



JESUIT
REFUGEE
SERVICE



**ANNUAL
REPORT
2011**



JRS
Service Jesuite aux Réfugiés
Accompagner, Servir, Défendre

Accompagner, Servir, Défendre
ECCAM



COVER PHOTO

Automeca camp community school
(ECCAM - *école communautaire camp
Automeca*) in Port-au-Prince, Haiti.
(Peter Balleis SJ/JRS)

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Peter Balleis SJ

JRS INTERNATIONAL DIRECTOR

It is easier to change the format of an annual report than the reality of the refugees. The year 2011 showed us an unchanged world in which people continued to suffer and to flee in search of protection. We saw new displacement due to hunger and war in Somalia, to the struggle for power in Libya and Ivory Coast, and to natural disasters like the floods in Bangkok.


JRS went to **new frontiers**, responding to the Somalia crisis by launching a project in southeast Ethiopia. In Tunisia, a small team of Little Sisters took care of refugees 'leftover' from the Libya conflict. In Bangkok, JRS attended to urban refugees affected

by the floods and bypassed by official relief efforts. And, in eastern Congo, a team held its ground and attended to people newly displaced by chronic conflict.

This year's edition of our annual report is no longer divided into the 10 regions of JRS. Instead, it highlights four themes and selected country and regional projects, which give a picture of typical JRS activities. **Education** remains central: pre-school, primary, secondary, tertiary and vocational training projects. Through all these projects and our advocacy, we aim to make education more accessible for girls.

In serving refugees, JRS extends the welcome and respect they deserve as brothers and sisters in need. We strive to create a culture of **hospitality**, promoting openness and integration, and defending the right of refugees to protection and to life with dignity. **Accompaniment** is fundamental to everything we do.

At the heart of this mission is compassion, which motivates JRS staff, partner and funding agencies, private donors and friends. Together we actually make changes in people's lives. This annual report is a sign of our thanks to you all for perseverance in our shared mission.

A close-up photograph of a woman with a warm smile, wearing a blue headscarf with a yellow patterned band. She is holding a young child in a blue tank top with white trim. The woman is also holding an orange plastic cup. The background is slightly blurred, showing a rustic setting with a thatched roof and some foliage.

The mission of the Jesuit Refugee Service is to accompany, serve and defend the rights of refugees and other forcibly displaced persons. As a Catholic organisation and a work of the Society of Jesus (Jesuits), JRS is inspired by the compassion and love of Jesus for the poor and excluded.

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📍 SALMA LIVES IN DJABAL REFUGEE CAMP,
GOZ BEIDA, CHAD (CHRISTIAN FUCHS/JRS)

	Education	Psychosocial/ pastoral	Emergency	Livelihoods	Advocacy/ protection	Healthcare	TOTAL
EASTERN AFRICA							
Ethiopia		7,275	3,185				10,460
Kenya	220	6,515	2,670				9,405
Sudan	9,180						9,180
South Sudan	38,900	1,950					40,850
Uganda		3,800	4,700				8,500
GREAT LAKES							
Burundi	15,100			84,400			99,500
DRC (Kivu)	20,430		710				21,140
Rwanda	10,460	4,860					15,320
SOUTHERN AFRICA							
Angola	60	130		115	8,400	3,600	12,305
DRC (Katanga)	3,800						3,800
Malawi	4,850	850	80				5,780
South Africa	3,700		4,650	800	5,800	1,800	16,750
Zimbabwe	100	5,400	900	1,100		40	7,540
WEST AFRICA							
CAR	25,100	22,000					47,100
Chad	56,120	6,150			4,940		67,210

	Education	Psychosocial/ pastoral	Emergency	Livelihoods	Advocacy/ protection	Healthcare	TOTAL
ASIA PACIFIC							
Australia		3,300	125		500		3,925
Cambodia		500			25,300		25,800
Indonesia	3,750	150					3,900
Philippines				105	20		125
Thailand	7,375	5,730	1,720	240	250	300	15,615
Timor Leste		685					685
SOUTH ASIA							
Afghanistan	4,500			230		1000	5,730
India	9,900	4,200	1000				15,100
Nepal	16,300	16,200					32,500
Sri Lanka	9,800	115			1,200		11,115
MIDDLE EAST							
Jordan	1,535	5,150					6,685
Syria	1,110	3,000					4,110
Tunisia		400					400
Turkey	180	1,080					1,260
LATIN AMERICA & THE CARIBBEAN							
Colombia	200	1,300	1,550	140	1,890	70	5,150
Ecuador	3,560	890	150		1,100		5,700
Haiti	200	100		150			450

	Education	Psychosocial/ pastoral	Emergency	Livelihoods	Advocacy/ protection	Healthcare	TOTAL
Panama	120	1,130	110	40	575	35	2,010
Venezuela	700	420	150	250	465	70	2,055
USA		97,900	40,240				138,140
EUROPE							
Belgium		580					580
France			100				100
Germany		1,050			370		1,420
Ireland	115	40					155
Italy	1,600	10,700	5,250	1,230	8,350	5,500	32,630
Malta		1000			2,000		3,000
Morocco		170					170
Portugal		860	55	1,410	865	230	3,420
Romania		450	100		300		850
Slovenia		1,890					1,890
Southeast Europe	70	1,315					1,385
Sweden		200					200
Ukraine			25				25
UK		1,600	650				2,250
	249,035	221,035	68,120	90,210	62,325	12,645	703,370



New frontiers



“The new context in which we live our mission today is marked by profound changes, acute conflicts, and new possibilities.”

