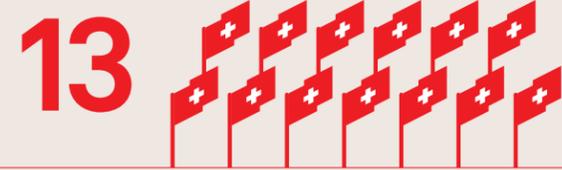


# Your support on the frontline of international disasters



CANADIAN  
RED CROSS

# Global emergency response at a glance



Emergencies on average monitored by the Canadian Red Cross each and every week



## DEAR SUPPORTERS,

Over the past year, the world's eyes have been drawn to the ongoing conflict in Syria, tragic events on the Mediterranean Sea, and devastating earthquakes in Nepal and Ecuador.

But we have also seen a number of small, chronic and complex emergencies, many which received little attention but resulted in massive humanitarian needs on the ground. Your contribution to our International Disaster Relief Fund (IDRF) has been critical in enabling the Red Cross to respond.

In 2015, the world faced the hottest average temperature on record. Together with the effects of El Niño, the result has been severe droughts impacting tens of millions of people—more than any other natural disaster last year. With your support, the Red Cross continues to reach communities in dire need of emergency food, water and relief items.

Epidemics have also presented an increasing risk across several regions. After recently marking the end of the Ebola emergency in West Africa, we are now confronting an unprecedented Zika outbreak in the Americas. Your support has been essential to mobilizing Red Cross teams who continue working to stop the virus spreading in vulnerable communities.

And finally, conflict continued to be a significant part of the humanitarian landscape. In addition to the ongoing tragedy in Syria, several other countries have felt the devastating consequences of violence. In Yemen and Burundi, your donation has meant life-saving assistance for thousands of innocent lives caught in the middle of horrific situations.

Please know how grateful I am for your committed support. It is your compassion and generosity that makes our humanitarian mission possible—and together, we have made an incredible difference in the lives of millions of people around the world.

Sincerely,



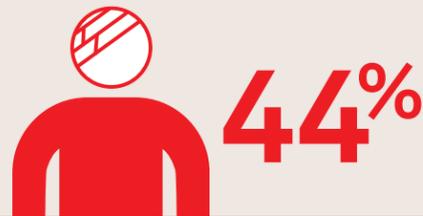
Hossam Elsharkawi  
Associate Vice President, International Operations



Disaster events around the world reported by the Red Cross in 2015



Percentage of disasters the Red Cross responds to that never make the spotlight



Increase in the number of people needing humanitarian assistance since 2011



Aid worker deployments supported by the Canadian Red Cross in the past year



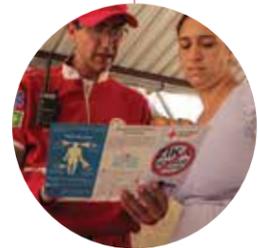
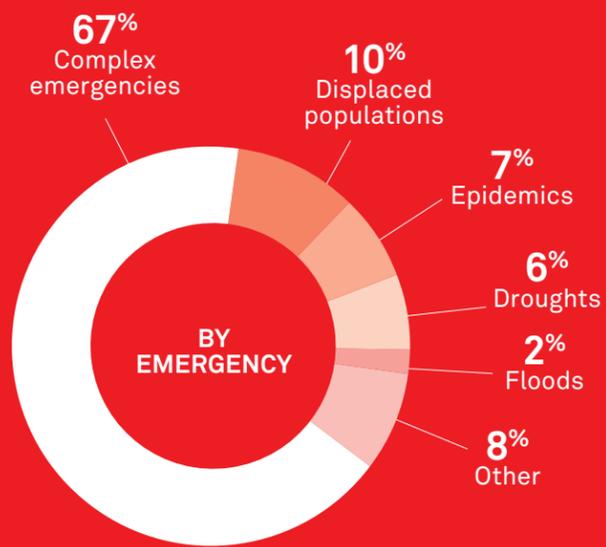
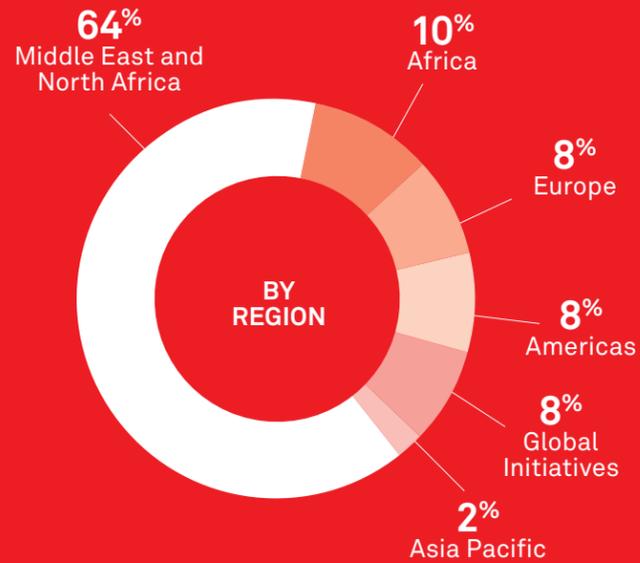
Relief items, such as tarpaulins, tents and hygiene kits, stocked in 3 warehouses around the world



