



Camillian Disaster Service International
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**THE YEARS PASS, SOLIDARITY REMAINS:
ONWARDS WITH CADIS**

CONTENTS

03 EDITORIAL

**A Decade of Compassion in Action:
Sustaining the Mission Together**

05 YEAREND REPORT

**Building Eco-Resilient Communities in
2025 with CADIS**

06 PROJECT

**From Survival to Stability: How
Ukrainian Women Refugees Are
Rebuilding Their Lives in Poland**

08 FOCUS

**Beyond the Emergency: The CADIS
Model in Kenya, between Climate
Resilience and Loyalty to the Territory**

10 SPECIAL 10 YEARS

**Listening to our partners from the
grassroots: a book presentation
webinar on Faith in Action**

11 FROM THE FIELD

**Empowering Indigenous (Aetas)
Communities For Poverty Reduction**



CROSSOVER is the quarterly news bulletin of the Camillian Disaster Service International. The name **CROSSOVER** was inspired by the gospel of Mark (Mk. 4,35-41) when Jesus invited his disciples to cross over to the other side of the lake, and then a massive storm battered their boat that it almost sank. Fear had overshadowed them; Jesus rose from sleep and calmed the sea. St. Camillus himself had crossed over the confines of the hospitals when he learned about the plague-stricken people, and the victims of floods, war, and pestilence. The enormous strength and enduring compassion of the Camillians are displayed during these difficult historical moments.

Director: Fr. Aristelo Miranda, MI
Chief editor & Layout: Giulia Calibeo

French translation: Fr. Emmanuel Zongo, MI
Spanish translation: Consuelo Santamaria

A DECADE OF COMPASSION IN ACTION: SUSTAINING THE MISSION TOGETHER

As we present the 2025 Year-End Report of Camillian Disaster Service International (CADIS), we do so at a defining moment. This year marks ten years of humanitarian service—a decade of responding to disasters, accompanying displaced families, strengthening fragile communities, and embodying the healing mission of the Order of the Ministers of the Infirm (Camillians). What began as a bold expression of faith in action has grown into a global network of solidarity. Yet the needs before us continue to expand.

In 2025 alone, CADIS has demonstrated both responsiveness and resilience across diverse contexts.

In Poland, we concluded our intervention supporting Ukrainian refugees displaced by war. Through psychosocial care, essential relief assistance, and integration support, we accompanied families navigating trauma and uncertainty. Our presence was not merely operational—it was pastoral and human, restoring dignity and stability to those uprooted by conflict.

In Mathare, Nairobi, our community-based initiatives addressed vulnerabilities within one of Kenya's most underserved informal settlements. Health outreach, social empowerment programs, and resilience-building efforts strengthened local capacity amid persistent socio-economic hardship, particularly among the out-of-school youth in this community. These interventions reflect our strategic approach: combine immediate humanitarian response with sustainable community development.

Beyond these projects, 2025 also reaffirmed the strength of our international network.

Through CADIS Thailand, we successfully responded to the devastating earthquakes in Myanmar. In collaboration with local Church structures and humanitarian actors, emergency relief was mobilized efficiently—delivering essential supplies, medical assistance, and psychosocial support to affected populations. The rapid coordination demonstrated the operational maturity of our regional structures and the effectiveness of decentralized disaster response.

Similarly, in Cebu City, Philippines, our partnership with Visayas Primary Healthcare Services (VPHCS) enabled a timely and impactful intervention following seismic events. By leveraging local expertise, health infrastructure and local government units (LGUs), we ensured that affected communities received primary healthcare services, relief distribution, psychosocial, and community-based support. This partnership model

underscores a key principle of CADIS: durable impact is achieved through trusted local collaboration.

While these successes affirm the strength of our mission, we must also address the realities we face. The humanitarian landscape is increasingly complex. Climate-related disasters are intensifying. Protracted conflicts continue to displace millions. Economic instability affects donor capacity worldwide. As CADIS enters its second decade, we face significant challenges in funding sustainability and personnel capacity. Expanding needs demand expanded resources.

To the Camillian Order, our partners, and our valued donors: your commitment remains indispensable. Financial contributions are not merely transactions; they are lifelines that enable rapid deployment, sustained programming, and professional humanitarian standards. Personnel support—whether through missionary engagement, technical expertise, or volunteer service—strengthens our operational readiness.

