



# 2015 OVERVIEW

UNDERSTANDING SECOURS CATHOLIQUE – CARITAS FRANCE AND ITS WORK

## AN URGENT NEED FOR FRATERNITY

“*There is an urgent need to build a universal fraternity*”, were the words we used to invite our networks to take part in a reflection on our work following the conflicts and attacks that killed so many people in France and throughout the world in 2015. Current events have rarely made such a clear call for us to examine our conscience and speak up and work together for a more just and fraternal world.

The reflection carried out in 2015 on our plans for the next 10 years identified four changes for which we want to strive, in order to be able to transform society: a recognition of the knowledge retained by the very poor, universal access to rights, the revitalisation of marginalised areas, and cooperation between people of different cultures and religions.

Our actions in 2015 are focused on those ambitions: the adoption of a new commitment charter that brings together stakeholders from all cultures and religions; the creation of the Caritas Habitat property company to innovate in solidarity-based housing and accommodation; advocacy in France on access for all to rights, settlement, professional training and mobility; advocacy carried out in Africa to reinforce the civil and political rights of populations facing leaders who hold a life mandate; our strong mobilisation around the COP 21 to raise awareness of the food security challenges facing the poor because of climate change; the development of the Saint Laurent network to recognise the value of the spiritual richness of the most fragile; and, lastly, the consolidation of the Caritas France network to bring together associations and foundations that want to innovate together and tackle the causes of poverty.

There has never been such an urgent need to work together to build a just and fraternal world. And we have never been more determined to work towards this goal, trusting that together we can make it happen.

**Véronique Fayet**  
National President

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**Bernard Thibaud**  
General Secretary

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**Dominique Fontaine**  
Chaplain General

Handwritten signature of Dominique Fontaine in blue ink.

# SECOURS CATHOLIQUE - CARITAS FRANCE: OUR MISSION

Secours Catholique – Caritas France is an agency of the Catholic Church, a member of the Caritas Internationalis confederation and an association which is officially recognised as being for public benefit.

## Our mission

Based on the Gospel, the mission of Secours Catholique - Caritas France is a mission of love and awakening of solidarity in France and throughout the world. Secours Catholique calls on everyone to commit to reach out, support one another and experience the joy of fraternity. These actors work to strengthen everyone's capacity to have access to dignified living conditions. The association fights against the causes of poverty, inequality and exclusion, and proposes alternatives for the common good.

## Our values

Faithful to its founding principles, Secours Catholique-Caritas France's projects are rooted in the Gospel and in the social teaching of the Church: respect for human dignity, justice, solidarity, fraternity, and the preferential option for the poor.

## The power of a network

Secours Catholique - Caritas France projects are implemented by a network of volunteers organised into local teams, which are in turn coordinated by delegations, comprising salaried employees and volunteers. The national headquarters, which also has salaried employees and volunteers, coordinates and manages the network. Secours Catholique - Caritas France supports its partners on the ground, particularly members of the Caritas Internationalis network.

## OUR NETWORK



**76 DELEGATIONS, MADE UP OF 3,600 LOCAL TEAMS, COVER ALL OF FRANCE (MAINLAND FRANCE AND OVERSEAS TERRITORIES).**



**A NETWORK OF 67,500 VOLUNTEERS AND 953 EMPLOYEES ACROSS THE COUNTRY.**



**3 CENTRES: THE CITÉ SAINT-PIERRE IN LOURDES, A PLACE TO WELCOME AND ACCOMMODATE PILGRIMS AND VULNERABLE PEOPLE, ABRAHAM'S HOUSE IN JERUSALEM, WHICH WELCOMES AND ACCOMMODATES PILGRIMS FROM ALL OVER THE WORLD, AND THE LE CÈDRE MIGRANT RECEPTION CENTRE IN PARIS.**



**19 HOUSING CENTRES COORDINATING SOCIAL AND MEDICAL FACILITIES WITHIN THE SECOURS CATHOLIQUE HOUSING ASSOCIATION.**



**165 CARITAS ORGANISATIONS GLOBALLY.**

## Governance and checks

The General Assembly is made up of 212 members in three categories: 161 active members (qualified board members, presidents and board members from delegations, and 2 inter-regional treasurers), honorary members and one goodwill member. The age limit is fixed at 75 years.

