

Each year we respond to humanitarian crises all over the world, helping communities to recover from emergencies such as floods, droughts, earthquakes and conflicts.

- We react with crucial speed and local knowledge through our vast network of international partner organisations to help those most in need, including reaching people and places that others can't through our Church partners.
- We deploy specialists from our surge team based in London to the front line to provide expertise on protection, water, sanitation, logistics and more.
- We stay for the long-term to help communities rebuild their homes and lives so they are better prepared for future emergencies.
- We also respond to 'hidden' emergencies which don't make headlines and often don't receive the same level of international support. In late 2015, we assisted more than 40,000 people in Myanmar affected by severe flooding by providing food and safe drinking water.

Our Emergency Response Fund is vital to help us react to these and other emergencies as quickly as possible when disasters hit, enabling us to begin responding before we assess whether we will need to launch a nationwide appeal.

From March 2016 - 2017, with the help of our supporters in England and Wales, we responded to twenty-three emergencies across the world.

East Africa Crisis

Over 16 million people across South Sudan, Somalia, Ethiopia and Kenya are in urgent need of food following months of drought. Our supporters have once again shown enormous generosity, giving over £3 million to date to help those who are suffering.

South Sudan

Since December 2013, a brutal conflict has devastated the lives of those living in South Sudan and famine has now been declared in parts of the world's youngest nation. Almost five million people across the country urgently need food and nutrition and fears are growing for vulnerable families. We are working alongside our sister agency Trócaire to provide food and essential items to those most in need.

Somalia

The UN estimates that the number of people in need of food aid in Somalia has increased from five million in September 2016 to more than six million between February and June 2017. This means that over half of the population do not have enough to eat. Our long-standing sister agencies have strong local networks who are working with the most vulnerable families in need of nutrition, health and cash transfers to buy available food.



©Amunga Eshuchi/Trocaire. Zeinab watches over her dehydrated son in a treatment centre supported by our partner.

Ethiopia

Failed rains have caused drought affecting 7.8 million people in southern Ethiopia, resulting in a critical shortage of water and grazing land and a devastating effect on the livestock which are crucial to families' survival. Our staff and local partners continue to respond where the needs are greatest with food, nutrition and livestock support to protect vulnerable pastoral households' core breeding stocks.

Kenya

Drought in northern Kenya has been declared a national emergency and is affecting more than two million people. The communities in the north are primarily nomadic herders who rely entirely on their livestock to maintain their sustainable way of life and suffer catastrophic effects when the rains fail. We are working with our local Caritas partners to provide food, cash transfer and water and sanitation to Isiolo county and the northern county of Marsabit, two of the worst-affected areas.

Yemen

Yemen is one of the poorest country in the Middle East. Since the civil war began in March 2015 life has become even more difficult for ordinary families. Ongoing fighting and a fuel blockade has brought the economy close to collapse, public services such as hospitals are failing and most people have exhausted their savings and are barely surviving. Food and water are scarce and expensive, many homes have been destroyed and thousands of people are in urgent need of medical attention, whether for injuries sustained from the conflict or malnutrition and disease. Our expert partner in Yemen is getting aid to those most in need, including key nutrition treatment and supplies for mothers and babies, food for families and mobile medical clinics.

By supporting our Emergency Response Fund, you are directly contributing to our work when disaster strikes.

You enable us to react with crucial speed, provide vital assistance to those most in need and support communities to recover and resist future disasters. How you can help:



©Amunga Eshuchi/Trocaire. Our partner has provided Adego with nutritious supplements to feed her daughter.

£33 could provide a six-week supply of life-saving peanut paste to a malnourished child – together, over a year, that could be 100 children.

£67 could provide clean drinking water for two families for five weeks – together, over a year, that could be 240 families.

£100 could provide supplies to a clinic treating severely malnourished children for a week – together, over a year, that could be 100 clinics or 2 years.