Fully equipped field hospitals that can be sent anywhere around the world within 24 hours

# IDRF: Your donation at work

Thanks to generous donors, the Canadian Red Cross was able to contribute \$1.3 million to emergency operations from our International Disaster Relief Fund (IDRF). Here's how your donation was spent.



**AMERICAS - ZIKA OUTBREAK**  
In response to the unprecedented outbreak of the Zika virus, the Red Cross is helping communities take action to reduce the risk of spreading and strengthen health systems.



**BURUNDI REFUGEE CRISIS**  
Violence in Burundi has forced more than 265,000 people to flee into neighbouring countries such as Tanzania and Rwanda, where the Red Cross is providing first aid, emergency shelter and health care.



**ETHIOPIA DROUGHT**  
In the country's worst drought in 50 years, thousands of families at risk have received vital food distributions from the Red Cross.



**YEMEN CONFLICT**  
As conflict worsened in Yemen, the Red Cross mobilized to repair water distribution points, provide equipment and medicines to hospitals, and distribute emergency food, blankets, sleeping mats, kitchen items, and personal hygiene items to support more than 300,000 people forced from their homes.



**INDIA FLOODING**  
After intense rains and flooding hit Tamil Nadu province in India, the Red Cross distributed emergency relief packs, consisting of clothing, towels, bedsheets, buckets, kitchen sets, and blankets, to 3,500 impacted families.

# Your Impact Around the World



**GREECE MIGRATION CRISIS**  
With tens of thousands of migrants and refugees attempting to pass through Greece, Red Cross teams have been stationed at critical points to provide first aid, basic health care, food and relief items, and emotional support.

# Burundi Crisis: In a forgotten refugee camp, your support provides life-saving care

“We make sure everyone can see the doctor, even if they have to wait.”

Moses, Red Cross coordinator

**AT THE MTENDELI REFUGEE CAMP** in Tanzania, thousands of refugees arrive on crammed buses each and every week. Since April 2015, the country has seen a massive influx of people searching for a safe haven.

Among those arriving is Fatima, 42. She and four of her children fled their home in Burundi after violence broke out.

Today, Fatima is lucky to be alive. She left her homeland after her husband was killed and one of her daughters was violently attacked. The few possessions she carried with her were stolen along the way. Now she has only a few clothes and blankets that she has accumulated since arriving.

Fatima’s journey to Mtendeli has been difficult. Sadly, it is not uncommon. More than 265,000 people in Burundi have fled violence and found safety in the neighbouring countries of Tanzania, Rwanda, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, and Uganda.

The situation is dire, and the needs of hundreds of thousands of affected Burundians are enormous. Refugee camps in Rwanda and Tanzania are overflowing, and providing basic services is a challenge.

For Fatima and her children, home is a crowded shelter shared with nearly 200 others. Fortunately, they will soon be able to move into a family tent provided by the Red Cross, adding much-welcome comfort to their life in refuge.

