty and conflict. National Caritas organisations are independent under the authority of their episcopal conference, but they are united within the same confederation, a body of the universal Church. **Caritas Europa** unites 49 Caritas organisations, operating in 46 European countries. Together, they focus their activities on poverty, exclusion and social inequality, as well as migration and asylum. Based in Brussels, Caritas Europa ensures the voice of its members is heard within European institutions, by EU member states and many other public and private partners.

# SECOURS CATHOLIQUE – CARITAS FRANCE IN FIGURES



## FRANCE IN 2019



## WORLDWIDE IN 2019



### TRANSPARENCY AND CHECKS

Information provided in the 2019 Overview is taken from the 2019 Annual Report and Financial Statement. The annual accounts, including the accounts on the allocation of funds, have been certified by our auditors, Deloitte, and approved at the annual general meeting on 2 July 2020.

- The accounts are available on the website [www.secours-catholique.org](http://www.secours-catholique.org)
- Or by written request to Secours-Catholique - 106 rue du Bac - 75341 Paris Cedex 07

The **Auditor**, in addition to certifying the accounts, carries out checks on 10 commissions every year. Along with the internal audit department, a total of one third of commissions are checked every year.

The **Give with Confidence** (Charter Committee) is a non profit organisation which carries out checks on fundraising activity which targets public generosity. It draws up ethical rules, issues the 'give with confidence' label to non-profit organisations and carries out continuous and independent checks on their commitments. These are based on the principles of respect for donors, transparency, and the quest for efficiency, integrity and impartiality in three areas: governance, management and communication. On 26 April 2018, Secours Catholique saw its 'give with confidence' label renewed for a further three years.

