

Annual Review Summary

April 2019 –
March 2020



'The Time is Now' climate lobby, which took place on 26 June 2019, was the largest-ever environmental lobby of Parliament. It saw over 12,000 supporters, including over 1,500 volunteers from CAFOD, lobby over 300 MPs – and call for ambitious new laws that cut plastic waste, improve air quality and help stop the UK's contribution to climate change by 2045.

**no one
beyond reach**

Joint letter from the Chair and the Director



Bishop John with supporter Brian Bennion

As we write this, we are trying to adjust to the 'new normal'. Whether it is our engagement with partners, supporters, volunteers, Trustees or staff; the lockdown has changed every aspect of our day-to-day activities. This situation has highlighted the interconnectedness of our human family; bringing into sharp relief the inequalities in our world and our need to reach out, to communicate with one another, to listen and to be heard.

Overseas, coronavirus is a tsunami heading towards the homes of millions of poor communities who have little to protect themselves. It is a huge global challenge that comes on top of existing injustices, poverty and climate degradation. We are swiftly and expertly adapting our programme work to prevent the spread, getting food and clean water to families to reduce their suffering. As you read through this report, you will see that this crisis is just one of many that CAFOD and our local partners faced during the past year. The need for humanitarian help and protection reached an all-time high at the end of 2019, with a reported 168 million people anticipated to need support in 2020.

As is the case every year, the majority of our income comes from the hugely generous support of the Catholic community in England and Wales. We are truly humbled by such continued generosity. Thank you. Last year, our partners around the globe received this support as direct grants and our staff helped them to develop good programmes, improve their management and safeguarding as well as influence for change.

Over the past year we have continued to roll out our SADI programming framework, designed to put the Safety, Access, Dignity and Inclusion of all people and communities at the heart of our work, strongly reflecting and reinforcing our Catholic values. We have begun to improve Diversity and Inclusion across the organisation, and colleagues formed a new Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic Working Group this year to promote equality and inclusion.

We have also launched our new strategic framework – Our Common Home – which is our working through of Pope Francis' encyclical *Laudato Si'* – On Care for Our Common Home. This new framework offers staff, volunteers and external stakeholders a unifying vision and direction for CAFOD for the next ten years and beyond.

We thank CAFOD's staff and volunteers, committee members, and Board of Trustees for their passion, commitment and hard work. We are grateful for the faith and trust CAFOD supporters place in us and we are proud to be a witness to the compassion and solidarity of the Catholic Church in England and Wales.

Another world is possible; we can do things differently now; we can live differently, there can be a new normal where no-one is beyond reach. We treasure your continued support in our efforts to create this change.

As one family, we will survive, rebuild, and heal.

God bless



Christine meeting Pope Francis at the Caritas International General Assembly

Christine Allen
CAFOD Director

The Right Reverend John Arnold
Bishop of Salford and
CAFOD Chair of Trustees

Thank you for your support!

We are grateful for the continued support of the Catholic Community in England and Wales. Here are some examples from last year.

Your support...

...reached those who need it the most, including



37,550 households

in Aleppo are supported by CAFOD with Caritas Syria to rebuild their lives after the war.



Over 150,000 refugees have been supported in Sudan with services that included the construction of **1,500 household latrines** and provision of basic hygiene materials.



In Myanmar, **over 100,000 people** including **almost 40,000 children** have participated in activities that promote inclusiveness and political and economic equality beyond ethnic and faith boundaries, as part of a three-year programme to end violence.

...was channelled to make a difference



545 direct grants to partners amounting to **£22.4m** to support their lifechanging work.



£921,775.85 released to quickly support response to emergencies that are often not visible in the UK media.



£1.4m of funding from institutional donors that partners were able to secure for themselves as a result of our help.

...was felt across our Catholic family



6,358 volunteers in 22 dioceses, supported by 25 Community Participation Co-ordinators.



2,053 Catholic Parishes in England and Wales participated in and supported CAFOD's work.



11 dioceses in Zambia were supported with your help by Caritas Zambia and the Presencing Institute to gain a deeper understanding of the integral ecology message of *Laudato Si'* to shape their practice and ongoing work.



950 schools participated in CAFOD's work last year and 620 teachers were trained through our Connecting Classrooms scheme, supported by the British Council.



10 years of *Step into the Gap!* our gap year programme. During their term, our graduates were able to meet with over **16,000 people**, sharing their experience of meeting people and communities in Uganda and occupied Palestinian territory.

...echoed UK-wide calls for action



12,000 people, including many CAFOD supporters, took to the streets around Westminster to lobby their MPs to call for further, faster action on climate change and environmental protection at The Time is Now mass lobby.



More than 300 16-17-year old young leaders have campaigned for action on tackling climate change. Thirteen of these young leaders joined other MP correspondents to talk to their MPs about CAFOD's work around our climate emergency.



743,985 signatures were collected in coalition with other charities for the Net Zero emissions petition, with CAFOD supporters contributing thousands of signatures.

And this is just a small snapshot of what was made possible with your support.