## Vital health care

Nahitangie, 20, is another newly-arrived refugee at Mtendeli. She waits in line at a Red Cross hospital with her mother, Ngeshimana, who has had a cough and fever that she cannot seem to shake. Nahitangie has huge, desperate eyes, and tears run down her cheek as she speaks.

“I don’t know what life will look like,” she says, clutching the refugee card she has just been issued. “I have no idea. It’s just the two of us.”

Like thousands of refugees here, Nahitangie does not know when or if she will return to Burundi. For now, she takes comfort in the fact her mother can be seen by a Red Cross doctor—a much-needed measure of relief during an incredibly desperate and uncertain time.

## What your support is providing

**FIRST AID:** first aid treatments to injured refugees, and evacuations of people at risk

**HEALTH CARE:** primary and secondary health care services (including emergency surgery, maternity health), medical screening for new arrivals (immunization, treatment, screening), and health education to reduce the risk of malaria and prevent the spread of diarrhea and cholera outbreaks

**SHELTER AND ESSENTIAL ITEMS:** large mass shelters and family tents, essential items such as blankets, sleeping mats, water containers, cooking items and soap.

**PSYCHOSOCIAL SUPPORT:** to refugees suffering from trauma as a result of lost family members or violence they experienced or witnessed in Burundi



CLOSER LOOK: ETHIOPIA DROUGHT



## Afar region, Ethiopia

**ETHIOPIA HAS RECENTLY** been gripped by its worst drought in over 50 years. In the northern Afar region, severe drought has destroyed crops and killed livestock. Almost all the cows have died. Families here do not have enough to eat, with pregnant women and children suffering the most. Across the country more than 10 million people are in desperate need of food relief.

With your support, the Red Cross is delivering vital humanitarian aid to impacted communities.

1. In April, the Red Cross distributed supplementary food to thousands of families in the Afar region.
2. With the food crisis expected to continue in the months ahead, your support will be critical to the survival of thousands of lives at risk.

# Refugee Crisis: Meet an aid worker on the frontline

**SINCE THE BEGINNING OF THE REFUGEE CRISIS**, hundreds of thousands of people have passed through Greece in search of safety and a better life. Today, thousands remain stranded in camps across the country, their daily suffering away from the eyes of the world.

With your support, the Red Cross has been working to provide vital relief and improve the conditions of families caught in the middle of this crisis. Thanks to you, the Canadian Red Cross was able to send aid worker Émilie Gauthier Paré to the frontline as part of a large Red Cross operation. Here is what Émilie said about the situation and her experience:

**HOW MANY PEOPLE DID YOU SEE AT THE CAMP?**

Every day, around 6,000 refugees and migrants came through the camp in Idomeni. It was nearly impossible to keep count of the buses that arrived. Each bus had around 50 passengers, refugees and migrants. There were women, men, newborns, elderly people, sick children, pregnant women, people with disabilities.

**WHAT WAS YOUR SPECIFIC ROLE?**

I was sent as a psychosocial aid worker for one month. An important part of my role was ensuring that people received the information they needed about the camp and what to expect across the border. These people had been through nightmares and were under extreme stress, something that every bit of information helped alleviate. I also did a lot of psychological first aid sessions along the way.

**TELL US ABOUT SOME OF THE PEOPLE YOU HELPED.**

I was deeply touched by so many people: one woman who lost her husband on the way from Athens when the bus left without him; a young man who lost his brother during the sea crossing; and a little six-year-old girl with leukemia whose parents had no choice but to leave a country devastated by war, where medical infrastructure was almost non-existent.

