Solidarity in action

Activity report 2018
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More than a third of French people have experienced poverty at some time in their lives © Bruno Manno / SPF
In 2018, in a context of growing poverty, the Secours populaire network was able to deploy its universal and unconditional solidarity.

During the year, the Secours populaire's 82,000 collectors-facilitators improved the lives of more than 3.3 million people in France and around the world. This is an alarming figure, and it reflects the increase in poverty and instability that people involved with the association are the first to witness. These outstanding human beings work tirelessly to make a difference and keep those in government aware of what is really happening. This figure represents the hidden children, women and men whose lives are incredibly difficult. They are experiencing increased deprivation such as the right to healthcare, holidays, food, and sometimes even life itself. The year brought more and more disasters, and the poorest are those who suffer the most. Throughout the world, conflicts, climate change and social injustice lead to an increase in poverty, forcing children, women and men to flee from their own countries and migrate elsewhere. Whether in France, in Europe or on other continents, these catastrophes have a powerful impact on the friends of the Secours populaire, who are determined to make the world a more united place. They are constantly channelling their energy to collect the resources they need to do their work, and invite everyone else to do the same. They meet people's needs for food, clothing, access to healthcare, education, housing, holidays, and so on. They provide emergency assistance, listen, and guide, so that people can escape the downward spiral of poverty and instability. In France, they rely on a decentralised network of 97 federations and 658 committees who run havens of collection and solidarity in local neighbourhoods, learning centres, and offices. The Secours populaire relies on a huge network of partners, all around the world. In 2018, 241 solidarity programmes and projects were set up in 68 countries in Europe and all around the world. But the Secours populaire's most important goal is to sow the seeds of solidarity through its network of children involved in the copain du Monde initiative. This activity report is dedicated to all those people who in 2018 devoted time or gave material and financial resources to support popular solidarity so that it never stops benefiting those in need!

National Secretariat
Highlights

Throughout the year, Secours Populaire volunteers have carried out countless solidarity projects to help the poor in France and around the world.

Free access to the Secours populaire archives on the BnF digital library

A partnership between the SPF and the BnF (the French national library), has meant that 22,000 pages of the association’s archives were digitised: brochures, internal newsletters and newspapers from the 1930s to the 2000s were all saved and posted online to Gallica, the BnF’s digital library.

Launch of the Don’actions campaign

The Secours populaire’s major fundraising campaign was launched on 20 January. In several cities around France, volunteers went out on the street to collect public donations. Collection initiatives were stepped up over the three-month period so that the association could take some concrete action.

Boîte à bonheur project (Cans for happiness)

Carrefour, a partner of Secours populaire, organised the Boîtes à bonheur (Cans for happiness) project over three weeks. For every can purchased from one of its partner brands, 7% of the total amount was donated to the SPF and goes towards organising the Journée des oubliés des vacances holiday initiative.
Cold snap: the Secours populaire springs to action
When the temperature plummeted all over France, from the Loire Valley to the east of the country, and the wintry weather swept through the Paris region, the Secours populaire rose to the challenge and began helping the homeless, the first to fall victim to freezing temperatures. With more staff on hand in homeless shelters and more volunteers helping those living on the streets, a little warmth and comfort was provided to those in need.

Solidarity for refugees-migrants
As hatred for difference becomes more widespread, the Secours populaire proclaimed loudly and clearly that it intends to continue providing unconditional support to anyone in distress, regardless of their background, status or position. Refugees-migrants are offered support in the form of French lessons, cultural outings, and legal assistance all over France.

West Indies: rebuilding after disaster
Six months after the hurricanes that ravaged the Caribbean, the Secours populaire is still there running vital projects. After providing immediate emergency assistance to victims, the association is still working alongside its partners to help rebuild the affected areas.

Don’actions draw
On 16 March, the Secours populaire organised its annual national Don’actions prize draw. But this year there was a new digital version of the solidarity game. It attracted many of the association’s sponsors and representatives from all over France, and the event marked the end of the SPF’s huge fundraising campaign.

Zénith de la solidarité
In Lille, the Nord federation attracted 2,500 people to the Zénith concert venue for an unforgettable four-hour show. The event was part of the Don’actions campaign, which gives participants a chance to take a break from their everyday concerns.

350 Easter egg hunts in France
As part of the Secours populaire’s international Printemps de la solidarité mondiale (worldwide solidarity spring) campaign, 350 Easter egg hunts were organised all over France. These hunts brought an opportunity to raise awareness – and funds – so that the association can keep its projects going all around the world.

Our Salvadoran partner makes a visit to France
A delegation from Canasta Campesina, the Secours populaire’s Salvadoran partner, came to France as part of the agrobiology programme which is being run between France and El Salvador. French and Salvadoran participants got a chance to share their know-how.
April

Release of the Pauvre de nous documentary
The documentary Pauvre de nous directed by Claire Lajeunie was broadcast on France 5 on 11 April. The film proves that prejudices about people experiencing poverty are completely untrue, and includes interviews with a family who benefit from the Secours populaire’s support.

Bigflo & Oli hold a concert for solidarity
The big-hearted rappers Bigflo & Oli performed a concert at the Zénith venue in Toulouse on 13 April, with the proceeds going to the Secours populaire. Every single euro brought in by the concert went to the association, €100,000 was raised for solidarity!

Launch of the holiday campaign
Secours populaire launched its holiday campaign on 25 April. Families who receive support from the federations of Occitania and the Paris region spent four days on holiday in Gruissan (Aude). They spent the time by the sea, away from the worries of their everyday lives.

Famine emergency in Africa
A famine struck several African countries and Yemen in the most deafening of silences. The Secours populaire released €150,000 from its emergency fund and action was taken in Mali, Mauritania and Ethiopia. Support was also provided for Yemeni refugees in Djibouti.
Support for our Palestinian partner

In Gaza, in the face of the bloody repression during demonstrations by the Palestinian population, the Secours populaire called upon public generosity to support the emergency medical work carried out by its partner, PMRS.

A solidarity sale in Dijon

10 June saw the tenth edition of the solidarity sale at the FNAC store for the Secours populaire. It was a chance for the people of Dijon to get some great bargains, while supporting the work of the SPF. The association managed to raise €164,670.

Solidarity with refugee migrants from the Aquarius

After several days stranded in the Mediterranean, Aquarius and the 629 refugee-migrants on board were finally able to moor at the port of Valencia. The Secours populaire went straight there to express its solidarity and meet its Spanish partners who were there to support the passengers.

The Royer Group / Secours populaire skippers in solidarity with hurricane victims

The skippers aboard the Royer Group / Secours populaire sailboat took advantage of the Transat AG2R La Mondiale to hand out gifts made by the copains du Monde (Friends of the world) in the Finistère region to the children of Saint-Martin who suffered during the hurricanes.

Emergency food distribution in Mali

The Secours populaire organised food hand-outs in the form of maize seeds and peanuts in the Kayes region of Mali. With its local partner, AMSCID, the SPF was able to help nearly 2,500 people feed themselves during the lean months.

Recto/Verso:

An auction for solidarity

At the Fondation Louis Vuitton, 100 artists supported the Secours populaire by donating one of their works. Families receiving assistance from the SPF were able to see them on display at the Fondation Louis Vuitton before they were auctioned off. The sale raised €350,000 for the association.
Three copain du Monde children's villages in Guadeloupe

One hundred and eighty children from the islands that were ravaged by the hurricanes in 2017 were able to take part in three copain du Monde children's villages in Guadeloupe. They took part in a whole programme of activities focused on solidarity and respect for the environment; their awareness was raised about climate change, and how to take preventive action.

Copain du Monde children meet world football champions

On 16 July, a hundred children, supervised by the Secours populaire, were invited to the Élysée for an unforgettable experience. They even met the French world champion football team!

