

# ESC ANNUAL REPORT

**2022-23**

YEAR 3



EVERY **SECOND** COUNTS

# THANK YOU FOR MAKING EVERY SECOND COUNT

This page: Isacko Molu from Caritas Marsabit (first left), and CAFOD Executive Director Christine Allen (second right) discuss the effects of the drought with two members of the local community.

Cover page: Talaso, 22, and her baby Ali in Marsabit, northern Kenya.



Over the last year we have watched a number of emergencies on our television screens – floods in Pakistan, the devastating earthquakes in Türkiye/Syria and of course the continuing impact of the war in Ukraine. As a world we are probably more aware of how emergencies are becoming more severe, frequent and protracted. CAFOD, through its local partner experts and as part of the global Caritas family are able to respond quickly and effectively when those disasters strike.

Yet for CAFOD, the emergencies on the television are just the tip of the iceberg. Every day I get notifications and updates of emergency appeals through the Caritas global networks. These are emergencies that have a disastrous effect on many people, but they never get in the news. In 2022, an estimated 274 million people were in need of humanitarian support to meet their basic needs, and in 2023 this number has increased to an astonishing 339 million people. That is **1 in 23 people** around the world who will need emergency assistance to survive this year.

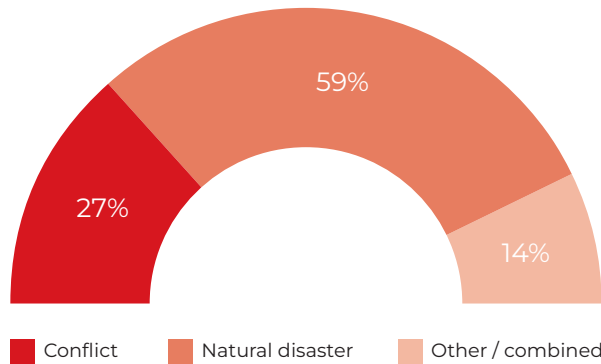
Our news may not cover the crises but the impact is no less devastating. As always, it is the poorest and most vulnerable who are the worst affected.

One of the biggest challenges is the so-called slow on-set emergencies – such as across East Africa now. A succession of five failed rains has led to a severe drought and a huge hunger crisis across the region. Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia and South Sudan are particularly affected. In that region we have supported local organisations to respond to communities with more than £2 million which helps provide food and water as well as trying to restore sustainable practices and boreholes.

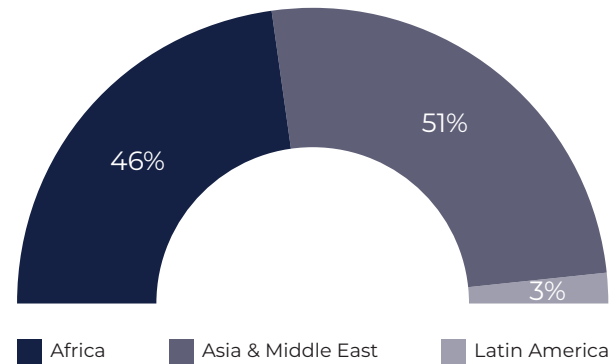
Being hit by crisis after crisis means that we need to address the needs at a household level as well as addressing the root causes of the issues.

## BREAKDOWN OF EXPENDITURE FUNDED BY ESC

by type of emergency



by region



This is something CAFOD and its partners are experts in. We take the time to know the communities we work with, fully understanding their needs and concerns so that we are best placed to offer support, while also campaigning to governments to fix the systems that make situations worse.

Thanks to your generous support for the *Every Second Counts Appeal* (ESC), we raised almost £1.6 million this year. This made it possible for us to scale up our response to emergencies in Ukraine, Pakistan, the Türkiye-Syria earthquake, as well as to respond to the crises that didn't make the news such as in Yemen, East Africa, Afghanistan and Haiti to name but a few.

**Thank you for reaching out with love to communities facing overwhelming crises and ensuring that these silent emergencies don't get forgotten.**

Of the money raised through ESC, 76 per cent has been allocated directly to our Emergencies Fund by way of grants to partners, enabling a fast and effective response to emergencies. In 2022/23 CAFOD supported more than 30 emergency responses through this fund.