JESUIT GENERAL CONGREGATION 35
DECREE 3 NO. 8

CAMBODIA
DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC
OF CONGO
ETHIOPIA
PHILIPPINES
THAILAND
TUNISIA

OVERVIEW

JRS is constantly seeking to strengthen its capacity to respond swiftly and flexibly to new emerging situations of forced displacement due to conflict and natural disasters. While emergency aid usually forms part of the initial response, JRS also looks to the longer term, focusing on education as a means of providing stability, security and hope.

NATURAL DISASTERS | FAMINE

In 2011, tens of thousands of people left southern Somalia, mostly in June and July, walking for days in a desperate search for food. As famine tipped the precarious balance between life and death in this war-torn region, many headed for Dollo Ado in southeast **Ethiopia**; by early December 2011 there were about 137,000 refugees in the camps of Dollo Ado, mostly women and children.

JRS launched a project in Melkadida camp in Dollo Ado, focusing on counselling, education, youth and sports activities. All activities have proved popular, especially the youth football league, featuring matches between refugee and host community teams.

"In August 2011, the children in Melkadida were struggling to survive. I witnessed their agony and saw the many pits in graveyards prepared in advance. Now, a few months later, life is different and I am happy to watch them playing, dancing, laughing and learning... I was inspired to see the desire for education in the camp. The JRS adult literacy classes were full to bursting. It seemed to me that I was witnessing the realisation of a long-standing hunger for education."

► SEYOUM ASFAW, JRS ETHIOPIA

 Melkadida camp
(Jaime Moreno/JRS)



NATURAL DISASTERS | FLOODS

Ninety per cent of all people affected by natural disasters – tsunamis, floods, earthquakes, volcano eruptions – live in Asia Pacific. Where it was present, JRS responded immediately when natural disaster struck in 2011. Staff conducted rapid needs assessments, often working with local NGOs, and offered prompt relief to survivors.

Bangkok saw the worst floods in decades. Staff from the JRS regional and **Thailand** offices stayed in the city and helped 300 asylum seekers as well as Thais, migrants and people in detention. They provided temporary shelter, emergency cash, food and other essential items. Collaboration with other NGOs proved essential for translation and information-sharing and to facilitate access to services. The NGO network established telephone hotlines in Burmese, Cambodian and Laotian. Simultaneously JRS helped people affected by floods in **Cambodia** and by Typhoon Sendong in the **Philippines** at the end of the year.



 Bangkok (JRS International)

CONFLICT

When unrest broke out in Libya in February 2011, foreigners flooded across the border into **Tunisia**. Those who could not return home, mostly asylum seekers from Africa, remained stuck in transit camps. Some applied for resettlement; others wanted to return to Libya, hoping to cross the Mediterranean to reach Europe. More than 1,500 people were reported drowned or missing in the Mediterranean in 2011, the deadliest year since 2006, when UNHCR (United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees) started collecting these statistics.

JRS supported two religious sisters who went to work for the local Church in Shousha, a transit camp in the Tunisian desert, close to the border with Libya.

"These refugees have a long history of displacement. I spend much of my time just listening to their stories. Somalis have lived in Yemen, Saudi Arabia and Libya; Eritreans and Ethiopians in Sudan, then Libya. They cannot return to their countries. Some think of going back to Libya, conscious of the risk. Most feel totally stuck."

💬 **SR MERCY MBUGUA, SHOUSHA**

"Arriving in Lampedusa is a question of luck. If you fail, ok; if you succeed, it's fine. One needs to have courage in life, to continue moving forward."

💬 **SARA, SHOUSHA**



📷 Shousha (UN photo/Alexis Duclos)

CONFLICT

In 2011, JRS expanded its presence in North Kivu, a volatile region in eastern **DRC** that is home to more than half a million internally displaced people (IDPs). The focus was on formal and informal education; prevention of sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV); and caring especially for vulnerable people.

JRS consolidated activities in five official camps in Masisi and launched projects in six others in Mweso. Support was extended to local host communities, also living in great poverty. Meanwhile JRS started to serve people who ended up in 'spontaneous' sites after fleeing armed groups that fought each other or the regular army. IDPs in 'spontaneous' – as opposed to 'official' – sites hardly received any assistance at all. JRS went to three such sites in Masisi, setting up emergency education programmes and other projects.



"I am a widow with two children aged seven and five. We escaped from our village because of war and have nothing left. Alone, I would never have managed to build the small hut we live in today. When I met the JRS volunteers, they saw to supplying the materials and arranged with the rest of the community to help me with the hut. And that's what happened."

► **ZAWADI HITIMANA, MWESO**



📷 (above) Kishondja, a 'spontaneous' site in eastern DRC (JRS International); (below) Zawadi (Danilo Giannese/JRS)



📷 At school in Djabal refugee camp, Goz Beida, Chad (Christian Fuchs/JRS)

Education



“Having children who can attend school is like hope coming back, and JRS is giving us that hope.”

