

2019



**Rise**<sup>®</sup>

**AGAINST HUNGER**

food • community • sustainability

**ITALIA**

**ANNUAL REPORT**

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At **Rise Against Hunger Italia** 2019 was a significant year, full of success and moments to remember. We are honoured to celebrate with all our supporters a major milestone: this year we reached our first **10 million meals** since 2012, when our organization was born. Almost 5 million meals were packed in 2019 alone, an impressive growth for us!

As President of Rise Against Hunger Italia I am thrilled with the result we have achieved; in recent years I have seen the Rise Against Hunger movement growing in Italy as well as in Europe, going from 200,000 meals packed in 2013 to a result that only a few years ago we could not even imagine.

We can become the first generation in history to defeat world hunger and poverty, if we work together. We have the possibility to make a difference starting from a fundamental choice: *being there for each other*. Definitely a responsibility, but also a great opportunity to contribute to the improvement of the living conditions of our Planet.

And isn't this what we are looking for when we say we would like to do more?



"We have the possibility to make a difference starting from a fundamental choice: being there for each other."

The contribution provided by Rise Against Hunger Italia might represent "only" a small drop in the bucket, but it has allowed us to take action and make a difference involving thousands of volunteers in our longstanding mission to grow the movement to end hunger.

Given the success and the global recognition of the project, it is clear that the path traced is the right one. We know that ending hunger by 2030 **IS** possible, but we cannot achieve it alone. The strides we have made in the past years have been made possible by you, our dedicated volunteers, partners and supporters. Rise Against Hunger Italia is in the fight against hunger for the long haul — all the way to 2030 and beyond!

**Alberto Albieri**

**President**

# WE CAN END HUNGER, BY 2030

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Rise Against Hunger is an international hunger relief organization that distributes food and life-changing aid to the world's most vulnerable.

To end hunger by 2030, aligned with the U.N. **Sustainable Development Goal #2 of Zero Hunger**, Rise Against Hunger works to provide immediate nourishment for those in need today, while implementing sustainable solutions to hunger for tomorrow — solutions that will lift entire communities for years to come.

Our recipe to fight hunger is based on the conviction that each of us can be today's change maker and act on it. Our organization's approach to ending hunger centers on mobilizing a global network of hunger champions who pack millions of nutritious meals that are subsequently distributed to our local partners in countries around the world.

Recognizing that ending hunger is more than just feeding people is what drives Rise Against Hunger, leading us to focus our feeding programs in areas where we can make a difference beyond meal packaging and distribution. From the implementation of sustainable community development projects to our meal packaging program that harnesses the passion of local volunteers, we strive to make an impact on hunger by building resilience, self-sufficiency and empowerment in communities worldwide, allowing for the beginning of the difficult journey out of poverty.

If we are able to achieve a world without hunger by 2030, we will see a significant impact on every single one of the **Sustainable Development Goals**.

Ending hunger is absolutely critical to not only achieving sufficient nutrition for all, but also for impacting critical targets like breaking the cycle of poverty, promoting education and combating disease.





A group of school children in white shirts and red shorts are running down a street. The child in the foreground is smiling broadly and waving with both hands. Behind him, several other children are also running and smiling. The street is paved and has some litter on it. In the background, there are buildings and a motorcycle parked on the side.

## *One Box, One Child, One Year*

Rise Against Hunger meals are distributed in partnership with local organizations and schools with the goal of encouraging attendance for young students.

By incorporating Rise Against Hunger meals into school programs, students are able to focus on getting an education without the worry of where their next meal will come from.



# HUNGER BY THE NUMBERS: A GLOBAL ISSUE

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**1 IN 9**

The number of people with not enough to eat has risen for the third year in a row. Some 821 million people in the world do not have enough food to lead a healthy active life. That's about one in nine people on earth.



**1 IN 4**

There has been the least progress in the sub-Saharan region, where about 23 percent of people remain undernourished – the highest prevalence of any region in the world



**45%**

Children are the most visible victims. It is estimated that malnutrition is a cause of 3,1 million child deaths annually or 45 percent of all child deaths under five years old.