The other 24 per cent has funded other activities, enabling us to scale up our response now and in the future. This includes CAFOD's own surge and security capacities, which are vital to maintain and scale up the response in situations that develop rapidly. For example, without these capacities, we wouldn't be able to reach communities near the frontlines in Ukraine or equip our partners to stay safe. Through this fund, you have also supported our efforts to build better and more equitable humanitarian alliances, and to leverage more institutional funding for our partners.

Reading the work in this report is both humbling and challenging. Thank you for your support and I hope you feel your gifts are being well used. Next time you see an emergency on the television, just remember that you are helping way beyond the tip of that iceberg.

Thank you for your ongoing support of this vital work.

*Cushnie Allen*

June 2023

“  
**In 2022 an estimated 274 million people were in need of humanitarian support to meet their basic needs and in 2023 it has increased to an astonishing 339 million people.**

# no one beyond reach

## GLOBAL REACH, LOCAL PRESENCE



**£1,599,086**



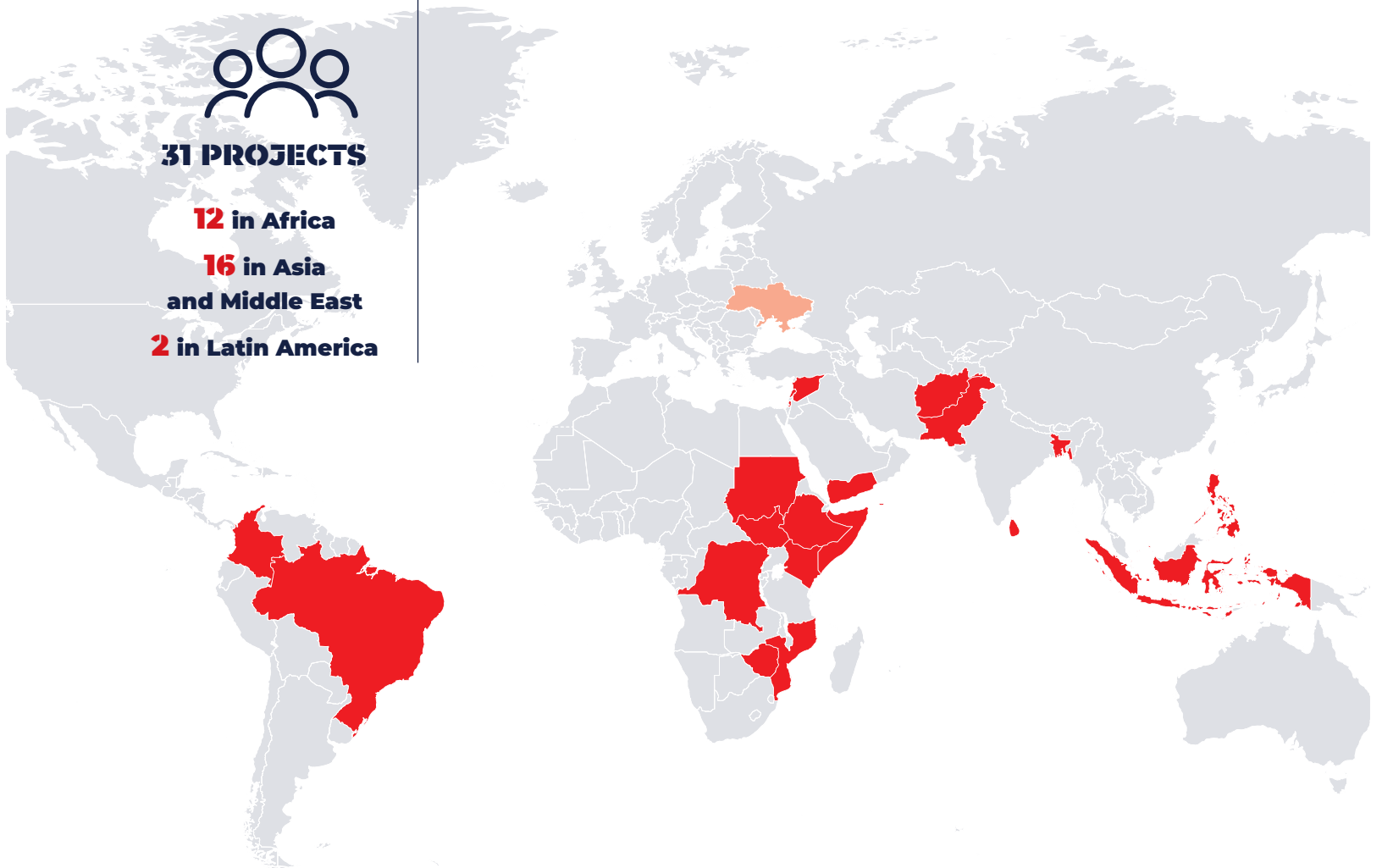
**31 PROJECTS**

**12 in Africa**

**16 in Asia  
and Middle East**

**2 in Latin America**

As part of Caritas, our Catholic aid network with a presence in 165 countries and territories, we are uniquely placed to support people in the most difficult places which others cannot access. Thanks to your generous support for *Every Second Counts* over the last year, we were able to support 31 projects in 21 countries.\*



### LATIN AMERICA

Brazil, Colombia

### AFRICA

Democratic Republic of Congo, Ethiopia, Kenya, Mozambique, Somalia, South Sudan, Sudan, Zimbabwe

### EUROPE

*In 2022/23, the response in Ukraine was funded through the ongoing CAFOD and Disasters Emergency Committee appeals. However, we utilised some ESC funds to ensure that our work there remains safe and viable.*

### ASIA & MIDDLE EAST

Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Indonesia, Lebanon, Pakistan, occupied Palestinian territories, Phillippines, Sri Lanka, Syria, Yemen

\*Due to confidentiality some countries are not disclosed.

# A YEAR OF EMERGENCY APPEALS

In 2022 and 2023 the Disasters Emergency Committee (DEC), of which CAFOD is a member, launched three emergency appeals as the scale of each reached catastrophic levels. The DEC is a group of 14 leading UK aid charities which collectively raises money to provide emergency aid to people caught up in crises around the world.



