

# OVERVIEW 2020

Understanding Secours Catholique – Caritas France,  
its missions and its work

## NEW RESPONSIBILITIES AND STRENGTH ARISING FROM THE CRISIS

**The health, economic and social crisis of 2020** raises questions about the world around us. Faced with a pressing emergency, we had to rethink our ways of working while remaining faithful to what drives us: fraternal support for people in vulnerable situations. Every team, every delegation, every department has managed to adapt. Reaching out to people in difficulty, staying in touch, offering spiritual support, partnerships and, internationally, implementing rapid-impact projects. Fraternity has continued to be the driving force of our action.

From the very beginning of the crisis, we have seen a rise in the number of those whom our social protection system fails to protect or only partially protects: families with insecure jobs and incomes, young people, the self-employed, people living alone or in squats, slums, or hostels. Seeing this on a daily basis, we have been able to raise these issues with the authorities, fulfilling our role as observers of poverty and accepting the responsibility that this entails: sounding the alarm, identifying problems and suggesting solutions.

This year has taught us that by mobilising as a group, we can achieve progress, such as the allocation of two billion euros in aid to recipients of basic welfare benefits. It has given us a level of recognition that sustains us and compels us. In addition, it has led us to organise our internal procedures, enabling us to move towards a rational for setting up projects.

Finally, this year has also shown evidence of new-found generosity, with substantial support from our donors who have been joined by new benefactors. Therefore, we have been able to address these urgent needs and prepare for the future, as for many, this crisis is likely to continue.

**Véronique Fayet**  
National President



**Vincent Destival**  
Secretary General



**Hervé Perrot**  
Chaplain General



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

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



**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. The association 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 relationships and adopt a long-term approach.
- ▶ Work in partnerships and networks, locally and globally.



**ENSEMBLE,  
CONSTRUIRE  
UN MONDE JUSTE  
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## ACTIONS



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



▶ Internationally, 488 projects were carried out in 2020, in 54 countries or regions, in association with the Caritas Internationalis network (160 Caritas groups). In the course of a year, nearly 1.5 million people benefited from international aid from Secours Catholique – Caritas France.

## OUR NETWORK

- ▶ On 31 December 2020 there were 72 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 through community shops, back-to-work courses and more...
- ▶ The network has 61,300 volunteers and 897 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 177 members, divided into two categories: 144 active members – qualified administrators, presidents and vice-presidents from delegations, and one treasurer per region – and 33 honorary board members. The age limit is 75 years old.

**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.

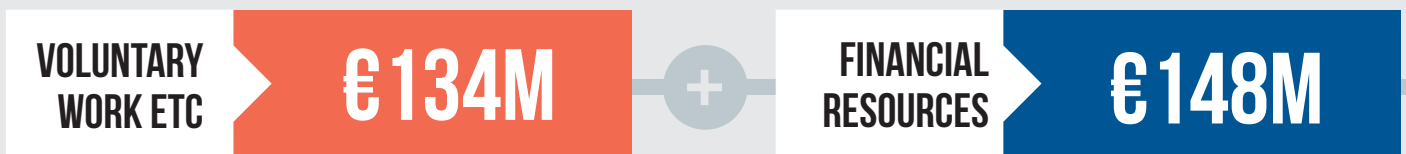
**The general chaplain and the secretary general** attend committee and board meetings, without a deciding vote.