The Board of Directors is made up of 21 members, all of whom are volunteers. This includes 12 presidents or vice-presidents of delegations, nine qualified individuals. They have a three year term, which can be renewed twice. The Board meets 11 times a year. The Executive Committee is made up of the president, two vice-presidents, a treasurer, a secretary and an adviser on international affairs. The Chaplain General and the General Secretary attend Board and Executive Committee meetings, but do not vote.

# SOURCES OF INCOME

The **socio-economic activity** of Secours Catholique - Caritas France is based on voluntary work and represents €339M. Secours Catholique - Caritas France is a body that relies mainly on private generosity and volunteer's efforts.



**Methodology:** Our database records details of the 67,500 volunteers who devoted time to Secours Catholique in 2015. On average, each volunteer dedicated nearly 25 days throughout the year. If this time spent is valued at the hourly French minimum legal wage (including social security contributions) or twice the minimum legal wage for volunteers in positions of responsibility, the time donated is valued at €193M, to which volunteer expenses which were not reimbursed should be added (€2M). In addition, the figure includes the holiday vouchers for supported families (€2M), and in-kind support and goods received (€1M).

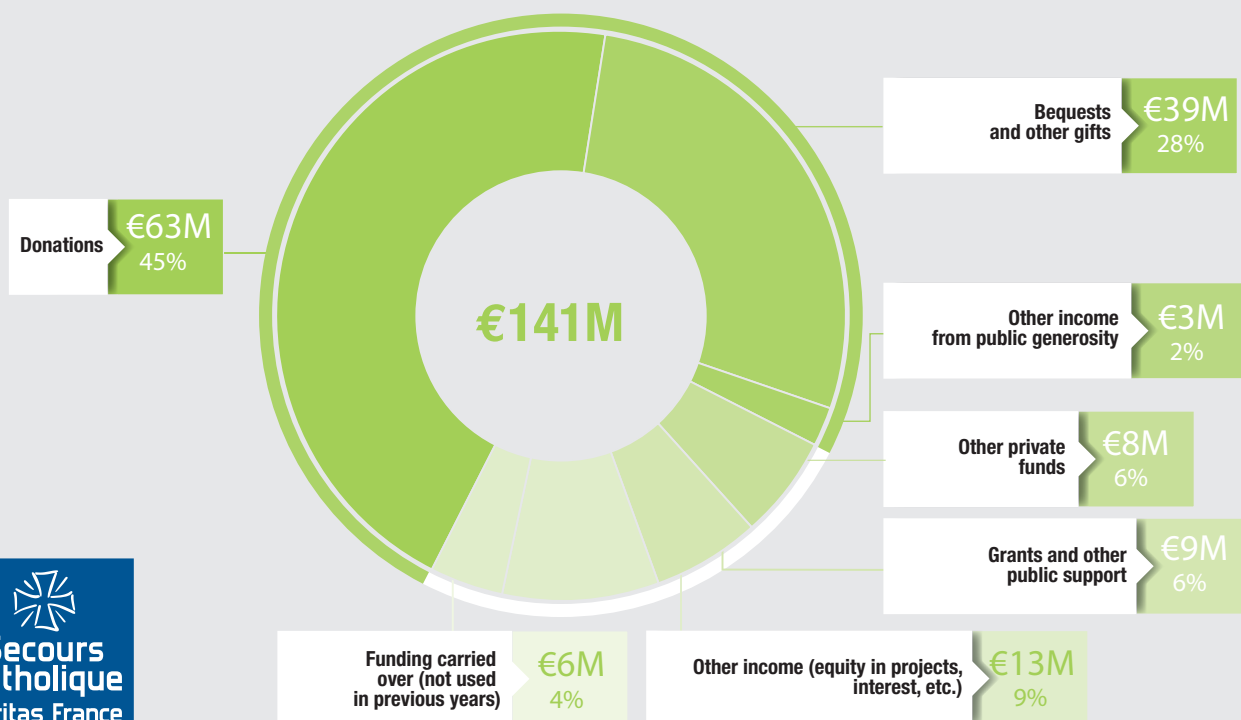
