



2021 ANNUAL REPORT

**An ever wider 'we'
is always possible**

A girl smiling for the camera at a refugee settlement in Adjumani, Uganda.



EDITORIAL TEAM

Martina Bezzini, Maria De Luca,
Valeria Di Francescantonio,
Madelaine Kuns, Elena Lanteri,
Maria Mancinelli, Francesca Segala.

DESIGNER

Being srl

COVER PHOTO

Children from the JRS Arrupe
Kindergarten test the turf of the
new JRS Loyola Sports Ground, in
Sharya, northern Iraq.

BACK PHOTO

JRS refugee students from Central
African Republic living in Gaoui site,
Chad.

PHOTO CREDITS

Jesuit Refugee Service (JRS)

PUBLISHER

Thomas H. Smolich SJ

Through this Annual Report,
we would like to share our
gratitude for the life-changing
impact you brought on the lives
of the refugees and the other
forcibly displaced people
we walk with.

Thank you - JRS staff, partners,
donors, beneficiaries, and
volunteers - for being part of
our human family!

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Thomas H. Smolich SJ, JRS International Director, with Bashria, JRS former staff from Afghanistan, and her husband Saif.
They are now resettled in Italy.

INTERNATIONAL DIRECTOR'S LETTER

Thank you for making an ever wider 'we' possible

Dear friends of JRS,

Greetings and blessings to you from Rome, and thank you for your support of our mission.

Pope Francis titled his 2021 message for World Migrant & Refugee Day **Toward an ever wider 'we'** ...*a single 'we,' encompassing all of humanity* is the document's fervent hope.

Francis' words inspired JRS to build and nourish that single, wider, 'we' in 2021. It is our mission and desire to be with the most vulnerable who have been forced to flee their homes and seek a new life. It was not an easy year to sustain a wider 'we.' The Covid pandemic made life more difficult, especially for forcibly displaced people on the margins who are often last in line for vaccines and formal assistance. JRS continued to respond creatively to Covid, from emergency food and supplies to improved sanitation, from blended online/in class education to Zoom trainings for staff and volunteers.

The wider 'we' was also damaged by situations old and new. The eleven-year war in Syria moved no closer to an end, and civil unrest of 2020 in the Tigray region of Ethiopia spilled into the new year. Among other conflicts, 2021 witnessed military takeover and oppression in Myanmar, and the return of the Taliban and the exodus of so many from Afghanistan.

In these areas and around the world, JRS was present and ready to accompany our forcibly displaced sisters and brothers. The following pages tell some of those stories, stories of re-weaving social fabric, of offering healing and safety in the midst of dislocation, of educating and training for new lives, new futures, of refugees finding their voices

to advocate for themselves and their communities.

These are not only stories of what JRS has done, they are also stories of the hope and resilience of those we accompany. JRS does not bring hope from the outside, but kindles and supports the hope already living in those we serve.

The statistics for 2021 point to the impact of our work: 57 countries, 999,518 people served, 80 million spent in programming and services. As humanitarian organizations go, JRS is on the small side of medium. With great gratitude, I salute the talent and resilience of our staff – often forcibly displaced women and men themselves – whose work is even more amazing than the numbers show. This work is only possible through and with you. **When united as one, an ever wider 'we' is always possible.**

2022 will bring other challenges; as I write this message, the situation in Ukraine is not resolved. JRS will continue to fulfill our mission with your assistance. We are grateful for your generous support, and thank you in advance for building that wider 'we' with JRS now and in the years to come.

With blessings of good health and deep hope,

Rev. Thomas H. Smolich SJ

Since May 2021, people displaced by the eruption of Mount Nyiragongo, Democratic Republic of Congo, have been living in extremely challenging conditions.



A STRONGER JRS CAN BETTER SERVE

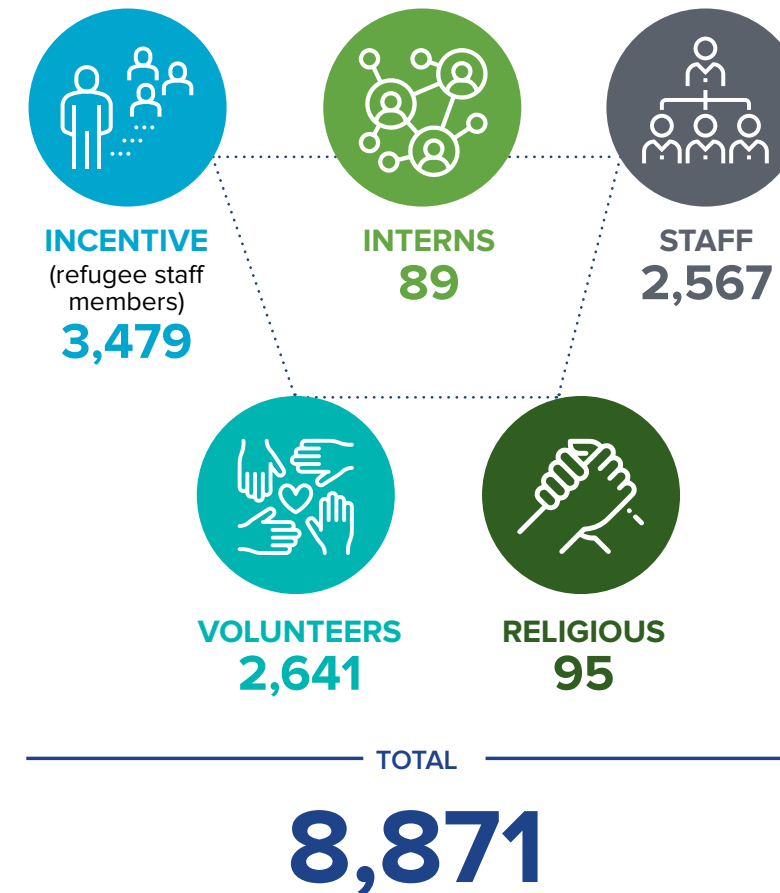
Without your pre-COVID investments in institutional strengthening, we could not have continued our mission during the worst of the pandemic and the further challenges we had to face in 2021.

Your technical investments will continue to improve knowledge and capacity throughout JRS and provide better financial and programmatic accountability. Your investments in people's lives are even more crucial - thank you.

Crisis Management requires a strategic and proactive approach to safety and security, as the diverse situations of 2021 showed.

- The February military coup in Myanmar brought significant chaos with brutal oppression. JRS and Jesuit mission staff received enhanced training, allowing them to operate safely as we mobilised global advocacy efforts.
- Responding effectively to the May volcanic eruption in Goma, Democratic Republic of Congo allowed staff to relocate quickly, set up emergency activities, and receive the many that fled.
- JRS brought a robust and collaborative approach to the fall of Afghanistan to the Taliban in August. This enabled us to operate beyond expectations to help our staff stay safe and relocate locally and internationally. (See full story on page 8.)