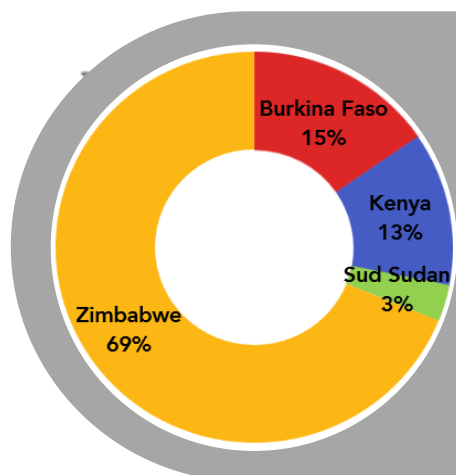
**11% OF GDP**

The social and economic effects of undernutrition are huge across Africa. Results show that countries are losing up to one sixth of GDP annually due to undernutrition, with an average rate of 11 percentage points.



# FROM YOUR HANDS, TO THEIR TUMMIES

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**12 CONTAINERS OF  
MEALS SENT FROM ITALY**

**6 CONTAINERS OF MEALS  
SENT FROM THE UK**

**2 CONTAINERS OF GIFT-IN-KIND**

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# BURKINA FASO

In the strip of land just below the Sahara desert that stretches across the entire African continent, the stakes for rain and peace are high. It's called the Sahel, and in the center of it are Burkina Faso, Mali and Niger. These three countries are facing a toxic mix of escalating armed conflict, displacement, hunger and widespread poverty – all compounded by the severe impacts of climate change.



A dramatic human crisis is unfolding in Burkina Faso that has disrupted the lives of millions. Parts of Burkina Faso — where conflict has spiralled all year — are in a state of freefall as the threat of violence from armed groups forces people in rural areas to flee. At least 486,000 people have been forced to flee their homes in Burkina Faso alone. There has been a sharp increase in violence in the state: the number of attacks in the first half of 2019 surpassed the total for 2018, with reported civilian deaths four times the total recorded in 2018.

The escalating levels of insecurity have led to schools being closed and farmers abandoning their fields in search of safety – this in a country where 4 out of 5 people rely on farming for their livelihoods. School buildings are one of the first spaces freed up as shelters for displaced people. This affects school attendance in host communities.

What's more, in these Sahelian countries 60 percent of the population is aged under 25, with limited access to job opportunities and social services. Chronic levels of malnutrition, food insecurity, and poverty and inequality are prevalent across the countries — with a population that is getting younger and younger, some are joining armed groups.





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# KENYA

Kenya is a country in North East Africa (also known as the Horn of Africa) located on the Indian Ocean coastline. Poor climate and instability are the main causes of East Africa's hunger. The countries in the Horn of Africa have been frequently hit by droughts that lasted for decades negatively affecting food-production. As a result of this, Kenya suffered and still suffers from extreme food shortages that lead to illnesses and in many cases to severe forms of malnutrition.



Besides food shortages, Kenyans have to deal with a horrendous climate and an unstable government which creates a cycle of unfortunate events. Even though the country has recently acquired lower-middle-income status, the increased wealth has not benefited all Kenyans equally. Over one third of the population still lives under the international poverty line and social, economic and gender disparities remain. Food is a necessity to live but in Kenya food almost seems like a privilege since so many obstacles need to be faced in order to feed a family, particularly in Kenya's most degraded suburbs.



## KIBERA

Nairobi, the capital of Kenya, is home to one of the largest slums in all of Africa: Kibera. Here negative conditions are further accentuated by the environmental, urban and economic degradation in which thousands of human beings live.

The Kenyan government owns all the land upon which Kibera stands, though it continues to not officially acknowledge the settlement; no basic services, schools, clinics, running water or lavatories are publicly provided, and the services that do exist are privately owned.