**VOLUNTARY WORK (& VARIOUS)**

**€198M**

It is first and foremost the generosity of the public which enables Secours Catholique to carry out its work. The donors were more generous than ever in their funding of Secours Catholique's work, despite the dramatic events at the end of the year. Enterprises and foundations increased their donations. Including legacies, donations and life insurance proceeds for €39M, combined with contributions to support campaigns, public giving generosity represents €105M (75% of total income), to which the €5M of designated funds from previous years should be added. Fundraising has, therefore, provided €105M for the association's activities. Another form of generosity, private funding, has also increased, reaching €8M (including €2.8M from Fondation Caritas France and €2.5M from a Swiss foundation).

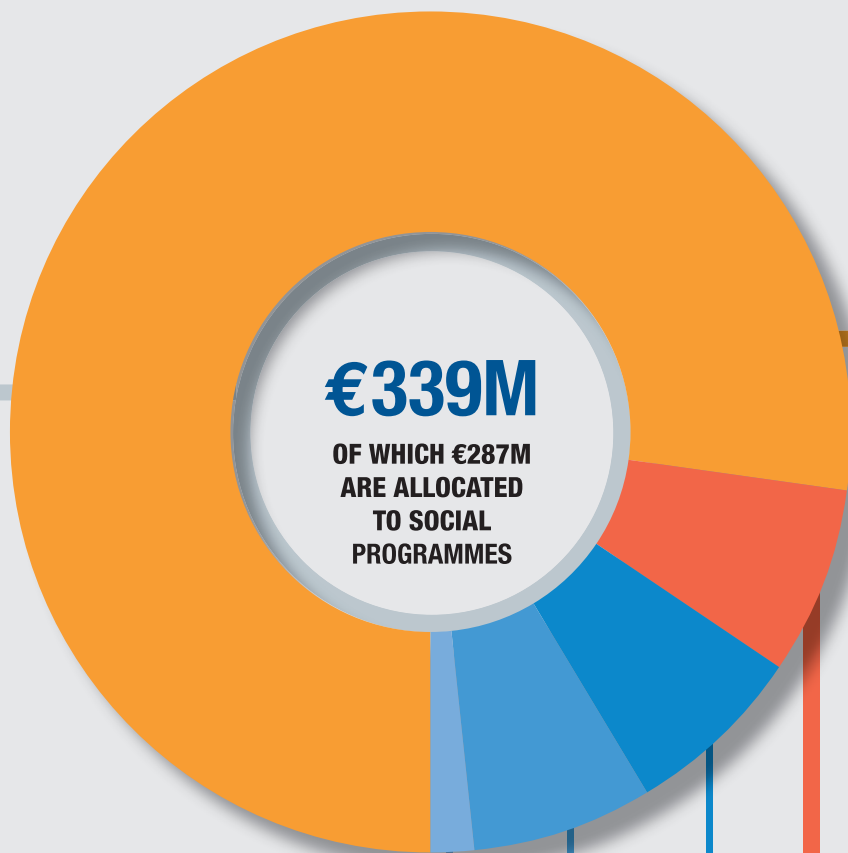
**FINANCIAL RESOURCES**

**€141M**



# OVERALL EXPENDITURE

**€287M allocated to social programmes.** Secours Catholique implements practical actions of genuine solidarity, in France and overseas, and challenges the authorities on issues of poverty and exclusion. It carries out its mission in France through 3,600 local teams of volunteers and, overseas, by financing projects carried out by its international partners.



