Shelter Photo Catalogue

Highlights from two decades of adequate solutions in rapid response, recovery and reconstruction

October 2020
Catholic Relief Services is the official international humanitarian agency of the United States Catholic community. CRS’ relief and development work is accomplished through programs of emergency response, HIV, health, agriculture, education, microfinance and peacebuilding. CRS eases suffering and provides assistance to people in need in more than 100 countries, without regard to race, religion or nationality.

CRS is proud to be a member of Caritas Internationalis, a global confederation of more than 160 members. Inspired by Catholic faith, Caritas works at the grassroots level in communities around the world, responding to emergencies, promoting development and advocating for a fair and just world.

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Catholic Relief Services
228 West Lexington Street
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1.888.277.7575
CRS.org
Our goal is to keep families together, especially when they are forced to leave their homes and communities.

Sean Callahan
CRS President and CEO
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When you have lost the place where you live, you cannot get on with your life.

We look at the conditions on the ground, we look at the community’s capacity, and we tailor our response specifically so we can contribute to the maximum impact.

If we do it the right way, and we can do it the best way that we can, we have an opportunity to change people’s lives.

Seki Hirano
Senior Shelter and Settlement Advisor
Humanitarian Response Department
Foreword

With over 25 years of active involvement in humanitarian crises around the world, the work of CRS and its partners reflects and responds to a wide array of contexts with diverse shelter solutions.

Aimed at our shelter and settlement practitioners, this Shelter Photo Catalogue covers emergency, transitional and permanent shelters and serves as a graphic tool to enable reflection and dialogue around shelter responses, while providing ideas to inform future designs and improve the homes and communities of disaster-affected people. It can be consulted independently, and additionally be explored with other resources such as the published 2020 Case Studies, Newsletters and the advice of HRD’s technical advisors.

The experience shown in these photos indicates that, with the right design, households and communities can be sustained and empowered in any stage of their recovery process.

How to use

The visual compilation is best explored via the Table of Contents, which lists Country Programs and context keywords. Each one displays photos and links to related resources. These suggested resources will provide you more information.

For more details, please contact: seki.hirano@crs.org
Bangladesh

Midterm shelters - Kutupalong Expansion Site, 2018

Years active: 2017 - 2020
Context: Conflict (refugee)
Type: Transitional; midterm
Photo credits: Federico Rota
Partners: Caritas Bangladesh, UNHCR, Government of Bangladesh

More information:
CRS Case Study 38_Bangladesh: S&S Newsletter September 2018
Bosnia and Herzegovina

Housing for refugees and displaced population, Jablanca, 2010

Years active: 2008 - 2011
Context: Post-conflict (returnees, social housing)
Type: Permanent
Photo credits: CRS, Laura Sheahan, Sam Tarling
Partners: Government of Bosnia and Herzegovina

More information:
CRS Case Study 01, Bosnia and Herzegovina, The S&S Newsletter November 2019
Housing for senior citizens, Fojnica, 2009

Home repairs for returnees in Kozice, 2008.

Housing for returnees, based on divided ownership, Dvar, 2009

Housing building retrofit, Gorazde, 2011

Social housing intervention for urban returns, Potocari, 2011.

Social housing intervention in rural area, Foca, 2011.
Years active: 2008 - 2020

Context: Conflict (internal displacement)

Type: School infrastructure; Emergency

Photo credits: Sam Phelps, Adolphe Kabore, Michael Stulman, Lane Hartill

Partners: OCADES, Government of Burkina Faso
Emergency shelters being assembled after the internal displacements, Kaya, 2020.

Emergency shelters are built using a combination of in-kind and cash assistance, Kaya, 2020.

Shelter maintained via SILC support, Goudrin village, Tougouri commune, 2017.

School built for girls, Kaya, 2018.
Burundi

_Durable shelter of the Uburaroro Bwiza project, 2019._

**Years active:** 2019

**Context:** Natural disaster (flood)

**Type:** Transitional; Permanent

**Photo credits:** Alexis Nshimirimana

**Partners:** Caritas Burundi

_More information:_

[The S&S Newsletter November 2019](#)

_One bedroom, durable shelter with external plaster, 2019._
Cameroon

Patient facilities at Batouri Catholic Hospital in East Cameroon, 2016.

