

**Explore your local impact  
in Ontario.**



2020/2021  
Annual Impact Report  
**ONTARIO**

During this difficult year, as we faced nearly unprecedented challenges, you chose to give to those in need. Your generosity had an impact in countries across the globe and here at home.

With this report we want to invite you to reflect and celebrate.

## **Explore your local impact in Ontario.**

The stories you're holding in your hands were made possible by your compassion.

You learned from and advocated with Indigenous neighbours. You helped provide a warm welcome to refugees making Canada their new home. You helped work toward restorative justice and peace in our communities.

**This is work that you made possible.  
Thank you.**

## MCC ONTARIO BOARD MEMBERS

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**Katarina Dyck Steinmann**  
Young Adult Representative, CG

**Andrew Cullar**  
Young Adult Representative, CG

MCEC - Mennonite Church Eastern Canada  
MB - Mennonite Brethren  
BIC - Be in Christ Church of Canada  
CG - Conrad Grebel University College

## THANK YOU FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

It goes without saying that this was a year like no other. MCC started this year with many plans to celebrate 100 years of relief, development and peace in the name of Christ. That quickly changed to responding to the global COVID-19 pandemic while sharing the experience of isolation from community. Throughout the year, MCC strived to be a responsive and affirming voice to individuals in Ontario and around the world – you are not alone.

In many international locations, necessities such as clean water and sanitation supplies were not available. Living conditions made safe distancing a challenge. In support, shipments left our warehouse with essential supplies.

Within Ontario, MCC responded to northern Indigenous neighbours by providing masks, hand sanitizer and emergency food assistance when fires and floods were a risk. The number of refugees resettling in Ontario was significantly reduced, yet MCC assisted over 215 newcomers in establishing their lives here.

For several months our thrift shops were closed and many centennial celebration events were cancelled and other public events had to adjust quickly to a virtual platform. Yet in the midst of great uncertainty, we are so grateful for faithful and committed donors who gave generously to enable MCC to respond effectively.

Within the pages ahead, may you join us in celebrating the work that was accomplished during this most difficult year. We are thankful to be serving with you, in the name of Christ.




**JOHN HEAD**  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, MCC ONTARIO  
JOHNHEAD@MCCO.CA

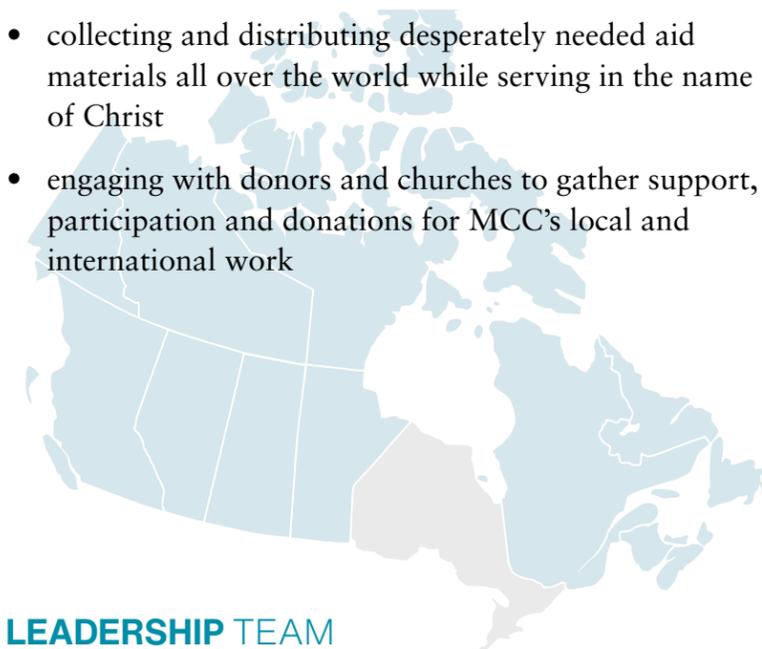
*“Lord, when did we ever see you hungry and feed you? Or thirsty and give you something to drink? Or a stranger and show you hospitality?” ... And the King will say, “I tell you the truth, when you did it to one of the least of these my brothers and sisters, you were doing it to me!”*

— MATTHEW 25:37-40 (NLT)

## ABOUT MCC ONTARIO

Our local work in Ontario includes:

- a network of thrift shops committed to supporting local and international relief, development and peace projects
- resettlement of refugees made possible by church and community sponsorship groups
- efforts to facilitate reconciliation with Indigenous peoples through relationship, art, advocacy and emergency assistance
- responding to the needs of communities and individuals who have been impacted by crime through restorative justice, trauma healing and peacebuilding initiatives
- networking and liaising with providers and agencies in delivering culturally appropriate services for Low German-speaking newcomers
- walking alongside and supporting people in our community who are facing the realities of homelessness and poverty
- collecting and distributing desperately needed aid materials all over the world while serving in the name of Christ
- engaging with donors and churches to gather support, participation and donations for MCC’s local and international work



### LEADERSHIP TEAM



**John Head**  
Executive Director



**Kim Lester**  
Associate Executive Director



**Wendy Adema**  
Program Director



**Michelle Brenneman**  
Director of Human Resources

MCC Ontario acknowledges and honours the Original People from all the Nations represented in this land we now call Ontario.

We acknowledge the impact of colonialism on the land, language, culture and knowledge of all Indigenous peoples. We also recognize the contributions that Indigenous peoples have made to shaping and strengthening communities across Ontario.

We are grateful for the opportunity to reaffirm our collective commitment to make the promise and the challenge of Truth and Reconciliation real in our lives and in our work.

*“It is so good to be in partnership with MCC and contribute to peacebuilding!”*

**Matt Thompson,**  
Compassion Manager  
The Meeting House

## INDIGENOUS NEIGHBOURS



Mushkegowuk Council Grand Chief, Jonathan Solomon, responded to our team while wearing one of the masks shipped to Kashechewan First Nation: "Thank you to MCC for their wonderful gifts. Stay safe. Stay healthy." MCC photo/provided by Mushkegowuk Council Grand Chief Jonathan Solomon



Your support is making a difference for Indigenous peoples during the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.

*"We hope that everybody will participate to support one another and share in the abundance."*

Susan Nelson, Executive Director of Innew Friendship Centre



## MATERIAL RESOURCES

Shane Gallian and his daughter, Kiera, are among a family of four who worked tirelessly to ensure pandemic response kits were packed and ready to be shipped. MCC photo/ Heather Gallian

**Because of your support, individuals and families in Ontario and around the world receive emergency supplies and know their needs are not forgotten.**

*"A lot of these supplies, like masks and hand sanitizer, you can't even buy up here; there's such shortage. We are grateful. Miigwetch."*

Alison Linklater, Health Policy Advisor for Mushkegowuk Council

305

individuals received emergency food assistance in the opening months of the COVID-19 pandemic.

412

individuals expanded their knowledge of colonial impacts on Indigenous peoples.

9

Indigenous communities increased their access to culturally appropriate nutrition and affordable food through community gardening kits.

24

First Nations and 11 organizations in the far north received emergency assistance in response to fires and floods.

4,400

emergency hygiene and pandemic response kits were sent to far north Indigenous communities in the midst of crisis.

25

volunteers continued to show love and compassion by packing kits at home during lockdowns.

2,584

comforters were given to families and individuals in crisis in Jordan and Ontario, reminding them they are not forgotten.

2,380

relief kits provided valuable supplies to families whose lives have been disrupted by war or disaster in Jordan.



### Partner profile

Susan Nelson and Mary Jane Archibald of the Innew Friendship Centre (IFC) are growing a community garden in Cochrane, Ontario. It's a chance for the whole community to connect with the land, with their food and with each other. MCC is supporting IFC with the purchase of a cold frame greenhouse as part of a United Way grant.

Susan Nelson (left) and Mary Jane Archibald (right) together at the Innew Friendship Centre in Cochrane, Ontario. MCC photo/Innew Friendship Centre



Kathleen stringing the drawstrings bags. Photo courtesy of Kathleen Richter

### Volunteer profile

Kathleen Richter has volunteered for the Material Resources program for over five years. She helps with packing and checking kits and data entry. She has sent out close to 3,000 thank you emails!

During lockdown, Kathleen continued to volunteer for MCC by restringing kit bags from home, assembling kits and more. We deeply appreciate the effort and commitment of Kathleen and all our volunteers!

