



**2022**

ANNUAL REPORT

# Hope makes the difference



Staff, partners, donors, and volunteers: this is your 2022 Annual Report. It shows how together we engaged emergencies and long-standing crises. We provided education, livelihoods, psychosocial support, reconciliation, and advocacy while never losing sight of the value of accompaniment. Thank you for being part of our family and for dedicating your gifts to those we serve!



*Gracia, 6 years old, cannot walk. Her grandmother Marguerite takes care of her by selling beignets as an income-generating activity in Bambari, Central African Republic. JRS has supported her through microcredits and business training.*

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**COVER PHOTO**

JRS and the Jesuit community created a safe space for displaced women and children in L'viv, Ukraine.

(Sergi Camara/JRS-Entreculturas)

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**PHOTO CREDITS**

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# **Staff, partners, donors, and volunteers: this is your 2022 Annual Report.**

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# INTERNATIONAL DIRECTOR'S LETTER

## Hope expressed and lived

Dear Friends,

welcome to the 2022 Jesuit Refugee Service Annual Report, and thank you for being part of the JRS family.

One of the gifts of being JRS's International Director is seeing our work in 58 countries around the world. My 2022 visits included Dzaleka Camp, Malawi, where I spoke with young women involved in our Naweza program of education and empowerment; Cucuta, Colombia, where Venezuelan refugees and internally displaced Colombians have built a new community on a steep hill above the international border; and Bucharest, Romania where I spoke with Ukrainian refugees who are now part of the JRS team there.

Around the world, I found the spirit of hope. Hope is not an optimism that everything will be better tomorrow. It will not. Rather, hope is the horizon of those we serve and the foundation of the work we do, helping us together build the just world that Jesus proclaimed. In his 2022 message for World Day of Migrants and Refugees, Pope Francis spoke of migrants and refugees, displaced persons, and victims of trafficking in this way: "No one must be excluded...The Kingdom of God is to be built with them, for without them it would not be the Kingdom that God wants."

This year's Annual Report captures the spirit of JRS. We walk with forcibly displaced people in all kinds of situations: from the acute crises of the war in Ukraine and the Syrian earthquake, to ongoing violence in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), to forgotten refugees in India and Indonesia. We do not build roads or houses; we help people rebuild lives. Once JRS arrives, we stay. We accompany, educate, and train our forcibly displaced sisters and brothers so that they become full human beings building God's Kingdom. This is hope expressed and lived: you made this possible in 2022.

My eight-year mandate as JRS International Director will finish in September. It has been a wonderful run! My successor, Br Michael Schöpf SJ, brings a rich history of working with JRS in Africa and Europe. I hope you will have the chance to meet him.





*JRS international Director,  
Rev. Thomas H. Smolich SJ  
with Olena, a Ukrainian  
refugee in Romania*

As I write my final Annual Report introduction, I am filled with hope for JRS's future. The reality of forced displacement is not going away, so we must offer the best service possible. Over eight years, we have improved our work on the ground in many ways, and we now offer local programs the infrastructure and global support they need to transform lives. I am grateful to our staff members and to all of you who have helped us embrace the changes that have made JRS a truly global mission of the Society of Jesus. As you will see in the pages to come, hope makes the difference.

Thank you for helping us build a world where no one is excluded.

Rev. Thomas H. Smolich SJ  
JRS International Director



*Women and children crossed the border to Poland fleeing the conflict in Ukraine.*

## ACCOMPANYING REFUGEES IN EMERGENCIES AND LONG-STANDING CRISES

With millions of people forced to flee their homes, the conflict in Ukraine has become the largest displacement crisis in Europe since World War II. With your support, JRS has been at the forefront of the humanitarian response since the conflict began in February 2022, providing immediate support as well as planning longer-term interventions to accompany those displaced.

In the last year, thanks to your overwhelming generosity, JRS and partners were able to assist 56,000 displaced people in Ukraine and across Europe through emergency assistance, safe shelter, psychosocial support, education, and integration. The comprehensive and unified Jesuit response to the Ukrainian crisis was organised in the One Proposal: a structured plan led by JRS Europe to welcome, protect, promote and integrate displaced Ukrainians across Europe for the next three years.

As the conflict continues, evolving needs and mounting consequences threaten the future of displaced Ukrainians. With your continuous commitment, our response will help keep hope alive in the midst of the crisis. “For me, JRS initially meant a big organisation with small angels. Now, after spending so many months here, I realise that JRS is a family,” said one displaced woman hosted in L’viv.

While 2022 saw the world’s attention focused on the crisis in Ukraine, many displacement situations were overlooked or forgotten. Staying true to Fr. Arrupe’s call, JRS remained present even when media and political attention began to falter.

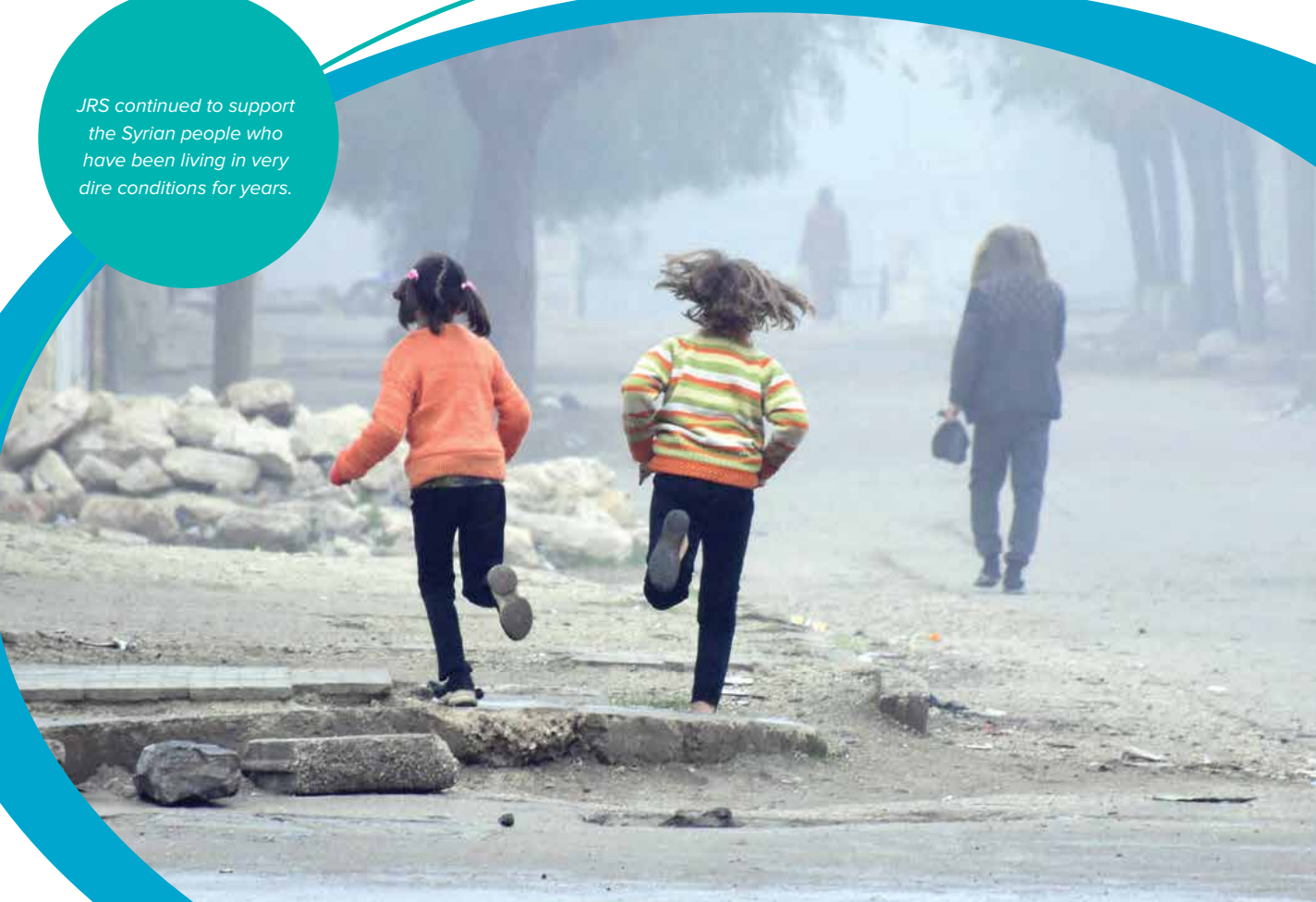
No longer drawing the world's attention, the crisis in Myanmar has worsened. Nonetheless, JRS continued to assist and advocate for Myanmar under the often-brutal oppression of the military junta who not only continued to target its own people with air raids but also kept children from seeking basic education.