Years active: 2016

Context: Development

Type: Health and school infrastructure

Photo credits: Serge Patrick, Andre Akono

Partners: CODAS-Caritas Batouri

More information:

Central African Republic

Christelle returned home after being displaced for over a year. The assistance allowed her to rebuild her house in Boda.

Years active: 2015—2018
Context: Conflict (internal displacement)
Type: Permanent
Photo credits: Michel Stulman
Partners: Caritas Central African Republic

More information:
The S&S Newsletter April 2018.

Assistance included tools, locks, wooden doors and windows to close the shelter.
Democratic Republic of Congo

In the remote rural areas of DRC, families rebuild permanente shelters using adobe bricks and thatch roofs. 2015.

Years active: 2014-2015
Context: Conflict (Internal displacement)
Type: Transitional; Permanent
Photo credits: Ninon Kabangu

More information:

24.5m² permanent shelters in the village of Kato, Pweto territory, 2015.
Dominica

Core shelters built followed the national construction guidance and recommendations to withstand hurricane winds.

Years active: 2018
Context: Natural disaster (hurricane)
Type: Core
Photo credits: Daniel Auger
Partners: Caritas Antilles

More information:

Core shelters built in response to Hurricane Maria
Ecuador

Transitional shelter built with bamboo and timber, Bigua, Manabí province.

Years active: 2016-2017

Context: Natural disaster (earthquake)

Type: Transitional; Prefabricated

Photo credits: Fernando Solis, E. Naranjo

Partners: Mercy Corp, Cooperazione Internazionale, Caritas Portoviejo

More information:

CRS Case Study 35, Ecuador

The S&S Newsletter March 2017

Mariana Solorzano received a temporary shelter shortly after the earthquake, San Bartolo, Manabí province.
Ethiopia

Due to the difficulty to access local materials, temporary shelters were built using corrugated iron sheets, Oromia region. 2018.

Years active: 2014-2019

Context: Conflict (refugee)

Type: Temporary; Permanent; School infrastructure

Photo credits: Ariel Sadural, Maheder Tadese, Will Baxter

Partners: Ethiopian Catholic Church Social and Development Commission (EE-SDCO); Hararghe Catholic Secretariat

More information:

Temporary shelters, Oromia region. 2018.

Two classrooms blocks constructed by CRS at Kule.

Temporary shelter for Yoseph Deneshe and his family of eight, Doggo Sodu kebele, West Guji, 2019.


Permanent shelter built where a temporary shelter was placed before, with support from DFID, in Gelcha kebele, Gedeb woreda, Gedeo zone, 2019.

Temporary shelter converted to a permanent home with support from DFID and CRS in Gelcha kebele, Gedeb woreda, Gedeo zone, 2019.
Gaza

Transitional shelter built with timber, one of the few materials available in the market at the time, 2014.

**Years active:** 2014-2018  
**Context:** Conflict (reconstruction)  
**Type:** Transitional  
**Photo credits:** CRS, Ahmed Dahalan  
**Partners:** Bayader for Environment and Development Association (Bayader)

More information:  
[CRS Case Study 34 Gaza](#)  
[The S&S Newsletter January 2015](#)
Greece

Renovated apartments for refugee families in Athens, 2016

Years active: 2016–ongoing
Context: Conflict (refugee situation)
Type: Transitional
Photo credits: Annika Grafweg
Partners: Caritas Greece

Communal space (library) after renovation, 2016.
Guatemala

Lilán Ordoñez and her family, from El Rodeo, received a transitional shelter following the volcanic eruption, which she and her husband decided to decorate with colorful flowers, 2018.

Years active: 2005 - 2018

Context: Natural disaster (Volcano eruption, earthquake, hurricane)

Type: Transitional; Permanent; Emergency

Photo credits: Ivan Palma, Caritas San Marcos

Partners: Caritas Escuintla, TECHO

More information:

Family standing in front of their transitional shelter following Volcan de Fuego’s eruption in Escuintla, 2018.

Children play in the open areas separating the transitional shelters built in Escuintla, 2018.


