



## ANNUAL REPORT 2017

## From Our President

I want to sincerely thank all of you who continue to provide your heartfelt support for Caritas Japan. I am enclosing the Caritas Japan Annual Report so that you might know the various activities your generosity makes possible.

In response to the call of Pope Francis for a world in which no one is excluded, Caritas Internationalis is developing a worldwide campaign to support refugees and migrants. Each person who must leave his or her homeland has a unique background and story. By listening to the stories that each one has instead of simply categorizing them as “refugees” or “migrants,” we will support their dignity as individuals beloved by God. This international campaign calling us to nurture a “culture of encounter” where no one is excluded is called “Share the Journey” in English. In Japan, we are promoting it as the “Zero Exclusion Campaign” (haijo zero campaign).

Reconstruction of the various places that suffered from the Great East Japan Earthquake of March 11, 2011, remains Caritas Japan’s priority. But we also remain committed to continuing our support activities in natural disasters and the seemingly never-ending regional conflicts in various parts of the world. Many people must journey through places of disaster, conflict and reconstruction.

The activities of Caritas Japan are not merely limited to providing economic support to people facing such difficulties. Caritas Japan will continue encouraging encounters both in Japan and abroad so that many people can meet and support one another and create a world without exclusion.

I believe that God, the giver of life, desires a world where all people respect and support each other.

Let’s continue to journey together so that we can build the world that God wants, a world in which none of us will be excluded.

**Archbishop Isao Kikuchi**  
**President, Caritas Japan**

# Lenten Campaign

Each year the Pope issues a Lenten message to deepen Christians' understanding of the spirit of the season and to encourage them to conversion works of love. In answer to this call, the Catholic Church in Japan calls for Catholics to respond to the "Ai no Bokin" (love collection) in fellowship with those who face oppression, discrimination and abandonment as well as those whose lives are in crisis. (Catholic Information Handbook 2018)

## ■ Message of Pope Francis for Lent 2017

"The Word is a gift. Other persons are a gift"

## ■ Lenten Booklet 2017 Circulation: 58,000

Contents: Pope Frances, Lenten message, donations and assistances

## ■ Collection box for children Circulation: 25,000

## ■ Contribution envelopes Circulation: 63,000



## Our Funds

Caritas Japan depends solely on donations from individual donors in Japan and does not receive any public funds or government subsidies. These donations are made either by direct contribution from individual donors or through special collections organized by dioceses, parishes and other institutions.

### Amount of total donation 2017

**¥357,282,521**

Lenten Collection	¥61,102,411
For Domestic Assistance	¥9,741,086
For Overseas Assistance	¥32,267,052
For Domestic Emergencies	¥24,793,924
For Overseas Emergencies	¥8,488,453
Christmas Donation	¥26,196,399
Support for Caritas Japan	¥6,917,500
Donation from monthly supporters	¥794,466
For the Great East Japan Earthquake	¥186,981,230
( Domestic donation	¥15,793,288 )
( Donation from abroad	¥171,187,942 )

# Aid Activities

In collaboration with Caritas throughout the world, Caritas Japan supports the independence of people who must face harsh conditions in various places. Priority support is given to people recovering from disaster or war, and to support for human rights, education, health care and the eradication of poverty, especially where the need is most urgent.

- Funding for Emergency Appeals (EA) by Caritas Internationalis - 41 projects
- Human development projects with Caritas Member organizations - 31 projects
- Support for grass-roots activities in Japan (incl. Kumamoto earthquake) - 16 projects

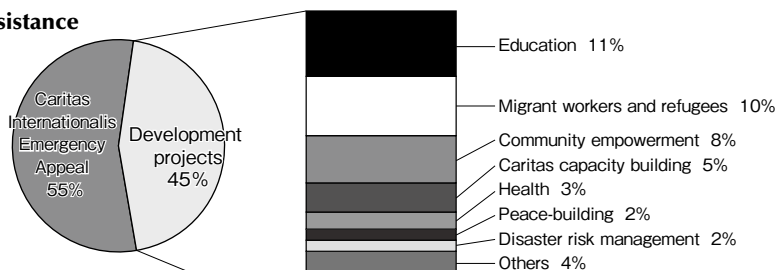
ASSISTANCES (January to December 2017)

JPY 369,085,562

JPY by the thousand

The Great East Japan Earthquake					147,074	
Within Japan (incl. Kumamoto earthquake)					45,912	20.7%
Asia/Oceania					98,886	44.5%
Asia Partnership	5,287	Kyrgyzstan	1,779	Pakistan	7,367	
Bangladesh	16,921	Mongolia	8,171	Philippines	1,302	
Cambodia	4,545	Myanmar	6,872	Sri Lanka	3,419	
India	6,701	Nepal	36,522			
Africa					39,634	17.9%
Africa Partnership	5,266	Malawi	1,153	Somalia	1,209	
Burundi	1,169	Niger	1,232	South Sudan	1,209	
Central Africa	1,302	Nigeria	1,220	Sudan	3,393	
DR Congo	2,238	Rwanda	1,781	Uganda	11,319	
Kenya	3,286	Senegal	1,318			
Madagascar	1,202	Sierra Leone	1,337			
Latin America/Caribbean					12,460	5.6%
Antilles	1,122	Dominican Republic	1,138	Peru	1,113	
Chile	1,113	Haiti	2,306	Venezuela	2,284	
Colombia	1,128	Mexico	2,256			
Middle East					16,362	7.4%
Iraq	3,396	Lebanon	1,117	Syria	5,013	
Jordan	4,556	Palestine	2,280			
Europe					8,739	3.9%
CI Partnership	4,907	Serbia	1,213			
Greece	1,290	Ukraine	1,329			
Total Fund (Except the Great East Japan Earthquake)					221,993	100%