Over ten years, CADIS has demonstrated accountability, transparent governance, and measurable humanitarian impact. We have built credible partnerships, strengthened regional hubs, and cultivated local leadership. The next decade calls us to consolidate these gains while scaling innovation and preparedness.

Supporting CADIS means investing in a mission rooted in compassion, professional competence, and Gospel-inspired service. It means ensuring that when the earth shakes in Myanmar, when families flee war in Europe, or when informal settlements in Africa struggle with systemic poverty, there is a reliable presence ready to respond.

Ten years is a milestone worth celebrating. But it is also a call to deepen our shared responsibility. Together—with faith, solidarity, and sustained commitment—we can ensure that the next decade of service reaches even further, bringing healing where there is suffering and hope where it is most needed.



Aris Miranda, MI
CADIS Director



Project launch in Mathare, Kenya



CADIS Thailand's response to the earthquake in Myanmar



BUILDING ECO-RESILIENT COMMUNITIES IN 2025 WITH CADIS

In a world marked by overlapping crises, CADIS International spent the year 2025 doing what it has quietly done for a decade, that is, staying close to people in pain and helping communities turn vulnerability into resilience. Rooted in the Camillian charism of service to the poor and the sick, CADIS responded to emergencies, invested in long-term development, and strengthened local leadership, always with presence, partnership, and dignity at the center.

When disaster struck, CADIS moved quickly. Following the devastating earthquake in Myanmar, more than €10,000 in emergency assistance was mobilized through CADIS Thailand and the Missionary Institute of the Infirm (Italy) with the support of the Camillian order of Thailand and the Thai Catholic Church, with a special mention also to the local religious leaders of Myanmar and the volunteers and supporters. Food, shelter materials, and medical supplies reached families already displaced by years of conflict, easing a crisis layered upon another crisis. In the Philippines, CADIS partnered with Visayas Primary Healthcare Services to respond to the earthquake that hit Cebu City with the support of the St. Camillus Foundation, USA. Beyond essential aid, psychosocial support became a lifeline, especially in communities where political realities limited government assistance.

Yet 2025 was not only about emergency response. It was about accompanying and empowerment. In Cebu, CADIS continued a resilience-building program funded by the Episcopal Conference of Italy (CEI), focusing on disaster preparedness, livelihoods, and community empowerment. The lesson was clear: resilience begins with people, grows through trust, and requires a presence that outlasts project timelines.

Across Europe, CADIS collaborated with the Buddhist Tzu Chi Charity Foundation to support refugees from Ukraine in Poland. Nearly four years into the conflict, psychosocial care, skills training, and access to employment restored stability to hundreds of families. Mothers rebuilding life with their children are transitioning from survival to self-reliance, from dependence to employment, gaining confidence, and re-anchored in hope.

In Kenya, another kind of resilience took shape in Mathare, one of the largest informal settlements in Nairobi. Together with Tzu Chi, CADIS launched a community-based waste management initiative that turned environmental risk into opportunity. Young people, often seen as part of the problem, became environmental stewards and community leaders. Their visible commitment attracted wider support, proving that inclusion and trust can

transform entire neighborhoods.

Across these interventions, more than 10,000 people benefited from food and non-food assistance, shelter, healthcare, psychosocial services, livelihood support, and empowerment programs.

Advocacy and spirituality remained integral to CADIS' mission. As preparations began for its 10th anniversary in 2026, CADIS engaged its global network through creative online contests and ecological initiatives during the Season of Creation. Webinars showcased practical examples of ecological conversion from Kenya, Thailand, and the Philippines. On October 13, CADIS once again marked the World Day of the Victims of Disasters, a day promoted by the Camillian Order that echoes the call of Pope Francis to memory, responsibility, and hope—reminding the world that the cry of the earth and the cry of the poor are inseparable.

In December, CADIS published *Faith in Action: A Decade of Compassion and Resilience with CADIS*, a book written from the grassroots. Its stories—of survivors, volunteers, religious and lay leaders—capture what CADIS calls its “ministry of presence”: accompanying people rather than delivering aid, caring for the whole person, empowering communities to lead, drawing strength from lived faith, and working through collaboration. Time and again, partnership is shown not as a strategy, but as a lifeline. Organizationally, 2025 was also a year of learning and strengthening. Global gatherings such as the Resource Mobilization Conference in Cebu and the IPLANET-IFUTURE Global Alliance Conference in Rome placed beneficiaries at the center of dialogue, allowing them to speak not as recipients but as protagonists of change.