70 children visit the Netherlands for a holiday

70 children spent two weeks on holiday in the Netherlands. Their visit was organised in partnership with the Dutch association Europa Kinderhulp, and the children stayed with volunteer host families.

Children get involved in the Nikola Karabatic programme

In the town of Mèze, in the Hérault department of France, a group of children accompanied by the SPF took part in the Nikola Karabatic handball programme. They were even lucky enough to meet the champion himself, who came to train with them for a day.

Fighting loneliness at the Banquet des cheveux blancs (Grey hair banquet)

400 senior citizens from the Ile-de-France region received invitations to the Banquet des cheveux blancs. The experience included a river cruise along the Marne, lunch and an afternoon tripping the light fantastic at the famous Chez Gégène restaurant and dance hall. It was a perfect opportunity to curb the loneliness that older people sometimes suffer.

5 Journées des oubliés de vacances holiday initiative days throughout France

Nearly 50,000 children who couldn't otherwise go on holiday were able to escape their everyday lives for a day. Throughout France, the Secours populaire organised 35 of these experiences, known as Journée des oubliés des vacances, by the sea, in the mountains or at theme parks.

The first copain du Monde (friend of the world) children's village in Portugal

In Braga, Portugal, the Secours populaire organised a copain du Monde (friends of the world) children's village, where 70 French and Portuguese children met for two weeks to make friends, find out about a new culture and lay the foundations for solidarity projects.
September

**Large-scale school supplies collection**
Throughout France, volunteers sprung into action to collect the school supplies that all children need to get the year off to a good start.

**Annual Ipsos-Secours populaire barometer**
Each year, as part of the Pauvreté Précarité (poverty instability) campaign, an Ipsos-Secours populaire barometer is published. This year, it pinpointed the difficulties that more and more French people are facing in terms of feeding their families. For example, one in five French people can’t even eat three meals a day.

**A year after the earthquake, work continues in Mexico**
Twelve months after the disastrous earthquake in Mexico, the Secours populaire is still supporting its victims. In the Oaxaca region, it is coordinating with its partner Nääwxiim to help 160 women get back to work.

**Emergency in Indonesia**
The Secours populaire launched a call for solidarity and released the first emergency fund of €50,000 to help the victims of the earthquake and tsunami that destroyed the island of Sulawesi.
Highlights

Flooding emergency in Aude

The Secours populaire took immediate action to help the families who were affected by the terrible floods in the Aude department. It distributed water, food, equipment, and administrative advice, and its volunteers are still there today providing help to the victims.

An international conference in Ramallah

In partnership with PMRS, its Palestinian partner, the Secours populaire held an international youth conference in Ramallah. Co-financed by AFD, it has brought young Palestinian, French, Italian, Greek, Spanish and Japanese people together to find ways of building the solidarity of the future.

Festival des solidarités in Brussels

From 19 to 21 October, 350 young volunteers from the Secours populaire and its partner associations around Europe and the rest of the world gathered in Brussels for the Festival des solidarités (Solidarity festival). The event was organised by the SPF, and was designed to encourage young people to share their experience of solidarity and think up new projects together.

A copain du Monde children’s village in Guyana

A copain du Monde village was organised for the first time in Guyana. From 22 October to 3 November, more than 100 Guyanese children were able to enjoy leisure activities and educational workshops.

The Secours populaire logo exhibited in Lyon

From 16 November, the Musée de l’Imprimerie et de la Communication Graphique (printing and graphic design museum) held an exhibition on the origin and gradual transformation of the Secours populaire logo. It was also a chance for the public to trace back the history of the association through the 160 archives that were made available by the SPF.

Lighting up the BnF in the colours of the Père Noël verts

On 14 November, two of the towers at France’s national library, the Bibliothèque François Mitterrand, were lit up in green to mark the launch of the Secours populaire’s Pères Noël verts green Father Christmas campaign. It was also an opportunity for volunteers to collect funds at the AccorHotels Arena during the Indochina concert.

In Verdun, 30 young people on the road to peace

To commemorate the centenary of the end of the First World War, 30 young French, German and refugees-migrants took part in the Born to be solidaire programme in Verdun. They visited the town, learnt about its history, and talked about Europe and peace.

Annual General Meeting in Cherbourg

From 23 to 25 November, SPF members met for the association’s AGM in Cherbourg. Over the three-day period they debated and about the association’s goals for 2019: and everyone was motivated to make global solidarity with children top priority.
December

The Pères Noël verts team in Paris
Volunteers from the Secours populaire Paris federation took to the streets of the capital to collect toys. Three hundred sacks were made available with many of its partners, and 10,000 toys were collected for the country’s poorest children.

The Pères Noël verts around the world
Because solidarity has no boundaries, the Pères Noël verts green Father Christmas tour has now spread to countries in America, Asia, Africa and the rest of Europe. Throughout the world, the Christmas campaign has been stepped up so that no-one is forgotten.

In Lyon, isolated minors are getting ready for Christmas
On the streets of Lyon, young and lonely migrants became Pères Noël verts for the day on Saturday 15 December. The Secours populaire organised a major collection initiative so that Christmas and New Year wouldn’t be lonely periods for anyone.

Tsunami on the islands of Java and Sumatra
After the disasters in September, Indonesia suffered yet another tsunami on 22 December. The islands of Java and Sumatra were devastated. The Secours populaire made €50,000 of its emergency funds available to help the people affected by the disaster, working alongside its Filipino partner Mirasol.
Getting people involved and promoting education for all are key to the Secours populaire’s approach

The Secours populaire’s aim is to build and develop a network of people from all generations, backgrounds and beliefs to ensure solidarity is shared through everything it does. Its volunteers do much more than just lend a hand. They also collect money and are committed to developing the resources they need to put their solidarity into practice. They participate in the decision-making process for future projects. They develop unconditional solidarity, and reflect Pasteur’s intention when he said: One does not ask of one who suffers: What is your country and what is your religion? One merely says: You suffer, that is enough for me. The association is committed on all fronts, it brings solidarity to people in distress all around the world.

The Secours populaire is decentralised, it is organised into federations within departments, and local committees. It also has branches in companies, and places of work, study and training, as well as in city neighbourhoods and villages. It has built up a network of partners in Europe and around the world. This means that it can get closer to the people who want to give, or those who need to receive. It is committed to providing education for all, so its focus is on fraternal solidarity, where everyone learns from each other and it is determined to reject the concept of charity, to focus on maintaining dignity. The Secours populaire wants to be a thorn in the public authorities’ side. It comes to them with the actions it plans to carry out independently, to keep them informed about injustice and ask them for support.

The Secours populaire is 72 years old, but still young at heart. Many departmental and national leaders are under the age of 30 and, inspired by the International Convention on the Rights of the Child, the association runs a network of solidarity for children that spans the entire world, through the copain du Monde holiday initiative.

“...the association is committed on all fronts, it brings solidarity to people in distress all around the world.”
Our work in France

Through its network of members, the Secours populaire covers a vast area of the country.

96 departmental federations

1 professional federation
(Fédération Nationale des Électriciens Gaziers)

656 local committees

2 professional committees
(Livre and RATP)

Legend:
- local committees
- departmental federations
Bridges of solidarity between France and its overseas territories.

The Secours populaire has no borders. It sees solidarity as a global issue because it extends all around the world. In the French overseas territories, the SPF gets involved after emergencies such as in 2017 when the powerful hurricane Irma swept through the Caribbean, devastating many of its islands. The organisation also works on sustainable development projects, investigating and anticipating the needs of the people who have been affected. In the wake of the disasters in the Caribbean, the SPF extended its solidarity by identifying local partners, associations, and institutions, and developing its operations based on themes, corresponding not only to natural disasters, but also to the poverty that was observed among many of the inhabitants. The SPF and its partners are still working there. In 2018, four copain du Monde children’s villages were organised in Guadeloupe and Guyana. They attracted 300 children from many different backgrounds, who learnt how to live together. These multicultural meetings are set to be extended to all the other overseas territories. These solidarity projects and the development of copain du Monde children’s villages in the overseas territories are part and parcel of solidarity for the twenty-first century. They underscore the interest and vital importance of upholding strong and lasting solidarity bridges between France and its overseas territories.
There is a time for listening, when the person gets a chance to express how they feel. We take down their stories and only after that do we move on to the practical phase.