An extraordinary network

We are the official aid agency for the Catholic Church in England and Wales. We believe in helping people in need regardless of faith, gender and ethnicity, because if one of us is hurt, hungry or abandoned, we all are hurt, hungry and abandoned. As a member of Caritas Internationalis, partnership is at the core of our work and allows us to reach the poorest of the poor in areas affected by conflict and remote places in Africa, Asia, Latin America and the Middle East.

Vision – Our common home is transformed to reflect God's Kingdom, where all people, communities and the earth may flourish, and no one is beyond reach of the love and support they need to fulfil their potential.

Mission – Inspired by Gospel values and as part of the Catholic community in England and Wales, we come together:

- To reach those in greatest need, save lives and relieve suffering
- To support and enable people, communities and our local partners to be artisans of their own destiny
- To challenge and transform the structures and behaviours that drive poverty, vulnerability, inequality, injustice and exclusion and harm the natural world.
- To educate, enable and inspire the Catholic community in England and Wales to act in solidarity for the common good.

This wouldn't be possible without the enthusiasm from our supporters, volunteers and members of staff and without the generosity and trust that you put in us and our network:



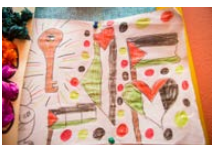
Our supporters – In December we decorated a Christmas tree in Romero House with messages sent from supporters, each dedicated to a 'Candlelight Fund', a means through which supporters can remember a loved one, celebrating their life whilst giving hope to thousands more. CAFOD staff were moved by reading the messages as we are so grateful to every family who decides to remember a special person in this way.



Organisations that support us – In 2020 we celebrate the 20th anniversary of our partnership with the company CPL Aromas, which has donated over £2.5 million over 20 years supporting work in 16 countries, an amazing expression of compassion and solidarity. "At CPL we cherish our relationship with CAFOD. Our job is to run a good company and make some profit to share with CAFOD, who do the real work of saving and changing lives. We work with CAFOD because they support the poorest of the poor, those without a voice around the world." Thank you for spreading the word about our work and encouraging fundraising activities!



Our dedicated staff – Eileen joined CAFOD in 2005 supporting volunteers, first in Westminster and Southwark dioceses and now nationally. She also volunteers in her own parish running children's liturgy sessions and on the safeguarding team. When the coronavirus pandemic shut down schools and churches in March, Eileen started a live Children's Liturgy with other CAFOD colleagues and has seen 500 families regularly joining for online prayer and praise.





The partners – CAFOD works with organisations that know the ground. For example, we provide support to our partner, Arab Educational Institute (AEI), to enhance Muslim-Christian relations in Palestinian society. AEI's work this year has focused on challenging injustice and discrimination through promoting the teaching of democratic values in the curriculums of 30 schools in Bethlehem and Ramallah in the West Bank.



The people we reach – Rubima lives in Bangladesh, with her husband and daughter, Fatima. Her home has no electricity and they cook over a wood fire, which becomes impossible when it rains. They often rely on begging for food. Fatima is no longer able to go to school and spends her days looking after her father when her mother goes to find food. Your support provides opportunities for Rubima to live with dignity. With our partners Caritas Bangladesh and Action on Disability and Development, CAFOD is promoting alternative ways to earn a living for vulnerable families like theirs. Activities include producing organic compost to help crops grow, distributing climate-resilient seeds, and providing vocational training.

We are inspired and humbled by the contributions of CAFOD volunteers

 <p>6,358 = 8,547</p> <p>Last year 6,358 registered volunteers dedicated their time to represent CAFOD in their community. Many of our volunteers help in more than one way and we had the equivalent of 8,547 individuals split across the different volunteering roles.</p>	 <p>An average of 28,562 hours volunteered each month, or 342,750 over the course of a year.</p>	<p>This year we conducted a survey of our volunteers, and found amongst other things that:</p> <p>95% said they were "very" or "fairly satisfied" with their experience of volunteering at CAFOD</p> <p>91% said they were "very" or "fairly likely" to continue volunteering for the next 12 months</p> <p>73% had already recommended volunteering for CAFOD to a friend or were planning to do soon in the future</p>
<p>The equivalent of £3 million worth of volunteered time, if everyone was being paid the living wage of £8.75 per hour.</p> 		

Our volunteers' efforts are widely recognised within the Catholic community and beyond. These are just some examples of our volunteers' accomplishments, the reasons they joined us and the things they do and learn at CAFOD:

In October 2019, Sandra Davies received a Papal blessing celebrating her work as CAFOD volunteer for the past 25 years. Therese Warwick, CAFOD's representative in South Wales, where Sandra carries out her volunteering, said: "It is very rare that you meet someone so dedicated to helping others and changing lives for the better. Sandra has a long history of working to educate children and young people and has helped them to better understand the issues that some of the poorest people are facing around the world."



Leila Bousbaa, far right, with her nan and sisters

Our campaigns volunteer Leila lives with her nan in East London. "I'm passionate about being at the forefront of campaigns and using my voice, because I want other young women to see that you can be whoever you want to be and make a difference. I want my two younger sisters to see that they can use their voice and they can make a change. Every single person in this world has been made in the perfect image of Christ. No-one was born to feel such poverty. We've been blessed so we should use our blessing, use our faith to try and impact other people's lives. I think, with CAFOD you're acting out your faith every single day."

