

- **Hungary:** active in 350 locations with 5,000 staff, 15,000 volunteers. Assistance programmes, health care, screening, food packages to the needy and poor, support for Roma communities and immigrants. Internet chat fora and daily phone calls for the elderly and lonely, an online psychological counselling service for drug addicts; night shelters for the homeless and 'street care' services distributing blankets and food.
- **Italy:** St John Baptist Hospital, Rome, 240 beds, specialist post coma unit. Volunteer Corps of 3,500 who assist in crises and natural catastrophes; care for immigrants arriving on Italian shores (southern Mediterranean); 13 health centres; permanent first aid post, St. Peter's Square, Rome. Covid measures included setting up two field hospitals in the north (by the Italian Relief Corps of the Order of Malta, CISOM), screening centres at airports and St Peter's Square; daily distribution of food, medicines, hygiene kits, masks, laptops for home-schooling, psycho-social assistance offered to the most vulnerable groups.
- **Lithuania:** 'Home Care Project' in 21 cities for lonely and sick elderly; project financed by the European Social Fund to strengthen soft skills in people over 54 not yet retired. 'Let's Go' transportation service for those with disabilities. 'Support for Hospitals' project, providing medical equipment and hygiene kits to 47 healthcare institutions. 500 young volunteers in more than 25 Lithuanian cities and towns.
- **Poland:** range of assistance programmes. Meals-on-wheels, 10,000 Covid-19 tests distributed to hospitals; basic first aid training and qualified first aid courses; provision of emergency medical care at cultural, sporting and religious events. Collaboration with the Polish Ministry of Foreign Affairs, first aid Covid-19 training organised for 800 policemen, 800 public transport drivers, 800 teachers and 80 health workers in Ukraine and 41 firemen in Moldova.
- **United Kingdom:** 63 homes and 7 assisted accommodation units for the elderly in five counties, all followed covid guidelines; soup kitchens curtailed during early pandemic reopened mid 2020 in Colchester, London (4), Oxford; prison ministry; Universities of Oxford, Cambridge, St Andrews; food bank, donation hub support, visits to elderly lonely.

Middle East

- **Palestine:** Maternity hospital, Bethlehem (4,270 births in 2020), the only neo-natal facility with Western standards in the region
- **Lebanon:** 10 healthcare clinics and dispensaries, mobile medical units, care for the elderly, medical and psycho-social care for refugees, holiday camps and special programmes for the disabled. Support special focus on victims of the Beirut explosion and of covid
- **Syria:** distributing relief supplies to stricken families, together with local partnerships and support for displaced persons
- **Turkey:** integrating Syrian refugees into the labour market, empowering the women by offering skills training; and support for the disabled.

International

Malteser International – the Order of Malta's worldwide relief service is currently engaged in some 138 projects in over 32 countries: with special focus on water and sanitation facilities, disease prevention, disaster risk management, micro economics to grow local economies, all including special covid measures. Among their projects:

- **Haiti:** 2021 earthquake reconstruction and support, rebuilding schools, health facilities and distributing cash aid, disaster prevention projects in three regions
- **Iraq:** humanitarian and medical aid in northern refugee camps, medical clinics
- **Myanmar:** implementing malaria and TB prevention programmes, emergency relief in Rakhine State, reintegration of Rohingya refugees
- **Nigeria:** project for water, sanitation and hygiene in Maiduguri; Pulka: improving hygiene for thousands of displaced persons in the region
- **Syria:** support for 5 hospitals and 8 primary healthcare centres in Aleppo and Idlib regions, clean water and sanitation projects in camps for displaced persons.

For more information

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ORDER OF MALTA KEY FIGURES 2022/2023

ORDER OF MALTA BACKGROUND

The formal name, reflecting its long history, is Sovereign Military Hospitaller Order of St John of Jerusalem of Rhodes and of Malta:

- founded in the 11th century in Jerusalem
- one of the oldest lay religious orders of the Catholic Church
- a mission to serve the poor and the sick
- a sovereign subject of international law
- neutral, impartial and non-political

ORDER OF MALTA TODAY

The Order of Malta today is a global institution offering professional medical, social and humanitarian aid

- activities carried out by over 140,000 members, medical and social care personnel and volunteers
- member Associations, Volunteer Corps, and Foundations in 60 countries
- central government in Rome since 1834

HUMANITARIAN DIPLOMATIC NETWORK

The diplomatic activities of the Sovereign Order of Malta are closely linked to its humanitarian work