JRS Staff*



* Updated numbers from 53 countries, data from 2019 from four countries.

“I used Konterra when I was working on an emergency response, and I found their services to be very helpful and practical. Our work can be very stressful and even as a mental health professional, I value additional resources and perspective to make sure I’m prioritizing my own wellbeing. Because, as the metaphor goes, you must put your own oxygen mask on before you help someone else with theirs.”

— JRS staff member

Staff Care continued to be a foundation of our organisational development in 2021:

- Our SafeCall reporting hotline is now available throughout JRS.
- We developed a JRS Guidance Note on Staff Crisis Response to improve our service and keep staff safe in crises.
- Our Employee Resilience Programme now offers over 2,100 JRS staff and their families access to psychosocial support and other benefits through KonTerra, an international crisis counseling group that works with international organisations.

Thank you for helping us build our technical and people-centred global infrastructure. With your support, we will continue to strengthen JRS and respond to the changing needs of forcibly displaced people.

LEARNING TO WALK ON WATER TO SAVE LIVES IN AFGHANISTAN

Thanks to your generosity and our very dedicated staff, JRS's comprehensive education and livelihoods programmes were turning points in the lives of Afghan children, women, and men in the last 16 years, allowing them to dream of a future in their country.

These dreams were shattered in August 2021, when the Taliban returned to power.

"The time and energy we invested in building our future seemed to disappear in a few moments," says Sharifa, a former JRS staff member.

As security deteriorated, safety of our staff became the priority. JRS suspended all programmes and promptly activated hibernation and relocation procedures while exploring evacuation options for those most at risk.

"The fear of the Taliban gripped our families for the work we had done with JRS. In these distressing moments, the thought of leaving our motherland and all that we built around us seemed the only option," shares Sharifa.

Most evacuation opportunities evaporated when all commercial flights were suspended. With only a few days left to act, the global advocacy efforts of the JRS family helped to secure flights and visas for those in immediate danger.

Entering Kabul airport soon became the main challenge. Our staff tried to get through the large crowds in front of the gates for days, constantly threatened by the Taliban. "Sometimes we got so close that the Taliban used their guns to intimidate us," recalls Farhad, a former JRS staff member. "The piercing sound of shooting was really fearful, especially for women and children."

"We accompanied our staff 24/7 providing reassurance, giving guidance on psychological first aid so that they could help their children," says Andrew Brown, JRS Security Advisor.

"We walked them through what we were doing to find solutions, keeping them as a cohesive team and rolling through the emotional highs and lows of trying to get them out."

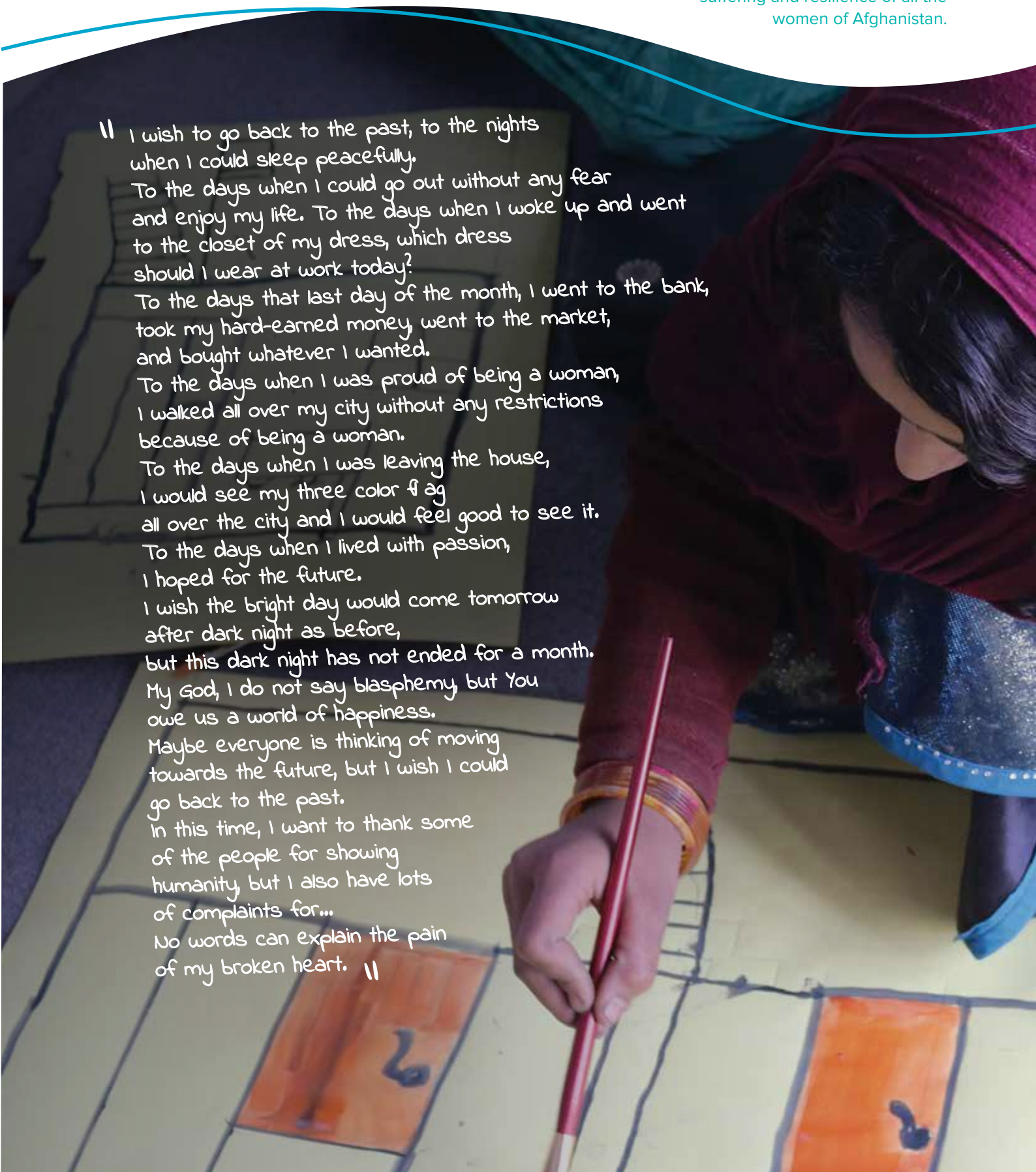
Staff were deflated, exhausted, petrified but resilient. No one lost hope in front of any failed attempt to get into the airport.

"I was on the verge of thinking that all was lost," says David Holdcroft SJ, officer in charge at the JRS International Office at that time. "Then I remembered a refugee telling me once: Father, when you work with us you need to learn to walk on water, like Jesus. You need to create something out of nothing. This quote inspired us all to persevere, and only a few hours later we were able to get many of our staff into the airport."