In June 2019, as part of the CAFOD celebrations of Volunteer Week, Christine Allen – CAFOD's Director – and colleagues from the International Programme met with volunteers at two national events held in London and Manchester. They reflected on the difficult decision-making process behind prioritising funding requests from partners, and they worked together to learn how to foster a culture of encounter in schools and parishes.

Every single volunteering hour is a valuable contribution to CAFOD's work, and it's enormously appreciated. Thank you to all our volunteers, for sharing your precious time and special talents; you are making a huge difference in the fight against global poverty and injustice.

Our Values

Our work is driven by a set of values, which are based on Scripture and Catholic Social Teaching. These are expressed in everything we do – our advocacy efforts, the way we work as an organisation and how we support the local needs our partners identify and address. We are constantly reflecting on how we can put our values into practice. Here are just some examples from our work last year:

Hope – for a bright and stable future in South Sudan

Hope transforms despair, feeds love and fuels our work. We are profoundly hopeful, inspired by Scripture, Catholic Social Teaching and the resourcefulness and strength of our supporters, volunteers, local partners and the people and communities we seek to serve. It joins us in confidence with others to act for the common good.

'But those who hope in God renew their strength, they put out wings like eagles. They run and do not grow weary, walk and never tire.' (Isaiah 40:31 JB)

South Sudan faced decades of violence before independence; since becoming the newest country in the world in 2011, it is estimated more than 400,000 people have lost their lives through conflict. Over the past year, there has been hope. The latest iteration of the peace agreement has largely held, a Transitional Government of National Unity has been formed, and the President and some of the new Vice Presidents attended a spiritual retreat at the Vatican. The Pope knelt and kissed the feet of those in attendance, saying "I ask you as a brother, stay in peace". The Catholic church in South Sudan is well respected by those on all sides of the conflict and as such is well placed to build peace.



On the ground, CAFOD and Trócaire, our Irish Caritas Internationalis sister agency, work with local experts, many of which are church partners, in peace building, to learn about the root causes of conflict, bringing communities together in reconciliation meetings and work towards justice for survivors of gender-based violence. Thanks to the generosity of CAFOD supporters, we have been able to support a multi-year emergency programme with over £1.4m, reaching those who are most in need, including families who have travelled long distances to escape conflict. Caritas Diocese of Rumbek, working with CAFOD in Yirol, have provided over 17,000 people

with various means of support including food, seeds, and tools, so families can plant and grow food for themselves, and hygiene kits containing soap, rehydration sachets and equipment for carrying and purifying water. Alongside these provisions, the local experts have facilitated training on best hygiene practices, training on maintenance of water pumps and wells, and psychosocial support for survivors of gender-based violence and people affected by conflict. An increase in using soap or ash for handwashing has been reported as families begin, and the establishment of savings groups is helping the communities make savings to better withstand future shocks.



Memory Sakakahuni heads the Health Club at Simatelele Secondary School, in one of the districts most severely affected by drought in Zimbabwe.

Compassion – for our brothers and sisters affected by natural disasters

Our compassion at the cry of the poor and the cry of the earth is rooted in love and empathy. It compels us to act, to draw near to those in need and to stand with them as equals. We refuse to accept the suffering of our brothers and sisters or our common home.

*‘Let us not tire of preaching love; it is the force that will overcome the world.’
(St Oscar Romero)*

CAFOD supports people affected by disasters; both at the time that they occur and in the difficult days, weeks and months that follow.

Last year, the Catholic Community expressed their compassion by responding to crises in Mozambique, Zimbabwe and Malawi, donating £1.4m to aid the recovery following Cyclone Idai, which devastated towns and villages. Thanks to your support, our frontline Church networks across Mozambique and Zimbabwe reached vulnerable communities with life-saving food, clean water and hygiene kits, and experienced Caritas aid workers continue to be a lifeline to families made homeless by the flood waters. Dombe, in Mozambique, is one of the worst affected areas. Work has got underway to build 25 houses and 18 classrooms have been repaired. Some families needed the basics, so 700 shelter kits, along with kitchen utensils and wash items, such as soap, buckets and water-purifying tablets have been distributed to a further 3,500 families.



Natural disasters often add to already existing struggles and are rarely isolated phenomena. This is the case in Zambia and Zimbabwe where years of economic turmoil and extreme weather pushed families to the brink of starvation. There, the cyclone's devastation worsened an ongoing food crisis; last year's harvests failed, largely due to droughts that lasted for months on end, and flooding which wiped out whole villages. CAFOD quickly supported the emergency response and we were able to scale up our response thanks to the generosity of our supporters. Our Church network was able to intensify efforts to provide families in need with emergency food and clean water as well as reduce their vulnerability to drought related risks, supporting over 50,000 individuals, including 11,100 children. In total, more than 70,000 people have been supported to earn a living and to have shelter and clean, safe water, thanks to the wonderful efforts by parishes, schools and individuals in England and Wales.