# SOURCE OF GLOBAL FUNDING

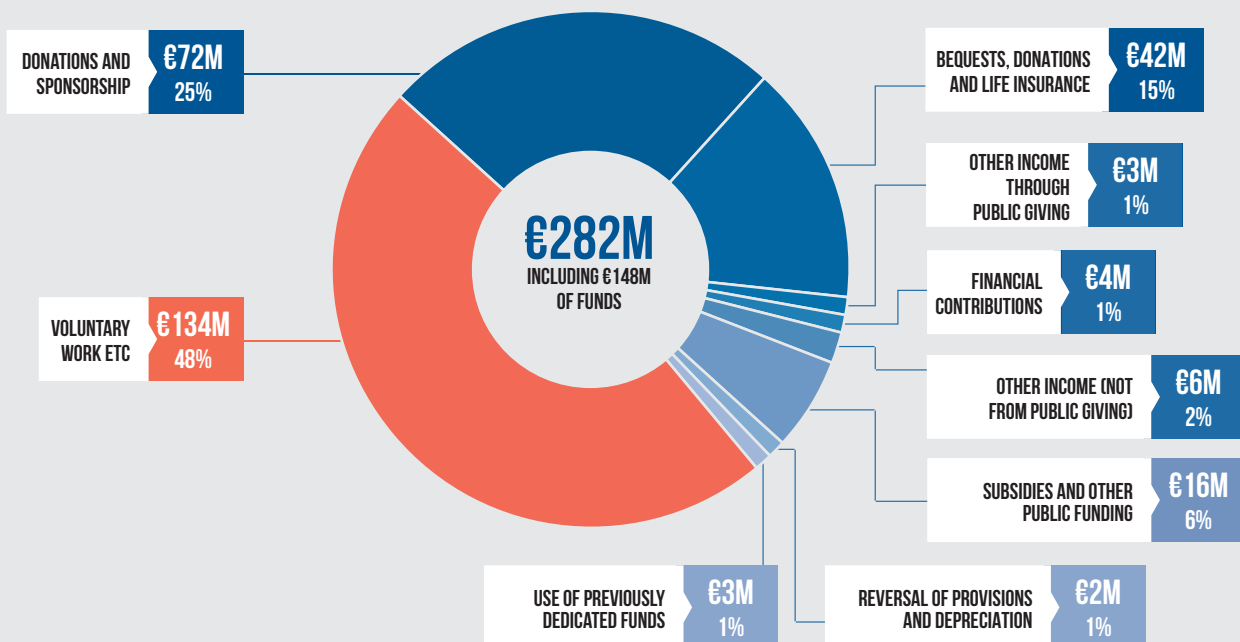
The **socio-economic model** of Secours Catholique – Caritas France is underpinned by the commitment of 61,300 volunteers. Most of the estimated value of €282M comes from support from civil society and is primarily made up of voluntary work (valued at €134M) and financial resources (€148M) based on the balance sheet by source and category including €120M from public donations, or 81% of total financial resources.



**Value of volunteer involvement:** Our database recorded the activities of the 61,300 volunteers who dedicated time to Secours Catholique in 2020. Each volunteer gave an average of just over 25 days over the year. Because of Coronavirus, the average volunteer activity is down by 28% in 2020. 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 €131M. 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 and forfeiture of income (€2M).



**Public generosity is the main resource** that allows Secours Catholique – Caritas France to operate. With the health crisis and the rallying of donors at the end of the year we managed to collect €72M in donations to finance our actions. Including bequests, donations and life insurance which total €42M, and €3M in other donations, public giving amounted to €117M (79% of total funds). Covid donations totalled €3.5M. Income not linked to public generosity amounts to €10M (including €1.5M in financial contributions for the coronavirus emergency), to which can be added government subsidies (€16M including €7M for the Covid crisis). In addition, €3M in funds rolled over from previous years and the reversal of provisions (€2M) can also be taken into account.



# USE OF OVERALL RESOURCES 2020

Secours Catholique carries out community actions to fight 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 have supported 1.39\* million people, and internationally through 488 projects supporting 1.5 million people.

€202M

ACTIVITIES CARRIED OUT IN FRANCE

€202M including €77M in financial resources. Almost 1,393,000\* people were supported by 61,300 volunteers in 2,400 centres. After an initial contact during which individuals are allocated emergency support, they are then provided with further support to integrate them into society through community shops of different kinds, back to work courses etc... This action enables people in need to find their place in the community and receive support throughout the year from our network of volunteers.

€19M

INTERNATIONAL ACTIVITIES

€19M in financial resources, 1.5 million people benefited from international aid through some 488 projects in 54 countries, in association with partner organisations, mainly members of the Caritas Internationalis network.

€22M

FUNDRAISING ACTIVITIES

€22M, including €17M in financial resources and €5M valuation of voluntary work. These actions cover spending on fundraising activities targeting the public and businesses, calls for volunteers, and the cost of inviting and handling bequests, donations and life-insurance.

€18M

OPERATIONAL COSTS

€18M, including €14M in financial resources and €4M valuation of voluntary work. This covers operational costs associated with the organisation (budget, accounting, human resources, IT, statutory bodies etc).