**€262M**

## PROJECTS CARRIED OUT IN FRANCE

**€262M including €80M in financial resources.** Around 1,500,000 people received help and support from 67,500 volunteers in 2,400 facilities. Initial emergency support is coupled with activities on social and integration activities, charity shops and social grocery shops. There is a role for the most disadvantaged people in these activities, with support from volunteers throughout the year.

**€25M**

## PROJECTS CARRIED OUT ABROAD

**€25M including €24M in financial resources.** 4.2 million people benefited from international aid, through 707 operations carried out in 72 countries, in cooperation with partners, mainly from Caritas Internationalis.

**Funding carried over (not used in previous years)** **€5M**

Resources that were collected in 2015, allocated to a specific cause and not spent by 31 December 2015. They are kept to be used on the nominated cause.

**€23M**

## Fundraising costs

**€23M including €14M in financial resources and €9M in voluntary contributions.** This includes all costs related to appeals to public and corporate generosity, advertising for volunteers, as well as costs involved in soliciting and processing legacies, donations and life insurance proceeds.

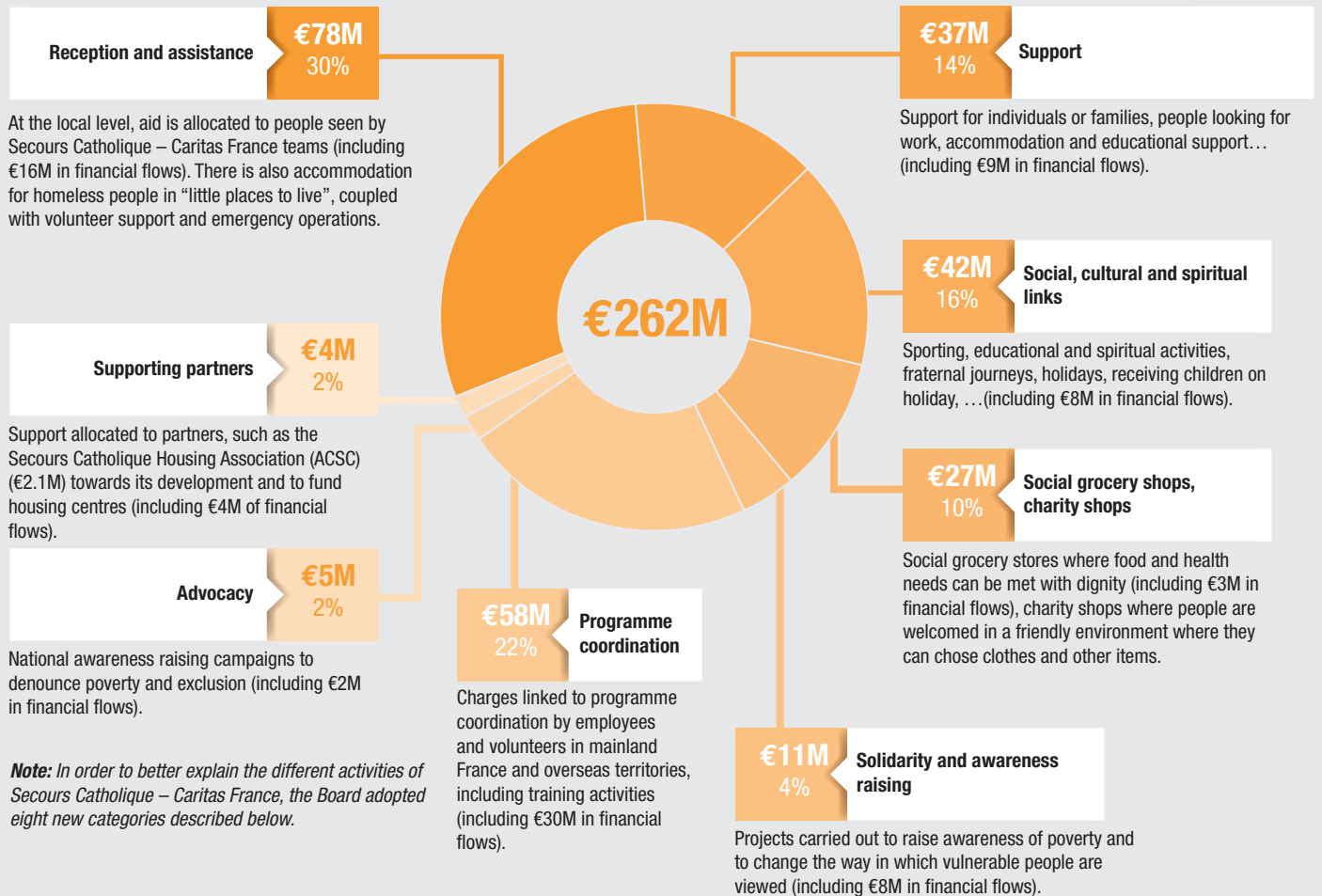
**€24M**

## Operating costs

**€24M including €18M in financial resources and €6M in volunteer contributions.** These are costs related to operating functions (budget, accounting, human resources, IT, statutory obligations, etc.)

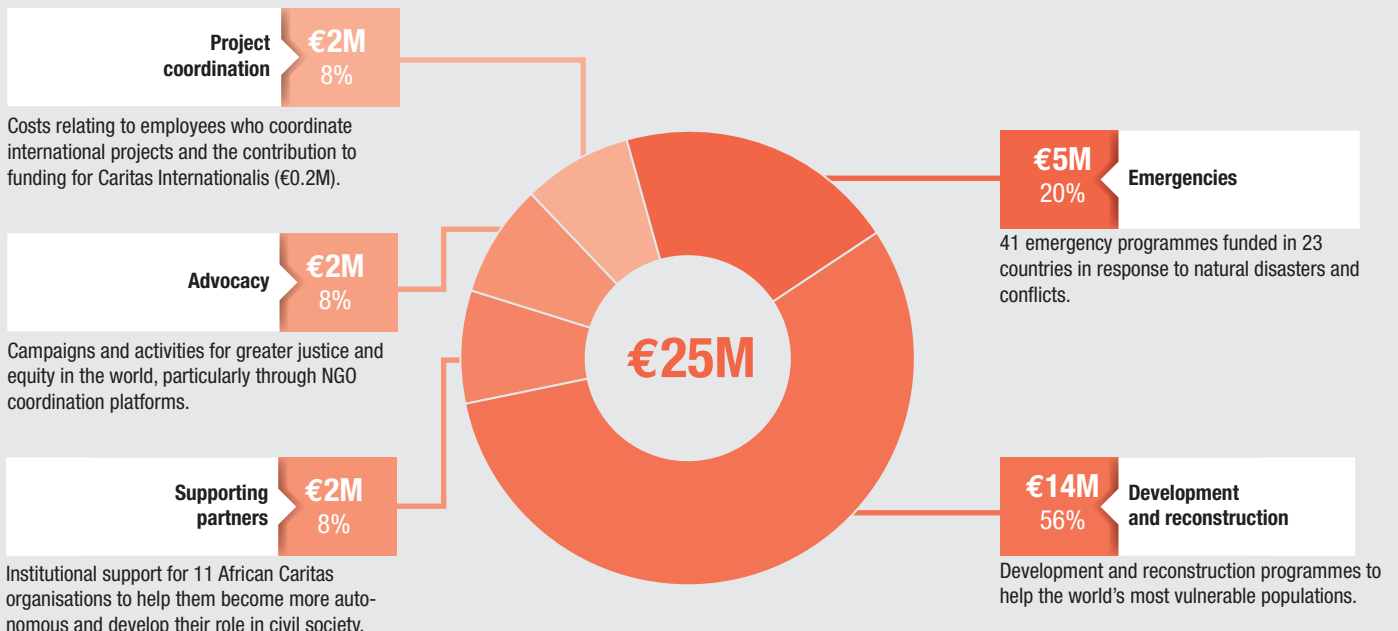
**Methodology:** The analytical accounts system enables direct input of costs which can be allocated to programmes in France or abroad, to fundraising or to operating costs. Personnel costs and costs not directly allocatable to these areas have been divided on the basis of time spent by employees on the various activities.