Thanks to you and our courageous partners, at the final hour, when hope seemed almost lost, JRS was able to ensure the evacuation of 95 staff and their family members: 65 arrived in Italy, 28 in the United States, and two are now in India.

"JRS continues to accompany us to help integrate in the new society and setting up our lives in a new world, since we arrived in Italy," says Sharifa. "Gratitude is at my heart to the JRS family."

A young refugee from Afghanistan shares the joys of her past, the sorrows of her present, and the uncertainty of her future – a testimony of the suffering and resilience of all the women of Afghanistan.



|| I wish to go back to the past, to the nights when I could sleep peacefully. To the days when I could go out without any fear and enjoy my life. To the days when I woke up and went to the closet of my dress, which dress should I wear at work today? To the days that last day of the month, I went to the bank, took my hard-earned money, went to the market, and bought whatever I wanted. To the days when I was proud of being a woman, I walked all over my city without any restrictions because of being a woman. To the days when I was leaving the house, I would see my three color flag all over the city and I would feel good to see it. To the days when I lived with passion, I hoped for the future. I wish the bright day would come tomorrow after dark night as before, but this dark night has not ended for a month. My God, I do not say blasphemy, but You owe us a world of happiness. Maybe everyone is thinking of moving towards the future, but I wish I could go back to the past. In this time, I want to thank some of the people for showing humanity, but I also have lots of complaints for... No words can explain the pain of my broken heart. ||

ACCOMPANYING FORCIBLY DISPLACED PEOPLE AROUND THE WORLD

999,518
people served in
57
countries

JRS Regional Offices and Regional Directors

JRS ASIA PACIFIC

Louie Bacomo
Bangkok, Thailand

JRS EASTERN AFRICA

André Atsu Agbogan
Nairobi, Kenya

JRS EUROPE

Alberto Ares SJ
Brussels, Belgium

JRS LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

Oscar Javier Calderón Barragán
Bogotá, Colombia

JRS SOUTH ASIA

Antony Samy Stephenraj SJ
New Delhi, India

JRS MIDDLE EAST AND NORTH AFRICA

Daniel Corrou SJ
Beirut, Lebanon

JRS NORTH AMERICA

Joan Rosenhauer
Washington DC, USA

JRS SOUTHERN AFRICA

Tim Smith
Johannesburg, South Africa

JRS WEST AFRICA AND GREAT LAKES

Eric Goeh-Akue SJ
Yaoundé, Cameroon

- Afghanistan
- Angola
- Australia
- Austria
- Bangladesh
- Belgium
- Bosnia and Herzegovina
- Burundi
- Cambodia
- Cameroon
- Canada
- Central African Republic
- Chad
- Colombia
- Croatia
- Democratic Republic of Congo
- Ecuador
- Ethiopia
- France
- Germany
- Greece
- Hungary
- India
- Indonesia
- Iraq
- Ireland
- Italy
- Jordan
- Kenya
- Kosovo
- Lebanon
- Luxembourg
- Malaysia
- Malawi
- Malta
- Mexico
- Myanmar
- Nigeria
- North Macedonia
- Philippines
- Poland
- Portugal
- Romania
- Serbia
- Singapore
- Slovenia
- South Africa
- South Sudan
- Switzerland
- Syria
- Tanzania
- Thailand
- Uganda
- United Kingdom
- United States of America
- Venezuela
- Zimbabwe

JRS students who graduated from the tertiary teacher-training programme at the Superior Normal School of Abéché, Chad.



YOUR IMPACT:

You made sure refugees and other forcibly displaced people were not left behind

Your generosity in 2021 allowed an ever wider 'we' to be possible by serving almost one million forcibly displaced people worldwide.

Together, we walked alongside our refugee sisters and brothers and implemented activities that will have a life-long impact on their lives. From promoting young refugees' economic integration in Cameroon to fostering Rohingya children's resilience through psychosocial support, we continued building a future where everyone has the chance to learn and heal. With your help, JRS created safe places for

vulnerable women, advocated for refugee rights at local and international levels, and fostered dialogue within communities all over the world.

In 2021, your support provided 999,518 people in 57 countries with the means to thrive.

32% of our total impact was made through educational activities, by promoting girls' access to secondary school and ensuring the inclusion of children with disabilities in all educational activities.

With your help, our 2,567 members of staff, 3,479 incentive staff, 2,641 volunteers, 95 religious, and 89 interns worked tirelessly to serve the most vulnerable and provide comprehensive and long-lasting interventions.

Thank you for accompanying our refugee sisters and brothers and working towards an ever wider 'we.'



55% of the people we served in 2021 were women and girls.

People served by programme*



324,813
Education



202,386
Emergency Assistance



108,541
Livelihoods



105,787
Mental Health and Psychosocial Support



97,154
Protection



81,941
Health Care



43,555
Reconciliation



24,737
Advocacy



10,604
Pastoral Care

TOTAL PEOPLE SERVED

999,518

* Actual numbers from 53 countries, estimates from four countries.



Elaf won a scholarship to continue her studies after attending the JRS Pathfinder programme in Amman, Jordan.

EDUCATION AND LIVELIHOODS

JRS improves access to education and livelihood opportunities for refugees and other forcibly displaced people. These programmes restore dignity, confidence, and hope, while promoting self-sufficiency, integration, and social cohesion.

You helped Elaf fulfill her dream of continuing higher education

Like many other Iraqi refugees in Jordan, Elaf struggled to find opportunities to continue her studies. Yet, the 23-year-old student never gave up on her dream of higher education. To increase her chances of entering university, Elaf regularly frequented the JRS Pathfinder Education and Community Centre in Amman. JRS Pathfinder links higher education opportunities and professional training with employment and business pathways. "I took so many activities at JRS, including English courses, and recently I attended a women's empowerment workshop. It helped me so much, it improved my English, my personality, and it also helped me make new friends," Elaf recounts.

Elaf always wanted to attend university, but as a refugee, it was not easy to find a scholarship and her family could not sustain the costs of higher education. Thanks to the skills she developed through JRS Pathfinder, in 2021 Elaf secured a sponsorship to resettle and complete her higher education with the Student Refugee Programme offered by World University Service of Canada (WUSC). As she will soon embark on this exciting new chapter of her life, she confesses: "I hope one day I will be a role model in women's rights, especially among refugees."

Thanks to your support, Elaf is able to follow her dreams and continue advocating for refugee women: "I wish for refugees that they can find peace, I wish their kids can have a good education. And I wish that women will have more confidence in themselves, I wish they find a good life, a good opportunity. And I wish for peace... that is what we all wish for."