## MIGRATION & RESETTLEMENT



Kika Tawimbi and her children, Remy and Josephina Bosco. Kika arrived in Canada in 2017 but her husband was unable to come with her. Part of MCC's work is advocating for families like Kika's to reunite and become whole again. MCC photo/Venus Byoko Tawimbi



**Your partnership with MCC has provided life-saving support for refugees and Low German speakers during the ongoing pandemic.**

*“Our greatest joy in our involvement in refugee sponsorship is the thrill of seeing families become independent and valuable members of our community.”*

Quinte West Refugee Sponsorship, community sponsorship group

## RESTORATIVE JUSTICE



David Blow, Rod Friesen and author Don Neufeld talk about *Peaceful at Heart, Anabaptist Reflections on Healthy Masculinity* as they plan a four-week book club. MCC photo/Rod Friesen



*“The people running this organization need a huge pat on the back for what they’re doing, because it has made a significant difference for our son.”*

Father of man supported by Circles of Support and Accountability (CoSA)

**Your support brings hope for new life beyond difficult situations. Thank you!**

55

adults with Low German backgrounds benefited from culturally appropriate settlement services.

210

individuals increased their awareness of the root causes of migration and increased their capacity to respond.

129

sponsoring groups chose to welcome newcomers to Ontario.

215

newcomers were supported in establishing new lives in Ontario.

583

individuals received training in peacebuilding, conflict mediation and conflict transformation.

69

formerly incarcerated individuals were supported as they moved back into community.

900

people participated in Unmute, a Theatre of the Beat production, and learned skills to make a difference in cases of domestic violence.

57

individuals convicted of sex offences were supported to lead responsible, constructive and accountable lives in community.



### Sponsor group profile

Quinte West is a smaller urban community, west of Kingston, which has really stepped up in supporting newcomers. Having successfully sponsored refugees three times from different countries, they find a lot of excitement in the work. They hope that the safe and successful welcome of these newcomers brings opportunities for cross-cultural learning and relationships.



### Participant profile

Chuck\* has found new purpose in life after serving his sentence, thanks in part to Circles of Support and Accountability (CoSA). Even with the pandemic, their weekly virtual meetings have been life-giving. “My Circle volunteers see the good in me and they bring that good out of me.”

*\*name changed for privacy purposes*

Members of MCC's Restorative Justice team meet to review the program. MCC photo/Shoua Vang

## POVERTY



The Raw Carrot soup team was pleased to be called essential as they were able to continue to make soup during the pandemic. Pictured here is Nicholas preparing vegetables for another pot of delicious soup. MCC photo/Jenn Klassen



Your support is providing compassionate and dignified support for marginalized people experiencing poverty.

*“For our program, success looks different these days. But we’re still trying and reminding everyone that we are not going anywhere – we will get through this.”*

Debora Moslehi, Circle of Friends Program Manager



## MCC THRIFT

WHERE EVERY PURCHASE IS A GIFT TO THE WORLD

MCC Thrift on Kent volunteer, Anne Brubacher, smiles behind her mask. MCC photo/Ken Ogasawara

Your quality donations and purchases at an MCC thrift shop support MCC’s work in Ontario and around the world.

*“Volunteering makes me very happy because this is a way I can help MCC in their effort to help people locally and globally.”*

Anuar Henriquez Gnecco

42

individuals maintained stable housing and community connectedness through the Circle of Friends program.

704

employers were recognized as providing a living wage to their employees.

24,533

cups of soup supported six individuals with disabilities and barriers to traditional employment through the Raw Carrot Social Enterprise.

14

People’s Action Group members provided input into the development of policy, programs and services to serve people experiencing homelessness.

## COVID-19 Impact

The pandemic has been challenging for our thrift shops. With multiple and extended lockdowns, it was difficult to sustain sales. The rePurpose Centre was hit especially hard due to its reliance on large volumes of customers, and these circumstances ultimately led to its permanent closure. We are so grateful for everybody who worked hard at pivoting the business model multiple times. We are grateful to our volunteers who have continued to contribute as they can.



### Participant profile

Samantha, who lives in supportive housing, calls her Circle her greatest support and has diligently attended most of the Circle of Friends virtual events. “It’s not ideal, but I still do appreciate it!”

Samantha and her Circle friends enjoying each other’s company before the pandemic. MCC photo/Cindy MacRae



### Volunteer profile

Anuar Henriquez Gnecco is a newcomer from Colombia who has been volunteering at MCC Thrift at 101 Hazelglen Drive in Kitchener since its opening in November 2020. He comes faithfully every week and helps in production, willingly taking on all sorts of different jobs while practicing his English.