## 1,460,000 PEOPLE HELPED AND SUPPORTED IN FRANCE



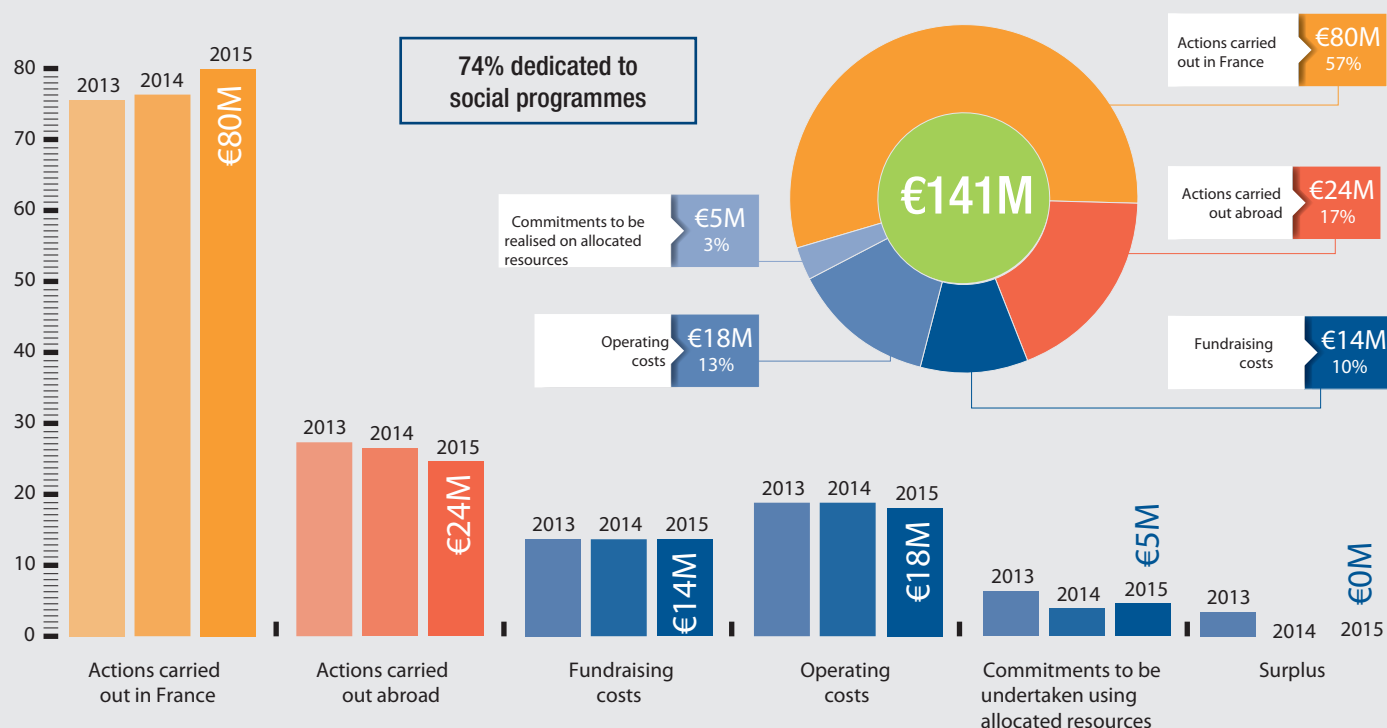
## 3.2 MILLION BENEFICIARIES OF INTERNATIONAL PROJECTS

707 operations carried out in 72 countries with international partners, most of whom are members of the Caritas Internationalis network.