Jo Kitterick, Head of Fundraising and Participation, said: "As ever, our supporters show great compassion, generosity and trust in us, working together to respond to our sisters and brothers who are suffering. In a time of crisis, the communities we serve tell us how much acts of prayer and support from people thousands of miles away inspires hope as they rebuild their lives."

Enabled by our supporters, compassion for those affected by disasters is sustained throughout the time that communities need our help to rebuild. Compassion is a constant driver of the actions needed to transform our world for the better.



Davi Kopenawa Yanomami with pupils from Our Lady of Lourdes, Wanstead and St. Joseph Primary School, Putney.

Dignity – for the Indigenous Peoples of the Amazon

We believe in the intrinsic dignity and worth of every person. We work with all people, regardless of gender, disability, age, race, ethnicity, nationality, culture, sexual orientation, political or religious belief. We celebrate diversity and the strength it gives us, as we come together and seek justice for all.

'It is not God's will that some people have everything and others have nothing.'
(St Oscar Romero, 1978)

Indigenous communities around the world face discrimination and are struggling to maintain their traditional ways of life. Pressure from central governments to exploit land and natural resources leave these communities vulnerable to land invasions, which often result in violence, and which often cause multiple social and environmental issues. In Brazil, indigenous people face unprecedented threats, as the government weakens environmental legislation and implements policies and budget cuts that violate indigenous rights, putting the hard-fought gains of previous years at risk. This year we congratulate Davi Kopenawa Yanomami, a Yanomami indigenous leader and one of our partners, for winning the Right Livelihood Award, also known as the 'Alternative Nobel Prize', for his efforts to protect the rights of indigenous people and raise awareness about the threats these communities face. CAFOD has been working with Davi and the Hutukara Yanomami Association for over 12 years, to protect the Yanomami and Ye'kuana indigenous rights and to work towards ensuring indigenous Brazilians are able to live with dignity. Davi told us: "The Award gives me the strength to continue the fight to defend the soul of the Amazon forest. We, the peoples of the planet, need to preserve our cultural heritage as Omame [the Creator] taught – to live well, caring for our land so that future generations continue to use it".

Across the border in Peru, our partner CAAAP helped the Peruvian Amazonian vicariates to develop a communications strategy to enable indigenous people to be part of preparations for the Amazon Synod, which took place in October 2019. It was acknowledged that communications between local churches and vicariates is difficult due to distances and a lack of telephone or internet access, let alone between the Church and Amazonian peoples. Through listening events, women in the Amazon highlighted the difficulties they face such as abuse, trafficking and the damage mining, extractives and deforestation cause. The project that CAFOD supported enabled indigenous women to attend and present their views at the Synod. Because of all the challenges posed, in part, by the remote geographical locations, indigenous communities often do not know what is being reported about them or proposed about their own land, let alone be able to voice their own opinions. Thanks to the communications training, church pastoral workers are better equipped to share the information generated around the Synod, and its new proposals.

Supporting people's ability to shape their own future is one way we live out our values. With the inspiring support from the Catholic community of England and Wales, our partners, like Davi, can help protect their peoples and ensure that they live the full and dignified lives that they deserve, while strengthening their resilience in the face of new challenges.



Mohammed Tayeb working at a distribution point being constructed by refugees through cash for work funded by CAFOD's DEC programme.

Solidarity – uniting in prayer and action for the common good

We believe in community. We strive to walk alongside others, with a preferential option for the poor and oppressed, making their cause our own. We invite others to act in solidarity. We seek to unite in prayer and action for the common good in ways that are as locally owned, determined and delivered as possible.

'Solidarity... is not a feeling of vague compassion or shallow distress at the misfortunes of so many people, both near and far. It is a firm and persevering determination to commit oneself to the common good... to the good of all and of each individual.' (St John Paul II, *Sollicitudo Rei Socialis* #38)

Mohammed Tayeb's village came under attack in August 2017. Fleeing for their lives, Mohammed, his wife and two children left their village and joined hundreds of thousands of other Rohingya families escaping violence on the long journey from Myanmar to Bangladesh. Whole villages were burnt to the ground and many people were killed. Since the crisis began, CAFOD has been supporting partners in the region to deliver programmes that provide both immediate assistance for those in the camp who need it, along with trying to improve people's longer-term health and wellbeing. Mohammed now lives in Kutapalong, the largest refugee camp in the world. Mohammed, along with several other refugees, now works to improve conditions in the camp, building lanes between the tents and constructing roofs to provide shade for those queuing at food distribution points.

CAFOD supporters express their solidarity in so many ways – we are amazed by their creativity, passion and commitment. Here are just some examples of their incredible efforts:



Notre Dame School, Greenwich has a special club called Prayer Heroes, where pupils from different year groups meet, organise prayer and liturgy in the school, help with Mass and give assemblies. Every year they raise funds for CAFOD and bring it in person to Romero House. Colleagues love meeting the Prayer Heroes!