Stéphanie
Volunteer in Clermont-Ferrand

It’s great to see young people so motivated in their local area and focused on a common goal to help others.

Student lawyers in Clermont-Ferrand have set up a human rights clinic. Twice a month, they provide support to people going through legal proceedings.

In the Val d’Oise, the Secours populaire has set up a mobile healthcare and listening centre. It travels around the department taking SPF doctors to meet people in difficulty, and direct them to appropriate healthcare channels.

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Christian
Volunteer in Chars

There is a time for listening, when the person gets a chance to express how they feel. We take down their stories and only after that do we move on to the practical phase.

Johanna
copain du Monde child

I became a “copain du Monde” child because it’s super important to help others in your spare time.

Since 1992, the Secours populaire has been encouraging children to join its “copain du Monde” volunteer movement for children. They collect money, school supplies or food, and show solidarity with others.
Every action counts: when generosity is combined with brotherhood and sisterhood, popular solidarity can thrive.

When generous energy and material and financial resources come together, the Secours populaire can take action alongside millions of people in France, Europe and around the world. This synergy, which gives rise to more solidarity, stems from the generosity of thousands of people who participate in this drive, each bringing their own contribution. Whether that contribution is time, donations, material resources, original initiatives, imagination, or inventions, each person gives however they can, whenever they can, and their combined know-how serves to spread and share the humanist values that the Secours populaire upholds. Whenever a donor, a volunteer (copain du Monde child, young person, or adult), a partner, a patron, or a Secours populaire doctor takes action, solidarity grows. The Secours populaire truly benefits from this diversity, provided by people from many different backgrounds, and this priceless relationship that focuses the concerns of everyone involved in solidarity on the well-being of other people. Rejecting individualism and discrimination, the Secours populaire brings solidarity to everyday life, and it's clear to see! Thank you to everyone who allows popular solidarity to thrive.

Training institute

The Secours populaire training institute supports the movement and its players, to bring the association's plans to fruition. Since it was founded, more than 44,000 people have taken training courses. There are around thirty courses available, and they have been designed with the same objective: to support those involved with the movement as they carry out their initiatives. Training sessions, as well as public seminars, theme days, symposia, group action-research workshops and so on increase the quality of solidarity, and strengthen the development of the association's financial resources and its progress as a whole. These are also opportunities to share, discuss and take the time to put the projects into perspective. During the training courses, each volunteer becomes an active collector and an enlightened citizen who is aware of the identity of the Secours populaire and can defend its independence and its strategy.

Joëlle Bottalico
Member of the National Bureau

80,000 volunteers
3,609 volunteers trained in 2018
39,213 hours of training in 2018

“the Secours populaire brings solidarity to everyday life, and it's clear to see!”

19 Key players
Rue du monde supports the Secours populaire because it defends the values that we want to share with children through our books: equality, solidarity, anti-racism, the right to culture, gender equality, sharing, and so on.”

Introducing children to literature

Rue du monde, a publisher specialising in children’s books, has been supporting the Secours populaire for many years. During the summer, it runs the L’été des bouquins solidaire programme, and provides books to the Secours populaire when its customers purchase two new books. The programme has led to 6,000 books being distributed each year to children who take part in the Journée des oubliés des vacances holiday initiative organised by the SPF federations of the Ile-de-France. Since 2004, 150,000 books have been distributed to children who receive support from the association, which enables them to discover the joy of books and learn more about the world.

European food aid programme

The European Union has been funding a food aid programme since 2014, known as the Fund for European Aid to the Most Deprived (FEAD), which supports 16 million Europeans. In France, four partner associations benefit from European food aid, including the Secours populaire. In 2018, the FEAD allocated 24,190 tons of pasta, milk, meat, fruit and vegetables to the SPF, which represents 33% of the association’s sources of food aid. This essential support helps the 1,773,340 people who request food support from the Secours populaire.
The Secours populaire doesn’t operate like other associations; our decentralised structure means that all our branches can work on concrete projects to bring about effective solidarity, in the spirit of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, with dignity, respect, tolerance and avoidance of undignified handouts. By calling upon a vast range of partners to support our projects, regardless of their status (public or private companies, works councils, associations, institutions or local authorities, etc.) or what form their support takes (financial or material, provision of expertise or innovative, creative and motivating partnership based on a solidarity project, etc.), we promote and encourage acts of solidarity to help those who suffer, whether they are in France or anywhere else in the world.

It’s an opportunity for private partners and companies in particular to demonstrate how willing they are to offer support for those in need, and how determined they are to take action (as CSR, “Corporate Social Responsibility” policies suggest). Partnerships with the SPF, sponsorship programmes, monetary donations or donations in kind can also be a source of motivation for employees. Its corporate partners understand the importance of associations, and of the Secours populaire in particular. The association goads public authorities, gives the poor a voice, contributes to the fight against poverty through concrete actions, and spreads the values of solidarity, which is one of the pillars of citizenship. Through free and voluntary solidarity, the Secours populaire relies on the invaluable support of its corporate partners in shaping public policy and fighting against poverty and instability.

There are countless partnerships still to be established if we are to step up solidarity in France and around the world.

“we promote and encourage acts of solidarity to help those who suffer, whether they are in France or anywhere else in the world.”
Key partners

Companies and corporate foundations

Ferrero
Carrefour
C&A
Fondation GSK France
Fondation JM Bruneau
LVMH
JCDecaux
les Monoprix
maxi Toys
MONOPRIX
Société Générale

Institutions

AFD
ancv
Europe
They also support us

Companies and corporate foundations

- AccorHotels
- Alstom Foundation
- Auchan
- Carrefour
- CIAT
- Conforama
- Crédit Mutuel Arkea
- DAMART
- Disneyland Paris
- EDF
- FDJ
- Fondation Carrefour
- Fondation de France
- Fondation FDJ
- Fondation du Grand Orient de France
- Fondation nExity
- Fondation Total
- Krys
- La Fondation Paris Saint-Germain
- Lagardère Travel Retail
- Le Robert
- Mutuelle Saint-Christophe Assurances
- Natixis
- Proman
- Groupe Verley
- Rue du Monde
- SNCF
- Thalys
- Touristra
- Uber

Institutions

- Ademe
- Ministère de l'Éducation nationale
- FDVA
- Gallica
- Ministère de la Justice
- Ministère de l'Éducation nationale
- Ministère de la Culture
- Ministère des Transports
Thanks also to

Our partners
In Clermont-Ferrand, a football team of refugees-migrants play in a match.
© Bruno Manno / SPF
The results of our annual IPSOS/Secours populaire survey show an increase in poverty and inequality.

We have seen a rise in the number of people using our welcome, solidarity and healthcare support centres (PASS), and an emergence of new categories of people in urban centres with the arrival of a large number of refugee-migrants (including unaccompanied minors), as well as a growing number of impoverished young people and students, which has lead to our creating specific centres. Mobile services are also being developed to go out to support the most vulnerable, the most socially isolated and the most excluded, especially in rural areas. The priority is to bring a human presence, to recreate and maintain social relationships. Those experiencing poverty have to be acutely aware of their budget and limiting spending is a daily reality.