# USE OF FINANCIAL RESOURCES

Projects carried out in France rose to €80M: expenditure on local projects run by the network of volunteers was €76M and the amount paid to partner organisations was €4M, including €2.1M to the Secours Catholique Housing Association. Projects carried out abroad totalled €24M. The cost of fundraising totalled €14M and operational costs were €18M.



**Methodology** The analytical accounts system enables direct input of costs which can be allocated to programmes in France or abroad, to fundraising or to operating costs. Personnel costs and costs not directly allocatable to these areas have been divided on the basis of time spent by employees on the various activities.

## SIMPLIFIED 2015 BALANCE SHEET

Fixed assets are mainly comprised of intangible assets used for the reception of service users. Current assets consist mainly of marketable securities and liquid assets.

In the liabilities column, the Association Fund is comprised of private donations of €58M and up to €70M in reserves and a surplus of €31M. Debts totalling €10M of funds to be paid out to international partners for their projects and €10M in social and fiscal debts.

ASSETS (In €M)	2014	2015	LIABILITIES	2014	2015
Fixed assets	58	67	Association Fund	128	127
Current assets	116	104	Designated funds & provisions	14	13
			Debts	32	31
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>174</b>	<b>171</b>	<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>	<b>174</b>	<b>171</b>

### Reserves policy

The capital account basically derives from a valuation of real estate holdings.

In its Association Fund, Secours Catholique retains a consideration equal to the property values, working capital reserves (€46M) relating to the funds required for its current activities (six months), in accordance with its statutes, and contingency funds (€24M) for one-off projects needed for the expansion of its activities.



# THE CARITAS FRANCE NETWORK

At a time when different forms of deprivation and poverty are proliferating, our aim in creating the Caritas France Network is to formalise the bringing together of partner associations and foundations that share Christian values, as well as having the same principles and goals. The network enables them to join forces and combine resources and skills to support those who are living in deprivation or are excluded, and to awaken a mutual commitment and fraternity to tackle the causes of poverty. In 2015, our partner entities signed a Charter which provides them with a flexible framework to be able to work better together and to be able to welcome in new partners who share the same values and goals.

[www.reseau-partenaires-sc.org](http://www.reseau-partenaires-sc.org)



## The Association des Cités du Secours Catholique (ACSC or Secours Catholique

**Housing Association).** Created in 1990, the mission of the ACSC is to welcome, provide shelter and support people living in deprivation or with disabilities, and to help guide them towards independence. The association has 900 employees, of whom three-quarters are social workers, and 300 volunteers. In 2015, its 23 facilities, spread over three territories, welcomed more than 10,000 homeless people, and 300 people with physical disabilities or special needs.

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



## The Fondation Caritas

**France.** Created by Secours Catholique-Caritas France in 2009, the Caritas France Foundation is the largest umbrella foundation in France and the only one focusing solely on fighting poverty. Its main mission is to encourage the development of philanthropy and the fight against exclusion through the foun-

dations under its umbrella (80 in 2015). Its second aim is to collect funds to support the anti-poverty projects of Secours Catholique-Caritas France or other partners in France or overseas.

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



## Fondation Jean Rodhain.

The Jean Rodhain Foundation was created to promote Christian reflection on charity, in its broadest sense (justice, solidarity, social doctrine), to promote the study of the theology of charity in university research, and to develop a dialogue with field actors based on poor people's experiences and testimonies.

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



## Tissons la solidarité.

Founded by Secours Catholique-Caritas France in 2004, the Weaving Solidarity association has created a network to link 70 organisations promoting reintegration through work. These facilities work on the sustainable reuse of clothes and employ a total of 1,900 women

on assisted contracts. Of these, 400 are on permanent contracts. After a spell in fashion retail, employees have different jobs, including textiles, mechanics and maintenance. They benefit from training programmes approved by the textile sector.