Looking ahead, CADIS enters 2026 with new resilience projects: from food security and water access in Wajir County to sustaining a greener Mathare, expected to benefit more than 10,000 families. Challenges remain: limited funding opportunities, regulatory transitions in Italy's non-profit sector, and the need for more human resources. But the direction is clear.

The story of CADIS in 2025 is ultimately a story of accompaniment. In disasters and in recovery, in slums and refugee communities, CADIS chose to walk with people, believing that when communities are trusted, supported, and united, resilience is not only possible but lasting.

FROM SURVIVAL TO STABILITY: HOW UKRAINIAN WOMEN REFUGEES ARE REBUILDING THEIR LIVES IN POLAND

At the beginning of the year, CADIS Director Fr. Aris Miranda traveled to Poland for the 4th Quarter evaluation of the project “Strengthening Ukrainian Refugee Resilience (Phase 4)”. The goal was to assess the impact of the project on the direct beneficiaries.

Over the past year, the project run by CADIS International, with the Camillians of Poland and funded by Buddhist Tzu Chi Charity Foundation, has quietly but powerfully reshaped the lives of Ukrainian women refugees in Poland. At its heart is the Harna Coworking Space, a place that has become far more than a shared workspace. For many participants, it has been the bridge from displacement and uncertainty to independence, dignity, and belonging.

Work, Rights, and Stability

Free career, legal, and business counseling formed the backbone of the initiative. In just the last quarter of 2025, advisory services, covering employment contracts, labor law, accounting, and taxes, were used 90 times. While most participants had reached at least an intermediate level of Polish language, the complexities of Polish labor laws remained challenging. Counselors helped explain the differences between employment contracts, civil-law agreements, and self-employment, knowledge essential to avoiding exploitation and securing legal work.

The results were tangible. All Harna participants now hold legal employment, and 25 women who sought job-related support secured stable and decent jobs in sectors such as gastronomy, logistics, cleaning services, and especially beauty services. Some returned to the project after earlier participation, specifically to seek help changing unsatisfactory jobs—proof that the space had earned their trust.

From Training to Entrepreneurship

In the final quarter of 2025 alone, six Ukrainian women made a decisive leap: they transitioned to full, independent management of their own service businesses within Harna. After months of workshops, individual mentoring, and accounting support, they now work autonomously, finding clients, managing schedules, maintaining workstations, and covering operating costs.

They also handle the less visible but critical side of entrepreneurship: filing taxes, submitting monthly social insurance contributions, and meeting all regulatory obligations, sometimes independently, sometimes with light advisory support. For women rebuilding their lives in a new country, this transition marked a profound turning point. It was not only proof of professional competence, but a concrete step toward economic independence and integration into the Polish labor market.



Mastering the System

Beyond those six entrepreneurs, ten Ukrainian women started their own businesses in late 2025 and successfully fulfilled all tax and social security requirements. They registered with Poland’s social insurance system (ZUS), paid contributions—often using preferential beginner rates—and submitted monthly tax returns. Some chose simplified flat-rate taxation; others maintained full income-and-expense records.

This achievement carries special weight. For many Poles, navigating these systems is daunting; for refugees facing language barriers and unfamiliar institutions, it can feel overwhelming. Yet with sustained guidance and encouragement, the participants met every obligation. Their success reflects not just determination, but the power of accessible, practical support.

Language as a Turning Point

Improved Polish-language proficiency proved to be one of the project's most transformative elements. At a B1 level or higher, participants became more independent in daily life, handling official matters, communicating with doctors and teachers, and moving confidently through public spaces. At work, language skills enabled them to search for jobs, attend interviews, understand contracts, and communicate effectively with employers and clients.

In Harna, the impact was especially visible. Women working in beauty services began attracting Polish clients, building trust, and expanding their customer base. Language ceased to be a barrier and became a tool, opening the door to stable income, community ties, and fuller participation in social life.