Through the PASS centres, SPF volunteers strive to respond unconditionally to individual situations by adapting to each person’s needs, while respecting their personal dignity and autonomy. Food aid remains essential. It is also an effective stepping stone to other forms of support, and can lead to the provision of more services (access to rights, health, housing, jobseeking, sports, leisure, culture, holidays, school support, etc.) and ensure that beneficiaries restore balance to their lives. The possibility of being part of the solidarity beneficiaries have received through a voluntary commitment goes some way to restoring self-confidence, to creating new social bonds, to acquiring new skills and taking an active role in the association. The solidarity that was shown during 2018 enabled the Secours populaire to reaffirm its position as a “generalist” solidarity association.

“The priority is to bring a human presence, to recreate and maintain social relationships.”
Refugee-migrants

A response to the migrant issue must be provided in Secours populaire centres all over France.

Migrants are going to keep on arriving. There is no point sharing statistics here because they are constantly shifting, and aren’t actually very reliable, because many migrants are living under the radar.

It is our duty to acquire sufficient knowledge in our welcome facilities to provide better support while defending the rights of those who have arrived in our country to the best of our abilities.

And that is why the Secours populaire has set up a refugee-migrant working group. The group keeps track what is being done on a daily basis to support refugee migrants, while gathering and sharing best practices so that, throughout France, Secours populaire volunteers can take positive action and improve how refugee migrants are welcomed at our centres.

We know that the arrival of refugee migrants has an impact on Secours populaire federations throughout the country. It is now crucial that we show more solidarity than ever among all the branches of the association, to provide the best support for the thousands of families who have had to flee their country and seek refuge here. This solidarity must be expressed in all its forms: financial, material and human. And the help we receive from our partners, volunteers, and donors, is absolutely vital.
The Secours populaire made it possible for me to eat. When you have nothing, you don’t know anyone and you’re in a foreign country; feeling healthy and not hungry is a wonderful thing.

Since June, the Secours populaire has run a centre in Lyon to provide support for unaccompanied minors. A team of volunteers works on site every day, welcoming around a hundred young refugee migrants who are struggling to get by. Breakfast is served there each morning, and on weekends lunch is also available. The Secours populaire volunteers also offer support in many different forms, from legal guidance to health checks or museum outings. With an average age of 16, these unaccompanied minors can also attend workshops to help them integrate professionally or academically: support for maths and English, a CV and covering letter workshop, or music and drama lessons.
Emergencies

Coping with emergencies and fostering ties.

During natural disasters, floods, storms, and fires, the Secours populaire is on the scene as soon as possible to provide unconditional emergency support to everyone affected. We send as many people and as much support as we can, in accordance with the scale of the damage. We take immediate action and work as closely as possible with the people who have been affected. An emergency unit is set up, whose aim is to assist the victims on the ground, then provide them with the means to survive and return to their lives as decently as they can. Food aid, clothing, distribution of water, cleaning products, furniture, etc. This immediate help is only possible through the hard work of facilitators-collectors-volunteers, the generosity of donors, contributions from our emergency fund, and support from our partners. When the initial emergency period is over, the Secours populaire stays on the ground because legal and administrative support is key in helping the victims get back on their feet. A huge amount of moral support and regular visits are also required to keep the connections going.
57% of French people are afraid they can’t face an unexpected expense

Guy Carcassonne

People brought us water, then products to help us finish cleaning. I honestly didn’t think I’d get such great help.

In action

Emergency aid for disaster victims affected by floods in the Aude department of France.

On the night of 14 to 15 October 2018, the Aude department was battered with heavy rainfall. This caused widespread flooding, 15 deaths, and 100 wounded, as well as destroying many homes. With the funds collected by the Secours populaire, almost 30 communities in the Aude received basic necessities such as water, infant formula and food. Shovels, brooms and dehumidifiers were also provided for residents so that they could begin repairing the damage alongside the volunteers. A month after the flood, more than 5,000 hours had been spent by Secours populaire volunteers on helping the 450 flood victims. All the people who received support from the Secours populaire in the Aude were invited to spend New Years’ Eve together, as a sign of solidarity.
Food aid can take many forms, such as in Strasbourg where fruit and vegetables are grown in solidarity gardens. © Jean-Marie Rayapen / SPF

Sébastien Thollot
National Secretary

Food aid

Unconditional food aid, throughout the country.

Food aid is implemented across France by all Secours populaire branches, because it meets the most urgent need of all: nourishment. But food aid does more than meet a vital need. It is the gateway to all other forms of solidarity. It allows volunteers to get to know the beneficiaries and gain insight into their overall situation, and to suggest solutions that might help improve other aspects of their lives.

Food aid is offered as part of the solidarity services, which allow each person to choose the products they would like to receive. To ensure that the food provided is varied and nutritious, volunteers acquire it from an array of sources.

Food aid is partly obtained through the FEAD (Fund for European Aid to the Most Deprived), and is offered unconditionally, for every person who comes forward, regardless of their age, resources, or status. The FEAD shows those who are most in need that Europe is about social issues and taking concrete action. Through food aid, a relationship of trust can be established with people. As a result, other difficulties are mentioned, guidance offered, and solutions found. This practical solidarity can even encourage those who receive it to become volunteers in their own right.
Food is the first point of entry for people. They come looking for food, we form bonds and then we offer a practical support for their health, housing, and culture needs.

In action

A solidarity project in Marseille involved making baskets to bring organic food to those on a tight budget.

A healthy and high-quality diet is often synonymous with good health. The Secours populaire and the Paniers Marseillais association have been working together on the Adopte un panier (adopt a basket) project. Between May and October, 34 families in Marseille were able to receive baskets of organic vegetables at just 3 euros each. Varying from week to week depending on market availability, potatoes, carrots and courgettes were included in the baskets, which had a market value of 15 euros. In addition to supporting local producers, this project enabled families in the 13th and 14th districts in the city to improve their diet and discover a new range of vegetables. On the strength of the 2018 campaign, preparations for the 2019 solidarity baskets are already under way.

Christelle
Clermont-Ferrand

Food is the first point of entry for people. They come looking for food, we form bonds and then we offer a practical support for their health, housing, and culture needs.
Our actions
France

The people experiencing instability who come to our welcome centres often have no idea about their basic rights.

This lack of knowledge, coupled with the complexity of legal processes, generates additional fragility that is difficult for these people to overcome alone. One of the Secours populaire’s aims is to support these people as they go through administrative or legal procedures. Through the involvement of our volunteers and the mobilisation of the solidarity network of professionals and legal experts, we can provide guidance so that they have proper legal support, or simply access to their basic rights. The association has volunteer lawyers and legal experts who work constantly to support the Secours populaire’s beneficiaries in their efforts, and help them to understand the legal system. These various legal, institutional and association-based players work together to encourage attendance at meetings, discussions, and training, and to improve access to rights. Throughout France, in all the welcome, solidarity and healthcare support centres run by the association (PASS), volunteers are on hand to listen to, guide and support those in need, with the common goal of increasing their autonomy, respecting their dignity and ensuring access to their rights.
Any form of energy and goodwill is useful in the field of law, to show caregivers and associations that they are not alone.

In action

In Strasbourg, lawyers run a legal centre.

In the Secours populaire welcome centres in Strasbourg, people often have questions about their rights that volunteers are not always able to answer. So that’s why the SPF Bas-Rhin federation set up a legal centre, in partnership with the departmental centre for access to the law, and the Strasbourg Bar. On the first Monday every month, a lawyer takes appointments with six people at the Secours populaire centre, providing them with advice and guidance in their legal proceedings. The lawyer answers all their questions, which may range from rental litigation to asylum applications or the right to consumption.
Having a home in France today goes a long way to determining social and professional integration.

Volunteers in our welcome centres pay particular attention to this issue throughout the year. First of all they promote access to housing, by supporting beneficiaries through the search process and offering assistance with down payments, covering the first insurance installment, or simply finding solutions for acquiring furniture. Later, to prevent tenants from being evicted and to help those who do manage to secure a home (and have to deal with various struggles) to keep on living there. SPF volunteers welcome, listen to and inform those struggling with housing, and facilitate access to official channels and rights.

