

Canadians' solidarity with the people of Syria

For over a decade, Development and Peace — Caritas Canada's supporters have contributed with compassion and generosity to help over 1.3 million Syrians survive the ravages of war, hunger, poverty and displacement.

Eleven years of devastation

Since it began on March 15, 2011, the Syrian conflict has claimed over 400,000 lives, according to estimates, and exacted a terrible socioeconomic toll. Recent data from various United Nations agencies indicate that:

6.7 million

Around 6.7 million Syrians are internally displaced and over 5.5 million are refugees, mostly in neighbouring countries.

11 million +

Over 11 million people, including 4.9 million children, still need humanitarian assistance.

263%

Food prices rose 263 per cent last year, leaving 9.3 million Syrians exposed to food insecurity.



Development
and Peace
CARITAS CANADA

Steadfast solidarity

Development and Peace — Caritas Canada and the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops galvanized a strong response to the Syrian crisis early on.

Over the first decade of the conflict, **Development and Peace invested \$71,083,508 in its Syria program.** Of this amount, \$62,905,000 came from Global Affairs Canada grants. Thousands of individual Canadians donated more than \$7 million and over \$1.1 million was contributed by the Canadian Foodgrains Bank.

Thanks to this extraordinary generosity, our partners have been able not only to meet people's basic, shorter-term needs like food, shelter and healthcare, but also to address their longer-term livelihood, education, psychosocial support and peace-related concerns.

Our 24 Syria program partners, including members of the Caritas Internationalis network, other international Christian charities and trusted local organizations, **have touched the lives of over 1.3 million people** in refugee and host communities in **Syria, Turkey, Lebanon, Jordan and Iraq.**

Syria and Turkey: helping in the hot zones

Recent fighting in Syria, in the northeast and northwest has sent thousands fleeing across the Turkish border. Despite the logistical and security challenges that this highly dynamic situation represents, our partners have reached over **722,340 people** in refugee and host communities in Syria and Turkey. By late 2021, they had:

- Built and outfitted shelters for 265,000 displaced people
- Provided food assistance to 210,000 people
- Given emergency healthcare to 120,000 people
- Rehabilitated the damaged homes of 50,000 people
- Supported 50,000 people in setting

up small-scale income-generating projects that help them meet their basic needs

- Alleviated the trauma of 5,000 children through education and psychosocial support
- Lent capacity-building support to 70 local development, peace and democracy organizations in Syria, including 45 women's organizations
- Provided conflict management, citizenship and democracy training to 630 young Syrians, including 60 independent journalists and 30 people influential in religious circles
 - » These trainees went on to engage a further 20,200 people in debates and decisions designed to combat injustice and to resolve conflicts peaceably at the grassroots level.



← To help newly opened shelters in Al-Hasakah city cope with a water shortage, Caritas has distributed storage tanks and is supplying water to make up for shortfalls.



The long haul in Lebanon

Lebanon hosts more refugees per capita than any other country in the world. Syrian refugees, who number around 1.5 million, elicited much solidarity from the Lebanese people, who have themselves faced severe economic and political troubles. In helping **289,848 people**, including refugees and their hosts, our partners have relied on the expertise and creativity developed over decades of presence in the country. By late 2021:

- Healthcare, hygiene kits, health information, psychosocial support and psychiatric care were provided to 196,177 people.
- A total of 91,079 people benefited from the rehabilitation of shelters, the distribution of food and the provision of school preparation courses for refugee children.
- At two secure shelters, care and support, including financial and legal aid; vocational training; and psychosocial support, were offered to 6,961 people affected by domestic violence.
- Staff at these centres were trained to identify and support victims of gender-based violence and torture.
- Peacebuilding and conflict sensitivity workshops were offered to 1,125 people.
- Entrepreneurship training and start-up grants were provided to 187 people in two refugee camps and one disadvantaged neighbourhood.

Development and Peace also helped build the capacities and networks of five self-help and democracy organizations and 30 pacifist community leaders.



↑ Mobile clinics help deliver basic healthcare in under-served regions.



↑ A mobile clinic serves residents of the Taalabaya camp in Lebanon's Beqaa Valley.



↓ Nutrition information is offered in informal cooking sessions in Zahlé, Lebanon.

↓ Local support workers' capacities are built up through gender equity training.



Leaving no one behind in Jordan

Of the more than 750,000 refugees in Jordan, the vast majority hail from Syria, with the remainder coming from Palestine, Iraq, Somalia, Sudan and Yemen. Recently, much international attention and aid has focussed on Syrian refugees, who account for more than 5 per cent of Jordan's population. This has tended to leave other groups sometimes feeling left behind in vulnerability. Our partners' programming has therefore touched all communities affected by the Syrian crisis in Jordan, reaching **220,191 people** in all by late 2021. Of this number:

- 217,186 people received primary healthcare, referrals to secondary care, health information, hygiene kits, mental health focus groups and individualized psychological and psychiatric follow-up.
- 3,000 people were supported through educational assistance, psychosocial support and home visits.
- Five pacifist community leaders were trained in peacebuilding, conflict sensitivity and effective networking.



↑ Training sessions and workshops help build local capacity in Jordan.



© Patrick Nicholson/Caritas Internationalis

Iraq: a challenging environment

In addition to risks and constraints imposed by continuing conflict and political instability, our partners in Iraq have to contend with delicate inter-group sensitivities. Prolonged exposure to unspeakable horrors has also left people exceptionally socioeconomically vulnerable. In this challenging environment, our programming reached **94,270 people** by late 2021, including Syrian, Iraqi and Kurdish displaced persons, returning refugees and members of host communities.

- Shelter rehabilitation and supplies like mattresses, blankets and kerosene were provided to 54,248 people.
- Drinking water and sanitation facilities and hygiene education were provided to 22,610 people.
- Psychosocial support was provided to 39,505 people to help them

cope with the trauma of war and displacement.

- Some internally displaced persons have also received legal help to address problems associated with the loss of their legal documents or their status.
- Food vouchers were distributed to 7,833 people.
- 111,338 children benefited from educational support and the rehabilitation of schools.
- Four Syrian, Kurdish and Iraqi aid, peace and democracy organizations received organizational support.
- Peacemaking and networking training was provided to 10 pacifist community leaders.

An enduring engagement

Syrians have suffered for over a decade and, unfortunately, their troubles are far from over. Development and Peace therefore reaffirms its commitment to supporting them over the long term. We do so confidently, knowing that the Government and Canada and Canadians like you have always been unstinting in solidarity toward the people of Syria and the wider conflict-affected region.

Please donate generously so that our partners can continue serving people affected by the war in Syria.

WWW.DEVP.ORG/EN