## UKRAINE WAR

In February 2022, Russia invaded Ukraine triggering a massive humanitarian crisis. Many lives were turned upside down and forever changed. The war left many people cold, hungry and homeless, through no fault of their own. We continue to work through our local partners in Ukraine and the surrounding countries, helping those fleeing the conflict to live with dignity.

As part of *Every Second Counts*, CAFOD responded when Caritas Ukraine reached out for help in December 2021. Then in March 2022 we scaled up our response alongside the DEC, which collectively raised over £400 million, of which CAFOD raised £3.7 million.

Civilians remain most at risk in areas under Russian occupation and along the frontlines, but Russian missile strikes have also destroyed large parts of Ukraine's critical infrastructure, including power and water supplies, leaving millions in need of basic services and comfort.

Our partners are distributing food, water, healthcare, shelter, clothing and counselling, doing all we can to save lives and help the people of Ukraine come to terms with what has happened. Thank you for being there at the very start of this emergency, enabling us to respond fast and efficiently.

This page: Olena and her five-year-old daughter are refugees from Kherson. They received cash to help them settle in Poland.





# PAKISTAN FLOODS

The image you see here (on the left) is not a lake. It is standing water still present from the floods six months on.

In August 2022 record monsoon rains and flash flooding hit Pakistan, effecting around 33 million people, killing at least 1,100 and displacing millions from their homes. At its worst, around **one third of the country was underwater**. Our partner, Community World Service Asia (CWSA) shared that approximately one million houses have been completely washed away, over 200 bridges and roads have collapsed, and around 800,000 livestock have perished.



In Sindh province alone, the worst-affected area, the floods killed more than 300 people. Families have been seeking out whatever dry patches of ground remain along the area's narrow streets to pitch temporary shelters. People in the area had hardly started recovering from the shock of losing two seasons' worth of crops to the 2020 monsoons, when their crops were again this year completely destroyed.

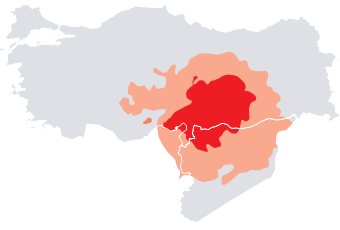
Thanks to donations from our supporters here in the UK, CAFOD has raised an incredible £1.2 million and has also received funding from the DEC to help with the response. So far, our partners have provided emergency medical assistance to 72,000 individuals, including deploying five mobile health units, and cash assistance to 2,600 families in the first stages of the emergency.