Skills Without Certificates But With Results

Although the project's workshops did not provide formal state accreditation, they significantly increased participants' competitiveness and earning potential. Training in beauty techniques raised service quality, while digital and marketing workshops helped women build strong online profiles, manage social media, and attract new clients. Just as importantly, the workshops reshaped how participants saw themselves: not only as workers, but as entrepreneurs capable of growth and long-term planning.

Confidence Restored

Perhaps the most profound change was psychological. Many women entered the project with no business experience and deep fear of institutions, paperwork, and financial responsibility. By the end of 2025, those same women were managing budgets, analyzing profitability, adjusting prices, and confidently dealing with officials. Advisors report that participants increasingly speak about their future in terms of development rather than survival. For many, it is the first time they have felt fully in control of their own lives.

Housing, Health, and Security

All participants in the Harna program live independently, without rent or utility subsidies. Instead, the project provided advisory support verifying leases, assisting with landlords, and helping navigate regulations and benefits. This stability has been crucial for mental health and long-term planning.

In semi-autonomous housing, such as the Lomianki shelter, shared meals and common spaces helped build family-like bonds, though challenges remain, including internal conflicts and risks of social isolation. Across the board, the project helped women overcome barriers to healthcare and public services through translation, information, and institutional guidance.

Building Community

Social integration extended beyond economics. Ukrainian children joined extracurricular activities with Polish peers, while intercultural events—Christmas gatherings, shared meals, and holiday celebrations—brought refugees and local residents

together. These direct encounters proved especially effective in breaking down stereotypes and fostering genuine relationships. Some friendships, like that between Ms. Anna and Ms. Joanna, have endured beyond project activities.



Looking Ahead

The project operates in a shifting political landscape. Planned reductions in state support for Ukrainian refugees in 2026 raise serious concerns, especially for the elderly, the ill, and unaccompanied minors. Challenges remain: recognition of educational credentials, financial literacy gaps, and the risk of social exclusion in large shelters.

Yet the experience of Harna shows what is possible. With the right mix of space, trust, education, and long-term support, women with migration experience can not only survive but also build sustainable businesses, integrate into society, and reclaim their sense of dignity. As new participants continue to arrive, the project's greatest task now is continuity: ensuring that empowerment does not end, but becomes a lasting model for integration in Poland.



BEYOND THE EMERGENCY: THE CADIS MODEL IN KENYA, BETWEEN CLIMATE RESILIENCE AND LOYALTY TO THE TERRITORY

Since 2012, the Camillian Task Force (CTF Kenya) has transformed crisis management into a path of sustainable development. While many NGOs abandon border areas due to instability, CADIS Kenya (formerly CTF Kenya) chooses to remain, becoming a pillar for local communities.

At a time when humanitarian crises are inexorably intertwined with climate change, there is a model of intervention that goes beyond immediate assistance to become a constant and structural presence. This is the case of CADIS Kenya: a journey that began in 2012 with the Camillian Task Force, continued with the establishment of the CADIS International Foundation (Italy) in 2015 and culminated in 2019 with the establishment of CADIS Kenya as an officially recognised organisation in Kenya, a reality that today represents a benchmark for the resilience of the most vulnerable populations in the Horn of Africa.

A Choice of Field: The Camillian Heart on the Board

The first major metamorphosis of CADIS in Kenya is institutional and charismatic in nature. Over the years, the Camillian Delegation has undergone a profound maturation: the mission of caring for the sick, characteristic of the order founded by St. Camillus de Lellis, has evolved to respond to the “new diseases” of the planet, such as extreme drought and food insecurity.

This awareness has led to a historic decision: the appointment of full-time Camillian religious to the CADIS Kenya board. This choice signals a fundamental change of pace: disaster management and climate resilience are no longer considered “extra activities”, but the beating heart of the humanitarian mission in the country. The professionalisation of aid thus goes hand in hand with vocation, ensuring governance rooted in the territory and operational continuity that makes a difference in the field.

The Geography of Courage: From Wajir to the Somali Border

The second pillar of this evolution concerns territorial expansion and perseverance. It all began in the small villages of Wajir County, an area severely affected by devastating cycles of drought, where CADIS took its first steps in responding to the immediate needs of pastoral populations.