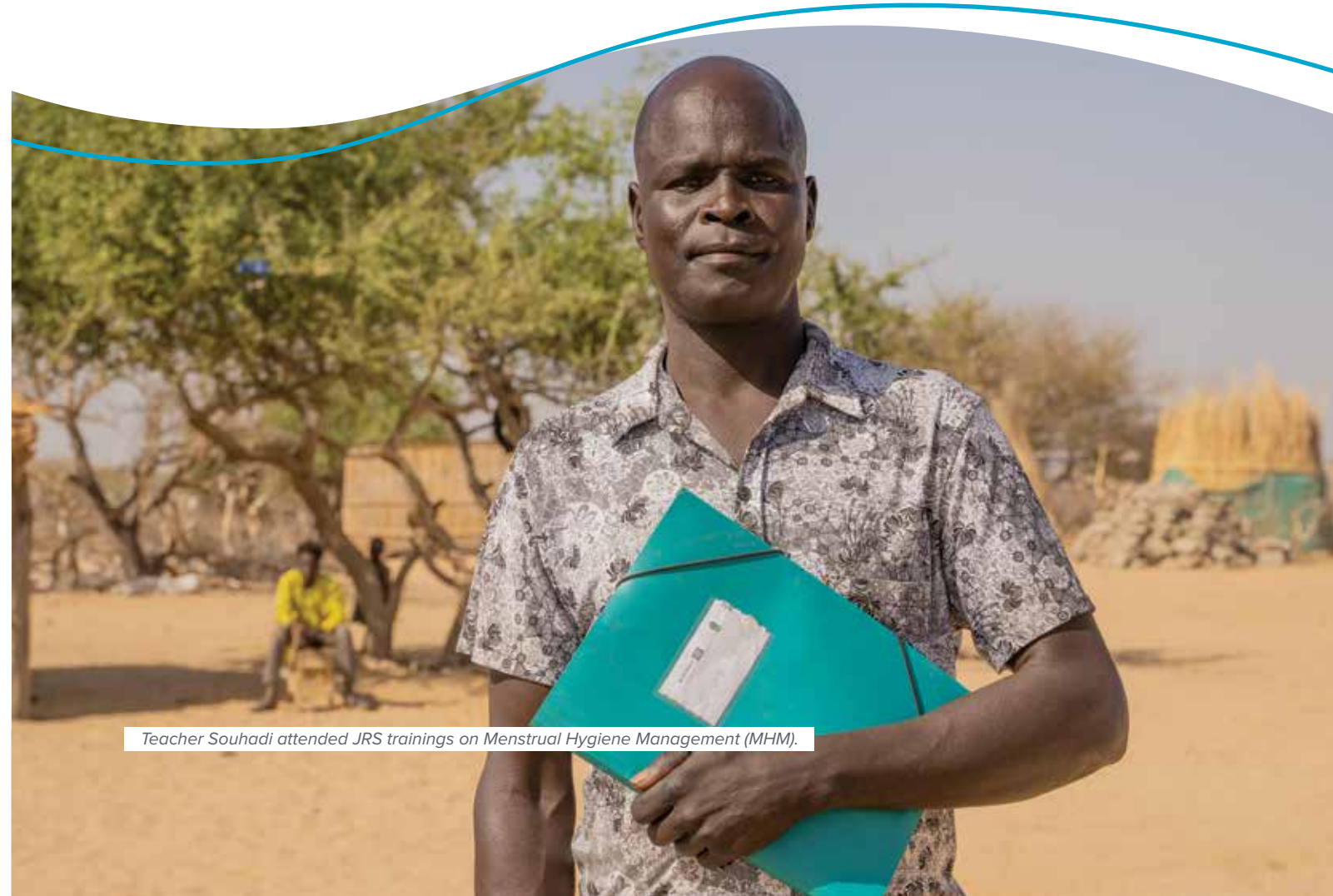
You helped teacher Souhadi promote inclusion in schools and communities

In 2021, JRS continued distributing Menstrual Hygiene Management (MHM) kits and raising awareness about girls' access to education in Chad. MHM is vital to promote gender-responsive education, as many girls skip school during their periods because they lack the necessary supplies, facilities, and awareness.

Souhadi is one of six teachers at Malmairi school in western Chad, where more than half of the 600 students are girls. After attending a JRS training on MHM, he now feels prepared to support his female students and their families. "We learned to find the correct words to reassure girls on what is happening to them. There are things we don't know, but we now feel more prepared to support girls during their periods."

Thanks to your help, he now has the skills and knowledge to be an active advocate for girls' education. "Some evenings, we go further than 5km from Malmairi to inform people [about MHM] in the surrounding villages. There has been a slight change. We also tell the community that if their children are well educated, they will also become teachers, which will be of added value to the community."

You have made the empowerment of Souhadi and other teachers possible so that every refugee has the chance to learn and grow.



Teacher Souhadi attended JRS trainings on Menstrual Hygiene Management (MHM).

SPOTLIGHT

Gender-Responsive Education in Uganda

COVID-19 related school closures deepened and exposed pre-existing barriers to secondary education, especially in the West Nile Region of Uganda where schools were closed for nearly two years.

“It was very hard to study from home,” said Winnie, explaining how she fell behind in her studies. “The pandemic made my life miserable.”

Other girls described food shortages and staying home to take care of younger children. Many were forced to marry early, became pregnant, and will not return to school.

Providing a safe environment is paramount to increase girls’ access to secondary education and to help them nurture their performance. With your support, JRS constructed girls’ dormitories and other school facilities in refugee settlements in western Uganda to ensure girls can focus on their studies and not be burdened with domestic chores. The construction of a new science laboratory at Pagirinya Secondary School will also open up possibilities for girls and boys in science.

“Education is the best shield and the strongest weapon we will always have in hand to prosper.”

— Catherine, JRS student in Adjumani

In Uganda in 2021 JRS served **26,996** more students than the previous year. More than **50%** were women and girls.



Students during a break at Pagirinya Secondary School in Adjumani, Uganda.

SPOTLIGHT



Ekela proudly shows his entry for the drawing contest organised by JRS Tanzania.

Inclusive Education in Tanzania

Refugee children with disabilities are exceptionally vulnerable, as cultural prejudices often drive families and schools to exclude them.

In 2021, JRS assessed the educational needs of children with disabilities in Tanzanian refugee camps and discovered a lack of specialised equipment, trained teachers, and disability friendly spaces, as well as strong stigmatisation by other children. As part of JRS's programming to mitigate these issues and enhance access to quality education for everyone, we organised activities such as a drawing contest in which children came together to draw an inclusive society.

Showing their drawings at an International Day of People with Disability event, these children were beaming with pride.

Thanks to you, our journey with children like Ekela does not have to stop here. Together we can continue accompanying children with disabilities so that they can access all educational services.

“A child without an arm is playing with a child without a leg, if they get together and help each other, they can play. We should not discriminate them!”

— Ekela, showcasing his drawing skills.

SPOTLIGHT



Swahili literacy course at the JRS training centre in Mugunga, eastern Democratic Republic of Congo.