This vigilance is stepped up when the suspension of tenant evictions during the winter period comes to an end. The suspension period protects many people from the dangers of being on the street in harsh weather. The Secours populaire also pays attention to those who have no shelter at all, and have to cope with extremely unstable living conditions. The SPF organises street campaigns in many cities all over France to meet these people, encourage them to take shelter, support them in their efforts, and provide them with immediate material assistance. Working as a goad to public authorities, the Secours populaire also uses its projects to remind institutions that having shelter is a basic human right.
I live in a tent, so eating is a bit of a pain. Fortunately the Secours populaire is there to help. They provide coffee and hot chocolate to warm us up.

In action

Mobile services to help the homeless.

Every winter, Secours populaire’s volunteers go out onto the streets of Reims to meet homeless people. From 1 November to 30 March, a van is parked in front of the city’s train station, offering hot drinks and snacks. From Monday to Friday, nearly 40 people visit the van daily, looking for a little warmth and nourishment in the form of a bowl of soup and a sandwich. Blankets, warm clothes and personal care products are also available. In addition to material support, Secours populaire’s volunteers take the opportunity to talk to those in need and form relationships with them, which helps them to feel a little comfort and reassurance.

41,620 people accompanied on assistance in maintaining and accessing housing

In Reims, our volunteers come to meet the homeless. © Pascal Montary / SPF
When you live in poverty, health is no longer a priority.

In a healthcare system that is primarily oriented towards cures, the Secours populaire places huge importance on prevention, which is essential to limit the dangers caused by poverty. People who come to SPF health centres are lent a listening ear. They are guided by Secours populaire physicians, who are volunteers from the medical and social spheres, towards the most suitable healthcare channels. Families also receive support with regard to their rights, they are given dietary advice, information on child care, vaccinations, etc. They can also attend nutrition workshops where classes are given on how to cook with the products provided by self-service food banks, because health begins with diet. Many different prevention projects have been organised throughout France. The projects cover all aspects of healthcare, and ensure that as many people as possible can gain access to it. Volunteers from the association work as a bridge between the people it supports and hospitals or administrations. At the Secours populaire, it’s not about providing “medicine for the poor”, but about educating people on health and preventive care.
The idea behind our health centres is simply to provide people with a general health check-up. My role is to identify what needs the most urgent attention.

In action

In Arles, a health centre promotes access to healthcare.

Since October 2018, the Secours populaire has been running a healthcare centre in Arles offering medical assistance to anyone who needs it. Opening once or twice a week during food distribution hours, this healthcare information and welcome centre is run by five volunteers. A dietician, a gynaecologist, a nurse, a paediatrician and a dentist provide advice and information, and direct patients through the appropriate healthcare channels. Since it was created, the healthcare centre has responded to requests from around fifty people. An event on sugar has recently been developed by Secours populaire volunteers to address food issues.
Holidays
“Holidays are like soup, they help you to grow!”

Holidays are a way for people of all ages to develop their characters and find autonomy, but they are also important in making people feel like active participants in society. And that’s why making holidays accessible to everyone is an important social issue.

Yes, holidays are essential for people living in severe poverty. To address this issue, the Secours populaire has implemented initiatives such as its famille de vacances family programme, has supported copain du Monde villages, and has stepped up partnerships with players in social tourism and private companies, those who share our values and our approach to education for all. The right to holidays is also an investment in education, to help people live together more peacefully. Those who benefit from Secours populaire support for holidays feel valued, because their right to cultural enrichment is valued. This allows them to meet new people and discover other cultures and ways of life. It enables each person to develop his or her own ability to recognise the right to be different.

Holidays also have an impact on behaviour, they influence how we interact with others, and how we perceive ourselves and our environment. They help to reduce exclusion and encourage social diversity.

In its activity report, the Secours populaire demonstrates that it is constantly adapting its practices, moving with modern times, so that each and every person can find their role in society.
When I got back home after my holiday I felt great. I’d had a wonderful time with my family and friends and made some amazing memories.

In action

Discovering the joys of winter sports.

With the Secours populaire, holidays can be enjoyed all year round. For families in difficulty who receive support from the Secours populaire, a winter skiing holiday is out of the question, because it is far too expensive. That’s why the SPF Côte d’Or Federation set about organising a skiing holiday for 24 primary and secondary school children. They spent a week in February in the Haute-Savoie department of France. They were able to discover the fun of mountain sports, and experience what it is like to ski. Secours populaire volunteers used their imagination to the full, and made this holiday truly unforgettable. The children were taught how to build an igloo, they came down the slopes on toboggans, and were even able to learn about astronomy in the evenings.
Access to culture, recreation and sport is a social issue!

We base all of our work on education for all, and our volunteers work tirelessly on a daily basis to reconnect people with the outside world by offering families cultural outings to cinemas, museums, theatres, concert halls, and football and handball matches. They also encourage people to join creative groups in the form of workshops or to learn a new sport.

Our approach is built upon respecting the people who receive our support as human beings with the need for fulfillment from a range of sources, the development of a critical mind, the acquisition of moral values, creativity, and citizenship. And this must all be carried out through a relationship of equals. Access to culture, as the Secours populaire sees it, is more than consumption, it contributes to individual development and should be tailored to personal interests.

By bringing sport to more people, we can reduce inequality, fight against exclusion, and above all defend the idea that sport is an excellent way to express yourself, a factor for physical and mental growth, a vector for integration. Just like culture and recreation, sport creates social bonds.
One of my responsibilities is culture, because I think that culture is a way of getting out, moving forward, seeing life as more beautiful than the experiences we have had so far.

**In action**

A centre to promote access to culture and recreation.

The Madtwoz Family association building in the Sandy Ground district of Saint-Martin was completely destroyed by Hurricane Irma in September 2017. This local centre set up by a former band worked as an association to support various generations of people in this priority area. Featuring a cybercafé, recording studio, BMX club, publishing house, and academic support service, plenty of activities took place there. The Secours populaire joined forces with Madtwoz Family to rebuild their premises, through a “Creative Lab” project. The idea is to allow this association to pick up where it left off, and develop new projects. One of the initiatives aims to help young people in the neighborhood discover creative professions (image, sound, video) and to train there.
“Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world.” Nelson Mandela

At the Secours populaire, education happens every single day, through all the people who come to our welcome centres, and by means of our approach to education for all. All the projects we run, both inside our centres and out, for children, young people and adults help us to create bonds between every person who comes through our doors, and create a network of mutual support, sharing and solidarity. We organise education and learning support for children in difficulty, often provided by students, as well as FLE courses (French as a foreign language) for adults, which are taught by adult volunteers, teachers, and students. Conversation workshops, which are run by our volunteers, also give new arrivals in our country a chance to learn the language quickly. And because education isn’t restricted to classrooms, we centre all our learning on culture. Culture opens people’s minds to the world, helps them to discover new areas of interest through cinema screenings, shows, plays, visits to monuments and museums, and gives people who come into our centres a chance to become informed and enlightened members of society.
Short film workshops for young people.

In Limoges, the Secours populaire has set up a range of short film workshops. Film director Sylvie Texier ran the project with around dozen young people aged 12 to 17. They started out by learning how to use a movie camera and microphone, how to frame a shot, edit the footage and use cinematography before going on to make their own short film. They spent a day at a market in Limoges interviewing passers-by and finding out their thoughts on the question: “What is citizenship?” The young people also created a personal report on one of the association’s volunteers and presented their films at the Limoges Bibliothèque Francophone Multimédia media library in front of 200 people, followed by a Q & A session.
Isolation, a lack of training and qualifications, and not enough material resources are the reasons for many of the difficulties involved in socioprofessional integration.

Given the obstacles faced by people using Secours populaire welcome centres, the association takes steps to get them involved in our projects so they can restore some of their self-confidence.