Ali Mansour was resettled in Canada in March 2020, just weeks before the global pandemic led to widespread lockdowns and travel restrictions. Photo courtesy of Ali Mansour

# COVID-19 RESPONSE

Thunder Air pilot gets ready to load aid supplies to Kashechewan First Nation. Photo courtesy of Thunder Air



## “IT’S HARD ON OUR PEOPLE...”

To limit the spread of COVID-19, the phrases “Wash your hands often” and “Keep physical distance” have become part of our daily discourse over the past year. But what happens when you don’t have clean water to wash with? What if you don’t have room to physically distance?

Too many First Nations are especially vulnerable to the pandemic due to lack of clean running water and inadequate housing. Lyndsay Mollins Koene, Indigenous Neighbours Program Coordinator for MCC in Ontario, reached out to several tribal councils representing 14 First Nations across Ontario, asking if there was anything MCC could help with. A request for 2,400 pandemic sanitary response kits was made, but first the items needed to be procured. At this point The Meeting House church stepped up in a huge way.

The Meeting House church has been focusing intentionally on Indigenous and settler reconciliation and learning work for a number of years.

“We had been on this journey of learning and awareness. We wanted to combine that with doing something tangible,” says Matt Thompson, Compassion Manager at The Meeting House. “So, when MCC came to us with this identified need for kits, we were ready to go!” In a matter of days, the goal of \$24,000 for the 2,400 kits was raised and the pandemic sanitary response kits were distributed. “It was an unbelievable effort; we are so grateful,” reflects Lyndsay Mollins Koene.

Your support is a sign of hope in times of crisis.

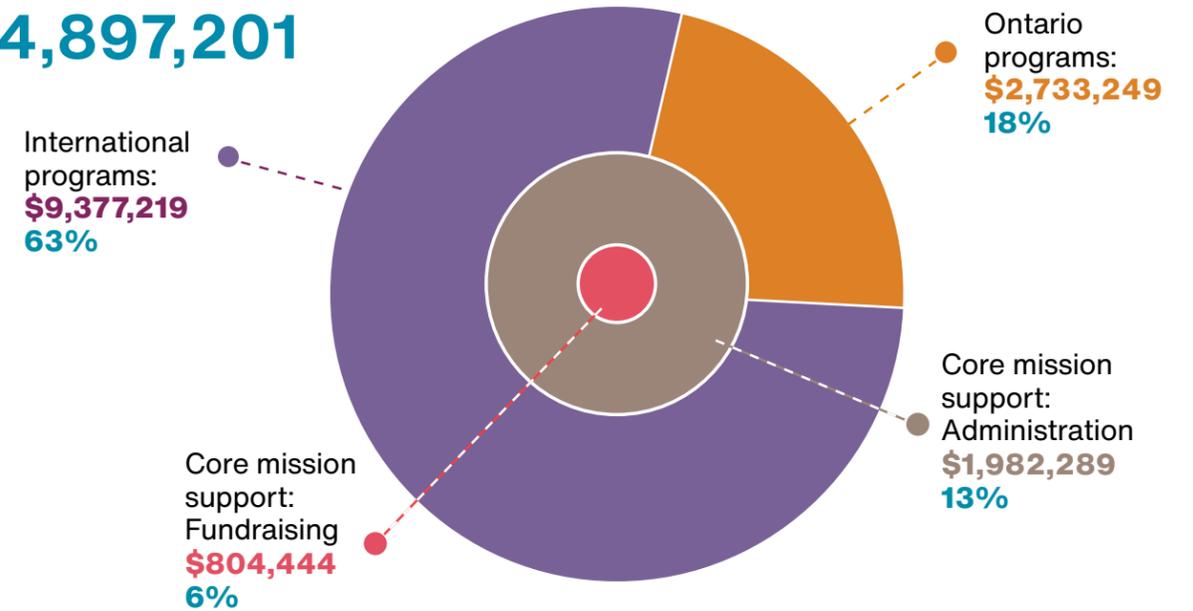
“...when MCC came to us with this identified need for kits, we were ready to go!”