In northeastern Democratic Republic of Congo, where renewed violence between armed groups has exacerbated a decades-old situation of extreme instability and lack of resources, your generosity meant that we could help to ensure better access to education for vulnerable displaced children – including those with disabilities.

In Syria and Colombia, two of the countries with the largest internally displaced populations in the world, together we accompanied those most in need through education and livelihoods, psychosocial support, community-building and reconciliation to help them build a peaceful future for their country. With your help, in other long-standing situations like Chad, South Sudan, and Kenya – where entire generations are born and raised in refugee camps – we were able to continue our education and livelihood projects so that displaced people have a better chance at achieving self-sufficiency, supporting their families, and promoting social cohesion.

None of this would have been possible without your generosity, the support of our partners in mission, and the commitment of JRS staff and volunteers around the world. Together, we accompanied, served, and advocated for the rights of forcibly displaced people amidst new and existing humanitarian crises – ensuring that no one was forgotten. Thank you for making this and much more possible.

*JRS continued to support the Syrian people who have been living in very dire conditions for years.*







*JRS staff during a home visit focused on child protection monitoring and awareness-raising in Kalambary camp, Chad.*

## SUPPORTING STAFF WELL-BEING

Your dedication to our staff allowed for the JRS Global Staff Care Programme to continue as an essential part of accomplishing JRS's mission to serve displaced people around the world in 2022.

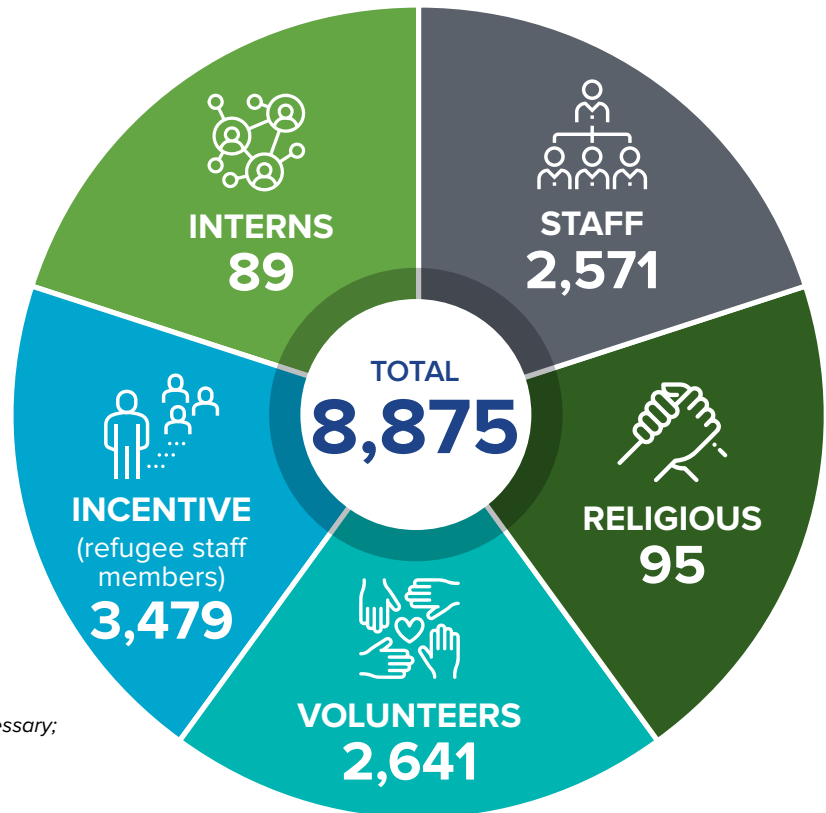
The war in Ukraine and long-standing crises like in the Democratic Republic of Congo and Ethiopia placed additional emotional strain, distress, and hardship on JRS employees. Staff living and working in these situations were able to benefit from JRS's partnership with KonTerra Group, which provided nearly 300 psychosocial support sessions to JRS staff worldwide in 2022.

Context-specific materials were also developed for each critical incident staff experienced during the year. When the war broke out in Ukraine, several resources were shared with the psychosocial support staff in Poland and Romania to help them welcome Ukrainian refugees, including How to Cope with an Insecure Environment, How to Talk to Children during Emergencies, and How to Recognize Signs of Distress and When to Seek Help.

“With your support and the KonTerra counsellors, we were able to provide mental health and psychosocial support to our staff. We connected staff to local community resources and set them up with sessions both in person and virtually,” says a member of the psychosocial support staff responding to the Ukraine crisis. “We hosted a team of psychologists with both our Ukrainian and Romanian teams to conduct group and individual sessions.”

Thank you for supporting the needs of our staff around the world as they devote their lives to those most in need.

## JRS Staff\*



\* Data from 2021 for 54 countries, revised as necessary; data from 2019 for four countries.

## KEEPING OUR STAFF SAFE AND SECURE

Thanks to your generosity, throughout 2022 we excelled at keeping staff safe as they accompanied, served, and advocated for displaced people throughout increasingly complex environments.