JRS Pathfinder in Cameroon

Cameroon's East Region is host to many refugees from Central African Republic. While cultural barriers are few, most youth are untrained and without work. To promote their economic integration, the JRS Pathfinder Programme offers them training in various skills and helps them find sustainable jobs or businesses. The programme is based in the city of Bertoua, where participants are provided with accommodation as well as professional training. Given that for many young people it is their first time far from family and their villages, we also offer them psychosocial support.

Thanks to you, in 2021 over 175 young refugees achieved economic integration. Among them, Sylviane attended a six-month hairdressing and business training. Soon after she started her own business and is now training others.

“At first, it was difficult to find customers and make money. After eight months, I was able to save a little money and to afford a piece of land in Cameroon. I dream of building my own home.”

—
Sylviane, JRS Pathfinder participant

RECONCILIATION

In a spirit of welcome and hospitality, our reconciliation work creates right relationships among the refugees we serve, between refugees and host communities, and among our teams around the world.

You helped build bridges within communities

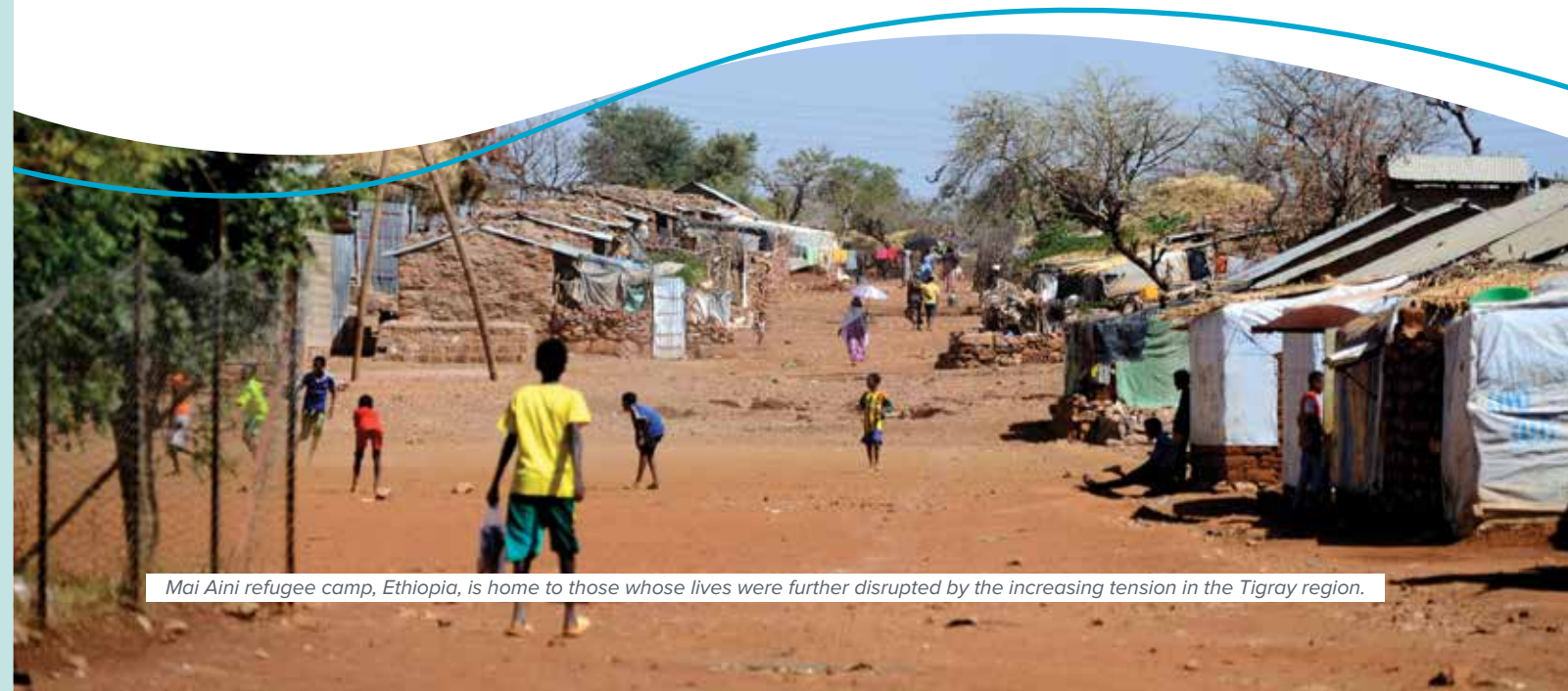
Our teams are affected by the same national, ethnic, and religious tensions often present in the contexts we work in. Acknowledgement of this reality can promote reconciliation through an intentional focus on relationships.

In Ethiopia, politics had long impacted team dynamics in the northern Tigray region, where staff came from diverse ethnic backgrounds to serve Eritrean refugees. The delicate harmony was further disrupted when the conflict erupted in November 2020 between the Federal Government of Ethiopia and the Tigray People's Liberation Front (TPLF). “News media and propaganda, identity politics, and history affected relationships. The team was split into two,” said Million Siraw, JRS Ethiopia Reconciliation Coordinator. “Those from outside Tigray feared that if something happened, their Tigrayan colleagues wouldn't protect them.”

The team was invited to a three-day meeting to explore how the conflict had impacted JRS. They looked at three levels: the personal, the experiences and emotions of each colleague; the interpersonal, the relationships within the team; and the institutional, JRS as a humanitarian organisation operating in a conflict zone.

“We created a safe, shared space with ground rules. Everyone shared how the conflict affected them personally,” says Million. “We thought our Tigrayan colleagues had not been affected because they lived there, but they were, very much so. And they tried to protect us from danger that might come to those of another ethnic identity.” The team realised that, while every individual had a unique experience of the conflict, they shared many emotions, especially fear and worry.

Thanks to reconciliation work, the team was reinvigorated, even though JRS projects in Tigray had to be suspended shortly afterwards. However, JRS continues to operate in Addis Ababa – where a new reconciliation project was launched – and in Dollo Ado, southern Ethiopia.



Mai Aini refugee camp, Ethiopia, is home to those whose lives were further disrupted by the increasing tension in the Tigray region.

Reconciliation with the displaced in Myanmar

In the states of Kayah and Kachin, JRS teams heroically persevered in supporting those displaced by the violence that has gripped the country since the coup in February 2021.

Many team members were themselves displaced and living in extreme insecurity. Yet, JRS managed to distribute emergency aid and offer psychosocial support in Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) sites, working in coordination with the church, local partners, and community leaders.

JRS teams also organised community teacher and psychological first aid trainings, as well as community-building activities in fragile communities.

These activities arose from a conviction that reconciliation starts from oneself, and that inner transformation remains possible even in an *unchangeable situation*.

“Reconciliation may happen at different levels. We cannot do things outside our control. Focusing on self-care, knowing and managing my emotions, how I should respond to incidents, are helping me a lot in my work and in dealing with others.”

—
Rosalyn, JRS Myanmar Country Director

Almost 51,000 people received emergency assistance in Myanmar.



In Myanmar, JRS organises community-building activities such as football matches.