Kibera is a suburb where poverty is a reality and can be seen at every corner. The unemployment rate is around 80%, only 20% of the population has access to electricity, and proper toilet facilities are practically non-existent. There are drug problems, especially with glue sniffing, issues with alcohol and HIV affects about 20% of the population.

# SOUTH SUDAN



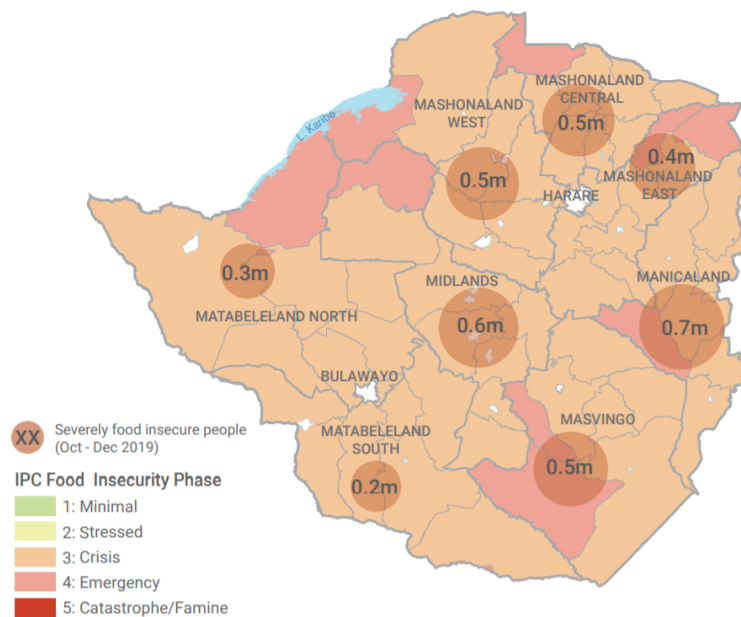
South Sudan remains embroiled in local conflicts, while trying to rebuild after a fragile peace deal in September 2018 sought to end a deadly civil war that displaced 3.8 million people since 2013. A crippled economy, poorly functioning markets, lack of infrastructure and climate shocks all hamper recovery efforts. In 2019, unprecedented flooding washed away crops, destroyed homes and contaminated water supplies impacting over 900,000 people, of which 490,000 were children. Levels of hunger have dramatically worsen, with half the population – 7.5 million people - unable to satisfy the basic nutrition requirements.

The situation is particularly worrying in the areas hardest hit by the floods, where the prevalence of acute malnutrition has deteriorated significantly from 13.3 per cent in 2018 to 16.2 per cent in 2019, above the 15 per cent emergency threshold. Overall, the cumulative effects of flooding and related population displacement, localized insecurity, economic crisis, low crop production and prolonged years of asset depletion continue to keep people hungry. Critical social services such as primary health care and education are facing significant interruptions: over 2.2 million children are out of school and 6 million people are at risk of disease outbreaks.





# ZIMBABWE



**60% of the population is threatened by food insecurity:  
7,7 in 12 million people.**

Zimbabwe is experiencing one of its worst food security crises in recent years with atypically high humanitarian assistance needs: multiple natural hazards, including food insecurity, flooding and the risk of outbreaks of diseases, continue to impact the population. The country is also facing an economic downturn characterized by hyperinflation and limited access to basic services.

Low-productivity agricultural practices and lack of access to markets are also affecting the food security of the vast majority of rural Zimbabweans. Undernutrition rates are high, especially in rural districts where diets lack diversity – maize being the main staple – and are poor in essential nutrients. About 5.5 million people in rural Zimbabwe face starvation, including 2.6 million children. With households fast running out of food, most children of school age are in danger of starvation. Schoolchildren often faint during class, according to humanitarian organisations, heightening calls for food aid in schools.

Worryingly, runaway inflation – a symptom of the wide-ranging economic crisis Zimbabwe is experiencing – has propelled the prices of basic commodities beyond the reach of all but the most privileged. Amid dire shortage of foreign exchange and of local currency, Zimbabwe has seen drastic price increases - bread costs 20 times what it cost one year ago, while the price of maize has nearly tripled over the same period.