The remaining funding from our appeal will be used in 2023/24 to support recovery efforts as we assess the long-term needs of the communities affected, including providing access to clean water sources to tackle the increase in cases of waterborne diseases like malaria and dengue fever.

Thank you for supporting our partners and the affected communities who now face the difficult challenge of rebuilding their homes and livelihoods.

This page: A medical doctor raising awareness about malaria and other diseases that are putting the displaced communities at risk.





# TÜRKIYE-SYRIA EARTHQUAKE

In the early hours of Monday 6 February 2023, a powerful 7.8 magnitude earthquake struck near Türkiye's border with northern Syria with a second hitting shortly after.

We know that the earthquake killed more than 53,000 people and destroyed thousands of homes and buildings.

After the earthquake, over 150 aftershocks occurred with the largest of a 7.5 magnitude. Millions of people across Türkiye, Syria, Lebanon, Cyprus and Israel felt the earthquake.

**In the early stages of a disaster, it is vital to release life-saving funds immediately.** On day one of the crisis, £100k of funds previously raised from *Every Second Counts* were released to enable the initial stages of the relief effort, providing hygiene kits, emergency shelter and cash assistance to affected communities. We were in a race against time and thanks to your donations to ESC, we had funding ready and available to be released at a moment's notice.

In the following days the huge scale of this crisis became clear as the DEC launched an appeal, raising over £121 million of which CAFOD raised £2.3 million.

After 12 years of conflict within Syria, this earthquake has only proven to further exacerbate the issues communities have been facing, putting pressure on an already devastated healthcare system and weakened infrastructures.

But there is hope. Thanks to donations from our community of philanthropists here in the UK, our partners are able to respond to the existing conflict as well as the new threats posed by the earthquake. Thank you for reaching out with love when it is needed most.

This page: Our partners delivering mattresses to a temporary shelter facility in Northern Syria.



# THE UNDERREPORTED CRISIS IN EAST AFRICA





This page:  
Talaso, 22, lives in a village in Marsabit,  
northern Kenya. She has two sons –  
Abudoh, 3, and Ali, 2 months.

Communities in East Africa are doing all they can as they face a fifth consecutive season of drought, alongside food insecurity and conflict. They are in a state of emergency.

Conservative estimates suggest that there are 40 million people in East Africa facing acute food shortages and significant disruption to their livelihoods. The region's worst drought in four decades means that families need support now.

**Professor Karen Kilby of Durham University recently visited Marsabit in Kenya in her capacity as a CAFOD Trustee. She shared this about what she saw:**

“We were driven through an eerily parched landscape, punctuated by the carcasses of dead camels. A few looked to have collapsed within the last day, but most were long gone, their skeletons picked clean. We saw dead donkeys as well, and heard that nearly all the goats had perished.

For these pastoralists, their animals represent employment for the young people who do the herding, food in the form of milk and meat, cash when sold, and savings for when times are hard. When the animals die, their only source of livelihood is gone: there's nothing to eat, nothing to sell, nothing to do. People concluded their stories with a succinct account of where the situation left them – in anxiety, in shock, but with a hope that someone would see and take account of their situation. With great dignity and stoicism, they are waiting to be seen.

Though their situation was desperate, people spoke to us with a grace, generosity and eloquence I found extraordinary. We were thanked for coming all this way to be with them. We were thanked for the support that CAFOD had already offered through Caritas Marsabit, the humanitarian wing of the local diocese.

I've come to think that alongside “impulse buying” there is such a thing as “impulse giving”. I see the report of a tragedy, it moves me, I make a donation. That's great and the giving makes a real difference. It's harder to match our impulse giving, if we are people who can afford to give, with something more considered – to give to a humanitarian crisis that is not in the news, or give to the core funds of an agency you trust, which will be working on what is out of the news cycle as well as what is in it. But in the end that's the giving that makes the greatest difference.

The need, in East Africa and elsewhere, is great, and growing greater. I pray God gives us the grace to respond.”

“

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**Karen Kilby,  
CAFOD Trustee and  
the Bede Professor  
of Catholic Theology  
in the Department of  
Theology and Religion  
at Durham University.**

This page: Talaso inside her home with her youngest son, Ali.



“  
**When we see clouds, we say ‘God is reminding us it might rain.’ That’s how we normally look at things...**”

Talaso

Talaso and her husband live as pastoralists, relying on their livestock. They had around 50 goats and a few camels – enough to live comfortably. But the prolonged drought has killed almost all of their animals, and her husband has had to travel far from home to find pasture for their last two camels.