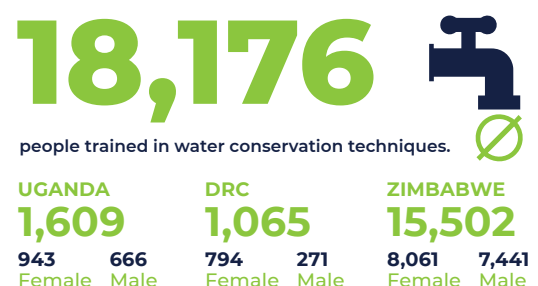
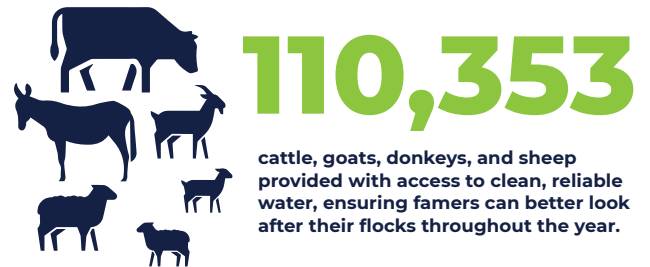
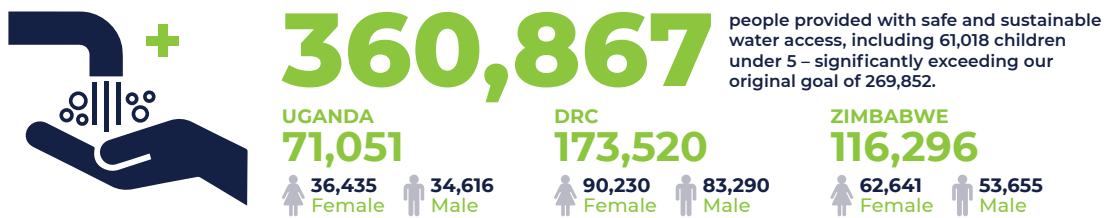
In Hastings, Michael raised over £1,000 (shared between CAFOD and a local homelessness charity) being pushed in his wheelchair by his friend Fidelis for a two and a half mile stretch to the old town and back. They first met at their church, the Parish of The Good Shepherd. You go, Michael and Fidelis!



DFID UK Aid Match

UK Aid Match is a programme funded by the UK government’s Department for International Development (DFID). It allows British taxpayers to have a say in how UK foreign aid is spent and provides an opportunity to engage with international development issues. By matching contributions made during an appeal – for every £1 donated, the government also contributes £1 – the programme doubles the good that donations to CAFOD achieve.

Starting in 2016 and funded by the Lent appeal that year, June 2019 saw the end of a 3-year Aid Match programme to improve access to water, sanitation and hygiene facilities for communities in the DRC, Uganda and Zimbabwe. Illustrating the impact that your matched donations can have, CAFOD is proud to have helped our local Caritas partners achieve;



Thank you to all our supporters who contributed to this appeal back in 2016, you have enabled transformational improvements to be made to the lives of hundreds of thousands of people.

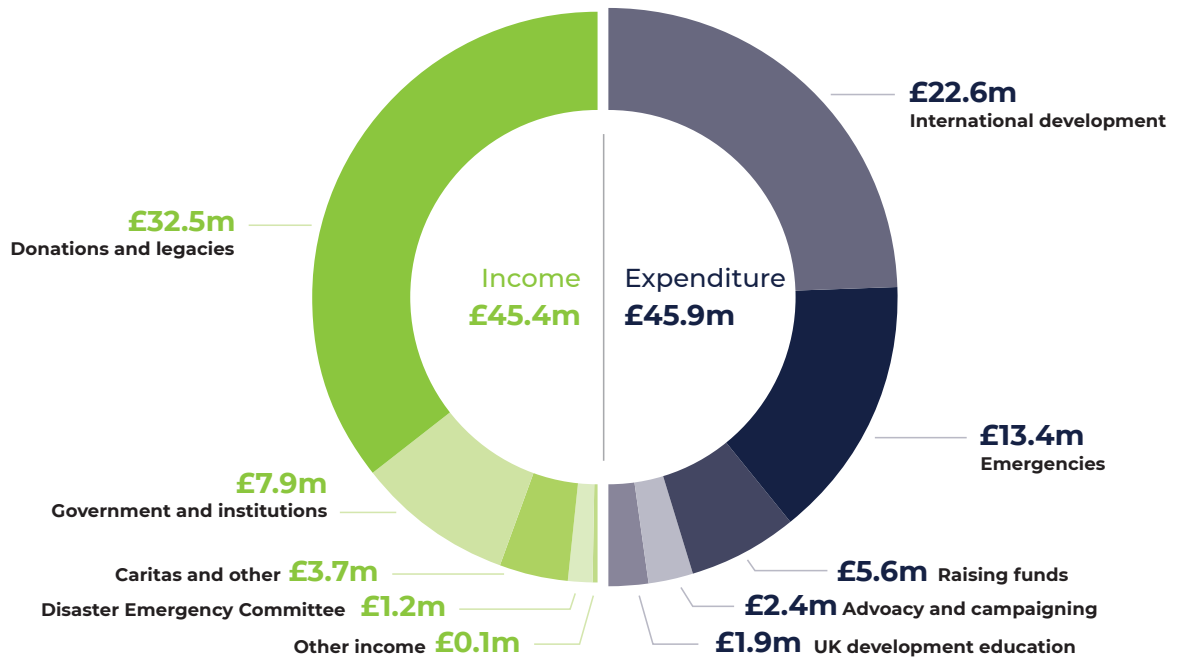
We began another 3-year Aid Match programme in 2018, building community resilience to the impact of climate change, improving food security and nutrition, and raising sanitation and hygiene standards in rural communities in Eritrea, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

In future years, we look forward to celebrating the improvement to these communities that the generosity of our supporters during Lent will enable.