The conflict in Ukraine ignited many complex challenges including the threat from unconventional weapons (chemical, biological, nuclear) and the ever-present risk of cyber-attacks. Thanks to you and increased access to quality information and specialist support, we were able to anticipate key issues and carefully navigate our way in delivering our mission.

With the outbreak of the Ebola virus across east Africa in September 2022, JRS established an Ebola Response Team throughout the JRS Eastern Africa countries to ensure timely and informed decision-making. The creation of a Response Team improved information sharing, communication, and coordination within the region at a time of difficulty and ensured the safety and wellbeing of all staff, beneficiaries, and the communities we serve.

An amazing example of accompaniment has been to our former JRS Afghanistan staff and their families hiding in Pakistan awaiting onward movement to another country in order for them to commence a new life. With your generous support, we accompanied them throughout 2022, finally achieving the first movement of families to Canada in November.



# ACCOMPANYING FORCIBLY DISPLACED PEOPLE AROUND THE WORLD



**1,513,125**  
people served



in **58**  
countries

## JRS Regional Offices and Regional Directors

—

### JRS ASIA PACIFIC

Louie Bacomo  
Bangkok, Thailand

—

### JRS EASTERN AFRICA

André Atsu Agbogon  
Nairobi, Kenya

—

### JRS EUROPE

Alberto Ares SJ  
Brussels, Belgium

—

### JRS LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

Oscar Javier Calderón Barragán  
Bogotá, Colombia

—

### JRS SOUTH ASIA

Antonysamy 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

Gibson Munyoro SJ  
Johannesburg, South Africa

—

### JRS WEST AFRICA AND GREAT LAKES

Patrick Etamesor 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
- Malawi
- Malta

- Mexico
- Mozambique
- Myanmar
- Nigeria
- North Macedonia
- Philippines
- Poland
- Portugal
- Romania
- Serbia
- Singapore
- Slovenia
- South Africa

- South Sudan
- Switzerland
- Syria
- Tanzania
- Thailand
- Uganda
- Ukraine
- United Kingdom
- United States of America
- Venezuela
- Zimbabwe

# YOUR IMPACT

You helped refugees rebuild their lives and fostered hope for a better tomorrow

**Your generous support over the past year has had an amazing impact on the lives of so many affected by new and existing crises.**

Your commitment to walk with the most vulnerable created the right environment for us to provide mental health and psychosocial support, education and livelihoods, and - when possible - reconciliation.

Together, we have helped refugees rebuild their lives and foster hope for a better tomorrow, making a notable difference in the lives of 1,513,125 women, men and children in 58 countries.

With your help, our global family - staff members, incentives, volunteers, religious, and interns - have worked tirelessly to serve the most vulnerable and advocate for their rights.

These are not just numbers, but faces, names and stories, individuals we have accompanied together on their journeys of hope towards a better future.

**We could not have done it without you. Thank you for so lovingly taking part in our mission.**



*Louise, 14 years old, lost an arm due to a stray bullet during conflict. She has 9 brothers and sisters and her father is very involved in her education. They are part of JRS's cash management programme in Bambari, Central African Republic.*

*Madelaine Kuns, JRS International  
Director of Communications  
and Fundraising, with Benedict, a refugee  
from South Sudan living in Nairobi, Kenya.  
He was granted a JRS scholarship that supported  
his secondary school studies, and he is now giving  
back as a biology and chemistry teacher  
while finishing his university studies.*



## My letter to you: your support provides a path and a future for Munira, Hadja, Leila, L Phaung Shoo and many others

Imagine a peaceful world. Imagine a world that is safe for our children. A safe place to raise your family no matter where you are. Can you see it? Can you feel it?

Those who flee their home do so with faith and an unwavering sense of hope that there exists such a place. A place where they can raise their family and make their new home. Seeking out those basic needs you and I hold dear but may sometimes take for granted.

Did you know that when you make a gift in support of our global efforts, it is essentially multiplied by fifty-eight? An infrastructure gift may not feel satisfying when you make it – but it’s the greatest way to make a lasting impact. A systemic gift for the future of our mission – but also the most tangible way to be an actor for change.

There are well over 100 million refugees and other forcibly displaced people around the world, a number so continuously shifting that a solution is nowhere in sight. Through the support of our global mission – rooted in Ignatian values – you’re taking a stance. Taking charge of creating a future where refugees and IDPs have a voice and the possibility to find a place they can truly call “home”. A place where they can provide for their families and where they too can practice their faith, spirituality, or that which propels them forward on their journey.

Your support provides a path and future for Munira, Hadja, Leila, L Phaung Shoo and others like them. We can’t do it without you. Together, we can continue to accompany, serve and advocate.

I would like to know your story. Walking hand in hand with the staff of JRS: what is it that inspires you to be a part of our mission? I look forward to hearing from you and learning more about you as we continue this journey of a shared mission for a more peaceful world and the building of one human family.

With all my gratitude,

Madelaine Kuns  
International Director of Communications and Fundraising



# 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 unity.

## Dreams of peace

“I didn’t like studying when I was in 1st grade, but I think differently now. I now realise its importance.” Up until last year, 13-year-old Lesya\* went to school every day in her hometown in Ukraine. Online learning was not how she imagined ending 8<sup>th</sup> grade. Yet, as war raged in her country, all education was moved to the virtual classroom.

Lesya was able to follow her online classes from JRS’s safe house in L’viv, where she has sheltered with her family since the beginning of the conflict. Originally from the Donetsk region, Lesya was forced to abandon and flee her home with her mother and siblings. Lesya, however, is not alone; she and millions of others have been forcibly displaced by the conflict in Ukraine.

JRS and the Jesuit community created this safe space for women and children. Opened in 2008, the safe house was first used to welcome refugees arriving from Iran, Iraq, Somalia, Palestine, Afghanistan and other countries. Since December 2014, it has also hosted internally displaced people. Everyone seeking shelter is provided with accommodation, food, and legal and psychological assistance.

Amidst conflict and dramatic changes, school remained a constant in Lesya’s life. Being able to continue her education and keeping in touch with teachers and classmates made an immense difference at arguably one of the most difficult times of her life. After months of war, Lesya dreams of peace, “What I want most is to go back home.” Until this dream can become a reality, your generosity allows her to continue to have a safe space in L’viv and study for her future.

*\*Name changed for privacy and security.*



Lesya attending her online classes from JRS’s safe house in L’viv, Ukraine.





*Cooking teacher Munira with her students.*

## Cooking to foster hope

Ever since a cooking course began in 2022 at the JRS Tilak Nagar centre in Delhi, India, delicious aromas have filled the air. The first round of students, made up of sixteen Afghan refugees, successfully completed the course under the guidance of cooking teacher Munira.

Munira, an Afghan refugee herself, used to be a schoolteacher with a passion for cooking. Last year, she started a YouTube channel where she shared some of her cooking tips, so setting up a formal class for fellow refugees was an exciting next step.