Talaso and her community were involved in a cash-for-work scheme through Caritas to renovate a water pan that had become filled with silt. “It was very difficult. But it was good because you’d go out there, you’d work, and you’d get something to bring to your children. You get money, and if you get that money you don’t need to rely on borrowing from other people.” – Talaso

Talaso dreams of sending her youngest son, Ali, to school, but she says that it will be difficult to afford the fees if the drought continues and she has to keep buying water. CAFOD and its partners continue to support families through the drought, with plans to build water tanks in remote locations, to drill a new borehole close to a more populated area, and supporting schools with nutritious food so students can stay in school.

“At times, when there are no clouds and the sky is clear, we think our situation will be like this for the rest of our life. But then another morning when we wake up and we see clouds, we say ‘God is reminding us it might rain.’ That’s how we normally look at things. **We have hope. We always have hope.**” – Talaso

Thanks to your support of *Every Second Counts*, we truly are there before, during and after emergencies and supporting people through silent crises that haven’t reached the news. As a part of CAFOD’s wider response to the crisis in East Africa, £57K of *Every Second Counts* funding has been released in the last year. We plan to continue this vital support in the coming months.

# BUILDING RESILIENCE AND EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS IN COLOMBIA



CAFOD has been working in Colombia for more than 50 years supporting local organisations with peacebuilding, protection of human rights defenders, sustainable livelihoods, protection of the Amazon and care for our Common Home. Alongside all this vital work, the Church plays a key role in Colombia as first responders during times of emergency.

Thanks to donations to ESC, CAFOD has been able to improve the emergency response capacity of our partners, enabling a timelier response when a crisis strikes.

Each community is unique and therefore needs a unique and holistic approach to preparing for emergencies. By holding workshops within the community, we open a dialogue and create efficient processes, providing the best chance of survival and recovery when an emergency hits.

**While we cannot know when an emergency will be, the faster we respond, the more lives can be saved**

During a crisis, there is little time for critical thinking and decision making, so emergency procedures and existing relationships are key to accessing help. The workshops held within the community helps identify those life-saving connections so that when in a race against time, all the key people know how to act.

Thank you for enabling our partners to be there for communities, reducing the impact of a disaster before it happens and making it easier for communities to rebuild and recover once the dust has settled.



## ONGOING CRISIS IN YEMEN

After eight years of war in Yemen, 23.4 million people were dependent on basic life-saving assistance in 2022. The collapse of a UN-brokered ceasefire in October 2022 only further complicated an already desperate situation.

Seventeen million people required food aid at the close of 2022, with 6.1 million people at emergency levels of food insecurity, where urgent action is required to save lives. Inadequate funding for the humanitarian response, worsened by UK Government aid cuts, meant that the World Food Programme had to reduce rations for 13 million Yemenis in June 2022.

CAFOD's partner on the ground is getting aid to those who need it most. This year £10K of ESC funding has been allocated to supporting Yemen's forgotten crisis, helping to pay for food for mothers and babies suffering from malnutrition, or animals for a family so they can produce their own food and income.

# DISTRIBUTION OF FUNDS BY COUNTRY

Region	Country	Partner	Emergency	Funds (£)
Africa	DRC	■ Solidarité Coopérative Agricole du Congo	Conflict	£50,000
		■ Province de l'Eglise Anglicane du Congo	Conflict	£25,000
		■ Caritas DRC	Conflict	£12,500
Africa	Ethiopia	■ Trócaire	Drought	£150,000
Africa	Kenya	■ Diocese of Marsabit	Drought	£62,853
Africa	Mozambique	■ Not disclosed	Conflict	£25,000
		■ CRS Mozambique	Cyclone	£20,000
Africa	Somalia	■ Trócaire	Drought	£50,000
Africa	South Sudan	■ Not disclosed	Conflict and drought	£21,409
		■ Not disclosed	Conflict and drought	£87,000
Africa	Sudan	■ Not disclosed	Conflict	£47,549
Africa	Zimbabwe	■ Caritas Hwange	Drought	£4,187
Asia & Middle East	Afghanistan	■ Not disclosed	Conflict	£13,447
Asia & Middle East	Bangladesh	■ Caritas Bangladesh	Tornado	£20,000
		■ Caritas Bangladesh	Conflict	£50,000
Asia & Middle East	Indonesia	■ Caritas Indonesia	Earthquake	£17,241
Asia & Middle East	Lebanon	■ Not disclosed	Conflict	£13,063
		■ Not disclosed	Conflict	£50,000
		■ Not disclosed	Conflict	£25,000