The deepening hardship is forcing families to eat less, skip meals, take children out of school, sell off livestock and fall into a vicious cycle of debt. There is little respite expected for the most vulnerable, including subsistence farmers who grow most of Zimbabwe's food and depend on a single, increasingly erratic rainy season.

# BENEFICIARIES

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A great percentage of our meals is distributed via our school network program to encourage enrollment amongst students. Food is distributed in partnership with local organizations like schools, encouraging increased enrollment and attendance for young students — especially girls. Our meals attract the children into a protected environment that is safe from abuse and violence to learn.

We ensure the food become a useful tool towards changing lives - by promoting education, improving students' health and nutrition, addressing gender inequalities, eliminating child labor and ultimately breaking the cycle of poverty.





## THE JOSEPH FOUNDATION

Thanks to the partnership with **Feed The Hungry UK**, meals are distributed to **The Joseph Foundation**, a non-profit organization offering education and shelter to orphans and vulnerable children in the suburbs of Harare. The foundation offers school access to children and teenagers free of charge: a rarity in Zimbabwe, where most schools are privately run and charge tuition fees.


The students also receive a cooked meal every day. Without this meal, many of the children would go hungry, would struggle to learn and would be far less likely to attend school.

Through this incentive, the number of regularly attending children has increased month after month, reaching a total of 14,000 students enrolled among the 13 Primary and Secondary schools in the district.

**2.024.352 MEALS**







## ADRA INTERNATIONAL

Rise Against Hunger, in partnership with **ADRA International** and **Islamic Relief USA**, is spearheading a three-year ***Relief and Recovery School Feeding Initiative*** (RRSFI) to provide relief to communities devastated by the El Niño drought and support them on their road to recovery.

This initiative aims to increase the resilience and access to education of school-age children in the Gokwe North and Zvishavane districts of the Midlands Province and to involve school staff, the local community and the private sector in efforts to promote sustainability.

Access to food in schools has led to a significant increase in school success - from 6% in 2016 to 37% today - also due to the greater concentration and attention of the students to whom we have been able to guarantee a daily supply of nutritious meals.

**1.140.480 MEALS**



# SOWETO ACADEMY

In 1988 Chris Okumu founded the **Soweto Academy** a small feeding center to welcome five children who had been abandoned by their parents. The place was a marshy dumpsite that was a haven of thugs and a dumping ground for aborted babies. It was a long struggle to reclaim the land which today hosts the best school in Kibera. What started with just 5 orphans has now become a safe place to feed, house and educate over 1800 children of the slum.

The center has grown into a school with live-in dorms, a clinic with full medical access to the community, a sports program, and a water bottling facility.

*Soweto has been celebrating a Silver Medal as their Volleyball Team represented Kenya in the 19th Women's African Nationals Championship. The tournament took place in Egypt. The girls team played against six other African nations and were beaten in the final by Cameroon.*

**299.376 MEALS**



The program also included 70 women victims of violence, saved from a life on the street. The food received slowly strengthened both their body and their mind. Some of them became so strong that they were selected to join the school's women's volleyball team.



# MULLY'S CHILDREN FAMILY



With a motto of “*saving children’s lives*”, **Mully’s Children Family** endeavors to heal hurting souls and turn sad faces of children into happy ones. MCF is a charitable organization making a difference in the lives of thousands of needy children through rescue, holistic rehabilitation and reintegration back to society.

During the last 30 years has helped to rehabilitate over 12,000 street children, orphans, HIV & AIDS affected and neglected children regardless of their religion, sex, color or tribe, who had nowhere to call home.



*Rise Against Hunger partner **Forever Living Products** generously packaged a full container of meals at its annual rally held in Stockholm (Sweden) in May, which were distributed to Mully Children’s Family.*

**285.120 MEALS**

MCF provide them with food, shelter, clothing, education, medical care, mentorship and – most importantly – love. That is why this place is called Mully Children’s Family. A FAMILY denotes a place where people live together with love, peace and hope.