“In the beginning, I noticed my students were familiar with the names of the dishes but did not know the recipes. I have since trained them and made them practice cooking Afghan, Turkish, Tajikistani, and Irani cuisines,” shares Munira proudly.

As the first class graduated with flying colours, Munira reflected on the importance of the course, especially for other refugee women: “Not only were they learning a new skill to have more job opportunities, the JRS classes also gave them opportunity to leave their houses, socialise, and share their worries.”

Having felt similar struggles, she knew what an impact activities like these can have on refugee women. “I think we reduced their homesickness to some extent too,” she adds.

Upon completion of the course, students received certificates which help them to find employment. Meanwhile, Munira is already thinking about the next class. She wants to broaden the curriculum to other types of cuisines to provide more opportunities for her students.

As the future of Afghanistan remains uncertain, thank you for giving Afghan refugees the space to heal, regain a sense of normality, and build new opportunities for their lives.

## You have turned dreams into reality in Kakuma refugee camp, Kenya

“If I ever go back home or resettle elsewhere, I know I have the skills to start my own business and be self-sufficient,” Yadar Hanur Komi says. In 2022, he attended the Social Entrepreneurship and Community Business Development courses offered by the JRS Pathfinder programme in Kakuma refugee camp, Kenya.

With the knowledge gained on how to run a business, he successfully opened a small retail shop in the camp, ensuring employment for himself and other fellow refugees. This programme you made possible has had an immense impact on his life, Yadar now wishes to share the knowledge acquired with more people.

JRS Pathfinder is implemented in five countries and has reached 3,472 students in 2021-2022. It offers courses in teaching, business, IT, management, logistics, and communications - as well as various vocational trainings, mentorship, job placement, and career guidance services - to help young refugees transition to professional life.

Thank you for giving shape to Yadar’s dream of independence, and for making this a reality for many other refugees.

“**I know I have the skills to start my own business and be self-sufficient.**”

—  
Yadar Hanur Komi, JRS Pathfinder participant



**3,472 STUDENTS PARTICIPATED IN THE JRS PATHFINDER PROGRAMME ACROSS 5 COUNTRIES IN 2021-2022**



*Yadar Hanur Komi sits in front of his retail shop in Kakuma refugee camp, Kenya.*

## Life-changing opportunities for urban refugees in Thailand

Skills acquired through JRS's digital marketing course in Bangkok, Thailand provided Ali with the chance to get an internship with a company – a job he is very passionate about.

He also joined the JRS Urban Education Project focused on social and emotional learning. Through this and thanks to your support, he was able to become one of the young leaders from different communities who came together to share knowledge and skills, aiding other refugees in understanding how to take care of their wellbeing. He led the group and organised basketball activities to promote connections among young refugees through sport.

“All these life-changing opportunities allowed me to live more independently and, at the same time, help other refugee friends. I believe that all the knowledge and skills I gained will be very useful for my future path”.

“All these life-changing opportunities allowed me to live more independently and help other refugee friends.

—  
Ali, JRS student in Bangkok



**OVER 30,000 PEOPLE  
SERVED IN THAILAND  
THROUGH OUR  
PROGRAMMES**





## Knowledge has no age for refugee women in Chad

In 2022, 100 girls and young women attended the JRS-Entreculturas literacy courses at Fourkouloum, an IDP site in the Lake Chad region. Most were out of school due to forced displacement compounded with common barriers, such as early marriage and pregnancy and socio-cultural traditions, that limit educational opportunities for these young women.

20-year-old Hadja stopped going to school when she and her family fled violence from Boko Haram. “I had to take care of my brothers and sisters and carry out the domestic work because we had lost our mother.” Hadja heard about the courses after teachers had gone door-to-door to encourage girls to enrol. Joining the literacy courses to learn French, Hadja attended classes in the afternoon after finishing her household chores. “I think it is very interesting to be in class with people of different ages. Knowledge has no age,” she says.

Thank you for your commitment to counter barriers to displaced girls’ access to education



**170,000 PEOPLE  
PARTICIPATED IN JRS  
EDUCATION PROGRAMMES  
IN CHAD, OF WHICH 61%  
WERE GIRLS AND WOMEN.**

*Hadja is back at school attending JRS literacy courses at Fourkouloum IDP site, Lake Chad.*

## Inclusive education for children with disabilities in the Democratic Republic of Congo

**With your support, we set up inclusive education projects to ensure that vulnerable displaced children can go to school.**

The Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) holds the largest internal displacement in all Africa, with 5.5 million IDPs (Internal Displacement Monitoring Center). This longstanding crisis, compounded with unaffordable public schools, a lack of qualified and trained teachers, and very poorly equipped infrastructure, makes access to education extremely difficult and one of DRC's greatest needs.

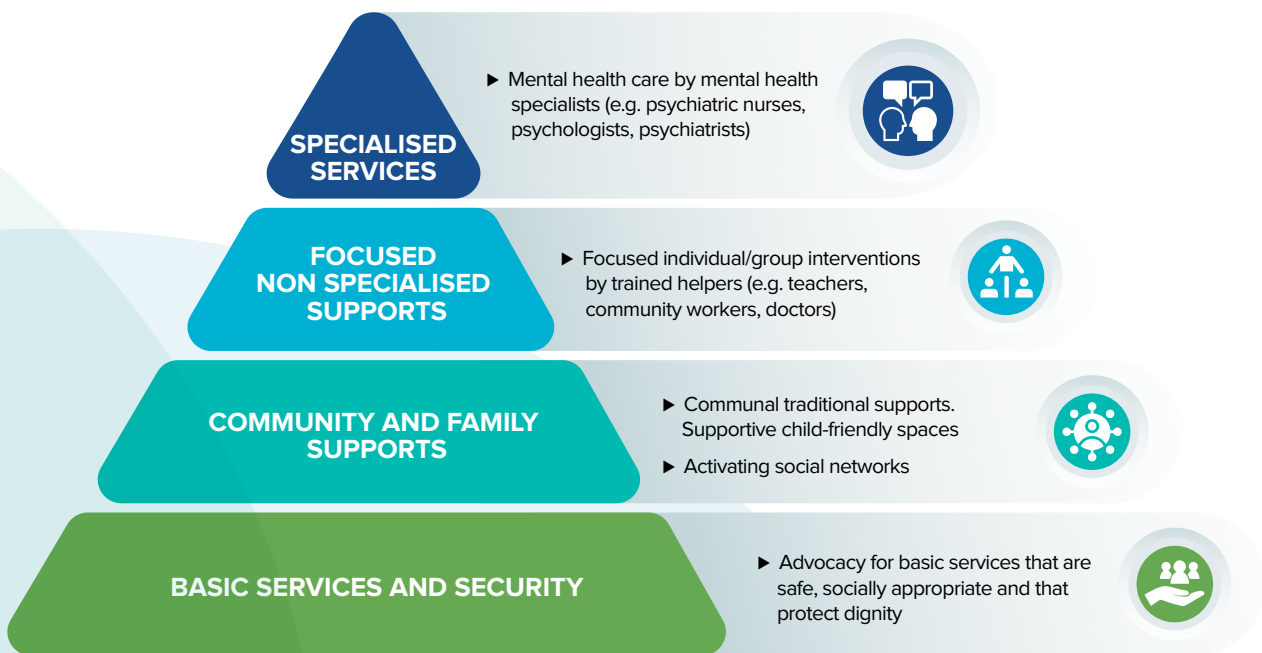
These problems force children with disabilities to be further marginalised amongst their peers, persistently facing cultural, social, economic, and political barriers when accessing quality education. With your support, JRS set up inclusive education projects in Masisi, Mweso, and Goma to ensure that vulnerable displaced children can go to school. These projects provided training to teachers and raising community awareness on cultural stigmas against people with disabilities.