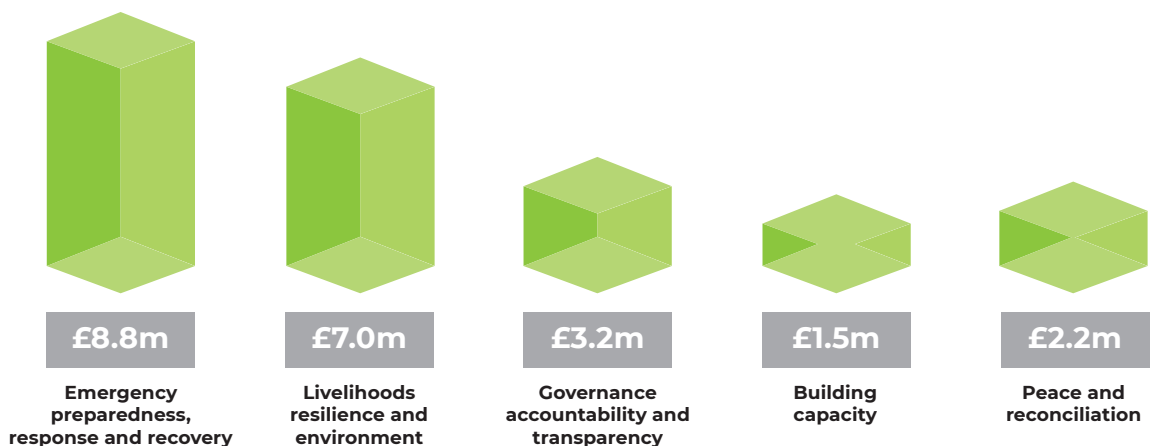
Income and Expenditure

Our total income was £45.4m, of which £32.5m (71%) came from the unwavering support of the Catholic community in England and Wales; made up of general and emergency appeal donations together with legacies.

We spent £45.9m in total: £5.6m (12%) on raising income and £40.3m (88%) on delivery of our mission through our charitable activities. Both figures include allocated support, administration and governance costs of £5.7m (13% of total spending).



The resources entrusted to us allow us to cover a wide and diverse range of issues, reflecting the contexts in which we operate, the requests that we receive from our partners, and our analysis of how to achieve the greatest impact in our programmes. These include:



Our full financial statements are available on the CAFOD website.

Ten years on



In 2010 we launched the 'Just One World' strategic framework, which guided our decision-making for ten years. It outlined our vision and agenda for action, and it defined our distinctive approach as three interwoven elements: change, faith identity and partnership. We are proud of the difference that our partners, volunteers, supporters and CAFOD colleagues have been able to make to some of the poorest communities around the globe:

The Catholic community has raised more than £45m through Fast Days, plus £22m awarded through DFID's UK Aid Match scheme and further boosted by Gift Aid.

Sponsored walks, alms giving, sacrificing chocolate for Lent and thousands of simple Fast Day lunches in parishes contributed to this amazing total that has transformed lives. Additionally, our Hands On regular giving scheme has connected individuals in England and Wales to communities working for change in Niger, Kenya, Bolivia and Colombia.

Over the past ten years, our supporters have responded to 56 appeals to help people in crisis due to natural disasters, climate change and conflict, with major responses in the Philippines (Cyclone Haiyan 2013 – £9.2m), Nepal (Earthquake 2015 – £8.2m) and Syria (Conflict since 2011 to date – £8.1m). We saw continued confidence by institutional donors and succeeded in securing funding from institutions including the START Network, DFID, the UN, and the EU.

Some of our programmes extend beyond the last decade. In 2004, CAFOD launched what has now become one of the largest ecumenical humanitarian projects; the focus was in Darfur, Sudan working with over 2.5 million people fleeing war. The ecumenical programme between the Catholic and Anglican Churches, which CAFOD has co-led, has been a success and has had a significant impact on the displaced. In 16 years, CAFOD has helped oversee a programme of £120m, of which CAFOD and Caritas have contributed £46m.

Thanks to tens of thousands of supporters who have taken part in our campaigns tackling some of the root causes of poverty over the years, we witnessed some historic breakthroughs: Action on energy taken by the World Bank, mass evictions stopped in Brazil, and the UK becoming the first G8 nation to commit to spending 0.7 per cent of national income on international development aid.

Some of our efforts happen quietly behind the scenes, working in coalition with like-minded organisations and advocating for a shift in power. Working with and through the Catholic Church, we have made a significant contribution to strengthening the Caritas global family, particularly in the area of safeguarding, HIV, water health and sanitation, and management standards.