The Secours populaire provides support through its employment centres, but in no way acts as a replacement for official public services. Volunteers are on hand to listen, advise, accompany and guide people in their efforts, and encouraging them to become autonomous in their search for employment.

In all departments, the Secours populaire takes on young trainees and other young people on community service schemes, so that they can benefit from an experience in the world of work, and find out about our association's values of solidarity.

As volunteers don't accept that a lack of material resources should get in the way of insertion, the Secours populaire offers access to equipment for work. It also provides travel tickets, encourages access to driving lessons, or finds solutions to obtain microloans, e.g. to buy a vehicle for a person who wants to get back to work.
I needed someone to tell me that I could do it, that I was able to do it.

In action

Jobseekers’ workshops in Toulouse.

In Toulouse, every Tuesday, Thursday and Friday, the Secours populaire runs workshops for people seeking employment. The workshops are designed to encourage social integration and provide support for those who have particular difficulties because of their unstable personal situation. Volunteers direct people to the appropriate channels to make their job search process easier, so that they can work on a professional plan. CV and covering letter-writing workshops, interview preparation and employment contract reading are also provided. In 2018, 166 people benefited from these services.
Our actions around the world
By your side, wherever you are in the world.

At the Secours populaire français, solidarity has no borders. What happens somewhere else in the world has consequences here, and vice versa. In a context where the scourges of racism, xenophobia, and rejection of others are rife, it is more important than ever that we work together to combat poverty and instability. We are fully aware that non-governmental organisations don’t have all the answers. But each time a child is saved, each time a refugee finds shelter, each time a person obtains access to drinking water, each time solidarity is shown towards a victim of Human Rights violation, our work is worthwhile. Our actions are irreplaceable. They impact people’s lives in a very real way. And that is why the Secours populaire works hand-in-hand with other non-profit organisations, in a relationship of equals, both during emergencies and when implementing sustainable projects. Its work aims to satisfy basic needs and ensure quality of life, through collective actions that involve people in improving their own situation. So solidarity encourages people to interact, to get to know each other better, to share experiences and stories. This is the cornerstone of our approach. We have to work together to develop how we move forward, because now more than ever, if we’re going to achieve our goals, we need to work together.

“"Our actions are irreplaceable. They impact people’s lives in a very real way."
Our presence around the world

The Secours populaire works in 68 countries and has 158 partners

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Actions and Programmes</th>
<th>Countries</th>
<th>People Supported</th>
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<td>Europe (excluding France)</td>
<td>47</td>
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241 programmes and solidarity projects benefit 249,130 people
A series of natural disasters

August, September and December: 2018 wreaked havoc in Indonesia. The country was hit by a stream of earthquakes and tsunamis that ravaged several of its islands. According to local authorities, 600,000 people were affected by natural disasters. Each time catastrophe struck, the Secours populaire sprung into action to help the thousands of victims. Working alongside its Filipino partner Mirasol, the association went straight into the local community to assess its needs and provide support for families. In Lombok and Palu, food and personal care kits were handed out, along with water purification filters and tents for nearly 35,000 people.

"The SPF has been working in these countries, funded by donations from its thousands of collectors"
Our social protection systems are among the most developed in the world, and yet too many Europeans are still living in poverty.

In 1987, Joseph Wresinski’s report presented a definition of poverty: “Poverty is the absence of one or more sources of security, especially employment, which allows individuals and families to assert their professional, family and social rights, and enjoy their fundamental rights...” In the European Union, 79 million people currently live below the poverty line. And they represent 17% of the continent’s population.

In 2018, the Secours populaire continued its solidarity in Europe alongside associations and partner organisations as it had for many years, fighting extreme poverty. 47 actions and solidarity programmes were carried out, with 34 partners in 19 European countries. Secours populaire is also taking action to support the Fund for European Aid to the Most Deprived (FEAD) so that it can become a more ambitious program, and the bedrock of social inclusion. This fund is absolutely essential in the fight against poverty and exclusion in Europe. We are striving to ensure that it can be continued and expanded after 2020.

“In the European Union, 79 million people currently live below the poverty line.”

Copains du Monde at a conference on the rights of children

On 29, 30 and 31 October 2018, the third edition of the Eurochild conference was held in Croatia. Eurochild is a European network designed to defend children’s rights. It brings together 160 organisations from 33 countries. Every two years, a meeting is held so that the organisations can talk about their work. The theme of the 2018 edition was “Building a better Europe with children: All aboard!” Around 100 children aged 11 to 17 and 200 social workers exchanged ideas and thoughts over the course of the three days. Two young people from the “copain du Monde” children’s holiday movement represented the Secours populaire. They took the opportunity to meet other volunteers and share their volunteering experience.
The first copain du Monde children’s village in Portugal

From 22 July to 3 August, the Secours populaire organised its first copain du Monde (friend of the world) children’s village in Portugal, in association with the city of Braga, its local partner. Twenty children from the Secours populaire Puy-de-Dôme federation spent two weeks in Apulia and Braga with a group of Portuguese children. It was a great opportunity for all the children to understand more about a different culture by visiting a new country, but also to improve their ability to live together, through games organised by volunteers and recreational activities such as trips to the beach and the swimming pool. Fifteen Portuguese children who had been placed in foster care also took part in this village, and were able to find a little light relief from their daily struggles.
Sub-Saharan Africa is still one of the poorest regions in the world, and inequality is widespread.

According to the UN, Africa has 1.2 billion inhabitants, and the figure is estimated to reach 1.7 billion by 2030. For many, sourcing food is still a very difficult task, and hunger is now on the rise after several years of decline. The situation is now seriously undermining the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) that were adopted by the UN in September 2015.

From north to south and west to east, all over the African continent, the Secours populaire runs solidarity projects with the support of its donors and local partners to bring relief to many areas, particularly in the fields of education, food and healthcare. The SPF has plans for the construction of maternity wards and classrooms, and training projects for medical staff and teachers, etc. It provides support for the development and expansion of family farms, which can bring solutions to the local population's nutritional requirements. It builds water access infrastructure and sanitation systems that meet local needs, brought about by population growth, water pollution and the adverse consequences of climate change.

A programme to help indigenous Pygmies

In the Democratic Republic of the Congo, indigenous Pygmy populations live in very unstable conditions. The Secours populaire and the Foyer de développement pour l’autopromotion des Pygmées et Indigènes défavorisés (FDAPID, an organisation for the self-promotion of underprivileged Pygmy and indigenous populations) jointly developed a programme to facilitate access to food. Fields were rented so that the people could grow crops there. Potatoes, cassava, beans and maize were harvested. The project also focused on access to education. School fees for 400 primary school pupils were covered, and more than 500 children received school kits containing uniforms, notebooks and pens.

“Support from the Secours populaire started in 2010 and aims to create stable jobs and sources of income for young people in Burkina Faso.”

Gervais Somda
Executive Secretary, Zambo Alliance Development, Burkina Faso

Daniel Vermeire
Member of the Board of Directors

In action

Democratic Republic of the Congo
Nord-Kivu

Support from the Secours populaire started in 2010 and aims to create stable jobs and sources of income for young people in Burkina Faso.”

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“A programme to help indigenous Pygmies

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Executive Secretary, Zambo Alliance Development, Burkina Faso
America is a continent of contrasts. Although the Secours populaire has only worked occasionally in wealthy North America – especially in Houston in 2017 in the wake of Hurricane Harvey – it has a long history with the southern part of the continent. The Secours populaire runs development projects in fifteen South American countries. Our support often takes the form of emergency and post-emergency action following major incidents or disasters. We then meet associations, which become our partners on the ground, and with whom we set up projects based on needs that have been identified. This was what happened in Haiti, Ecuador, and more recently in Mexico and the Caribbean following the natural disasters there, when the Secours Populaire provided emergency assistance to those affected, then went on to plan reconstruction and development projects. These projects rely primarily on the expertise and know-how of local partners and on the active participation of the people who receive the support.