Region	Country	Partner	Emergency	Funds (£)
Asia & Middle East	Pakistan	■ Various	Floods	£6,050*
Asia & Middle East	The occupied Palestinian territory	■ Arab Education Institute	Conflict and post-pandemic resilience	£20,000
Asia & Middle East	Philippines	■ Caritas Philippines	Cyclone	£17,240
Asia & Middle East	Sri Lanka	■ Caritas Sri Lanka	Post-pandemic resilience	£24,766
Asia & Middle East	Syria	■ Not disclosed	Earthquake	£50,000
		■ Not disclosed	Earthquake	£50,000
		■ Not disclosed	Earthquake	£244,095
Asia & Middle East	Yemen	■ Not disclosed	Conflict	£10,000
Latin America	Brazil	■ Cáritas Brasileira	Floods	£29,094
Latin America	Colombia	■ Secretariado Nacional de Pastoral Social	Capacity strengthening	£10,000
		■ Siembra	Capacity strengthening	£2,066**

\*Contribution to wider appeal.

\*\*Contribution to larger project.

\*\*\*Due to confidentiality some countries are not disclosed.

Region	Need	Action	Funds (£)
Not country-specific	Surge capacity	Deploying professionals and filling gaps until our partners can step in.	£126,744
Not country-specific	Humanitarian alliances	Influencing the humanitarian sector and bringing our partners' experience to the forefront of these discussions.	£126,744
Not country-specific	Humanitarian funding	Helping partners access more funding.	£63,372
Not country-specific	Security capacity	Ensuring that our staff and partners are safe and that they are equipped to keep others safe.	£63,372

# HOW YOU CAN MAKE AN IMPACT

## OUR TARGET:

**£5 million in 4 years**

£4 million raised to date

## How we could get there:

Value of gift or pledge over 4 years	Number of gifts	Total gift value to CAFOD	With Gift Aid...
£500,000	1	£500,000	for example, a top rate tax payer's donation of £100,000 could be worth almost twice as much to CAFOD as it costs the donor after tax.*
£250,000	2	£500,000	
£100,000	9	£900,000	
£50,000	18	£900,000	
£20,000	50	£1,000,000	
£10,000	120	£1,200,000	
	<b>200</b>	<b>£5,000,000</b>	

## Ways of giving:

### SINGLE GIFT TODAY

Adding Gift Aid, if possible, can increase the value of any gift by 25%.

### REGULAR GIFT

For example, £250 per month would add up to £12,000 in 4 years.

### PLEDGING TODAY

You might like to consider setting a fundraising target – individually or with friends.

## How to make a gift:

■ Call Roisin on **020 7095 5676** to find out more, make a pledge or make a card donation over the phone.

■ Visit [cafod.org.uk/ESC](https://cafod.org.uk/ESC) to make an online donation

■ Donate via online banking with the following details:

Bank Account name: **CAFOD** Bank Account number: **11769410**

Sort Code number: **16-00-30** Include this reference: **126982**

\*With Gift Aid a £100k donation becomes worth £125k to CAFOD. If you pay tax at 45%, you can claim £31.25k difference with the basic rate (20%), that is, in effect, your gift will cost you £68.75k

“  
**Poverty calls us  
to sow hope.”**

**Pope Francis**

This page:  
Salina (L) and Mogibor (R) in the  
paddy field where they grow  
their rice in central Bangladesh.



# EVERY **SECOND** COUNTS.



When disasters hit, lives are destroyed. Survivors lose homes, they lose land, they lose loved ones.

Our humanitarian champions have kept people alive and safe, providing crucial emergency relief to countless people around the world.

And for that, we are very grateful.


**Together, we make sure that  
EVERY SECOND COUNTS.**

**Thank you**

**CAFOD** Catholic Agency for  
Overseas Development

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Photos: CAFOD, Caritas Poland, CWSA, Amit Rudro. Printed on paper from well-managed forests 

Above: Salina and her granddaughter, Ekra, in their garden in central Bangladesh.



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