CAFOD has played a leadership role in the humanitarian sector promoting greater political support and funding for local civil society groups in the frontline of crisis response. This included instigating a coalition of international agencies and their local partners, Charter4Change (of which the UN is now a signatory), to support the START Network in enabling local groups to access funding for crisis response and in strengthening their organisational systems and preparedness.

Since 2010 Catholic parish and school communities, trusts, foundations, thousands of volunteers and over 250,000 supporters have reached millions of poor and marginalised brothers and sisters worldwide at the time they needed help most. **And yet some of what matters cannot easily be counted: Dignity, Compassion, Solidarity and Hope. We are grateful for the continued trust by the Catholic Community in England and Wales to put their faith into action through CAFOD, so that no one is beyond reach of the love and support they need to fulfil their potential.**

Our Common Home – A Look Ahead



In March 2020, we finalised our new strategic framework – Our Common Home – and set ourselves new objectives to better deliver our mission in an ever-changing world. This new framework is built on the strong foundation of our 60 years of experience working on achieving a change for the better, but it is also born from the need to dig deeper, to ensure that our work answers the call of *Laudato Si'*, and to keep making possible for our supporters to put their faith into action in the most impactful way.

In *Laudato Si'*, Pope Francis presents us with a profound and challenging choice: to tamper at the edges to make this situation a little better, or to acknowledge the clear structural causes at the heart of our social and environmental crisis, redefine our notion of 'progress', change what we do and act together for our common home.

CAFOD embraces this challenge. We dare to be different. We will challenge conventional notions of progress. We will be open to risk where appropriate and prepared to learn and change when we fail. Our resolve is reflected in four interconnected commitments which together can be transformational:

- achieving positive impacts for people, communities and the environment through an 'integral ecology' approach.
- amplifying local agency, voice and leadership.
- creating a culture of encounter for transformative change.
- transforming ourselves to better deliver our mission – our ecological conversion.

In 2020-21 we begin to reshape our programmes and ways of working to respond to this challenge, incorporating lessons learned from the global coronavirus crisis alongside the commitments made in our new strategic framework. Our plans for the current financial year were impacted by external events almost as soon as they were agreed. We adjusted our programming so that we could support our partners and local communities who were also impacted by coronavirus, we lobbied the Prime Minister to ensure that the most vulnerable

people are the priority in the UK's international efforts as well as at home and we launched our coronavirus fundraising appeal. We did this with all colleagues working from home, a significant change to our usual ways of working. Thanks to the generous support of the Catholic community of England and Wales, we can respond flexibly to the rapidly changing circumstances while the overall directions for our work remain clear and focused on our new strategy.

We will continue to deliver challenging programmes internationally. Building capacity of our partners has already developed into a recognised area of strength in partner surveys and external evaluations. Flexibility with partners, continued investment in capacity strengthening and relationship support are areas that we take forward into Our Common Home. Furthermore, we will maintain our humanitarian response capacity and continue to address the deep causes of poverty and inequality. Across our programmes we will be promoting greater gender equality and work towards incorporating environmental approaches, such as clean energy. We will build on our integrated approach across our longer-term development work, our emergency response and advocacy programming.

We will engage the Catholic Community to act in solidarity for the common good; committed to reaching out to younger, more diverse audiences. With 15 specific roles available, it is easy to match one's interests, expertise and availability with CAFOD's volunteering options. Moving forward, we will continue to promote our Fast Day and Lent campaigns, support our volunteer leaders and strengthen our welcome programme for new volunteers. We will use more opportunities to engage our supporters in innovative ways online, like our Summer of Hope, which encouraged supporters to turn fundraising events into actions of hope.

As we begin to align ourselves to Our Common Home, we will ensure our administrative infrastructure is fit for purpose, supported by adequate information technology and sound governance. We remain committed to ensuring that our ways of working are safe, dignified and inclusive and that we welcome diversity. The dignity of all people is at the heart of our faith, but we are called to recognise where someone is excluded or marginalised. As Pope Francis reminds us: 'We cannot tolerate or turn a blind eye to racism and exclusion in any form and yet claim to defend the sacredness of every human life'.

Our Ecological Conversion



In June 2019, CAFOD joined a coalition of organisations attending the 'The Time is Now' mass lobby of parliament, featured in the cover of this review. Our supporters were mobilised by a desire to see rapid and ambitious action on climate and the environment. We spoke up and told MPs that, as people of faith, we are determined to act for our common home and that this climate crisis is not the legacy we hope to leave for our grandchildren.

As part of our new strategic framework and through our own ecological conversion, we live out our commitments in ways that influence and inspire others to actions. One of the measures of our ecological conversion is that **CAFOD will exemplify environmental stewardship and be net carbon neutral by 2030**, and we have already started to work towards that goal.

We have revised our travel policy to require travel by train wherever possible, particularly within Europe, and to encourage all staff to only travel when absolutely necessary and to think of other ways of working. Our move to a single travel provider allows us to track all of our air and rail travel in one place, enabling us to produce an accurate annual carbon footprint for travel from 2020-21. While improving our security provision for staff, the new system also enables staff to see the carbon footprint of travel options and take this into account in their decision-making.