Thanks to you, these projects served people with disabilities, teachers, and community leaders - signalling a strong commitment to successful inclusive education.



# MENTAL HEALTH AND PSYCHOSOCIAL SUPPORT

JRS's Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS) work focuses on the prevention of mental health problems. MHPSS helps refugees to cope with daily stressors, regain strength and independence, and rebuild confidence in their new hard reality of displacement. JRS's MHPSS activities are cross-cutting and multi-sectoral, recognising good mental health is key to those we serve's well-being and so integral to all programming.



*JRS's MHPSS interventions focus mostly on the first three layers of the Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC) MHPSS pyramid, focused on advocating for human rights and dignified access to basic needs, rebuilding communities, and providing focused individual and group support.*


## You provided a secure and caring environment for children in Lebanon

Leila and her family fled to Lebanon from Syria in 2013. “I was very little when we left, and all I can recall are the sounds of the fighting and my father’s visibly terrified face, watery eyes, and his obvious fear of losing us,” she says. “As we were forced to leave our home, I also recall my mother’s pale face and tears streaming down her cheeks.”

Upon arrival in Lebanon, Leila struggled to be admitted in public school as her official documents had been left behind. Eventually, Leila’s parents managed to enrol her into a JRS school in Mikseh. The school’s staff and teachers, who thanks to you received training in delivering MHPSS-informed education, helped Leila recognise and express her emotions in a healthy way. “They inspired me to express my emotions more at school. I am grateful that I discovered my talents and developed my skills here in a safe environment.”

Community-based psychosocial support activities, including sports, arts, and crafts, have helped her cultivate her talents. “I discovered my talent and passion for drawing and painting. I now use my feelings to draw on paper anytime I am either happy or upset.” Leila was praised for her artistic abilities by many staff at her school, including her art tutor, school principal, and the school social worker.

Providing children with educational support in a secure and caring environment supports their socio-emotional healing and wellbeing and allows them to develop their potential. Your support means better care and improved well-being of the people we serve possible. Thank you.



*Daily educational and recreational activities for children at JRS schools in Lebanon.*

## Accompanying forcibly displaced people at the USA-Mexico border

**“Hope can be found in very different circumstances. I see that with the people that I work with.**

—  
Maria Torres, JRS USA Director of Domestic Programmes

In 2022, you responded to the needs of refugees, asylum seekers and displaced persons at the US-Mexico border through JRS’s Caminar Contigo (Walking with You) binational programme, operated in collaboration by JRS offices in Ciudad Juarez, Mexico and El Paso, Texas.

Most migrants and refugees arrived at the border having journeyed months in flight from violence and instability in Central America. Upon arrival, they must wait significant amounts of time to have their cases heard. Their lives have already been split in two, with communities often destroyed and support networks in disarray - yet they have to endure further distress.

You were there to provide them with needed psychological first aid and further assistance. Thanks to you, JRS staff offered psychological evaluations, support groups, workshops, and recreational activities to reduce distress as well as identify and highlight their strengths and resilience.

*Assisting forcibly displaced people at the US-Mexico border.*



## You have built communities that help one another in Asia Pacific

In Indonesia and Thailand, you created safe spaces to improve the wellbeing and social connectedness of refugees through recreational activities in communities, such as art, sports, gardening and plant-based projects.

In Indonesia, the MHPSS staff also conducted psychoeducation about mental health and self-care, resulting in increased confidence, better coping with daily stress, and improved relationships between communities. "I am happy to see my student's progress from day to day. They feel happy and positive things happened," said Sara, an Afghani refugee who attended several sessions and did crochet and embroidery for refugee children.

In both countries, refugees want to continue participating in activities and to help others feel better and more confident. This success would not have been possible without you.

**“My students feel happy and positive things happened.**

— Sara, refugee from Afghanistan



**61% OF PEOPLE SUPPORTED BY OUR MHPSS STAFF IN INDONESIA AND THAILAND ARE WOMEN.**



## Your support made all the difference in Romania

“It is very helpful to be able to communicate my feelings with other people.

—  
An Ukrainian refugee in Romania



**OVER 3,000 UKRAINIAN REFUGEES WERE PROVIDED WITH PSYCHOSOCIAL SUPPORT IN ROMANIA.**

Your generosity provided refugees in Romania with basic needs as well as community-based MHPSS activities, including child friendly spaces and cultural activities for children, recreational activities for adults and elderly, and outings for youth.

As part of the response to the Ukraine crisis, JRS worked with Ukrainian psychologists - refugees themselves - to organise support groups on grief and loss, positive coping mechanisms and stress management. “It is very helpful to be able to communicate my feelings with other people,” shared a Ukrainian participant. “Knowing we have support is so important,” she added.

This multi-layered MHPSS approach led to a strengthened community connectedness, which has been shown to contribute strongly to the prevention of long-term mental health problems.



*Ukrainian children in Romania engaged in MHPSS activities*





*Abdi is a Somali refugee and clan leader in Dollo Ado, Ethiopia.*

## RECONCILIATION

In the spirit of welcoming and hospitality, our reconciliation work creates right relationships among the refugees we serve, among refugees and host communities, and among our teams around the world. This integrated programming promotes peace and fosters more united societies.

### Peace and community through reconciliation in Ethiopia

Thanks to you, a reconciliation project in Dollo Ado, Ethiopia has led to much closer collaboration between Somali community leaders from refugee and host communities to resolve conflicts before they spiral out of control. This is one of the achievements highlighted by an evaluation of the project that was started in 2019 in two refugee camps and their neighbouring communities.

“The first thing we benefited from JRS is that before, if there was a conflict inside my clan, I was the only one trying to solve it. Now, I call my friends from the host and refugee communities and we sit together to look for a possible solution,” said a clan leader.

Before, conflicts used to take a long time to be solved because of mistrust between the leaders who did not meet regularly. Delays sometimes led to revenge and bigger problems. Now, cases are handled swiftly. The evaluation also found that JRS intervention has bolstered the role of women’s associations in resolving disputes, especially around women’s rights and domestic matters.