In Membrillal, a small village in Ecuador, the population mainly relies on maize, rice and various vegetables for sustenance. For several years now, the region has been strongly affected by climate change, which has had an impact on the agricultural yields of peasant families, and brought their food sources under threat. The Secours populaire and its local partner, the Foundation for Research and Social Development (FIDES), established an agroecological project, setting up vegetable gardens for around fifty families. They are smaller and easier to maintain than cornfields, require little water and therefore provide farmers with ecological food security.

Martine Canal
President, Association Haïtienne des Citoyens pour le Développement (Haitian association of citizens for development), Haiti

“Seed distribution in the wake of hurricanes Irma and Maria will help to boost the economy and enable the population to cope with unstable living conditions.”

Abdelsem Ghazi
Member of the National Bureau

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Asia

Suffering has no boundaries. And that’s definitely true for Asia.

Suffering has no boundaries. And that’s definitely true for Asia.

Asia is a very diverse continent, but has been struck by countless disasters, both natural and man-made, although sometimes the causes can be indistinguishable. And nature was utterly ruthless in 2018 with three disasters hitting Indonesia, for which the Secours populaire took immediate action. Often in the aftermath of such disasters, whether they are natural or related to human activity, our association can establish contacts with local partners. The Secours populaire operates on the premise that it is best to work with a network of local associations on a country-wide or continent-wide scale. Though we apply our solidarity projects to a vast array of issues, childhood, education and health are very often the basis of our work. Women and children are high on our list of priorities.

Asia is a great example of that. In Nepal, for example, we are rebuilding schools after the 2015 earthquake and we are focusing on training women there. While there are still many challenges on the continent yet to be met, we remain tireless in our work to support its people.

Refurbishment of a school damaged by the earthquake
In 2015, Nepal was hit by a dreadful earthquake that ripped through the country. Most schools were destroyed, depriving one million children of education. In the village of Mahalaxmi, the state school suffered severe damage, leaving eight classes unfit for use, and forcing pupils to study in dangerous shelters. To resolve the issue, the Secours populaire and its local partner, Urban Environment Management Society, developed a rebuilding project for the elementary and secondary schools. Taking earthquake standards into account, a two-storey building with seven classrooms was rebuilt. Sanitary facilities were also renovated, to make them accessible to all children.

Philippe Malet
President, Speed Trust, India

“Since the devastating tsunami in 2004, hundreds of underprivileged children in Chennai’s Gandhi Nagar slum have been able to escape their daily lives by taking part in educational and leisure activities.”

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The world’s worst humanitarian crisis

That is how the UN describes the situation in Yemen, a country that has been at war since 2015. An estimated 24.1 million people, two-thirds of the population, are in need of humanitarian assistance, and 3.3 million have been displaced. Among them, 5,000 have fled to Djibouti, where they are now trying to survive without resources. The Secours populaire, along with its partners Bender Djedid for Socio-Economic Development and the Catalan Association for Peace, organised emergency food distributions for Yemeni families, but also for Djiboutians without resources, as well as refugees from surrounding countries. 2,544 people received support, including 1,638 children.

Conflicts in the region displace millions.

As in previous years, the Secours populaire is faced with the consequences of wars that are wreaking havoc throughout the Near and Middle East. The conflicts in Syria and Iraq are displacing millions of people and have triggered an unprecedented migration crisis, even within the affected countries and neighbouring states. Lebanon has been particularly affected by the influx of Syrian refugee migrants. In seven years, one and a half million people have left behind everything they have and sought asylum in Lebanon, a country dealing with its own economic and political crisis. The Secours populaire and its local partner work with those who have been displaced and a population suffering from very serious instability. The SPF is also very active in Palestine, which saw widespread bloodshed in 2018. The association supports its local partner, the Palestinian Medical Relief Society, in several areas such as emergency medical assistance as well as projects that encourage young people to become active in society. And let’s also remember Yemen, where the worst humanitarian crisis ever recorded is under way, according to the UN. The number of civilian victims of the conflict has gone into the thousands. Many families have had to take refuge in Djibouti, where we are running emergency food distribution programmes for refugees.

“The conflicts in Syria and Iraq are displacing millions of people and have triggered an unprecedented migration crisis.”

Our actions

Middle East

“The International Youth Conference in Ramallah will give future generations an example to follow and show them how to be effective in the society where they live.”
This year again, we have seen an increase in public generosity.

© Jean-Marie Rayapen / SPF
In 2018, Secours Populaire provided support to more than 3.2 million people.

Our association has always stepped up to provide support and guidance in various forms for anyone who needs it (food aid, clothing, access to health, rights, housing, education, culture, sport and leisure), and despite an increase in the number of people reaching out to us last year, 2018 was no different. We are able to assist these people because we have many volunteers who give their time, and make our federating motto a reality: “Tout ce qui est humain est nôtre”, human issues are our issues. It is worth noting that in the 2018 report, the value of volunteering and material donations grew significantly. This once again highlights the extent of volunteer contributions to the resources available to the SPF so it can take action wherever children, women and men need its help. Our association owes this capacity for action to the generosity and loyalty of its donors, without whom nothing would be possible. These donors may be individuals, or public or private partners who work with us on our initiatives in France and around the world.

Through our growing solidarity network, we access the resources we need to appeal to public generosity and therefore take effective action with victims of climate disasters, armed conflict, hunger, misery and injustice, in France and around the world. The generosity and loyalty of our donors is particularly commendable in 2018, which was a difficult year. The Secours populaire saw no decline in public generosity, and was able to implement all of its projects. That is why we’d really like to thank all our donors, and say to the world that we are more determined than ever to maintain this strong and transparent bond that unites us.

The Secours populaire is a signatory of the Don en Confiance (confident giving) charter, and always strives to nurture the trust of those who support it. Sincere thanks to all of you!
In 2018, 94% of the funds raised by means of public donations were used during the year. These financial resources stemming from public generosity represent 32% of the financial resources for the 2018 tax year, as recorded in the company’s income statement. These figures do not include voluntary contributions of material and equipment.

Resources

Resources collected from the public
€ 29.7 million
These are mainly donations and bequests. Financial gifts or bequests are recorded and monitored so they can be used for whatever specific purpose the donor indicated. If none has been specified, then the SPF can direct the funds to where they are most urgently needed: to carry out social missions, to cover operating costs or to supplement the financing of solidarity actions.

Subsidies and other public aid
€ 16.5 million
These originate from various sources: local authorities, the government, social organisations or the European Union.

Other proceeds
€ 4.2 million
This category mainly includes sales and other proceeds generated by daily management.

Other private funds
€ 40.5 million
These are contributions received from companies and foundations (partnerships, sponsorship, etc.), the proceeds collected as a result of initiatives or voluntary fundraising, and the amounts collected from people during our solidarity campaigns.