# CATHOLIC RELIEF SERVICES

**Catholic Relief Services (CRS)** is the international humanitarian agency of the Catholic community in the United States which provides relief in emergency situations and helps people in the developing world break the cycle of poverty through community-based, sustainable development initiatives. CRS is responding to the escalating crisis in Sahel providing clean water and sanitation services, food, shelter and household items for more than 22,000 displaced families. In parallel, it continues its long-term development work in the region, including healthcare, education, and agricultural and peace-building projects, with the goal of preventing and mitigating future humanitarian and security crises.

Through our partnership with **CRS Helping Hands**, we've been able to provide three containers of meals each year to Burkina Faso.

In 2019 CRS Helping Hands provided 1.6 million Rise Against Hunger meals to Burkina Faso 570.000 of which have been sent from Italy. More important than the number of meals are the actual lives impacted. CRS has helped us provide nourishment for over 10,000 people in the past year alone.

**570.240 MEALS**





# VICTORY INTERNATIONAL MINISTRIES

The **Early Child Education (ECED)** projects conducted by the **Victory International Ministries** with the contribution of Feed The Hungry UK represent a primary source of support for several rural areas in Burkina Faso. The supply of meals reaches a network of 32 schools and orphanages that welcome over 7,000 students, offering in addition to the constant availability of food, an incentive to literacy projects and to the development of a small local agricultural production.

Over the past months a team of UK volunteers supervised the building operations of a new school in Bobo through which it will be possible to support not only 200 new students, but also a further 800 vulnerable people in the community.

**137.376 MEALS**







## FONDAZIONE CESAR

**CESAR Foundation** was created in 2000 by the Italian Comboni father Cesare Mazzolari together with a group of lay people to support development in one of the poorest countries in the world. Their mission is to ensure the rights to education, food and healthcare in South Sudan and other African countries. Despite the logistical difficulties and the risks associated with the perpetuation of the violence - South Sudan is the most dangerous country in the world for humanitarian workers - during 2019 the Cesar Foundation facilitated the distribution of meals in the country. To date, it is, in fact, the only organization operating in South Sudan which has been able to satisfy the expected requirements and fulfill the standards of Rise Against Hunger's partnership procedure.

The high nutrition rice meals were received in Rumbek and safely delivered to 4 parishes (Tonj, Warrap, Romic and Marial Lou) in the Tonj State. The food was distributed to 1,105 households with a population of 6,545 of the most affected families.

The beneficiaries were drawn from women headed households, people living with disabilities, elderly persons and households most affected by hunger. Every parish selected the beneficiaries according to their vulnerability.

**138.240 MEALS**



# GIFT-IN-KIND

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n-kind donations, also called **gift-in-kind**, refer to the provision of goods or services to an organization, such as food, clothing, medicines, furniture, office equipment, and building materials. Most often, those are goods or products which, for different reasons, can no longer be placed on the market albeit them being perfectly functional. It might be the case of materials that present imperfections, damage alterations or vices, making it necessary to be excluded from the market or destroyed.

To date, the collaboration with the multinational **Kraft Heinz** in its Latina office has allowed us to consistently send containers of baby food, distributed where most needed thanks to the precious help of **Feed The Hungry UK**.

The pallets of baby food have been distributed in Greece among 17 refugees camps and in Albania, during the hard days of the after quake recovery.