**HOW DID YOU REACT TO HEARING SOME OF THEIR STORIES?**

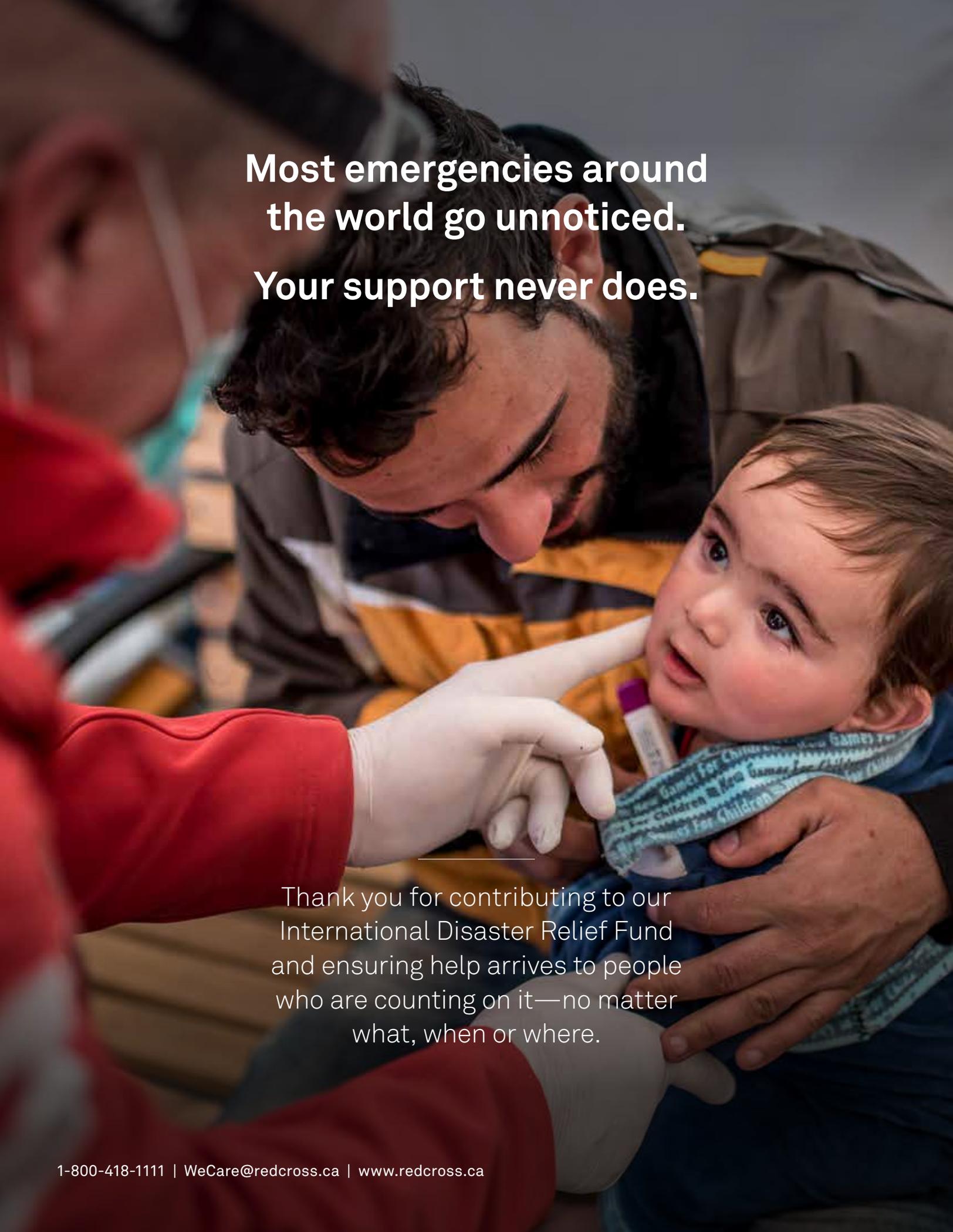
All of these people were an immense source of inspiration for me. They smiled and thanked me wholeheartedly for the smallest shred of information I gave them. I wished them good luck on their journey, and thought to myself that there are still people in this world who are able to restore my faith in humanity.



Émilie with a Syrian mother at Idomeni camp in Greece

“There were women, men, newborns, elderly people, sick children, pregnant women, people with disabilities.”



A photograph showing a man with dark hair and a beard, wearing a grey jacket, holding a baby. A healthcare worker in a red coat and white gloves is examining the baby's hand. The baby is wearing a blue and white patterned bib with the text "New Games For Children" and "Children in New Games For Children".

**Most emergencies around  
the world go unnoticed.  
Your support never does.**

Thank you for contributing to our  
International Disaster Relief Fund  
and ensuring help arrives to people  
who are counting on it—no matter  
what, when or where.