During the pandemic, refugees and host communities in Cameroon listened to JRS social cohesion programmes on the radio.

JRS Reconciliation Principles

In 2021, major steps were taken to finalise a system of monitoring and evaluation centred around these principles and to ensure complementarity with JRS programming. Each principle now has a set of criteria to determine what it ‘looks like’ in practice as well as a rubric to measure progress in implementation.

Right relationships

INVITE AND ENABLE PARTICIPATION of JRS teams as well as refugee and host communities by helping to build confidence and capacity and by creating spaces where all can have a say.

ACCOMPANY REFUGEES ON THEIR FAITH JOURNEY and draw on their faith as a source of meaning, resilience, motivation, and values.

WORK FOR JUSTICE THAT RESTORES RELATIONSHIPS and prevents recurrence of injustice.

PRIORITISE THE VALUE OF SHARED HUMANITY by working towards deeper understanding and appreciation of both what we have in common and what makes us different.



JRS is present at the US-Mexico border accompanying refugees and providing key mental health and psychosocial support.

MENTAL HEALTH AND PSYCHOSOCIAL SUPPORT

JRS's holistic approach prioritises psychosocial as well as physical needs. It allows refugees and other forcibly displaced people to regain strength, build confidence, and focus on their growth and future.

You made the healing journey of Sofia and Ronald possible

Sofia and Ronald left Haiti in 2020 after experiencing violence. "It was difficult for us to leave our country. We had work there. Ronald was a teacher and I worked in a travel agency, but the unstable conditions and the violent things that happened to our family forced us to leave," explains Sofia. Journeying with their children, Ana and Ray, aged five and three, the family kept looking for a safe place to settle. First, they migrated to Panama, where they had their third daughter, Taylor. In Panama, the family faced difficulties trying to integrate and support themselves, so they decided to migrate again. In southern Mexico, JRS provided them with comprehensive care. "When we arrived, they welcomed us with open arms," remembers Ronald.

Thanks to your generosity, the whole family has benefitted from JRS's accompaniment. We ensured access to specialised health care for Sofia and Ray. "I have been able to receive the attention needed about my health concerns, and I thank JRS for its support," says Sofia. Ray was diagnosed with autism, for which he now receives therapy and medical treatment. Sofia joined the women's trust group, where she participates enthusiastically, and found emotional stability. At the same time, Ronald completed a vocational training, which has helped him to expand his employment opportunities, and Ana successfully integrated into the school system. "For us, children must study, it is the most important thing because that serves them for life," comments Sofia.

In December 2021, the family finally received complementary protection. Your love put into action will ensure they continue their healing journey.



Rohingya children playing in a Multi-Purpose Child and Adolescent Centre (MCAC) in Cox's Bazar, Bangladesh.

Safe spaces for Rohingya children in Bangladesh

In Cox's Bazar, together with Caritas, JRS established several Multi-Purpose Child and Adolescent Centres (MCAC) to provide safe spaces for Rohingya refugee children. At MCAC, a special educational approach is implemented to address the specific needs of children growing up in crisis-affected situations. Group activities, such as role play and storytelling, link pedagogical and psychosocial components to grow resilience and recovery from mental distress.

The resulting improvement in children's wellbeing is evident and is especially felt at home. "I am extremely happy to see the tremendous changes that have taken place in [my children]," comments a Rohingya parent of two boys aged 10 and 12.

“What I admire most about the MCAC activities is the psychosocial support that takes place for our children. They may learn many things from various NGOs, but the behavioural transformation and psychosocial wellbeing is not as accessible anywhere else.

— N.B., Rohingya parent of two boys

Improving MHPSS practices in the humanitarian sector

JRS's Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS) work relies on global partnerships.

Since 2019 we have been an active member of the UN Inter-Agency Standing Committee's MHPSS Reference Group. The Reference Group consists of more than 30 members and fosters a unique collaboration between NGOs, the UN, International Agencies, and academics, promoting best practices in MHPSS.

In 2021, JRS co-chaired the working group on MHPSS for men and boys in humanitarian settings with the International Organisation for Migration and War Child Holland, and hosted a webinar on this with over 190 attendees from around the world.

In 2021, JRS also launched an MHPSS Advisory Committee to guide the implementation of the global MHPSS strategy. The committee is comprised of academics, UN agency members, psychologists, current and former JRS staff, and people with lived experience of displacement.

57% of people served through JRS MHPSS services are women and girls.



Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS) activities include sports and physical exercise, like martial arts in South Sudan.



At the JRS Women Day Centre in Athens, Greece, refugee women participate in workshops to learn new skills and make new friends.

ADVOCACY

Our advocacy takes place at the local, national, and international levels, ensuring that refugees and other forcibly displaced people receive both legal and humane treatment.

You helped Leila and Arezu find a safe refuge

As one of the first countries of arrival into the European Union, Greece has received high numbers of refugees over the last years. Many families moved to Athens, where they face homelessness and hardship. Because women in displacement are disproportionately exposed to violence, discrimination, and abuse, services that specifically ensure their protection, dignity, and wellbeing are needed.

In 2021, thanks to you, the JRS Women Day Centre in Athens provided such a safe space for vulnerable women and their children. The Women Day Centre promotes autonomy and social integration by helping them build relationships, develop useful skills, and rebuild their lives.

One of the people served, Leila from Afghanistan, first approached the Centre to attend different workshops and now comes in frequently to meet with her friends. "I am comfortable here, but I am also learning new things, so I think this is better for my present and for my future. It's good to be with other women and feel free to speak. As a woman it makes me feel included."

Another regular presence is Arezu, also from Afghanistan, who goes to the Centre to use the shower and laundry service and to relax. "It is very important for me to have a place only for women. The Women Day Centre is a very good place to spend time. The social worker is really kind to me, everything is clean, so this place makes me feel at peace."

In 2021, over 1,700 women like Leila and Arezu found refuge at the Women Day Centre. This would not be possible without your support.

SPOTLIGHT

Global Advocacy Partnerships

Pathways to safety or long-term solutions for refugees continued to be limited, even though global humanitarian needs escalated in 2021. This growing protection gap, fueled by COVID-19, ongoing conflicts, climate change, and increasing inequality, led to more protracted displacement.

JRS's focus during 2021 has been on the review and implementation of the Global Compact on Refugees, a new Action Agenda on internal displacement, and on the expansion of pathways to safety.

Inspired by the Encyclical *Fratelli tutti*, JRS continues to serve the Vatican Migrants and Refugees Section, personally led by Pope Francis. Our advocacy is even more impactful as we add our voice to networks such as International Council of Voluntary Agencies (ICVA) at a global level, Interaction in the United States, European Council on Refugees and Exiles (ECRE) in Europe, No Lost Generation in the Middle East, the Asia Pacific Refugee Rights Network (APRRN) in Asia Pacific, and the National Inter-Agency Working Group on Separated and Unaccompanied Children in South Africa.

