

News & Events

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News Release

Development and Peace – Caritas Canada wishes to express its heartfelt gratitude to its donors for their quick and generous response to the crisis affecting the Rohingya people of Myanmar.

Development and Peace donors gave \$546,820 during the matching period for the Canadian government's Myanmar Crisis Relief Fund, which ran from August 25 to November 28, 2017. In addition, Development and Peace received \$750,000 from Global Affairs Canada to increase its response to the needs of the Rohingya people. Together, Development and Peace will be able to contribute more than \$1 million towards humanitarian aid efforts for the most vulnerable.

“Development and Peace’s donors showed profound empathy towards the Rohingya refugees who fled to Bangladesh to escape violence in Myanmar. The majority of the refugees are women and children,” says Serge Langlois, Executive Director of Development and Peace.

“The government contribution will go towards a Caritas Bangladesh project that has a total budget of almost \$6 million (Cdn),” explains Stéphane Vinhas, Humanitarian Aid Programs Officer at Development and Peace. “This project, which will last until the end of August 2018, includes the construction of solid shelters while taking into consideration gender aspects, the construction of latrines and access to clean water, as well as initiatives to help protect children and women, notably the creation of educational and recreational spaces for children and psychosocial support for victims of violence,” adds Vinhas.

Development and Peace will use the monies it raised to complement this project with mid- to long-term actions that will allow the safe, dignified and voluntary return of Rohingya refugees who are in Bangladesh, support to the Rohingya population so they can live in improved economic and social conditions, and efforts towards strengthening the country's democracy so that all its people can live in peace and prosperity.



Over the last few months, conflict in Myanmar has triggered an exodus of 630,000 Rohingya who have taken refuge in Bangladesh. This has led to a humanitarian crisis requiring action from the international community. Sadly, despite the funds made available through the Canadian government's Myanmar Crisis Relief Fund, the needs of the Rohingya in Myanmar and in Bangladesh remain high. Development and Peace is continuing to encourage Canadians to give towards relief efforts.

Donations can be made online at www.devp.org, by mail or by telephone at 1 888 664-3387. ✕