Guinea

Rehabilitated health facility, 2018

Years active: 2017-2018
Context: Natural disaster (ebola outbreak)
Type: Health infrastructure
Photo credits: CRS
Partners: UNOPS, Central Pharmacy of Guinea (PCG)

More information:
CRS Case Study 36_Guinea

Rehabilitated health facility, 2018.
Permanent housing for rural families, 2015.

Years active: 2015-2016
Context: Development
Type: Permanent housing, WASH facilities
Photo credits: Martin Nolasco, Edwin Ortiz
Partners: Government of Honduras

More information:
The S&S Newsletter November 2015,
The S&S Newsletter June 2016

One of the several toilet blocks built in schools in Belén Manazapa, 2016.
Reconstructed hospital St Francois de Sales, serves over 200 beds and diverse services, Port-Au-Prince, 2015.

**Years active:** 2010-2018

**Context:** Natural disaster (earthquake, hurricane)

**Type:** Health infrastructure; Transitional; Permanent; Community infrastructure

**Photo credits:** CRS Haiti, Gesner DeVilmar, Patrice Douge, Benjamin Depp

**Partners:** MSAADA Architects, Notre Dame University, Maryland University, International Medical Equipment Collaborative (IMEC), HKS Architects, HSFS medical doctors, Haiti Ministry of Health; Concern Worldwide, Architecture for Humanity (AfH); Catholic Health Association (CHA), Sur Futuro Foundation

**More information:**
Temporary shelters for camp residents, Carradeux, Port-au-Prince, 2010.

A resident paints her temporary shelter to improve its appearance after completion, 2010.

Permanent housing and community infrastructure, Grand Ravine neighborhood, Port-au-Prince, 2015.

Painted and improved shelters by camp residents, Carradeux, Port-au-Prince, 2011.

Reconstructed transitional home in Coteau, following hurricane Matthew, 2017.

Reconstructed transitional shelter for a family of nine, 2017.
India

Homeowners in front of their completed house, using traditional techniques, 2017.

Years active: 2001- Ongoing
Context: Natural disaster (flood)
Type: Permanent

Photo credits: Mehul Salva, Sailendra Pattanaik
Partners: Society for Welfare Animation and Development (SWAD); Pondicherry Multipurpose Social Service Society (PMSSS)


Shelter using improved techniques such as elevated foundation and weather-resistant plastering, 2015.


Permanent shelter, elevated to reduce risks of flooding, 2017.
Indonesia

Permanent house, built with internal sanitation facilities, Meulaboh, Aceh, 2007.

Years active: 2007 - 2019

Context: Natural disaster (earthquake and tsunami)

Type: Emergency; Transitional; Permanent

Photo credits: CRS Indonesia, I. Boyd, Sean Sprague, Maria Josephine Wijiastuti, Jennifer Hardy.

Partners: PKPU-HI, MDMC

More information:

Families were able to build transitional shelters after the earthquake using cash grants, West Sumatra, 2010.

Emergency shelters built with partners immediately after the earthquake and tsunami, Central Sulawesi, 2018.

78 bed capacity Maternity Hospital at Banda Aceh, Indonesia 2009.

Mohammad Natsi and the temporary shelter built at the site of his former home, Central Sulawesi, 2018.

Transitional shelter completed through cash transfers in Salua, Kulawi, Palu, 2019.

Personalized transitional shelter, completed through cash transfers, 2019.
Rehabilitated Bkersaf Shelter hosting migrants and managed by Caritas Lebanon Migrant Center. The works included repairs on the heating and sanitation system, the roof weatherproofing, removal of wall mold, maintenance of doors and windows and general painting, 2016.

**Years active:** 2006-2016

**Context:** Conflict (displacement, refugees)

**Type:** Transitional

**Photo credits:** David Sassine, David Snyder

**Partners:** Caritas Lebanon, Caritas Australia

Bkersaf shelter rehabilitation included room and office furniture, 2016.
The Reyfoun Shelter then rehabilitated and continuously managed by Caritas Lebanon Migrant Center to host migrants since the 2006 war.

Small building rehabilitated and then used as a youth center and social club, Aktaanite, 2007.

A kindergarten rehabilitated by CRS in the basement of a municipal building damaged by bombing during the war, 2007.

A Caritas-built playground in the village of Sarba in southern Lebanon, part of a post-war psychosocial effort to reach children, 2007.
These rural communities live in areas prone to flood, thus shelters are elevated and built on stilts, Brickaville.