Clan and religious leaders told the evaluator that JRS’ capacity-building and accompaniment enabled them to better discharge their duty to resolve conflicts in their communities. One said he gained “a solid grasp of international principles to complement our Islamic and traditional ideals.” Another takeaway was learning to identify underlying causes of conflict: “We shouldn’t rush to resolve disagreements but instead give both parties time to explain themselves and listen before reaching conclusions.”

Your support led to the improvement in the leaders’ quality of arbitration, evident in their own words and the testimony of others. Clan leaders now pay more attention to gender based violence (GBV), previously dismissed as a matter for NGOs. They refrain from automatically leaping to the defense of their clan in cases of wrongdoing, and they are less likely to accept bribes.

## JRS global reconciliation network meeting

More than 20 JRS staff - full-time reconciliation coordinators, programme officers and country directors - gathered in Nairobi in June 2022 for a four-day workshop on reconciliation.

Your commitment allowed participants to share their experiences of putting reconciliation into action, which is to “recreate right relationships” and promote peace among JRS teams and refugee and host communities. They revisited the concepts and tools of the global reconciliation programme, dialogued about non-violence as a viable response to these harms, and prioritized storytelling as a valued tool to build bridges between divided groups.

“Not many organisations work on reconciliation; that is something that JRS brings. Where we work there is a need for reconciliation, and this workshop gave us the tools to respond to such realities in the field,” noted a JRS participant.

“Where we work there is a need for reconciliation.”

—  
JRS participant in reconciliation workshop



**OVER 95,000 PEOPLE SUPPORTED WITH RECONCILIATION PROGRAMMES GLOBALLY.**



*Reconciliation participant during the session on cycles of victimisation and reconnection.*





*Intercultural event hosted in Amman by JRS*

## You created safe spaces for refugees

Many students from different backgrounds participated in social and cultural events organised by JRS in Jordan last year. These included cross-cultural and multilingual discussions, intercultural dialogue activities, Iftar (a community dinner to break the fast during Ramadan), and other moments of encounter.

JRS Jordan became a safe space and an enjoyable environment where members of refugee communities from Sudan, Yemen, Somalia, Syria, Eritrea, Iraq, and other countries came together along with locals to interact and connect through conversations, dance, games, and music.

Thank you for helping us foster social cohesion and interaction, build bridges of understanding and trust, and promote peace and hope.

**“When I heard the multiple languages people spoke, when participants with different religious affiliations embraced each other, encounter happened. It was there. Everybody felt it.**

—  
Liang, a participant of the first Festival of Encounter organised by JRS in Amman, Jordan in June 2022.

# ADVOCACY

JRS's Advocacy starts with promoting the rights and dignity of all our refugee sisters and brothers in need of protection. It takes place at the local, national, and international levels, ensuring that refugees and other forcibly displaced people receive both legal and human treatment. We amplify their voices so that better and just responses to situations of forced displacement can be achieved, countering xenophobia and indifference and promoting integration and social cohesion.

## You strengthened resilience in indigenous communities in Latin America

Indigenous people in Latin America have resisted threats to their survival for centuries. Systemic racism, 'otherness', and difficulties in preserving and reproducing their way of life and culture, as well as gaps within the legal system of protection, are just some of the challenges indigenous people face. Yet particularly in recent years, they have shown remarkable resilience, by becoming increasingly active in highlighting historical struggles for their own protection and survival.

Thanks to you, JRS and the Jesuit Migration Service ran the *Vidas y territorios en movimiento* (Lives and territories in movement) project aimed at documenting and strengthening the resilience of ten indigenous communities living in Colombia, Ecuador, and Peru.

The first phase focused on the research and analysis of key issues and challenges faced by the communities involved. This has been followed by several rounds of discussions and encounters among representatives of the various communities. They designed participatory implementation of new advocacy initiatives and programmes developed in collaboration with the communities themselves.

Your support equipped these communities with the necessary skills and knowledge to effectively advocate for their rights. "Thanks to the workshops, we learned our rights and benefits as indigenous people. We were able to understand our potential as well as identify our problems and needs," said Milton Julon, promoter of the project and general secretary of the Awajún Alto Pajakus community living in the Amazonas region, Peru. "A change in the mentality of the community has begun and we now have many plans to improve our future."



*Milton is the general secretary of the Awajún Alto Pajakus community, originally from the Amazon, Peru.*





*JRS staff and partners assisted people on the move at the Rijeka railway station in Croatia.*

## You advocated for access to asylum in Europe

**Thanks to you, JRS advocated to restore rights and dignity to men, women, and children looking for a better life in Europe.**



**ALMOST 11,000 PEOPLE HAVE RECEIVED PROTECTION AND LEGAL COUNSELLING ACROSS EUROPE**

In 2022, the situation at the European Union's eastern borders remained critical for forcibly displaced people. At the Polish border with Belarus, many asylum seekers in need of protection were illegally and violently pushed back and a new 186-km wall was built by Poland to further deter refugee crossings.

Many asylum seekers attempted the so-called 'Balkan route'. In Rijeka, Croatia you provided emergency assistance and accompaniment to those fleeing conflict, violence, and persecution who had stopped at the railway station there on their journeys to safety.

Thanks to you, JRS continued to advocate at all levels for fairer and more humane policies to restore rights and dignity to men, women, and children looking for a better life in Europe.

## Advocating for access to education in Myanmar

With over a million and a half internally displaced people and another million (UNHCR) forced to flee the country, the conflict in Myanmar continued to impact people's access to basic needs, including education. Schools were attacked and students were frequently forced to move from one place to the other, resulting in many not having access to continuous basic learning.

When 17-year-old L Phaung Shoo\* eventually arrived unaccompanied at an IDP camp, he was able to join classes hosted by JRS. He felt safe, secure, and less worried about the future. He realised that his dream to finish high school was a close reality. "I have a dream that someday I will become a medic or public health staff member. I will be able to help my community back home where there are so many internally displaced people," he says.

While he is pursuing his studies, too many of his peers are not. With your help, JRS will continue to fight for displaced children inside and outside Myanmar to have access to humanitarian assistance, including access to safe, inclusive, and quality education.