Funds and resources carried over from previous years
€ 2.5 million
This corresponds to allocated resources from previous years that the SPF used in 2018, in accordance with the donor’s wishes that were expressed at the time of the donation.
73% of the total resources are voluntary contributions in kind, including 30% for volunteering

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Funds in euros</th>
<th>Funds collected during 2018 (profit and loss account)</th>
<th>Monitoring of funds collected from the public and used in 2018</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Funds carried over collected from the public, non-designated and not used at the beginning of the financial year</td>
<td></td>
<td>2,474,891</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Donations and bequests collected</td>
<td>29,652,054</td>
<td>29,652,054</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other income from public generosity</td>
<td>24,046</td>
<td>24,046</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other private funds</td>
<td>40,503,917</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Subsidies and other public aid</td>
<td>16,457,842</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other proceeds</td>
<td>4,224,398</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total funds for the financial year registered in the profit and loss account – I</strong></td>
<td><strong>90,862,256</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Release of provisions – II</td>
<td></td>
<td>248,489</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Funds unused in previous years and carried over – III</td>
<td></td>
<td>2,533,168</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Variation of designated funds collected from the public – IV</td>
<td></td>
<td>-151,645</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Grand total (I+II+III+IV)</strong></td>
<td><strong>93,643,913</strong></td>
<td><strong>29,524,456</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total employment funded by resources collected from the public</td>
<td></td>
<td>30,060,566</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unexpected funds collected from the public, non-designated and not used at the end of the financial year</td>
<td></td>
<td>1,938,781</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Voluntary contributions in kind</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Volunteer work</td>
<td>107,362,945</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Services rendered in kind</td>
<td>25,541,801</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Donations in kind</td>
<td>126,003,391</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>258,908,138</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Employment

In 2018, 64% of the resources received from public generosity were allocated to social missions, 15% to fundraising costs, 14% to fundraising operations and other expenses and 7% to financial investments. These figures do not include voluntary contributions of material and equipment.

Social missions
€ 62.2 million
Social missions are the activities carried out by the structures of the Secours populaire français, in accordance with its statutes. They contribute directly to the initiation and implementation of solidarity in France and abroad: volunteers welcome and provide guidance for people in difficulty, holidays are provided, the Père Noël Verts Green Father Christmas campaign is run, food and clothing distributions are organised, the Journée des oubliés des vacances holiday initiative and copain du Monde villages are run, etc. But these resources also go towards providing emergency relief in France. Solidarity around the world means dealing with emergencies (climate disasters, famine, actions to support refugee migrants) and the many development programmes. Out of a total of €62.2 million in social actions, €19.4 million was financed by public generosity.

Operating costs
€ 15.8 million
The SPF finances its solidarity and health relay centres, where its 80,000 volunteers work throughout France. These costs are restricted to funding solidarity projects, as illustrated by the distribution of uses, whether financial or material (see page 65). Out of a total of €15.8 million, €4.1 million was financed by public generosity.

Commitments to be made on allocated resources
€ 3.3 million
These are donations collected in 2018 that the SPF is committed to using, in accordance with donors’ wishes, as part of planned or ongoing projects.

Surplus funds for the year
€ 4.9 million
This year’s income statement is positive. The SPF is therefore building a working capital reserve to secure the sustainable financing of its missions over the long term.

Fundraising expenses
€ 7.2 million
The cost of appealing for donations from the public includes requests from the major SPF campaigns, bequests, donations, life insurance and emergency calls, especially in the Convergence magazine. Out of a total of €7.2 million, €4.5 million is financed by public generosity.
### Employment in euros

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Employment 2018 (profit and loss account)</th>
<th>Allocation per employment of the funds collected from the public and used in 2018</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Social missions carried out in France</td>
<td>56,933,910</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social missions carried out abroad</td>
<td>5,292,805</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fundraising expenses</td>
<td>7,235,804</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Operating costs and other overheads</td>
<td>15,753,970</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total expenses financed by funds collected from the public</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total employment for the financial year entered in the profit and loss account – I</td>
<td>85,216,489</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Allocations to provisions – II</td>
<td>230,926</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Commitments to be realized with designated funds – III</td>
<td>3,298,722</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Surplus funds for the year – IV</td>
<td>4,897,777</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grand total – V (I+II+III+IV)</td>
<td>93,843,913</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Proportion of gross fixed assets for the year financed by funds collected from the public</td>
<td>2,080,464</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grand total employment funded by resources collected from the public</td>
<td>30,060,586</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Voluntary contributions in kind

| Social missions                            | 223,052,987 |
| Fundraising expenses                       | 11,285,054  |
| Operating costs and other overheads        | 24,570,097  |
| **Total**                                  | 258,908,138 |
Simplified balance sheet

The balance sheet is a photograph taken on 31 December of the estate and financial situation of the SPF.

Active

Fixed assets
Includes property, plant and equipment (premises, vehicles, office and handling equipment, etc.). These investments ensure that the accompaniment and solidarity activities are carried out and that the SPF’s structures can be maintained, while guaranteeing the association’s independence.

Current assets
Mainly include liquid assets, which are made up of marketable securities and other liquid assets. In comparison to last year, marketable securities have decreased by 2 million euros and availabilities have increased by 2 million euros.

Passive

Capital liabilities
Comprise the statutory funds of almost 38 million euros. Net income for the year amounted to €4.9 million.

Dedicated funds
Are resources that were not fully consumed during 2018 (donations, bequests, subsidies and other resources) and which the association undertakes to use in accordance with the donors’ wishes. They amounted to €12.3 million, which is slightly up on 2018.

Debts
Correspond to the amounts remaining due on the last day of the year and which may be settled as of the following January (social and tax debts, for example).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Net assets in euros</th>
<th>2018</th>
<th>2017</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fixed assets</td>
<td>55,106,189</td>
<td>50,608,632</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>On-going inventory</td>
<td>288,926</td>
<td>244,548</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Debt</td>
<td>7,481,700</td>
<td>7,517,496</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Treasury</td>
<td>74,226,944</td>
<td>74,056,782</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accruals and prepaid expenses</td>
<td>728,582</td>
<td>710,935</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total fixed assets</strong></td>
<td><strong>82,726,151</strong></td>
<td><strong>82,529,761</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Total assets        | 137,832,340 | 133,138,393 |

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Net liabilities in euros</th>
<th>2018</th>
<th>2017</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Accumulated funds</td>
<td>100,847,150</td>
<td>95,086,385</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Combined difference</td>
<td>-18,701</td>
<td>2,555</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Provisions</td>
<td>539,800</td>
<td>571,141</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Designated funds</td>
<td>12,259,489</td>
<td>11,593,658</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Debts</td>
<td>22,728,398</td>
<td>23,538,731</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deferred income</td>
<td>1,477,224</td>
<td>2,347,923</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total liabilities</strong></td>
<td><strong>137,832,340</strong></td>
<td><strong>133,138,393</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Use of financial and material resources in 2018
€344 million
(excluding provisions, income from that tax year and commitments to be completed)

Social projects in France, 81%
€279,986,897

Social projects abroad, 2%
€5,292,805

Fundraising costs, 5%
€18,520,858

Operating costs, 12%
€40,324,067

Solidarity in France
Budget distribution by sector
(€56.9 million)

Poverty, instability, 35%
€20,052,317

Food, 18%
€10,385,805

Coordinating the solidarity network in France, 17%
€9,774,285

Holidays and holiday initiatives, 15%
€8,801,216

Pères Noël Verts (Green Father Christmas), 6%
€3,685,096

Volunteer training, 3%
€1,888,828

Leisure, culture, sport, 3%
€1,876,461

Emergencies, 1%
€469,903

Solidarity around the world
Budget distribution by sector
(€5.3 million)

Emergencies, 27%
€1,430,602

Multi-country projects, 24%
€1,273,858

Africa, 16%
€823,136

Volunteer hours, 30%
€107,362,945

Food products, 28%
€100,778,799

Services in kind, 7%
€25,541,801

Donations in kind (excluding food), 7%
€25,224,592

Financial resources, excluding public generosity, 18%
€63,040,259

Financial resources from public generosity collected in 2018, 9%
€30,452,010

Boost effect: In 2018, for every €10 it received, the SPF was able to create the equivalent value of €36 in material and financial solidarity.
Let’s take solidarity even further.
Follow us by subscribing to our newsletter on secourspopulaire.fr
or find us on social networks.
PAS D’ACTION SANS DUN

TOUT CE QUI EST HUMAIN EST NÔTRE
Supporting us means investing in the future.

We need you! Please send us your donations.

secourspopulaire.fr

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Thank you for your support. 75% of the amount of your donation (capped at €546) can be deducted from your income tax. After that, the reduction is 66%, and limited to 20% of your net taxable income.