Years active: 2012-2018

Context: Natural disaster (floods)

Type: Permanent

Photo credits: CRS Madagascar, J.E. Andrianambinina

Partners: Organe de Développement du Diocèse de Toamasina (ODDIT); Bureau de Développement de l'ECAR de Mananjary

More information:

[CRS Case Study 12_Madagascar](#), [CRS Case Study 47_Madagascar](#), [The S&S Newsletter September 2018](#)
Completed shelter unit, Elevated and braced against high winds.

House on stilts, Brickaville.

School facility assisted with minor improvements during the response to Cyclone Ava.
Malawi

Shelter built using improved, local techniques in Mwaliya village, 2019.

Years active: 2015 - ongoing
Context: Natural disaster (flood)
Type: Permanent
Photo credits: Johnnie Kunkhanda, CADECOM, Mandinda Zungu
Partners: Cadecom (Caritas Malawi)

More information:
Permanent shelter built using improved traditional techniques in Mwalija village, 2019.


Shelter built with traditional techniques, 2015.
Mali

*Emergency shelter solutions in northern Mali, 2018.*

**Years active:** 2018  
**Context:** Conflict (internal displacement)  
**Type:** Emergency  
**Photo credits:** CRS Mali  
**Partners:** Association Subaahi Gumo (ASG); CRADE, TASSAGHT; GARDL; Caritas Mopti; ALPHALOG

*More information:*  
[The S&S Newsletter April 2018](https://www.example.com), [The S&S Newsletter September 2018](https://www.example.com)
Mexico


Years active: 2017-2018
Context: Natural disaster (earthquake)
Type: Transitional
Photo credits: Renee Lambert
Partners: Centro de Asesoría y Capacitación Integral (CACID)

More information:
The S&S Newsletter December 2017
The S&S Newsletter April 2018

18m² transitional shelter in Oaxaca, 2017.
Mozambique

Isaac Julio Martins, 60 years old, used the emergency assistance to cover his shelter after cyclone Idai, 2019.

Years active: 2019

Context: Natural disaster (cyclone)

Type: Transitional, Emergency

Photo credits: Dooshima Tsee, Paulino Ripua.

Partners: Caritas Beira, Caritas Quelimane, Caritas Pemba

More information:
The S&S Newsletter June 2019

3 bedroom transitional shelter, built as a model home, Mopeia, 2019.

Years active: 2017-2020
Context: Conflict (internal displacement)
Type: Permanent
Photo credits: Naw Din

Training on safe practices provided to households as they plan to live in the settlement.

More information:
The S&S Newsletter December 2017
The S&S Newsletter June 2019
Nepal

Resilient, permanent home in Okhaldunga, 2019.

Years active: 2017 - 2019
Context: Natural disaster (earthquake)
Type: Permanent
Photo credits: Binod Paudel
Partners: Housing Recovery and Reconstruction Platform (HRRP)

More information:
The S&S Newsletter December 2017
The S&S Newsletter June 2019

Complete demonstration house in Arupukhari, 2017.
Shelter in Boudoumari village built with materials provided in-kind and others locally sourced, 2018.


Years active: 2018
Context: Conflict (internal displacement)
Type: Emergency
Photo Credits: Abdou Rabiou
Partners: DEMI-E

More information:
The S&S Newsletter September 2018
Nigeria

Temporary shelter

Years active: 2017-2019
Context: Conflict (internal displacement)
Type: Temporary; Tenure assistance
Photo credits: Samuel Phelps

More information:
Temporary shelter
Pakistan


Years active: 2005-2017

Context: Natural disaster (earthquake) and Conflict (internal displacement)

Type: Temporary; Transitional; School infrastructure

Photo credits: Joe Lapp, David Snyder, Jim Stipe

Partners: Prepared Pakistan

More information:

CRS Case Study_04 Pakistan, CRS Case Study_05

Primary school rehabilitated in Bar Gabar Village, 2007.

Temporary shelter for displaced populations in Bannu District, 2017.

Temporary shelter for displaced populations in Bannu District, 2017.
Philippines

Transitional shelters in Pantaon, following the siege in Marawi City, 2019.