## Overseas assistance by sector



# Aid Activities

## Development assistance

Safe migration and anti-human trafficking program in the Greater Mekong sub-region  
Caritas

Especially in the Asian region, the human rights of migrant workers are not protected and the problem of trafficking in persons is getting worse. To deal with this problem, the Caritas organizations of the Mekong River basin countries are cooperating, and in both the sending and receiving countries they support a program to co-operate on case work and make use of it in providing policy advice in each country.



## Caritas Internationalis Emergency Appeal

Assistance to herder households and effective reduction of risks in the areas affected by  
Dzud

Nomads in Mongolia are losing much of their livestock to increasingly severe winter conditions linked to global climate change. Caritas Japan has supported emergency assistance such as the distribution of food and daily necessities and capacity building implemented by Caritas Mongolia to respond to emergencies.



## Domestic assistance

Support for refugee status certification applicants

The refugee recognition rate in Japan is very low, and those who have escaped to Japan in search of asylum are in a vulnerable position in society. Caritas Japan supported organizations that provide living support to refugee applicants.



## Study Sessions

July 3 (Mon.)

Sacred Heart School (Tokyo) 10th grade

Theme: Knowing yourself, knowing the world

November 9 (Thur.)

Seibi Gakuen (Tokyo) 12th grade

Theme: Current situation of women in developing countries and Caritas women's support activities

# Social Awareness

In the world today, people face threats to human rights and life itself. In order to promote awareness of these situations, Caritas Japan sponsors training sessions and seminars as well as publishing booklets that deepen understanding of these challenges.

## **Activity Theme** (2017-2019): Aiming for a diverse society without exclusion

In the decade since 2007, we have focused on how the church can respond to the problems of self-death and isolation. Themes we have explored are “The Tragedy of Isolation Ending in Self-Death and Suicide,” “Society’s Role in Isolation, Self-Death and Suicide,” “How Might the Church Respond to this Social Reality?”

Based on that effort, we have set the theme for education committee activities from 2017 as “Aiming for a diverse society without exclusion.” We will consider opportunities for diversity in the face of intolerance, and how individuals, churches and local communities can build a society that accepts all without exclusion.



## **Seminar** (September - November 2017)

Film, lecture and discussion

September 16 (Sat.): Sacra Famiglia Catholic Center (Osaka)

October 21 (Sat.): Fuji Women’s University (Sapporo)

November 11 (Sat.): YMCA Youth Center (Tokyo)

## **Fifth Korea-Japan Catholic Suicide Prevention Symposium** (Seoul)

Date: November 3, 2017 (Friday)

Place: Archdiocese of Seoul Myeong Cathedral Coste Hall

Participants: About 200 people

Japanese lecturers:

Hiroki Kamatsu (Formerly of the Catholic Bishops’ Conference of Japan)

Ryogo Takemoto (Jōdoshū Honganji-ha Research Institute)

# Share the Journey Campaign



Caritas Internationalis has conducted a “Share the Journey” migration campaign with a focus on migrants and refugees since September 27, 2017. This campaign aims to foster a “culture of encounter” with migrants and refugees in all the communities related to them (countries of origin, transit countries, host countries). The 165 Caritas organizations that are members of Caritas Internationalis are taking part in this effort in ways that suit their local circumstances.

In Japan, we are promoting the ZERO Exclusion Campaign: Meeting people beyond nationality, a collaboration of Caritas Japan and the Catholic Commission of Japan for Migrants, Refugees and People on the Move (J-CaRM).

## ■ Activities in 2017:

- Oct. 15 Campaign introduction at Kichijoji Church bazaar (Tokyo)
- Oct. 22 Campaign introduction at Ichikawa Church (Chiba) after international Mass
- Nov. 23 J-CaRM National Workshop 2017 (Osaka Sacra Famiglia)
- Nov. 26 Campaign introduction at Azabu Church bazaar (Tokyo)
- Dec. 17 Campaign introduction at Ashikaga Church (Tochigi)

## ■ Campaign goods

- “Encounter” roll-sheet ballpoint pen.  
Unrolling the sheet provides space to write prayers and messages.
- Prayer card in Chinese, English, French, Korean, Portuguese, Spanish, Tagalog, Vietnamese and Japanese.





Catholic Bishops' Conference of Japan

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For your donations

P.O. Savings Transfer Account : 00170-5-95979 カリタスジャパン

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Photo: Community based primary school in Chittagong, Bangladesh

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