# 2019 RESULTS

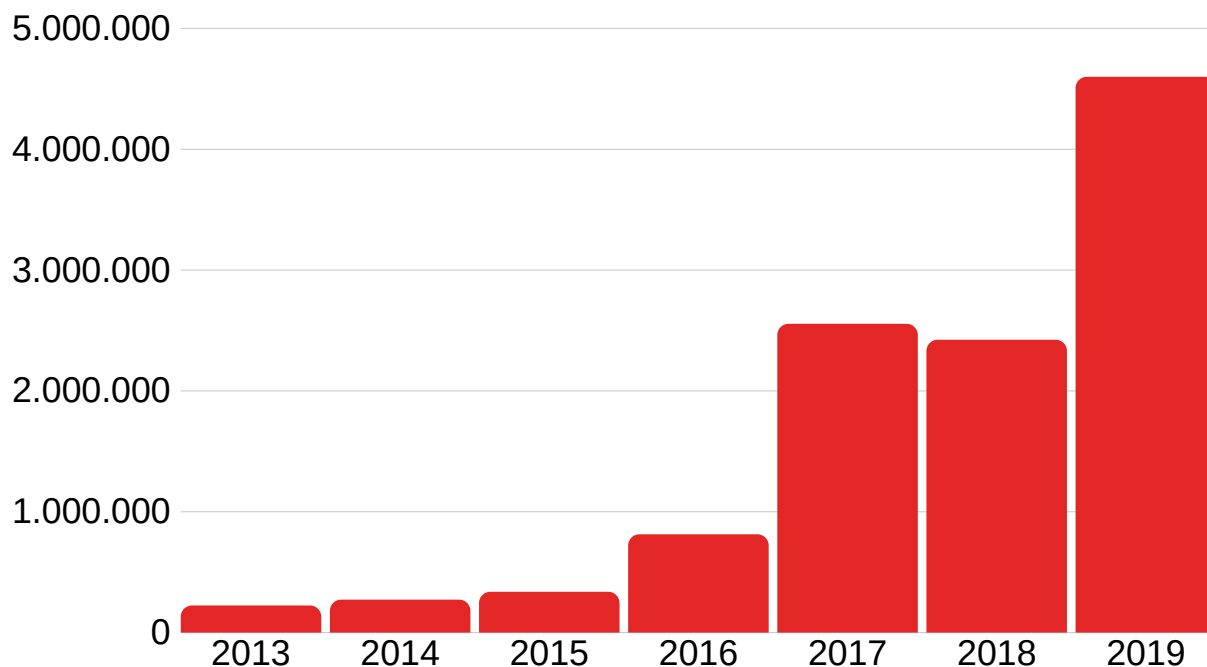


  
**21.892  
BOXES**

  
**134  
EVENTS**

  
**18.482  
VOLUNTEERS**

  
**4.595.184  
MEALS  
DELIVERED\***



**11.196.124  
MEALS DISTRIBUTED**

\* out of 4.730.388 packed meals in 2019.

# 2019 HUNGER CHAMPIONS

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|                             |                                 |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------------|
| AC Marriott                 | Ideal Work                      |
| Accenture                   | Iveco                           |
| AIG                         | JP Morgan                       |
| Altis                       | Juniper                         |
| Astrazeneca                 | Kantar                          |
| AU Group                    | Kraft Heinz                     |
| Avanade                     | La Giulia                       |
| Banca Mediolanum            | Laica                           |
| BNI                         | Lions Club                      |
| Cadence                     | Lottomatica                     |
| Cellply                     | Medtronic                       |
| Chiesi Farmaceutici         | Merck                           |
| CNH                         | NetApp                          |
| CRL                         | Oil & Gas University            |
| Disney                      | OPIMM                           |
| Edenred                     | Percassi                        |
| Eifis                       | Perfetti Van Melle              |
| Fluidotech                  | Pfizer                          |
| Fluor                       | Prysmian Group                  |
| Fondazione Aldini Valeriani | Rotary                          |
| Fondazione Cesar            | Salini Impregilo                |
| Forever Living              | SAS Institute                   |
| GAP Management              | Talent Garden                   |
| Gelco                       | TAS Group                       |
| Genpact                     | Treccani Reti                   |
| Here Technologies           | Tripadvisor                     |
| Hiperformance               | Unicredit                       |
| HPE                         | United Airlines                 |
| iBicocca                    | Università degli Studi di Parma |
| IC Marco Emilio Lepido      | VisionMind                      |
| IC Marostica                | Zio Mike Foundation             |



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