Years active: 2011 – 2020

Context: Natural disaster (typhoon) and Conflict (internal displacement)

Type: Transitional; Permanent

Photo credits: Albert Gumera, Charlie David Martinez, Kim Pozniak, Jennifer Hardy, Anna Hrybyk, Charisse Borja, Morena Balmes

Partners: Caritas Philippines/NASSA; Capiz Archdiocesan Social Action Center (CASAC); Pag-IBIG Fund; Tacloban City Housing Office

More information:

Abucay transitional site featured 2-story shelters for families affected from typhoon Haiyan, Tacloban, 2015.

After typhoon Haiyan, 20,000 families were assisted with shelter assistance in Leyte and Samar islands, 2015.

Using cash, families rebuilt homes using improved techniques, withstanding typhoon Hagupit, Palo, 2014.

Transitional shelters built by CRS after flash floods, Cagayan de Oro, 2011-2012.

One of 660 typhoon-resistant shelters built after typhoon Juan affected Isabela Province, 2011.
Senegal

Example of home reconstruction and rehabilitation in Youtou village, 2020.

Years active: 2019-2020
Context: Conflict (internal returnees)
Type: Permanent
Photo credits: Louis Michel Badji
Partners: Caritas Ziguinchor

More information:

Example of home reconstruction in villages such as Lefeu and Silick, 2019.
Construction and rehabilitation of classrooms, in Niene Chiefdom, 2016.

School latrines in Niene Chiefdom, 2016.

Years active: 2016-2019
Context: Development
Type: School infrastructure
Photo credits: Yusuf Mackery and Annisha Vasutavan

Sudan

Kornok shelter built with emergency assistance  West Darfur, 2007.

Years active: 2005 - 2014
Context: Conflict (internal displacement)
Type: Emergency; Transitional; Permanent
Photo credits: CRS

Partners: WFP, Trust Rehabilitation and Development Organization and Rural Community Development Organization.

More information:
CRS Case Study_03_Sudan,
Gutia round mud and thatch shelter built with emergency assistance, West Darfur, 2005.

Transitional shelter made of mud bricks, West Darfur, 2014.

Permanent shelter made of mud bricks, West Darfur, 2014.
Uganda

Shelter completed as part of a pilot project in Bidibidi, Kiryandongo and Kyangwali settlements, 2019.

Years active: 2019
Context: Conflict (refugees)
Type: Transitional
Photo credits: Elie Gardner, Federico Rota
Partners: Caritas Hoima, UNHCR

More information:
Le Thi Phuoc’s home, retrofitted and renovated replacing the roof to withstand strong storms.

Cao Xuan Hoa adds the finishing touches to a new section of roof, damaged by Typhoon Damrey 2017.

Years active: 2016—2018
Context: Natural disaster (typhoon)
Type: Retrofit
Photo credits: Lisa Murray
Partners: National Committee for Natural Disaster Prevention and Control (NDPC), Government of Vietnam

More information:
The S&S Newsletter November 2016
Zimbabwe

65 year old Emely Jori stands outside her two-bedroom shelter, built under Cyclone Idai Response Project in Buhera South, Manicaland Province, Zimbabwe, 2019.

Years active: 2019-2020
Context: Natural disaster (cyclone)
Type: Permanent
Photo credits: Romeo Chandiposha, CRS Zimbabwe
Partners: Caritas Mutare

More information:
Joseph Mutiwadirwa stands with his wife in front of his new one bedroom shelter in ward 28, Buhera South.

Nadaarombe Mupfumbu (85 years) sits outside his two-bedroom shelter in ward 27, Buhera South.

Tamary Tivakudze and her family benefited from a two-bedroom shelter in ward 27, Buhera South. Their shelter had rooms of different sizes.

Lydia Munyangadzi (68 years) in her home on ward 27, Buhera South.
Resources for more information

CRS Shelter and Settlement Case Studies, 2020
The S&S Newsletter June 2020
The S&S Newsletter November 2019
The S&S Newsletter June 2019
The S&S Newsletter December 2018
The S&S Newsletter September 2018
The S&S Newsletter April 2018
The S&S Newsletter December 2017
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The urgent challenge to protect our common home includes a concern to bring the whole human family together to seek a sustainable and integral development, for we know that things can change.

Pope Francis