*\*Name changed for privacy and security.*

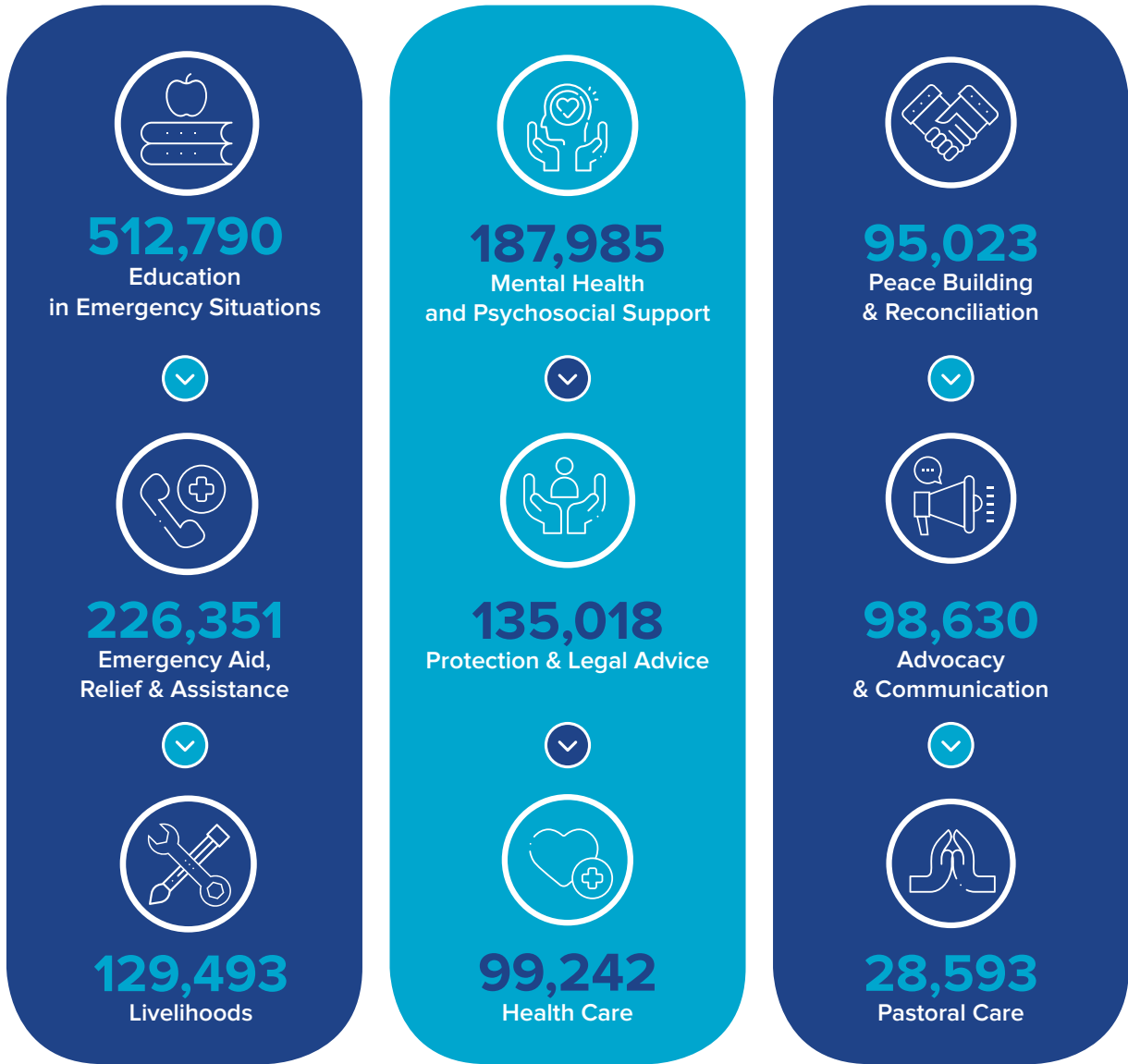
“I have a dream that I will be able to help my community back home.

—  
L Phaung Shoo, IDP student



L Phaung Shoo carrying out activities at his school.