ESTHER,
JOHANNESBURG

AFGHANISTAN
CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC
CHAD
DEMOCRATIC
REPUBLIC OF CONGO
KENYA
MALAWI
NEPAL
RWANDA
SOUTH AFRICA
SOUTH SUDAN
SYRIA

OVERVIEW

As the mainstay of JRS activities in most regions, education offers refugees a “future and a hope”. Programmes include pre-school, primary, secondary and tertiary education, special education, scholarships, vocational training, adult literacy, computer and language classes.

EDUCATION AS PROTECTION

In the unstable region of eastern **Chad**, the bywords of JRS are education and protection. Ten projects were implemented in 2011 among Sudanese refugees, displaced Chadians, host communities and returnees. In a pilot project, mini-cultural centres were set up for young people in four camps, to offset the risk of recruitment by armed groups. In February, a centre opened in Guéréda to offer vocational training for ex-child soldiers and children at risk. The big challenge was to help graduates, who came from very poor families, to set up a viable business.

“When I returned to Guéréda, my friends from JRS suggested that I attend a training course at the new centre. I chose to train as a mechanic. I’ve learned a lot and made quite a few friends. In December, we had the graduation ceremony. We gave a demonstration, taking apart and reassembling a motorbike engine. My parents were there and I was very proud. JRS gave me a toolbox so I can work. Every afternoon, I go to the market with my friends and we repair cars. With the money I earn, I buy pencils, copybooks and books, because in the morning I go to school.” **● HAFIS**

 **Hafis (Christophe Renders SJ/JRS)**



EDUCATION FOR GIRLS

Many JRS projects promote education for girls to redress a clear gender imbalance. In 2011, in eastern **Chad**, girls accounted for 49.4% of students in JRS schools in seven refugee camps, and 42% in IDP sites. JRS adopted several strategies: offering dry rations to girls who enrolled; prizes to those who did best each term; caravans doing the rounds of the camps to convince parents to send their daughters to school. Prompted by the realisation that women have the biggest say in the education of their daughters, JRS recruited mothers to join Parent-Teacher Associations in order to encourage others.

"I encourage other young people to come to the library, to use their time wisely. When parents see that I, a girl, am responsible for the library at Mile camp, they tell their children to follow in my footsteps because, for us, a woman must be educated to hold such a position." 📍 **SEIDA, CHAD**

In **Central African Republic (CAR)**, more girls than boys enrolled in the first grade of JRS schools in Haute Kotto province, thanks to a campaign by women volunteers. The campaign was part of a drive to improve overall access to education: six new schools were constructed and furnished in Haute Kotto and 20 others restored in Haute Kotto and two other provinces.

"Education takes away the obstacles in my way as a girl. With my education I can pay back what my parents have spent to bring me up. I will learn a trade when I finish school and become a responsible person in my community which is the most important thing for me." 📍 **FATIME, CAR**



(above) **Chad (Christian Fuchs/JRS)**



(below) **Seida
(Yankeu Yankeu Yannick/JRS)**



EDUCATION FOR GIRLS

In **South Sudan**, where only 37% of girls aged between 6 and 13 go to school, nearly 18,000 girls attended JRS primary and secondary schools in 2011. The year was particularly

significant due to the historic moment in July when South Sudan became an independent country. JRS continued to support returnees and the government to rebuild the school

system through teacher-training and adult literacy programmes, construction of school facilities, and encouraging girls to increase their school attendance.



EDUCATION FOR GIRLS

"With support from JRS, life has been much better for me at school because a lot of my needs were met and so I was able to complete my secondary education. My family could attend to my other needs and those of the rest of the family. Five years ago, I wouldn't have seen things this way."

🗣️ **LORIA GRACE, SOUTH SUDAN**



📷 (left) Nimule, south Sudan (Angela Hellmuth/JRS); (top) Loria Grace (Andebo Pax Pascal/JRS)

In **Afghanistan**, girls educated other girls thanks to *Each one teach some*, an innovative module of the JRS English Access programme in Herat. In 2011, JRS invited each of the 50 students to tutor three to five other girls in their neighbourhood, once or twice a week, gratis. The girls proved enthusiastic and highly motivated, teaching over 300 girls. They grew in confidence, became more fluent in English, and were eager to make a difference in their community.

"I feel wonderful, not only because I have so many students, but because they are so intelligent and hardworking. They are regular and come on time for class. I always pray to Allah to be a good teacher and to be able to serve others. I would like my students to do well and teach others, in turn." 🗣️ **SHARBAT, AFGHANISTAN**



📷 English classes in Kabul, Afghanistan (JRS International)

EXCELLENCE

In eastern **Nepal**, JRS continued to run the Bhutanese Refugee Education Programme (BREP), even while the camp population decreased thanks to mass resettlement. A long-running programme *of, by and for the refugees*, BREP has maintained consistently high standards. So much so, students resettling in the US have gained admission in the same school grade they left in the camp.

BREP LISTS ITS 'BEST PRACTICES' AS:

- **Official recognition:** The government of Nepal recognised and approved BREP in 1998 so students can sit for district and national board exams.
- **Continuous teacher-training and support:** Resource persons conduct regular workshops and seminars to guide teachers; external experts are often invited.

- **Counselling and guidance:** In each of the main schools, two counsellors, a man and a woman, accompany the students. The office-based counsellor supports the school counsellors.