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



## Caritas Habitat.

Created in 2015 by Secours Catholique-Caritas France, the ACSC, the Caritas France Foundation, and the civil society for solidarity saving for social housing, Caritas Habitat is a property company. It is intended to facilitate access to social property such as social housing, supported accommodation and charity shops, through access to solidarity-based savings. The aims are to provide property solutions for social projects run by our delegations or the ACSC, to effectively manage the assets provided by our foundations, congregations and delegations, and to seek properties from local authorities and developers.

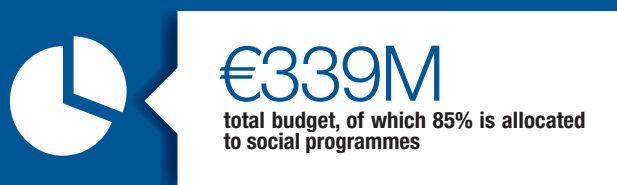
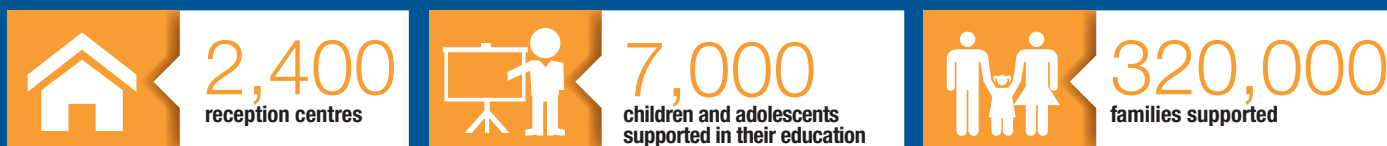
[www.caritashabitat.org](http://www.caritashabitat.org)

## The Caritas Internationalis network



Secours Catholique - Caritas France belongs to the **Caritas Internationalis** network, a confederation of 165 catholic organisations working across the world. Caritas shares the Church's mission. Inspired by the values of the Gospel and the social teaching of the Catholic Church, Caritas responds to disasters, promotes human development and advocates against poverty and conflict. Caritas is organised at the local (Parish), diocese, national, regional and international levels. The national Caritas organisations are autonomous, reporting to their own Episcopale Conference, but they come together into the confederation, an organ of the Universal Church. The General Secretary of Caritas Internationalis is Michel Roy, formerly director of international advocacy at Secours Catholique. **Caritas Europa** brings together 49 Caritas organisations, working in 46 European countries. Together, they focus on poverty, exclusion and social inequalities, as well as on migration and asylum. Based in Brussels, Caritas Europa ensures that its members' voices are heard by European institutions, EU member states and other public and private partners. Caritas Europa also supplies emergency humanitarian aid and runs development projects throughout the world.

# SECOURS CATHOLIQUE - CARITAS FRANCE IN FIGURES



## Transparency and controls

Information for this 2015 overview is taken from the annual report and the 2015 financial statement.

**The annual accounts**, including the annual expenditure accounts, were certified by Deloitte, the external auditor, then approved by the Annual General Meeting on 10 June 2016. They are available on the website [www.secours-catholique.org](http://www.secours-catholique.org). Alternatively, a copy can be obtained by writing to Secours-Catholique, 106 rue du Bac, 75341 Paris Cedex 07.

**The auditor**, in addition to certifying the accounts, checks on 10 delegations each year, meaning a third of all delegations are monitored in-depth every year.

**The Charter Committee** on donating with confidence is an accreditation and monitoring body for organisations and foundations that make public fundraising appeals. Its role is to promote adherence to statutory requirements and charitable purpose, rigorous management, good quality communication, fundraising, and financial transparency. On 26 March 2015, the Charter Committee renewed its triennial accreditation.