**Matt Thompson,**  
Compassion Manager at  
The Meeting House

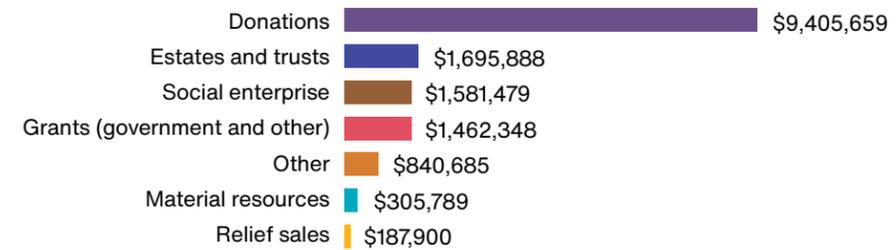
# Financial highlights

The financial information on this page represents the operations of MCC Ontario for the year ended March 31, 2021 and has been prepared from the audited financial statements. Complete audited financial statements are available upon request or at [mcco.ca/annual-report](http://mcco.ca/annual-report).

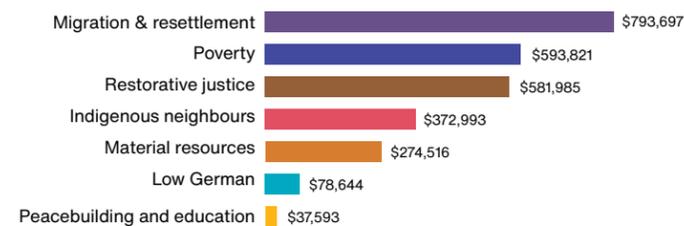
## MCC ONTARIO DOLLARS AT WORK: \$14,897,201



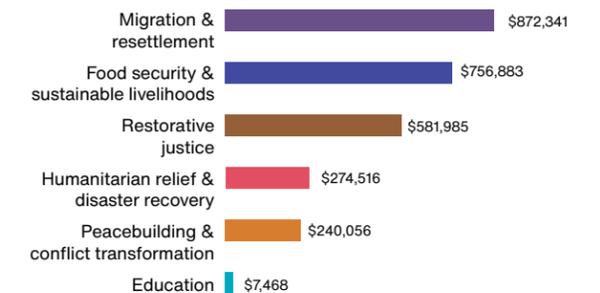
## MCC ONTARIO FUNDING SOURCES: \$15,479,748



## MCC ONTARIO PROGRAM DOLLARS AT WORK: \$2,733,249



## MCC ONTARIO PROGRAM DOLLARS BY THEME: \$2,733,249



**Explore your global impact.**



2020/2021  
Annual Impact Report  
CANADA



Last year was a hard year. For all of us.  
Through it all, you made a choice to help others.  
We couldn't be more grateful.

Looking back over the last year, we want to invite you to take some time to stop and see the difference you've made. Take a moment to reflect.

## **Explore your global impact.**

The stories you see in this report wouldn't have been possible without your generous support. Your gifts make a real impact around the world every day.

You brought relief to people who were hurting. You provided food and water to people who needed it. You gave the gift of education and a brighter future. You helped build peace for a better world. In the midst of a global pandemic, you responded.

**From the bottom of our hearts, thank you.**



Jessica Ana Maya Cabrera, pictured saying goodbye to her host grandmother, Dolores Pablo Mendoza, came from Mexico to serve in Guatemala through the Young Anabaptist Mennonite Exchange Network (YAMEN), a joint program of MCC and Mennonite World Conference. During her year of service, Cabrera found faith and dwelling in God's word provided a compass and guide. Every day she remembered the invitation of Matthew 22 to love God with all her heart, soul and mind and to love neighbours as herself. (MCC photo/Jardely Martínez)

**In 2020, MCC celebrated the centennial of its ministry.** As we enter a second century of service, we reaffirm our Christ-led commitment to serve and learn from vulnerable people around the world.

**The MCC Canada and MCC U.S. boards identified these four strategic directions to guide our work from 2021–2025:**

1. Increasing the capacity of our partners to help uprooted and vulnerable people
2. Improving communication with churches and constituents
3. Increasing peacebuilding and justice work
4. Caring for God's creation and supporting communities harmed by climate change

To read an online version of this report visit [mcccanada.ca/annual-impact-report-2021](https://mcccanada.ca/annual-impact-report-2021)

## A THANK YOU FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Looking back at 2020, some of you may remember it as the year of MCC's 100th anniversary. But I expect many more will remember it as the year of COVID-19.

In March 2020 we prayerfully decided to lower our projected income and reduce our spending plan. Unable to gather for in-person centennial events, we turned our attention to what MCC does best—relief, development and peace in the name of Christ, with a focus on responding to COVID-vulnerable communities.