- **Inclusive education:** A special needs teacher in each school supports children with disabilities in collaboration with the teachers.



EXCELLENCE



📷 (top) Dzaleka camp, Malawi
(JRS International)

📷 (left) Bhutanese refugee students, Damak,
Nepal (JRS International)

In **Malawi**, the primary school of JRS in Dzaleka camp was named as the highest achieving in the district in 2011, with 92.4% of students passing the primary school leaving certificate examination.

Throughout the year, JRS focused on teacher-training, covering topics such as how to use music effectively, learning-centred teaching and utilising local resources within the classroom. Pre-school teachers received assistance with classroom management, lesson preparation and delivery from refugee volunteers. Another priority was creating safe and healthy learning environments.

When setting objectives for Katanga, **DRC**, the focus was education and integration of returnees from Zambia. Projects included building schools, teacher-training and forming sports teams. The building project reached the target goal of 20 additional primary school classrooms, two

offices and 14 latrines. In-service seminars were organised for teachers. And 1,340 students took part in the sports programme.

"I am a boy of nine years. I was in a refugee camp in Mporokoso, Zambia. I returned with my parents and I'm at primary school. I play football thanks to our coach Mokit. I dream of one day becoming as good a player as Mputu Treasure (a Mazembe player). The villagers are happy with our team. They come to support us when we play. I look forward to graduating to go and play football elsewhere and people will start to see me on TV. I thank JRS, I thank our coach."

📍 **KAITENGOIE, DRC**

HIGHER EDUCATION



In 2011, its second year of operation, a distance education project implemented in partnership with Jesuit universities in the US expanded to a third site, Aleppo in **Syria**. Jesuit Commons: Higher Education at the Margins (JC-HEM) offers higher education to refugees through the internet and with on-site teachers and mentors.



📷 JC-HEM students in Dzaleka camp, Malawi (JRS International)

In Dzaleka camp in **Malawi**, 54 students were enrolled in the JC-HEM online diploma in liberal studies. The students did community voluntary work, teaching languages and IT to other refugees, many of whom signed up for community service learning tracks (CSLT) started by JC-HEM in February. These 15-week certificate courses focus on specific needs in the refugee community. Thirty-one students graduated from community health and special needs courses in July and four new CSLTs started later in the year.

In Kakuma camp in **Kenya**, 69 students were enrolled in the diploma while three CSLTs in psychosocial case management and community development were completed in 2011, with 20 to 25 students in each.

"We were all wondering how we, refugees, were going to be able to use material from the USA. But step by step, we have seen how it's a wonderful initiative."

📍 **GASTON, MALAWI**



EDUCATION IN URBAN AREAS

In **South Africa**, JRS subsidised school fees and provided stationery and books, school uniforms and transport to the children of refugees and asylum seekers in primary and secondary schools in Johannesburg and Pretoria. JRS conducted six workshops about education rights for the children's parents. And social workers advocated for fee waivers or fee reduction for secondary school children of refugees and asylum seekers.

📷 Jules High School in Johannesburg, where some refugee children go (Christian Fuchs/JRS)

SKILLS TRAINING

Inequity in access to education and resources makes households headed by women especially vulnerable to poverty in **Afghanistan**. In 2011 JRS joined hands with a local NGO to establish 10 self-help groups for women in Shaydei, a township near Herat city that is home to 300 returnee families from Iran and Pakistan. The project gave 200 women the opportunity to earn a living. The groups held regular meetings and supported their members by providing loans and sharing difficulties, using the problem-solving skills acquired during training.

"I am leader of the Shaqayeq group. We received training for three months from a Herat University student who taught us very professionally. We come together to embroider household linen and clothes, using beautiful

traditional patterns. We plan to start a weekly bazaar in our township, to put the products of our groups on sale. With our training and group activities, we have grown in confidence and unity." ♡ **FATEMA**



 The women of Shaydei at the meeting during which JRS proposed self-help groups (JRS International)

SKILLS TRAINING

In 2011, 60 young men and women attended home economics courses organised by JRS in Kiziba camp in **Rwanda**, where Congolese refugees spent yet another year in exile. The young people learned how to bake and cook, and how to serve at table, in the hope that they will find work in one of the many hotels and restaurants in the nearby tourist locality of Kibuye.




"Since I started the course, I find my days stimulating and interesting. I've learned how to prepare different sauces, soups and salads. But my speciality is making sweets, especially pineapple cake and one with manioc flour. We joke and have fun too, and I go home tired but happy."

● CLEMENCE



📷 (above) Kiziba camp (JRS International)



 In Ankara, Agata (right), from JRS Turkey, chats with Kadsiah from Iraq (Don Doll SJ/JRS)

Hospitality in action



“How can JRS promote the Gospel value of hospitality in today’s world of closed borders and increased hostility to strangers?”

JESUIT SUPERIOR GENERAL
ADOLFO NICOLÁS SJ

ASIA PACIFIC
AUSTRALIA
COLOMBIA-VENEZUELA
ETHIOPIA
EUROPE
PANAMA
PORTUGAL
ROMANIA
THAILAND
TURKEY
USA

OVERVIEW

Showing hospitality involves all the elements of the JRS mission. Apart from making displaced people feel welcome, hospitality implies defending their right to protection, helping them to integrate in their host community, to live in dignity and not in destitution, to have enough to meet their family's needs. It means advocating for alternatives to detention, opposing xenophobia and all forms of exclusion, and working to create inclusive communities.