€282M

OF WHICH 78% IS DEDICATED TO SOCIAL PROJECTS

FUNDING ALLOCATED TO SOCIAL MISSIONS STILL TO BE USED

€4M

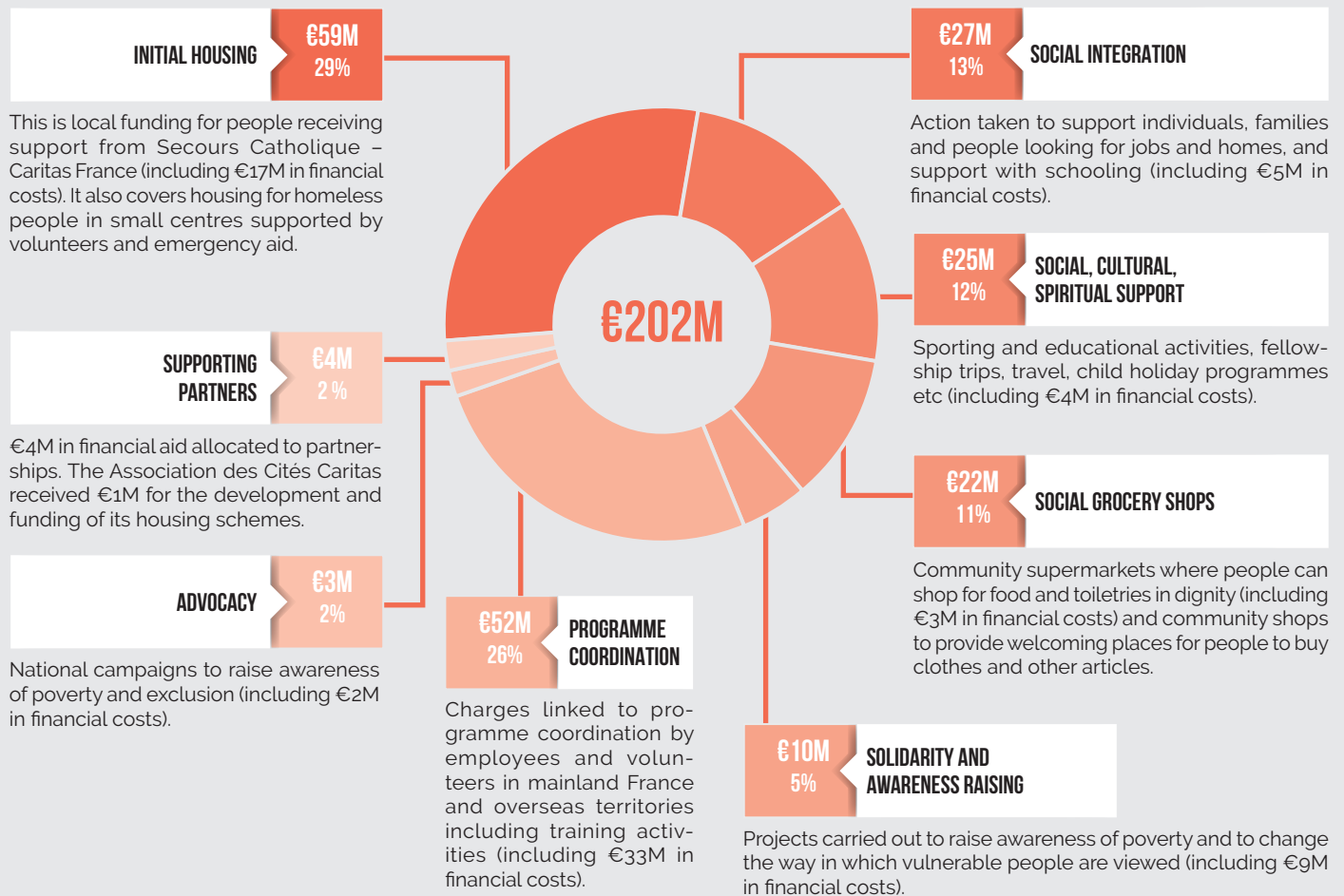
This relates to funds allocated to a particular cause, raised in 2020 and not spent by 31 December 2020. They are retained for that specific purpose.