Over time, the approach has transformed from emergency response to long-term programmes. The Foundation has pushed its reach into even more complex territories, reaching areas along the border of Somalia. These are areas marked by chronic instability and high security risks, factors that often push international organisations to adopt “hit and run” strategies: short interventions that end as soon as the project expires or the danger increases.



CADIS International, through CADIS Kenya, has chosen the opposite path: to remain. Investing in relationships with communities even when operating conditions become difficult, transforming its presence into a form of active resistance.

Trust as Social Infrastructure

The most significant achievement is not just the wells dug or the food kits distributed. The real success lies in gaining the trust of village leaders and local authorities. In areas where the state is often absent and tensions are the order of the day, being accepted and protected by the community is the highest recognition.

Through dialogue and transparency, CADIS has demonstrated that climate resilience is not just a technical issue, but a social process that requires time and listening. Working side by side with local leaders, the organisation has built a “presidium of hope” where others have given up.



A sustainable future

It is precisely this continuity that represents one of the most significant achievements of CADIS's experience in Kenya. Year after year, through dialogue, transparency and collaboration, the organisation has gained the trust of village leaders and local actors, becoming a credible and stable point of reference. Climate resilience, in this context, is not just a technical issue, but a social process that requires time, presence and listening. The establishment of CADIS Kenya in 2019 consolidated this path, strengthening local leadership and ensuring greater capacity to respond to future challenges. Today, experience shows that even in the most fragile and insecure areas, it is possible to build development and resilience if we choose to walk alongside communities, without taking shortcuts.

In Wajir County, severely affected by drought, CADIS has been present for years to face critical shortages of food and water for both people and livestock.

In this particular area, this year, a new project will be launched, financed by the eight per thousand tax directly managed by the state, a fund of the Italian Government, which aims to reduce poverty and build community resilience through three key strategies: training local farmers in climate-smart agricultural techniques (education), increasing access to water for irrigation, household use, and livestock (infrastructure), and providing essential farming inputs and professional extension services to boost local production (support).



LISTENING TO OUR PARTNERS FROM THE GRASSROOTS: A BOOK PRESENTATION WEBINAR ON FAITH IN ACTION

On 3 March, we officially presented the book 'Faith in Action: A Decade of Compassion and Resilience with CADIS' online. The webinar, available in full on YouTube, brought together the voices of leaders who have had the most significant experiences during CADIS's first decade. Through their voices, we travelled across continents and through the different chapters of the book, recounting the essence of CADIS' vision and mission.

For ten years, Camillian Disaster Service International (CADIS) has walked the frontiers of human suffering — in places struck by disasters, where lives are disrupted and hope struggles to survive. Faith in Action is not simply a documentation of projects or interventions. It is a collective testimony. Each chapter is written by members of CADIS who were not merely observers, but actors—present in evacuation centers, hospitals, flooded villages, refugee shelters, and communities rebuilding from loss. Their reflections bring together theological insight, humanitarian practice, and lived experience. They remind us that resilience is not built only through infrastructure, but through relationships; not only through funding, but through solidarity; not only through response, but through accompaniment.

Moderated by Dr. Pretesh Kiran, MD, connected from India, we begin the “journey” of listening to the testimonies of CADIS' partners around the world.

Dr. Erlinda Posadas, MD, author of the chapter “Ring of Fire, Corridor of Typhoons: Mapping the Philippines” Complex Vulnerability from Geophysical Exposure to Socio-Political Gaps' cast the first testimony from the Philippines as well as Fr. Dan Cancino, MI, who embarked on the journey 'Beyond Relief: The Camillian Journey Toward Sustainable Disaster Recovery and Resilience in the Philippines'.

Moving on to Africa, Dr. Consuelo Santamaria Repiso, PhD, analysed the Ebola emergency experience recounted in the chapter 'Wounded Healers and Community Trust: A Holistic Approach to Disaster Recovery in Sierra Leone After Ebola'.

Next, Fr. Siby Kaitharan, MI, recounted the experience of CTF India by analysing the chapter 'Disaster Vulnerability and Resilience in India: Climate Risks, Conflict, and the Camillian Response', of which he co-authored.

With Fr. Francis Munene, MI, we moved to Africa to analyse the chapter 'Integral Human Care as a Catalyst for Resilience:

Case Studies in Climate-Induced Disasters and Humanitarian Engagement in Kenya'.