BUILDING COMMUNITIES

In **Turkey**, JRS continued to run a centre in Ankara to welcome refugees. English and Turkish lessons, fun activities, pastoral care, distribution of grocery cards, a referral system for legal and medical advice, and the ever-popular thrift shop, all formed part of efforts to create a community and dispel the often overwhelming sense of isolation prevalent among urban refugees.

The Turkish authorities assign most refugees to live outside Ankara in 'satellite cities'. In October, JRS expanded to Kirikkale, a city some 60km from Ankara, where it organised language classes and helped more than 200 refugees meet their daily needs. This expansion was possible thanks to a partnership made with KADER (Chaldean Assyrian International Humanitarian Association).

 **Zamam Mohammed and his family check out clothes from the JRS centre in Ankara (Don Doll SJ/JRS)**



"In Turkey we feel safe but other hardships don't allow me to sleep... lack of work and income is a huge burden. But at the same time we experience a lot of good things from our Turkish neighbours. I heard about JRS and came to register. I get food vouchers – a considerable help for my family. My girls like to come for the distribution since they always get some nice clothes and toys."

► **ALI SABRI SABAH**

BUILDING COMMUNITIES

In **Ethiopia**, the long-running refugee community centre in Addis Ababa created a safe and friendly environment for urban refugees and asylum seekers. People sat and chatted, went for counselling, used the internet facilities and library, and attended language, computer or vocational training courses as well as workshops on a wide variety of topics. Children and young people were encouraged to take part in sports. JRS also ran an emergency needs programme in Addis.

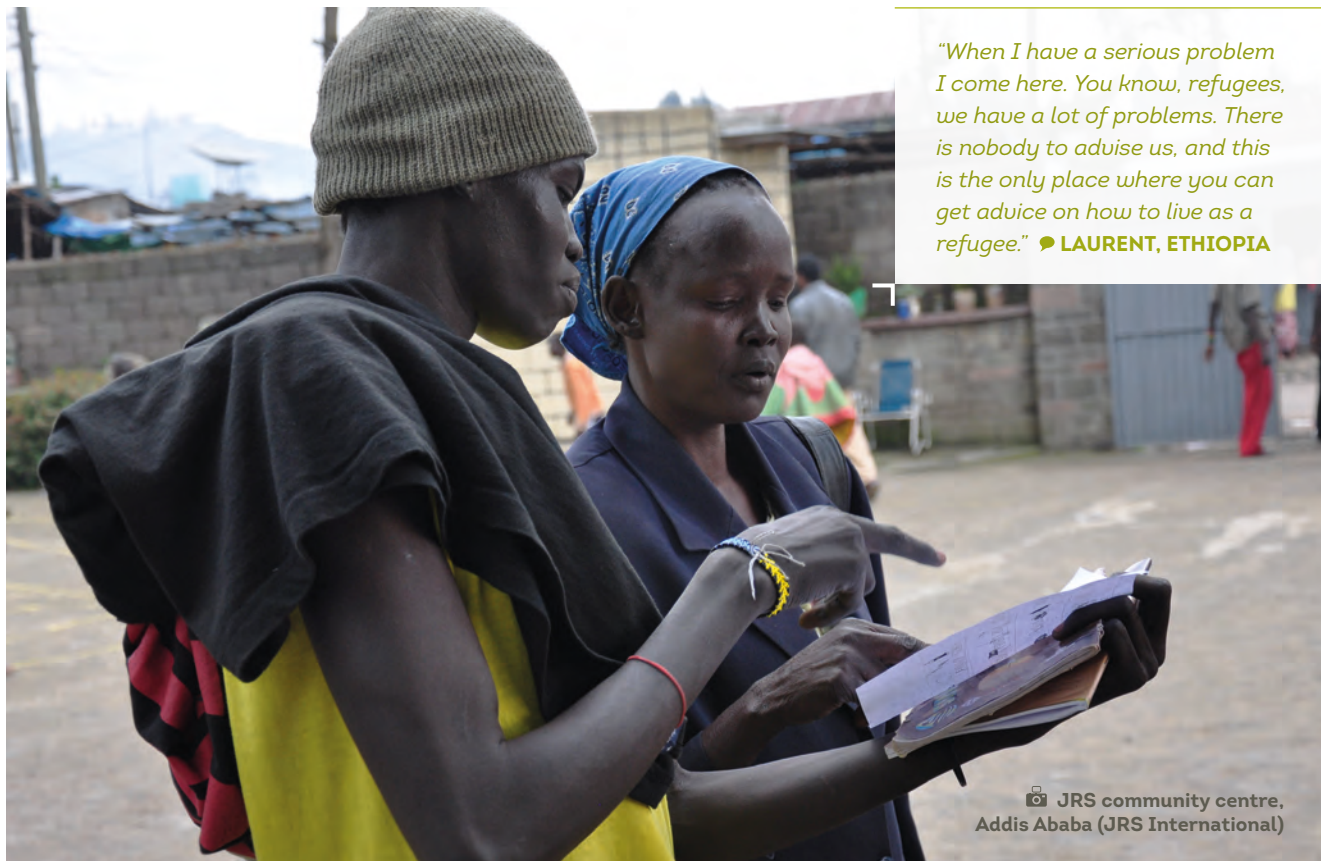
"From morning to night we don't have anything, so we come here, to the community centre. We want to learn and we want to be in peace. But right now we have no education and no job."