SURPLUS

€17M

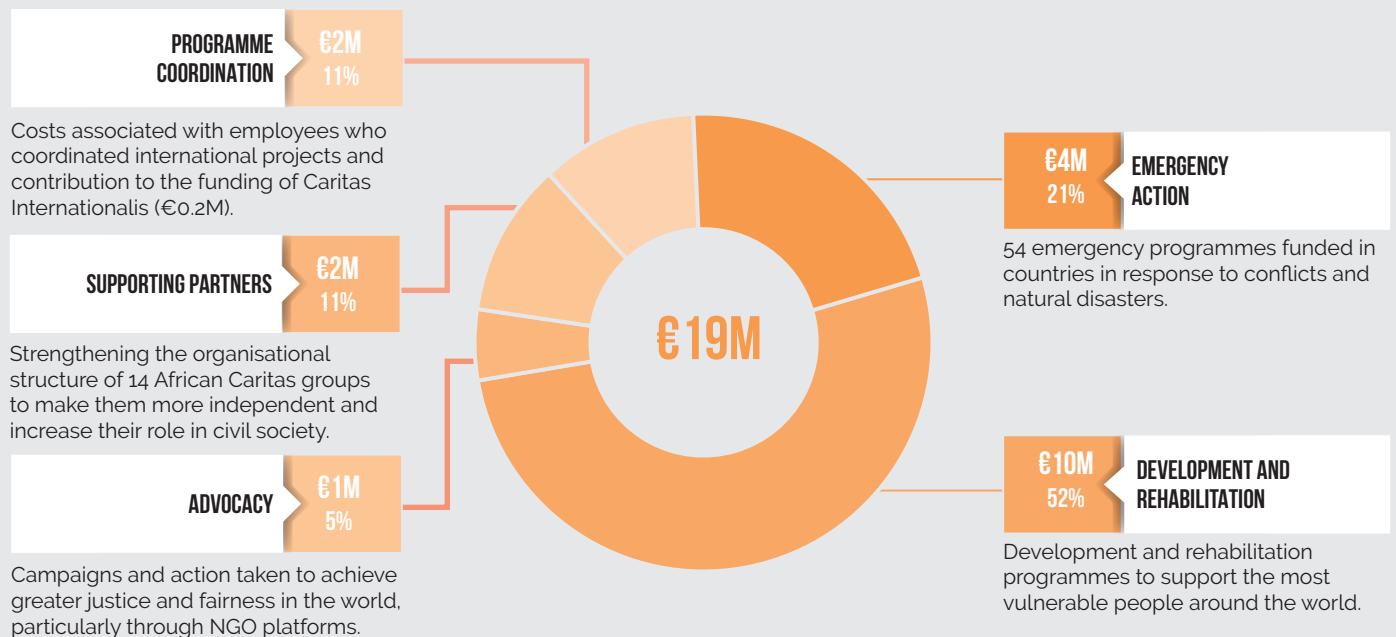
These resources will enable us to carry out our missions in the long term, in response to a crisis that has a lasting effect on people.

## 1.39 MILLION PEOPLE SUPPORTED IN FRANCE



## 1.5 MILLION PEOPLE SUPPORTED OVERSEAS

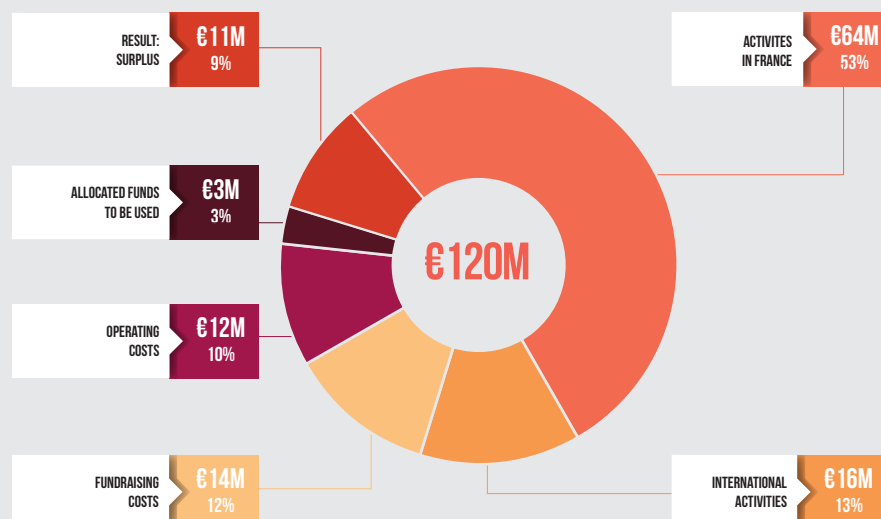
488 operations were carried out in 54 countries, in association with international partners, mainly members of the Caritas Internationalis network.