Together with other faith-based organisations JRS will continue to hold states accountable for violations of the right to protection, asylum, and of the rule of law.

Thank you for advocating with us so that refugee voices are heard where it matters.



In December 2021, Pierre Salembier SJ, Superior of the Jesuit Community in Athens, gave Pope Francis a collage of photos and drawings made by children during JRS activities.

In return, Pope Francis awarded JRS Greece a medal as a sign of gratitude for their tireless work.

Over **85,000** people reached through awareness-raising activities globally.

SPOTLIGHT



Pope Francis met Joseph Cassar SJ, JRS Iraq Country Director, and Michael Zammit SJ, Provincial of the Jesuit Near East Province, during his visit to Iraq in March 2021.

Ensuring Ezidis (Yazidis) are not forgotten

In February 2021, JRS Middle East and North Africa and JRS Iraq formed a coalition of representatives of Ezidi survivors, families, and other organisations for the campaign *Still in Captivity*, demanding action to find and support missing people abducted by ISIS.

This group discussed challenges, possible solutions, and key advocacy messages which JRS summarised into a multi-language advocacy statement. The statement was signed by 31 organisations and shared online, accompanied by a social media campaign in the lead up to the visit of Pope Francis to Iraq in March 2021. The statement was presented to senior politicians in Iraq and the Kurdish Region of Iraq, as well as to UN agencies, members of US Congress, and international organisations operating in the region.

With your support, we will continue to advocate for concrete action on the issue of missing Ezidi people in Iraq.