🗨 **SABIR**

📷 A football game organised by the Addis community centre (Christian Fuchs/JRS)



"When I have a serious problem I come here. You know, refugees, we have a lot of problems. There is nobody to advise us, and this is the only place where you can get advice on how to live as a refugee." ● LAURENT, ETHIOPIA



📷 JRS community centre,
Addis Ababa (JRS International)

INTEGRATION

In Lisbon, in early 2011, JRS **Portugal** introduced a 'buddy' system at its Pedro Arrupe accommodation centre to help residents integrate in local society. The project matched local volunteers with residents. Each pair engaged in daily activities together, spoke in Portuguese, shared meals and life experiences. If a migrant had a job interview, his 'buddy' helped him prepare for it. So far, it's been an amazing experience, nurturing a sense of community and belonging.

"Today I have a job, a place to sleep and eat, and a great relationship with the neighbours. I want to find my place here in Portugal, get married and be happy... and, in the end, to feel like I have left my mark in the world."

► **MOHAMMED**

In 2011, JRS launched a bi-national strategy to promote integration and refugee rights in the border area between **Venezuela** and **Colombia**. JRS teams in Ureña, San Cristobal and El Nula in Venezuela, and Cúcuta and Barrancabermeja in Colombia, provided humanitarian, psychosocial and legal aid services to nearly 2,600 people. Most of the forcibly displaced are women who have lost their family and social circle due to the conflict in Colombia, and who are exposed to new dangers on the other side of the border, such as SGBV. Advocacy and communication initiatives highlighted their plight and contributed to the prevention of violence.



📷 (above) El Nula, Venezuela

📷 (below) Lisbon, Portugal

THE RIGHT TO LIVE IN DIGNITY

In 2011 JRS **Romania** advocated for better conditions for destitute migrants in Romanian territory. Rejected asylum seekers and irregular migrants are 'tolerated' when the authorities concede that they cannot be removed from the country. Toleration used to mean solely the permission to stay in Romania. Together with other NGOs, JRS worked on amendments to the Aliens Law. Their recommendations to the

government led to a new law that gives 'tolerated persons' an identification number and the right to work. This means they can now benefit from social and medical insurance if working legally.

"I am from Iran and have been in Romania for nearly three years. I used to be an asylum seeker but then I was rejected and taken to the Otopeni detention centre. When I was

released, I came to JRS. Here I have accommodation, legal counselling and food for the Christmas celebration. Now I am happy that I am legal and tolerated, I can work." 🗣️

📷 Fr Don Doll SJ meets (left to right) Farid, Fahim, JRS intern Benedicte, Mohammad, and Wahid, at the Pedro Arrupe accommodation centre in Bucharest. The four Afghan men are 'tolerated' in Romania.



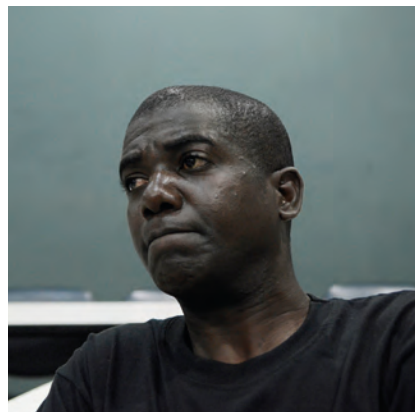
THE RIGHT TO PROTECTION

Asylum seekers know very well what is missing in terms of their protection. While some countries help them to live in safety, others do not. In **Asia Pacific**, the growing realisation that protection space is limited and changing, prompted JRS to produce *The search: protection space in Malaysia, Indonesia, Thailand, the Philippines and Cambodia in practice*. This guide aims to help other advocates give accurate information to asylum seekers and refugees. Many shared their stories for this guide; their hope is that it will help others on their journey in search of safety.

"When I was three years old, I was displaced. Now, my son is three, and he is displaced. His mother died on our journey from Sri Lanka by boat. I am doing this for his children, so they won't have to be displaced." 📍 **KASUN**

JRS **USA** advocated on behalf of people of Haitian descent born in the Dominican Republic whose rights are threatened by government policies that seek to deny them their citizenship. The descendants of Haitian migrants are being stripped of their Dominican nationality by the retroactive application of nationality provisions first ordered in 2007, culminating in a constitutional change in 2010.

"I got my passport in 2006 and the resolutions changed things for everyone the next year. If I need a copy of my birth certificate or I have to renew my passport, I will have difficulty. When I knew it was going to affect me, I couldn't believe it. I call on the government to make things right and acknowledge that we are Dominicans." 📍 **MILCIADES YAN**



📷 (above) Rohingya boat people
(Sanjib Kumar Roy)

📷 (below) Milciades Yan
(Christian Fuchs/JRS)

THE RIGHT TO PROTECTION

In **Panama**, JRS advocated for the regularisation of the situation of Colombians who arrived at the end of the nineties to escape the civil war in their country. Granted the status of temporary humanitarian protection (PTH), the refugees were confined to the remote and impoverished region of Darien. Their rights to education, healthcare, work and freedom of movement were trampled. JRS lobbied government officials and participated in the debate about a draft law. Enacted in early 2012, the law allows people with PTH to apply for permanent resident status.