- bilateral diplomatic relations with 110 countries
- 18 Permanent Observer Missions – including to the United Nations, UNESCO, World Health Organization, United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, Food and Agriculture Organisation
- 16 diplomatic representations to international organisations including to the African Union, Council of Europe, International Committee of the Red Cross, International Organization for Migration, Relations at Ambassador level with the European Union
- 55 International Cooperation Agreements with countries
- 57 Postal Agreements

MEDICAL AND HUMANITARIAN ACTIVITIES

The Order of Malta has medical and humanitarian activities in over 100 countries on five continents

- Volunteer and **ambulance corps** in 33 countries
- **15 Hospitals:** (Africa – Benin, Cameroon, Ivory Coast, Senegal, Togo; Asia – Cambodia; Europe Germany, Italy, Poland; Middle East: Palestine)
- Around 1500 **clinics and dispensaries** run or supported on five continents
- **Specialised institutions for the disabled:** in France, Germany, Hungary, Lebanon, United States
- **Homes for the elderly:** focus on dementia and Alzheimer's disease in France, Germany, Lithuania, United Kingdom
- **Mother and child care:** Bethlehem (maternity hospital), clinics and kindergartens in the Americas (Brazil, Dominican Republic, Mexico), in Europe (France, Germany, Hungary); in Africa (Cameroon, Madagascar, South Africa)

KEY CURRENT PROJECTS AROUND THE WORLD

The works of the Order of Malta are both frontline and ongoing. Over recent times, actions around the pandemic have also been put in place.

- **Covid-19:** Order organisations across Europe, the Middle East, North America and Asia Pacific mobilised responses, adapted programmes and created new ones to meet the social and medical needs resulting from the pandemic. Actions have included setting up field hospitals, bringing food parcels to the housebound, providing covid checking facilities at travel venues, offering psycho-social support, running screening posts and vaccination centres, keeping in touch with Order pilgrims and the elderly lonely through iPads, phone calls or distanced visits, setting up a 'doctor to doctor' international initiative for the exchange of experience and know-how.

A selection of ongoing programmes

Africa

- 5 Hospitals, over 300 dispensaries, AIDS hospice
- **Cameroon and South Africa:** HIV/AIDs care
- **DR Congo:** hygiene and infection prevention
- **Kenya:** diagnosis, treatment and prevention of TB and HIV; Senegal: leprosy care; South
- **Sudan:** food cultivation, water sanitation
- **Uganda:** micro-economics and sustainability projects.

Americas

- **North America:** care for the homeless, free medical clinics (USA: Los Angeles, Oakland, Miami), community care projects: parish nurse programmes, clinic programmes (distribution of medicines to the needy), eye clinics (Canada: Vancouver), prison ministry, reconstruction and rehabilitation support in Haiti, soup kitchens.
- **South America:** projects include leprosy care, health centres /surgical care, eye and dental clinics, home visits for sick and elderly housebound, soup kitchens, basic health care training, drug treatment programmes, homeless care, agricultural programmes.

Asia Pacific

- **Australia:** warm, waterproof coats are distributed to the homeless each winter, basic necessity 'care packs' throughout the year
- **Cambodia:** Leprosy hospital and clinics, emphasis on early detection and rehabilitation
- **Hong Kong (China):** the Flying Young programme helps underprivileged young families build relationships, aids youth development
- **Myanmar:** food and nutrition security project, disaster prevention; sanitation and hygiene measures.

Europe

- **France:** 14 medical specialised centres (handicapped, Alzheimer sufferers, medical facilities for migrants, facilities for asylum seekers, care for the homeless (includes two barges on the Seine in Paris), soup kitchens, night shelters, professional support for social reintegration, an integrated street service, 'Soli'Malte', which provides food relief, health assistance, hygiene kit distribution and psychological support, run with 50 delegations and the Departmental Intervention Units of Ordre de Malte France. The pandemic forced but also inspired the organisation to adapt 70% of its activities.
- **Germany:** 6 Hospitals, social work with 52,000 trained volunteers, programmes in health care and medicine; 32 residential homes, emergency ambulance service, 42 facilities for young people with mental and drug problems, three high schools, help for needy families, 46 facilities for asylum seekers and immigrants. Day clinics, migration centres (also for unaccompanied minors), soup kitchens and 250 rescue stations. Volunteer services shopping services, telephone visiting, mask sewing. Traditional services for the elderly, the homeless and the disabled were adapted to the new pandemic situation.