# USE OF FINANCIAL RESOURCES 2020

The annual account of funds collected from the public only record financial activity connected with public giving. The expenditure by category was €109M or 82% of the expenditure by category for the year. The income from public donations was €11M. Without taking into account the value of the commitment of volunteers, the cost of activities carried out in France was €64M. International activities amounted to €16M. Fundraising costs were €14M and operating costs were €12M.

**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 of the organisations, and in terms of the headings in the income statement by source and category.



## SUMMARY BALANCE SHEET AT 31 DECEMBER 2020

### BALANCE SHEET BACKGROUND

From 01 January 2020, the new accounting regulation, ANC N°2018-06, requires that bequests be recorded as assets and liabilities on the balance sheet. This change in method explains the main variations on fixed asset items, deferred funds and debts.

Net fixed assets (€106M) were essentially made up of property assets and various items used to support people (€72M), and assets bequeathed for disposal (€34M). Current assets (€115M) mainly covered investment securities and available funds (€86M).

In terms of liabilities, equity includes statutory funds of €49M, and reserves of €65M. Deferred assets which represent the consideration of bequeathed assets net of debt pending disposal are €47M and dedicated funds pending realisation are €8M. Debts (€32M) are made up in part of €10M in social security, fiscal debts and other debts (€8M) including €5M to be paid to international partners, legacy debts (€5M) and supplier debts (€4M).

Equity, (€132M), is made up of the results of the financial year and their allocation to statutory funds and to reserves according to management rules based on the statutory provisions. The purpose is to ensure the financial stability of the organisation. They are also supported by subsidies that finance investment projects.

ASSETS (IN €M)	2020	2019	LIABILITIES	2020	2019
FIXED ASSETS	106	72	ACCUMULATED SURPLUS	132	115
REALISABLES AND AVAILABLE ASSETS	115	84	DEFERRED AND DEDICATED FUNDS AND PROVISIONS	57	10
TOTAL ASSETS	221	156	DEBTS	32	31
			TOTAL LIABILITIES	221	156

### RESERVE POLICY

The association does not aim to maintain reserves, however any actual reserves are used to fund the following and subsequent years' activities (€47M), with the implementation of the projects allowing the development of its mission and the means to act (€18M).



# 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.

## HOUSING AND ACCOMMODATION

### ASSOCIATION CITÉS CARITAS

Established in 1989, the Association Cités Caritas (formerly ACSC) received a contribution to operating costs of €1M to help it carry out its mission to support, house and help people in a vulnerable situation, socially excluded or having disabilities, find their place in society.

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

### CARITAS HABITAT

Established in 2015, Caritas Habitat is a property company, officially recognised as a Solidarity-based Enterprise of Social Utility (Esus), intended to facilitate access to social and solidarity housing and to enable capital to be raised from solidarity funds to support a social project. In 2020, a financial contribution of €0.9M was granted. SC-CF invested €3.4M capital to provide a solid foundation for the development of the company project.

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

### FONCIÈRE CHÊNELET

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

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

### AGENCE IMMOBILIÈRE À VOCATION SOCIALE (AIVS) CARITAS ILE-DE-FRANCE

At the end of 2018, Secours Catholique and Cités Caritas set up the AIVS Caritas (social housing agency). SC-CF contributed €0.13M to operating costs 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, a Social Impact Contract repayable over five years was set up in 2020 with SC-CF, the National Housing Agency (ANAH) and the Eco Habitat network to enable very low-income households to carry out energy efficiency improvements to their homes with up to 90% subsidy.

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

## EMPLOYMENT AND INCLUSION

### 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. A contribution to operating costs of €0.08M was granted as well as a loan of €10K to facilitate professional and social integration through the sale of second-hand cars, maintenance repairs and vehicle hire.

[solidarauto.org](http://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 (€2.5M in 2020), and backs research and experimentation. Services provided by Secours Catholique – Caritas France were invoiced at €0.7M

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

### LA FONDATION JEAN RODHAIN

The Jean Rodhain foundation was established in 1981. A contribution to operating costs of €0.08M was granted 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.