JRS Europe published a series of booklets depicting how the European Union's management of its eastern and southern borders impedes access to protection. *No other option* documented the experiences of asylum seekers in Ukraine who cannot access asylum procedures due to corruption. *I don't know where to go* described the plight of forced migrants left without protection in Morocco and Algeria. A third booklet, *Safe and secure: how refugees experience Europe's borders*, analysed how EU border policies hinder refugee arrivals. The booklets aimed to put refugees' voices front and centre.

 **At the Lyster Barracks**
detention centre, Malta
(Darrin Zammit Lupi)





ALTERNATIVES TO DETENTION

In a study published in December, JRS **Europe** showed that governments can save money by placing asylum seekers and forced migrants in communities instead of in detention. *From deprivation to liberty* is based on interviews with people participating in alternative-to-detention projects in Belgium, Germany and the UK. Not only are such options less costly, they are also fairer and more humane.

"Since I'm in Europe, I'm detained all the time. I did not come here to be treated like an animal. It's about seven months that I'm in jail. I don't want to be deported back to Afghanistan, but the situation is so bad here. I don't know why it is like this."

► **SAYEED MUJADADI**

In **Australia**, JRS advocated for the release of children from detention and co-ran a home for them. More than 700 children have been released to live in the community under supervision.

In **Thailand**, JRS facilitated the bail out of 68 refugees detained at the Immigration Detention Centre (IDC) in Bangkok, by acting as guarantor for those who were able to pay their own bail and had accommodation ready upon release. The JRS urban refugee programme arranged for healthcare and education. Some refugees had been detained for more than five years. The short-term goal of bail was pursued together with the aim of changing the law to allow refugees and asylum seekers to stay in the country temporarily. In the meantime JRS formed part of a task force to promote alternatives to detention.

"They opened the door and told us we could leave. To be in the free air made us very happy. And at night, to see the night sky, I had the same feeling. This is the first time my wife and I have really been together."

► **EELAVAN, THAILAND**



📷 Kishondja camp, eastern DRC (JRS International)

Accompaniment



“Accompaniment comes first.
It is by being with refugees
that we discover how to serve
them and defend their cause.”

CHRISTOPHE RENDERS SJ
JRS WEST AFRICA

ASIA PACIFIC
EUROPE
HAITI
INDIA
JORDAN
MALAWI
USA

OVERVIEW

Accompaniment is one of the pillars of the JRS mission, perhaps the one that best expresses what we are about. Sometimes, a listening presence is all we can offer to refugees who are lonely, troubled and in a seemingly hopeless situation: newly displaced and traumatised, in exile for a long time, in detention, without future prospects. Different forms of psychosocial support are a professional expression of accompaniment.

📷 At the Lyster Barracks detention centre in Malta. This man is one of 68 Somalis rescued at sea after fleeing Libya. (Darrin Zammit Lupi)

IN DETENTION

In 2011, JRS **Asia Pacific** took steps to enhance and expand its work in detention, holding a meeting in Yogyakarta in March to share best practices. JRS **USA** continued its long-running chaplaincy programme in detention centres, three federal and

one county, and compiled a religious services guide to assist chaplains in centres throughout the United States. In **Europe**, JRS teams in 11 countries visited detention centres regularly to offer legal, pastoral and social support.



IN THE CITY

In **Jordan**, the team visited Iraqi, Syrian, Somali and Sudanese refugees scattered throughout Amman. Made up mostly of Iraqi refugees, the team was able to identify families lacking awareness of and access to basic services. They assessed needs, offered support to vulnerable refugees such as food baskets and rent subsidies, and referred them to other organisations for medical, legal and other services. In 2011 JRS diversified the religious backgrounds of the team. This proved effective especially at the end of the year when the team met over 70 Muslim families fleeing Syria. The experiential wisdom that the Iraqis shared with their Syrian brothers and sisters allowed a unique sense of solidarity to be born.

📷 **Laith Eskander of JRS Jordan (right)**
and the refugee quoted above
(JRS International)

"When I see Syrian families I remember when we were first refugees...history repeats itself. I tell them, 'I was like you, scared to register with UNHCR and to share my story, scared for my family in Iraq and here for myself.'" 📍 **LAITH ESKANDER**

"As a people we had many Iraqi refugees living with us in Syria and we tried to help them, but now we are suffering from the same situation, in a hard place, with many problems in our country. Our hope is that one day we can return to Syria and live in peace." 📍



IN CAMPS

In southern **India**, yet another year passed in limbo for more than 68,000 Sri Lankan refugees living in 112 camps in Tamilnadu. Although war in Sri Lanka was declared over in mid-2009, most remained reluctant to return. JRS pressed ahead with education, its main activity, and accompanied the refugees in their uncertainty. Vulnerable refugees, like girls who dropped out of school, widows, the elderly, sick and disabled received special attention. Visiting families, the JRS team identified needs and took action, offering emergency aid as well as social, pastoral and psychosocial care.