Together with our Caritas sister agencies CRS (USA), Caritas Australia and Trócaire (Ireland) we have developed an environmental stewardship tool. This will support programme staff and partners to assess, manage and reduce risks to the environment. Over twenty staff members have been trained and the tool has so far been used to support programme design in Liberia, Eritrea, Zambia, Afghanistan and Zimbabwe. The tool will be rolled out across all programmes.

We commit to both protect the environment through reducing any negative environmental impacts across all of our operations and programme work; as well as to regenerate the environment, where possible, through programmes that respond to the cry of the earth and the cry of the poor. Ultimately, no one can truly flourish if another person is hungry, lost or abandoned, nor can humankind flourish while our common home is degraded and exploited for the good of the few.

Safe, Accessible, Dignified and Inclusive programming

Safe, Accessible, Dignified and Inclusive programming (SADI) framework, developed in 2018. The framework has been designed to put the safety, access and dignity of people and communities at the heart of our work, reflecting our Catholic values and the inclusivity of our commitments to 'leave no one behind' and 'do no harm'.

Our key achievements in for the year 19/20 are:

- The introduction of a new complaints and incident management system, EthicsPoint, that enables anyone connected with CAFOD's work to easily raise concerns, allegations, complaints or feedback online or by phone.
- The training of over 250 staff in partner organisations and in CAFOD on Safe, Accessible, Dignified and Inclusive programming.
- 79 per cent of our local partner organisations have completed their formal partner safeguarding profile, which assess what safeguarding measures are in place and what actions are needed to strengthen capacity and practice, working to bring this to 100 per cent in 2020.

We are committed to this work over the long-term and we take a bespoke, collaborative approach with our partners to support the development of systems, policies and practices that effectively meet local standards and respects the diversity of our partnerships. We hope this work will reassure our supporters, the people and communities with whom we work and all our stakeholders, that we are passionate about and able to protect, as well as serve, the poorest communities overseas. Our supporters rightly expect us to be transparent and accountable, guided by our values and vision, always having the most vulnerable people at the centre of what we do.

CAFOD Governance

Our Board of Trustees, as the custodian of CAFOD's vision, mission and values, approve strategy, structure, corporate plans and budgets and ensure the organisation is effective and accountable. This year, the Trustees took time to reflect on and identified strengths and opportunities for improvement, taking a proactive role in guiding and reviewing how our outcomes, impact and actions are accurately and transparently reported. They also had a constructive meeting with representatives of the Charity Commission to review the serious incidents that were submitted last year as well as discuss the Board's safeguarding duties; the Commission was satisfied that CAFOD takes this seriously.

The CAFOD Board of Trustees are Rt Rev John Arnold, Bishop of Salford, Mary Ney DBE, HE Dominic Jermy OBE CVO, Margaret Mwaniki, Catherine Newman QC, John Darley, Charlotte Bray, Prof Karen Kilby, Dr John Guy OBE, Mary Ward, Chris Perry, Rt Rev Patrick McKinney, Bishop of Nottingham, and Fr Mark Ehichioya Odion. We thank them for their service.



Fr Mark is the newest member of the Board, joining CAFOD in December 2019. Fr Mark engages in parish campaigns in England and Wales to raise awareness of the presence of human trafficking and modern slavery. He helps dioceses and parishes to identify victims of human trafficking that suffer domestic abuse or remain in the control of traffickers, enabling them to talk to the police about their experiences and obtain help to regain their freedom and confidence. Fr Mark also works at the Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales as the Africa Project Co-ordinator for the Santa Marta Group, liaising with Catholic Bishops in Edo State, Nigeria to combat human trafficking.

Open my senses

*Open my senses, God,
to understand and answer the needs of others.*

*Keep my ears attuned to the laughter of children,
my eyes to the needs of the hidden.*

*Let my nose smell the beauty of flowers
and transform the earth's decay to the scent of fecundity.*

*May my touch be gentle in raising up
those who live under a heavy burden.*

*May I savour the taste of your abundance
and make the earth sustainable for all.*

Open my senses, God.

Sr Bridgetta Rooney

There are many ways you can help us ensure that no one is beyond reach of the love and care they need:

Pray for our brothers and sisters living in poverty and suffering, and all those working with and for them. Go to cafod.org.uk/prayers to find resources and content to help you bring the people we work with and the issues that we address into your prayers.

Give a donation to support our vital work around the world. You can donate a one-off amount, commit to a monthly pledge, find fundraising ideas and resources or view the fundraising appeals we are currently running by going to cafod.org.uk/fundraise

Act by making your voice heard through our campaigns. By following us on social media and visiting cafod.org.uk/campaign you will be able to see the current campaigns and add your name to the lists of people calling for lasting change. You will also find resources to help you campaign by yourself, such as by writing to your MP or promoting the LiveSimply award within your school or parish.

Also, you can always get in touch with us via cafod@cafod.org.uk, or on **0303 303 3030** to find out more about what we do and how we do it, or to enquire about ways to become more involved in our work.

Thank you.