# PEOPLE SERVED BY PROGRAMME\*



TOTAL PEOPLE SERVED  
**1,513,125**

# FINANCIAL SUMMARY



# \$ 94.19 M

TOTAL INCOME

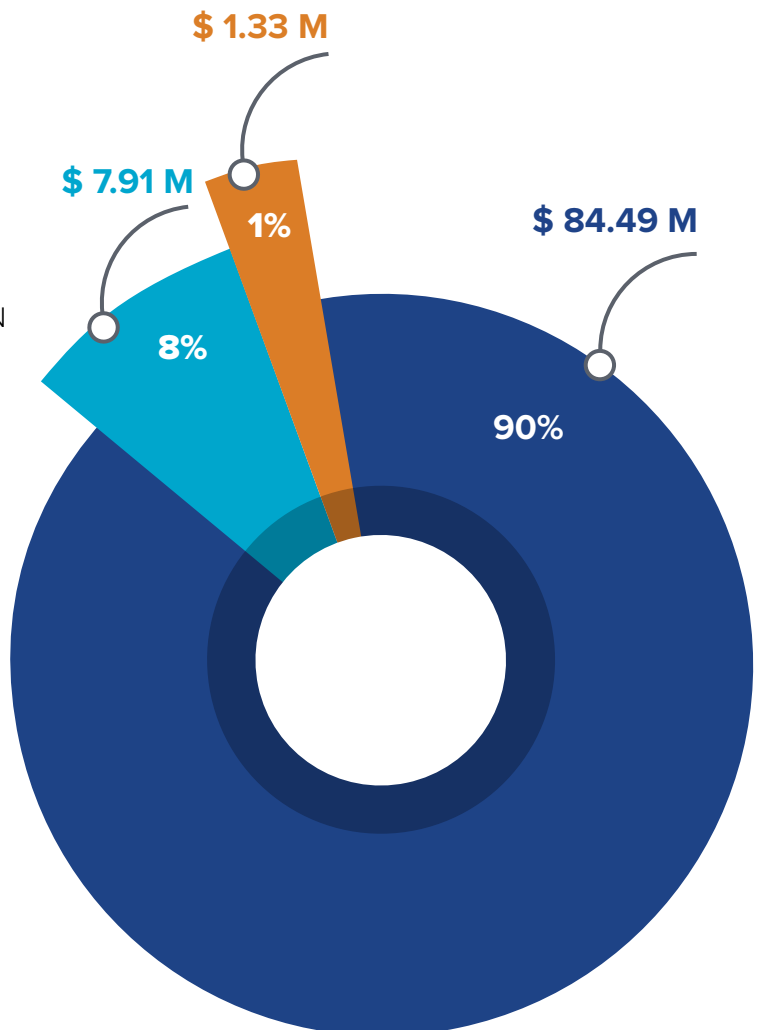


# \$ 93.73 M

TOTAL EXPENSES

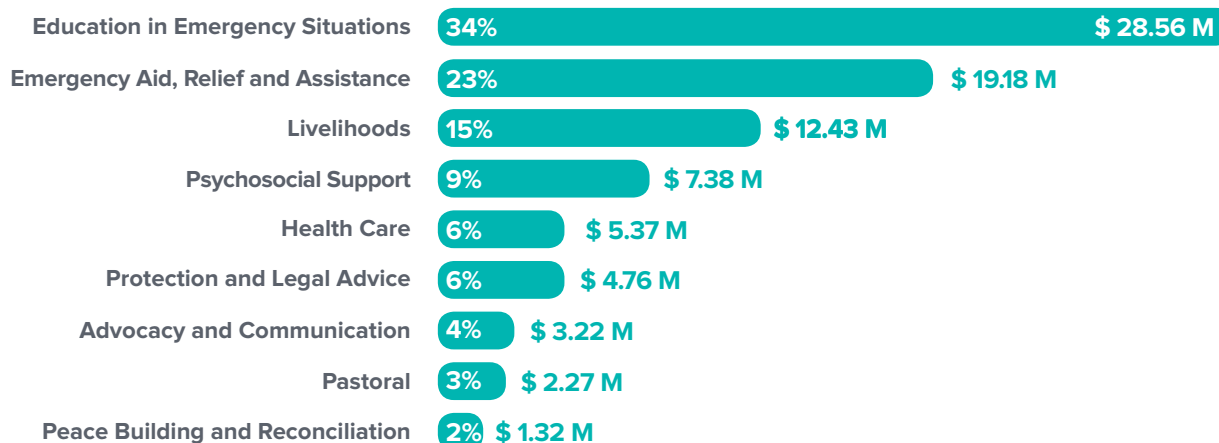
## Global Expenses

- PROGRAMMES
- MANAGEMENT AND ADMINISTRATION
- FUNDRAISING

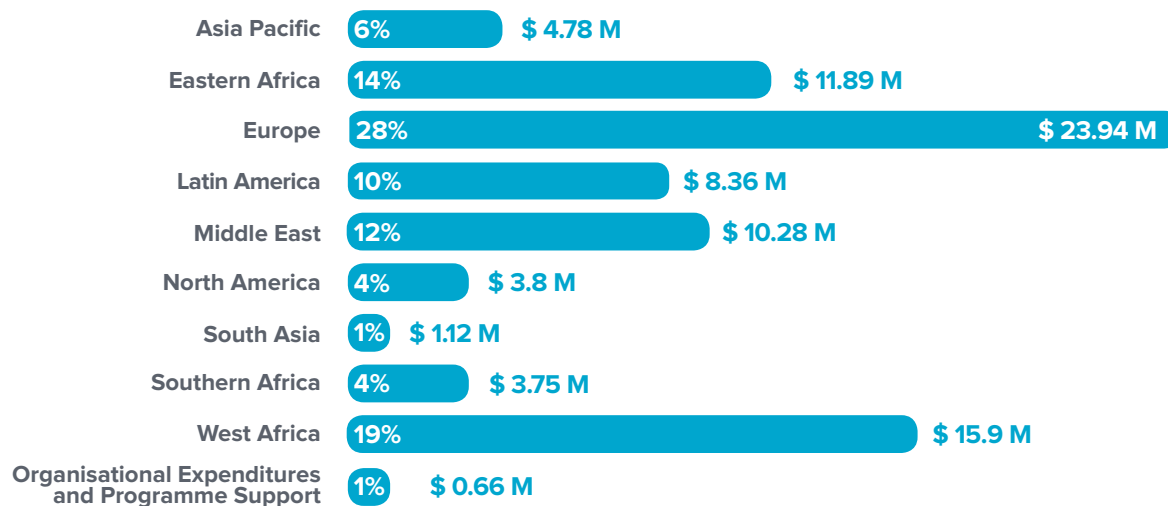




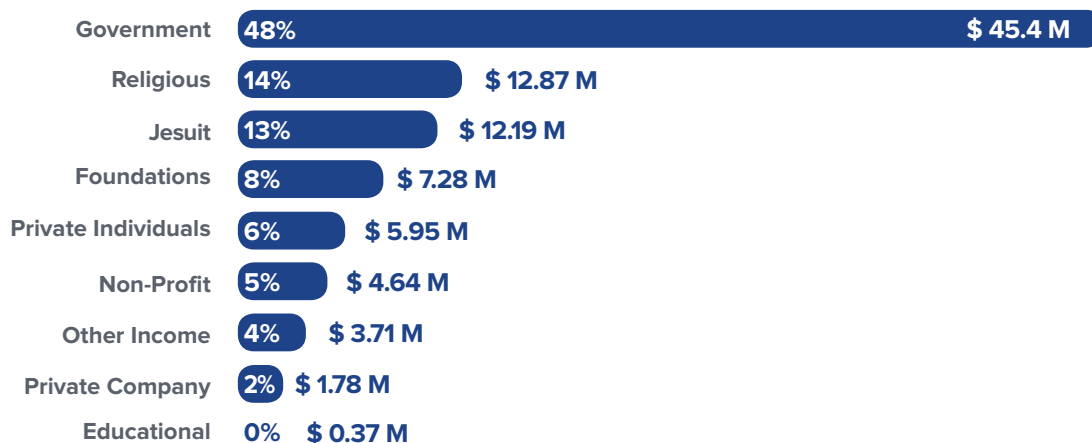
## EXPENSES BY PROGRAMME



## EXPENSES BY JRS REGIONS



## SOURCE OF INCOME



# TAKE ACTION

The stories you read in this Annual Report were possible because you were there.

You were there for displaced children in Ukraine and for disabled children born in the world's worst crises.

You were there for refugees living in the Kakuma refugee camp in Kenya and for refugee women in India.

You were there for refugees, asylum seekers and displaced people on the US-Mexico border.

Please continue to stand by their side to help build a world where no one is excluded.

## Peace Artisans

Increasing conflicts, natural disasters, and instability are weakening efforts toward achieving a peaceful future. When hope is hard to find, divisions provoke frustrations, social conflicts, and violence. In such unstable situations, refugees and forcibly displaced people are among those paying the highest price.

JRS is present in the most forgotten situations, to accompany forcibly displaced people and weave with them the fabric of a peaceful future where no one is excluded.

Will you journey with us to be a Peace Artisan?

**Discover more here: [jrs.net/take-action/campaigns](https://jrs.net/take-action/campaigns)**

### DONATE VIA BANK TRANSFER

Bank Name: Banca Popolare di Sondrio

Account Name: Jesuit Refugee Service

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

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### DONATE ONLINE

Make a gift online at [jrs.net/en/donate/](https://jrs.net/en/donate/)

—

### GET INFORMED

SIGN UP TO JRS NEWSLETTER:

[jrs.net/en/newsletter/](https://jrs.net/en/newsletter/)

—



*JRS Child Protection  
community awareness-raising  
activities in Kalambary camp,  
Chad.*

**JOIN THE CONVERSATION AND SPEAK OUT!**

-  [www.jrs.net](http://www.jrs.net)
-  [@JesuitRefugeeService](https://www.facebook.com/JesuitRefugeeService)
-  [@jesuitrefugeeservice](https://www.instagram.com/jesuitrefugeeservice)
-  [@JesuitRefugee](https://twitter.com/JesuitRefugee)
-  [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:  
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and Fundraising  
[madelaine.kuns@jrs.net](mailto:madelaine.kuns@jrs.net)  
+39 06 6986 8616



*Celebrating the new school facilities opened in Bangui, Central African Republic.*

# THANK YOU

SCAN THE QR CODE TO DONATE



**Jesuit Refugee Service**  
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00193 Rome, Italy  
[www.jrs.net](http://www.jrs.net)