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

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



Secours Catholique – Caritas France belongs to the Caritas Internationalis network, a confederation of 160 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

€282M IN FUNDS OF WHICH 78% DEDICATED TO SOCIAL PROJECTS

## FRANCE



1,393,000\* PEOPLE SUPPORTED IN FRANCE



3,000 PEOPLE HELPED GETTING INTO WORK



61,300 VOLUNTEERS



1,053 CURRENT MICRO-LOANS INCLUDING 364 NEW LOANS



2,400 RECEPTION CENTRES



3,000 PEOPLE SUPPORTED WITH HOLIDAY PLANS



295,000\* FAMILIES SUPPORTED



5,000 CHILDREN AND TEENAGERS SUPPORTED WITH SCHOOLING



1,300 CHILDREN WENT ON HOLIDAY

## WORLDWIDE



1.5 MILLION PEOPLE SUPPORTED INTERNATIONALLY



488 PROJECTS



54 EMERGENCY PROGRAMMES

## NEW ACCOUNTING REGULATIONS

The 2020 annual accounts have been prepared in accordance with the new accounting regulation ANC N°2018-06. Changes to presentation and methodology are detailed in the 'Annual Accounts 2020' report. The financial information submitted in the 2020 Overview relates to the current year only in line with proposals contained in the new regulations. The Profit & Loss account by inputs and outputs, including all financial transactions from the 2020 balance sheet, according to its particular classification, is used as a reference for establishing a socio-economic model.

# COVID REPORT

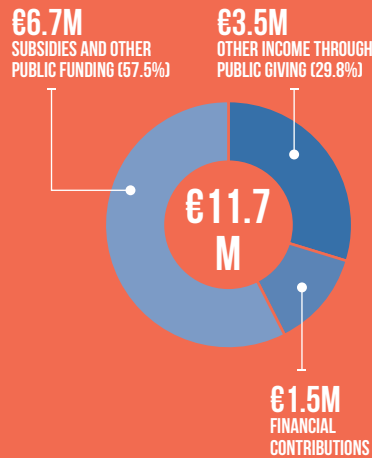
The coronavirus crisis has highlighted the absence of a safety net for many French households.

A new vulnerability has emerged among families who had never before had to ask for help from charities: single mothers, people on the minimum old age pension, students, people in insecure jobs who are too young to claim unemployment benefit etc.

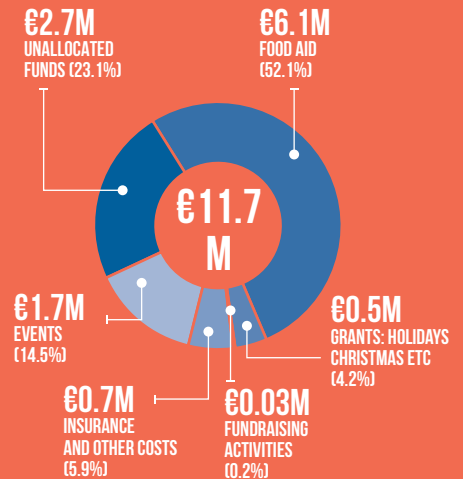
Faced with this unprecedented crisis, all the Secours Catholique delegations have mobilised to help the most vulnerable. Distributing vouchers for food and basic necessities, food baskets with local producers, digital support, maintaining social links by organising digital fraternity chains, advocacy with institutions to release emergency funds... Donors (companies and individuals) as well as public sector donors have mobilised strongly to respond to this unprecedented crisis.

The total funds raised for the Coronavirus emergency amounted to €11.7M of which €6M was used mainly to provide food aid. Unused resources at 31 December, to the tune of €2.7m are held in dedicated funds. Assistance continued during the first half of 2021 and projects are being developed to respond to changing needs and new cases of poverty.

## CORONAVIRUS EMERGENCY SOURCE OF FUNDING



## CORONAVIRUS EMERGENCY EXPENDITURE BY CATEGORY



## TRANSPARENCY AND CHECKS 2020

Information provided in the 2020 Overview is taken from the 2020 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 15 June 2021.

• 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.



\* The health situation has halted the collection of data on the situation of the persons supported so the value quoted is taken from 2019 data.