FINANCIAL SUMMARY



TOTAL INCOME

\$ 83.3 M

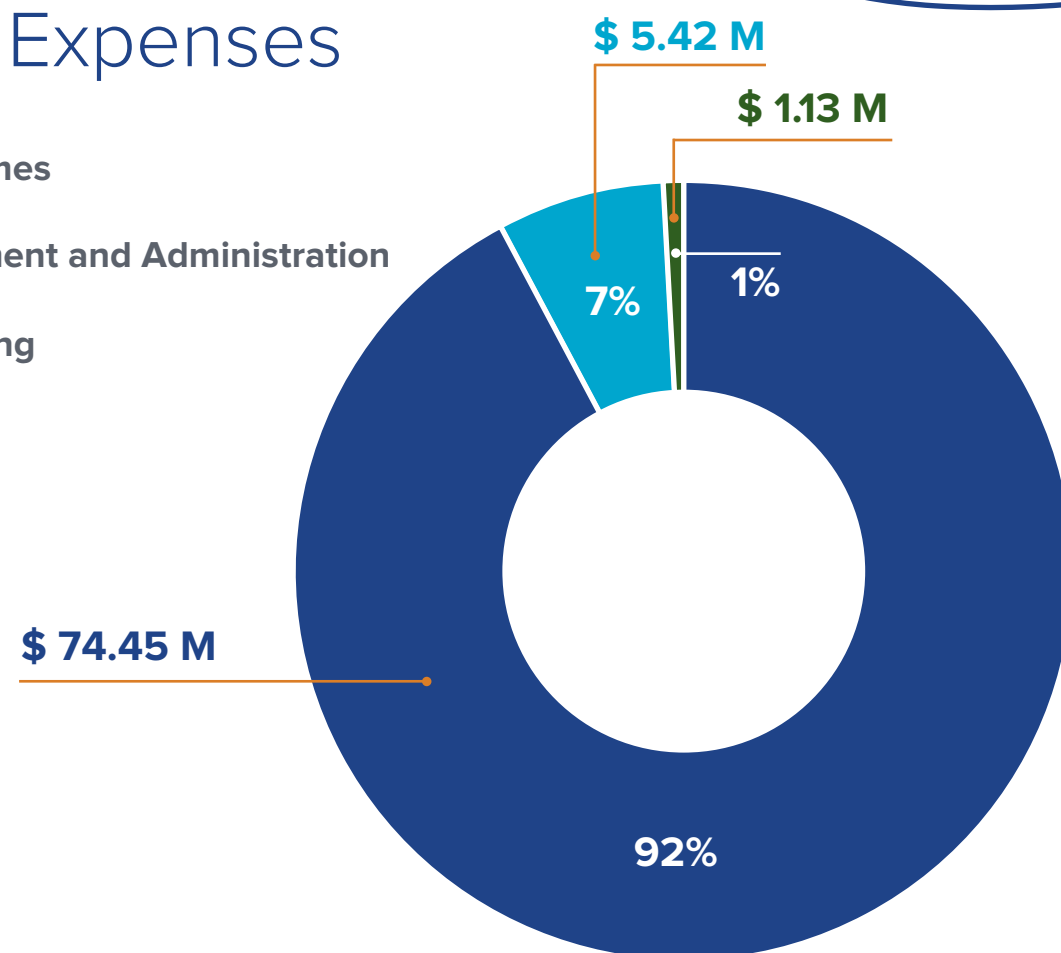


TOTAL EXPENSES

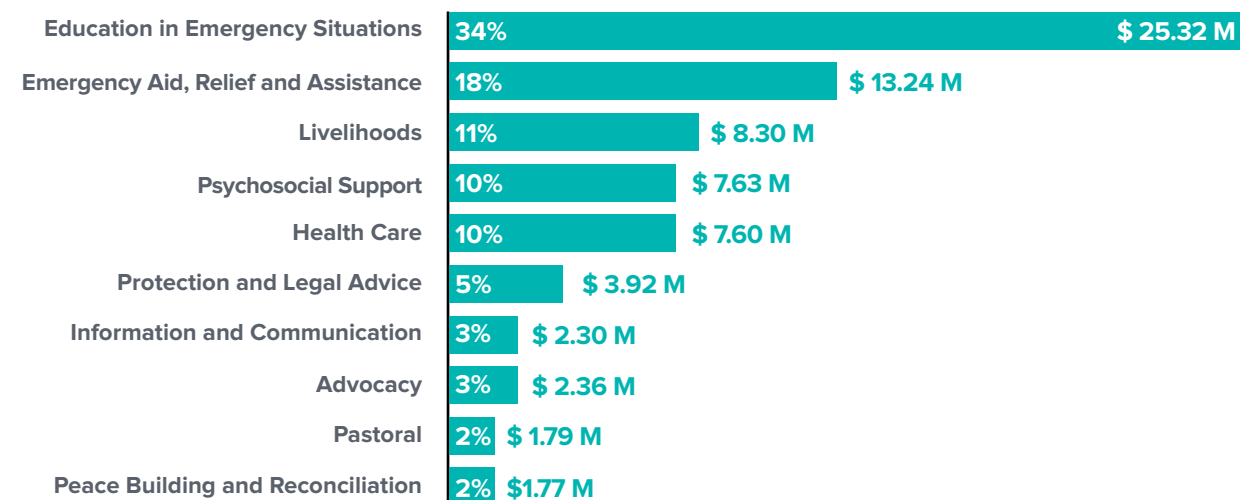
\$ 81 M

Global Expenses

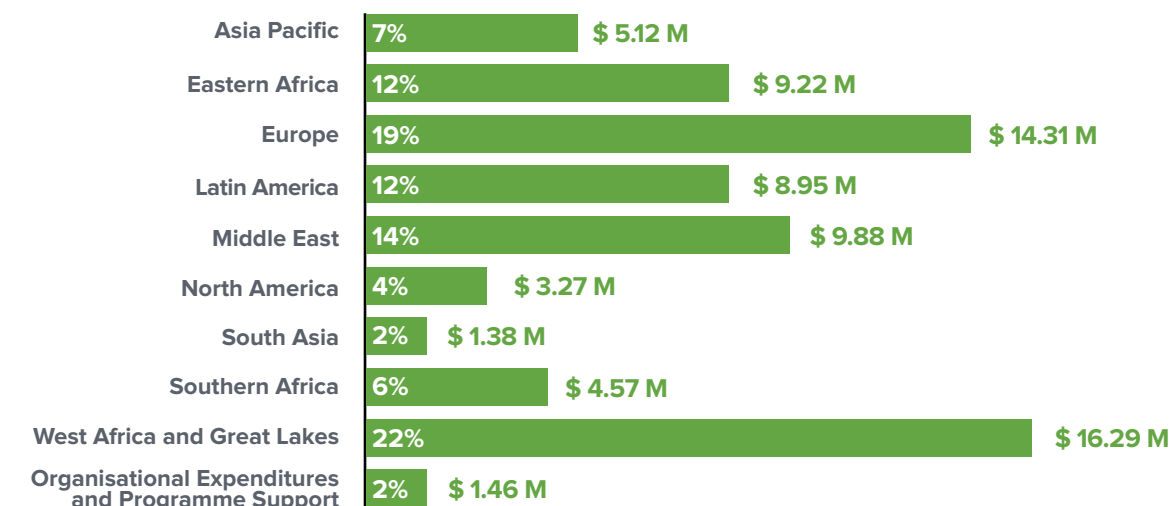
- Programmes
- Management and Administration
- Fundraising



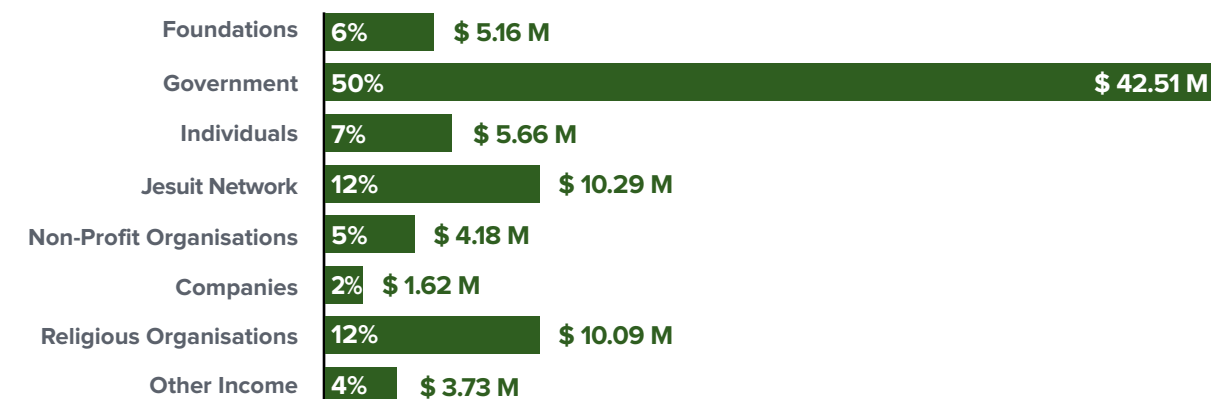
Expenses by programme



Expenses by JRS Regions



Source of income



Thank you for helping us provide new winter clothes to children seeking asylum in Kosovo.



TAKE ACTION

In 2021, amidst new and existing humanitarian crises and through a global pandemic, you helped JRS carry out its mission. Together we accompanied refugees and other forcibly displaced people through great hardship. You enabled us to stay when others left. Thank you for providing a loving hand to those we serve and to members of our staff struggling in war-torn countries like Afghanistan and Myanmar.

Your faith and love in action are the building blocks on which our refugee sisters and brothers can build a future full of hope. In 2021, you made a lasting difference in their life. Please consider making another gift to ensure they can continue to heal, learn, and determine their own future this year and the years to come.

When united as one, an ever wider 'we' is always possible.

DONATE VIA BANK TRANSFER

Bank Name: Banca Popolare di Sondrio

Account Name: JRS

Donations in EUR:

IBAN IT 86 Y 05696 03212 0000 03410 X05

SWIFT Code POSOIT22

Donations in USD:

IBAN IT 97 O 05696 03212 VARUS 0003410

SWIFT Code POSOIT22

DONATE ONLINE

Make a gift online at jrs.net/en/donate/

—

GET INFORMED

SIGN UP TO JRS NEWSLETTER:

jrs.net/en/newsletter/

—

THANK YOU TO OUR PARTNERS IN MISSION

“As a Congregation, we choose to collaborate with and support JRS because of the commitment and responsibility with which JRS staff carry out their mission among refugees.

When in 2012 the global challenge of new and protracted refugee situations came to my attention, I sensed that this was a new frontier, one which as a missionary I must approach. The events that unfolded from 2013 onward proved my intuition right. I turned to JRS because of Fr Arrupe and the experience that the organisation showed at all levels. I have been working with them since.

—
Sr Carmen Bando,

MISSIONARY SISTERS SERVANTS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

“Our journey with JRS has been humbling and soul nourishing. Throughout the years, we observed the power of St Ignatius's vision of accompaniment and how it drives JRS's service to refugees and displaced people.

When the Afghanistan tragedy of August 2021 happened, we were asked to host a JRS staff member who had fled Kabul. Our response was an unequivocal “yes” – it was a privilege to put the gospel into action. Living a refugee experience alongside him was transformational and it allowed us to grasp accompaniment on a fuller level. Sharing our home has been the most profound of all the things we have shared with JRS.

—
Rita and Martin Bennett,

LONG-TIME SUPPORTERS AND JRS AMBASSADORS



JOIN THE CONVERSATION AND SPEAK OUT!

 www.jrs.net

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 [jesuit-refugee-service](https://www.linkedin.com/company/jesuit-refugee-service)

—

Would you like to know more about how to support refugees or partner with JRS?

Please contact:

Madelaine Kuns,

JRS International Director of Communications

and Fundraising

madelaine.kuns@jrs.net

+39 06 6986 8616

—



THANK YOU

SCAN THE QR CODE TO DONATE



Jesuit Refugee Service
International Office
Borgo Santo Spirito 4
00193 Rome, Italy
www.jrs.net