"I was repeatedly abused by a camp inmate and tried to commit suicide twice. JRS staff used to give talks regularly about gender-based violence. Taking courage, I shared my suffering with them and got help. I joined a JRS life-skills programme and this gave me new life. The input on stress management and fraternal accompaniment lifted my hopes and gave me confidence to face life."

📍 **NIROCHINI**

📷 Sri Lankan refugees in Tamilnadu
(JRS International - left;
Sara Pettinella/JRS - right)



IN CAMPS

In Dzaleka camp in **Malawi**, JRS worked hard to ensure that psychosocial support was readily available and that staff were properly trained. JRS counsellors maintained an open door policy and support groups were formed for adults and young people who dropped out of

school. Workshops were integral to the project: on conflict resolution, crisis management, trauma training and other topics. A respite care programme for severely disabled children ran throughout the year.

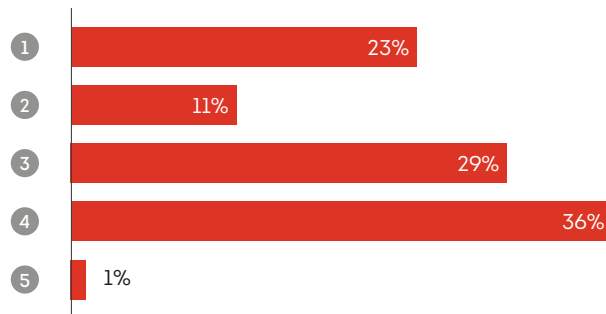
In **Haiti**, JRS teams continued to accompany people stuck in camps after the massive 2010 earthquake. Present in seven camps in Port-au-Prince, JRS ran workshops, vocational training and micro-credit programmes for women and young people and a kindergarten for children.



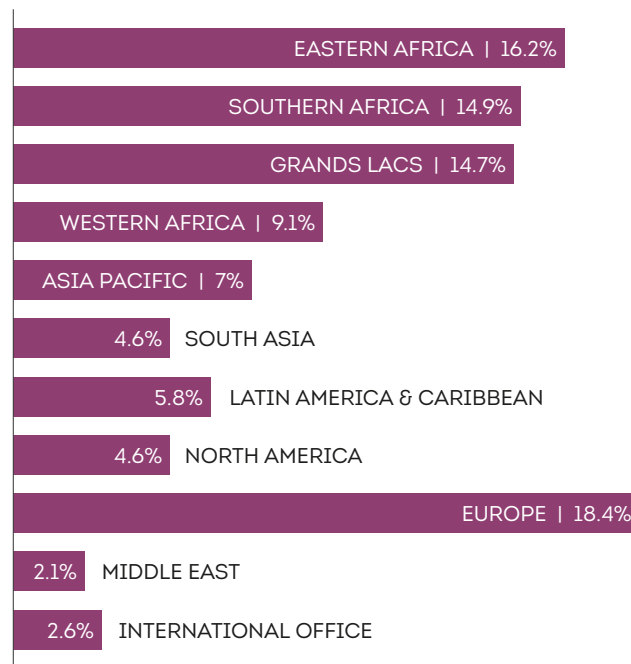
Dzaleka camp, Malawi (JRS International)

CODE	SOURCES OF FUNDING	IN EURO
1	Caritas network & Catholic agencies	7,400,751
2	Jesuit sources	3,689,248
3	Private donors	9,513,715
4	UN agencies & government	11,805,442
5	Other income	321,248
	Total received	32,730,404

SOURCES OF FUNDING (PERCENTAGE)



PERCENTAGE EXPENDITURE BY REGION

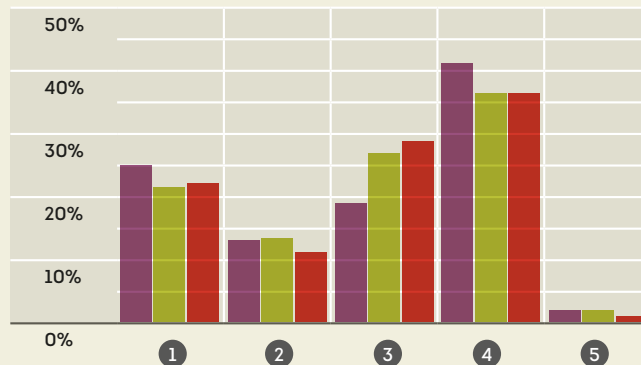


PERCENTAGE OF
TOTAL FUNDING
FOR YEAR:

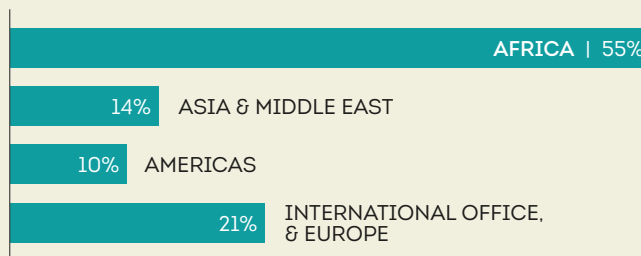
2009

2010

2011



PERCENTAGE
EXPENDITURE
BY CONTINENT



thank you
TO ALL OUR
DONORS & FRIENDS

NEW FRONTIERS

EDUCATION

HOSPITALITY IN ACTION

ACCOMPANIMENT



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