Still in Africa, we continued with Fr. Shukrani Mbrigenda, MI, on the chapter dedicated to Tanzania, 'Mercy in Action: The Camillian Disaster Service's Transformative Role in Tanzania's Health and Humanitarian Crises'.

Finally, Fr. Aris Miranda, MI, brought us back to Europe with the experience in Poland, 'Restoring Dignity, Building Resilience: A Case Study of CADIS Humanitarian Response to the Ukrainian Refugee Crisis in Poland'.

Rooted in the values of compassion, commitment, competence and community, this book celebrates not only a decade of humanitarian service, but also a spiritual journey — a journey that transforms charity into empowerment and disaster response into lasting resilience.

Faith in Action: A Decade of Compassion and Resilience with CADIS presents itself as a testimony and an invitation: to see humanitarian work not only as aid, but as accompaniment; not only as relief, but as the rebuilding of dignity, faith and hope.

Through the eight chapters, the reader encounters a model of Integral Human Care that integrates medical assistance, psychosocial support, restoration of livelihoods, and spiritual accompaniment.

Faith in Action: A Decade of Compassion and Resilience with CADIS is a celebration of ten years—but it is not a conclusion. It is a call.

A call to recognize that the humanitarian challenges before us are growing more complex: climate change intensifies storms and droughts; conflict displaces millions; public health crises expose fragile systems; inequality deepens vulnerability. The need for integral, faith-inspired, and professionally grounded humanitarian engagement has never been greater.

The book is available in English on Amazon in print and ebook formats. The Italian version will also be available soon.

EMPOWERING INDIGENOUS (AETAS) COMMUNITIES FOR POVERTY REDUCTION

The Health and Development for All Foundation, Inc (HADFAFI), a local partner organization of CADIS in the Philippines, started the year 2026 with a series of activities in the target localities (sitios). Among the top programs implemented are the following: healthcare delivery for maternal and child health, cooperative development, and construction of water resource systems for domestic and farming uses in selected Aeta communities in Pisapungan, Malabatay and Manalal.

Rural poverty is a multi-dimensional and complex development challenge that requires integrated intervention. The project supported by CADIS approached this situation from health and agri-enterprise development as a jump-off point towards addressing the structural causes of poverty and marginalization among the Aeta indigenous communities, which is a long-term endeavour. They implemented the project on Developing the Capacities of Tribal Indigenous Communities Towards Poverty-Reduction (Phase I) to be carried out among the Aeta indigenous communities in the municipality of Capas of the province of Tarlac, Philippines.

Capas is a second-class municipality where the majority of its constituents subsist on farming. The area has very few small and household-based cottage industries and microenterprises.

At the beginning of January 2026, healthcare activities are conducted among children, such as deworming, height and weight measurement of 133 children in the communities of Malalabatay

(39), Pisapungan (50), Manalal (13), Duray (22), and Settler (9) and prenatal check-up of 21 pregnant women. Of the 133 children, 46 were found severely underweight, which indicates low weight for a child's age, which may be caused by being wasted (too thin for height), stunted, or both and severely stunted which indicates chronic undernutrition, often resulting from long-term poor nutrition, illness, or socioeconomic factors. This condition carries a high risk of mortality. In February, feeding programs were conducted in sitios Settler, Duray and Pisapungan.

The team also distributed farming tools, materials, and supplies to the farmers, as well as nutritious food supplies to sustain the feeding programs in the different sitios.

At the Center of HADFAFI, the Youth Leadership Training program was conducted. Eleven youths attended the training given by the two elders who have ample experience and achievements in their respective tribes, where their ancestral domain rights are recognized and awarded to their communities. The leadership training is part of the objectives of this project to achieve its long-term goal of reducing poverty in these communities.

In February, they also started the Cooperative building in Sitio Tambo, with 62 constituents of the sitio joined as members. Before they were formed into cooperatives, training and orientation were properly conducted by HADFAFI. After this formation, they will call an assembly of members to elect their officers. In April, the team will start another cooperative building in Sitio Settler.



CADIS INTERNATIONAL

Faith in Action

A DECADE OF COMPASSION
AND RESILIENCE WITH
CADIS

Edited by
Aristelo D. Miranda, MI



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