The pandemic enveloped us all in a global unknown, even as it exposed painful inequities. You could have turned inward, tending to your personal struggles. Instead, you turned **toward** your global neighbours and shared of your finances generously.

Your gifts allowed us to continue our relief, development and peace work in the name of Christ. Even relief sales and MCC Thrift shops, facing strict constraints and closures, contributed significantly through creative ventures previously never considered or attempted!

We had imagined 2020 was going to be memorable for our community. But instead of reflecting back on centennial festivities, I expect to recall how we responded—together—to a world in need, refusing to be overcome by fear and loss.

Thank you for participating in ministry with MCC over this past year. Thank you for sharing God's love and compassion for all in the name of Christ. And thanks be to God.

  
**RICK COBER BAUMAN**  
 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, MCC CANADA



*“God is our refuge and strength,  
 a very present help in trouble.”*

— PSALM 46:1 (NRSV)

## MCC CANADA 2020/2021 BOARD MEMBERS

**Paul Gilbert**  
 (Chair), Member-at-Large

**Walter Thiessen**  
 (Vice Chair), Eastern Canada

**Oscar Cardozo**  
 (Treasurer), CCAL\*

**Cindy Klassen**  
 (Secretary), CCAL\*

**Eleanor Andres**  
 Member-at-Large

**David Chow**  
 Member-at-Large

**Ernie Engbrecht**  
 MCC Alberta

**Catherine Enns**  
 MCC Manitoba

**Laurence Fontaine**  
 Member-at-Large

**Selena Friesen**  
 CCAL\*

**Laura Hanna**  
 CCAL\*

**Lynn Rempel**  
 MCC Ontario

**Dan Siebert**  
 MCC Saskatchewan

**Peter Wolfe**  
 MCC British Columbia

\*Appointed by Canadian Council  
 of Anabaptist Leaders





## Because of your gifts, Josephine can grow enough food to support herself all year.

*“Diversifying farms with livestock production lessens farmers’ dependence on a single crop or harvest and gives them access to different markets.”*

**MICHAEL ADEOLA**  
MCC food security and livelihoods coordinator



Josephine Mwikali Mutinda shows off her maize harvest in a granary at her home in Kathonzweni, Kenya. (MCC photo/Mwangi Kirubi)

You can't help but smile when you see Josephine Mwikali Mutinda smile. And for her to be smiling after harvest season in rural Kenya is not something to take for granted. Climate change is negatively impacting farmers like Josephine, drastically affecting the rainy seasons that are vital to growing healthy crops.

Add to that a global pandemic that disrupted trade and economic stability in the area and many farmers have nothing to smile about.

But Josephine had some help this year—from you. Through MCC's account at Canadian Foodgrains Bank, your donations equipped an MCC partner in Kenya to help Josephine diversify her farm and adapt to some of the environmental challenges she is facing.

She planted a wider variety of crops to increase her chances of good yields. This year, in addition to her successful maize harvest, she also brought in a bountiful mango crop. She also started raising chickens and rabbits, so she's less reliant on her crops and can supplement her income in the event of a poor harvest.

On average, it costs \$2.92 to provide farmers like Josephine with the seeds they need to plant crops for the year. Because of you, she, and hundreds of farmers like her, got the support they needed to provide for themselves this year while setting up for a more successful crop next year.

Sukhi Murmu, from Palashdanga village in West Bengal, India, holds a sheaf of rice. (MCC photo/Pabitra Paramanya)



## Partner profile

MCC partners with 14 other agencies to fight global hunger through Canadian Foodgrains Bank. MCC has 42 projects in 19 countries funded through its account at the Foodgrains Bank. This year, more than \$11 million went to MCC food and agricultural projects through that account.

## Food program highlights:

**61,791**

people attended training in improved agriculture and animal production methods

**28,468**

people received agricultural supplies including seeds and tools

**26%**

average increase in yearly income for a group of farmers in Nepal after learning new techniques

**86.8%**

of participants eat two or more meals a day (up from 40 per cent) thanks to an agriculture project in Ethiopia

The explosion came with almost no warning. The devastating blast wave in Beirut, Lebanon, ripped a huge portion of the city to shreds. Hundreds of people were killed and thousands more were injured. Nearly 300,000 people had nowhere to go—their homes reduced to rubble and shattered glass.

The city’s food supply was greatly diminished, and hospitals were overflowing with wounded, as a city already brought to the brink by the global pandemic desperately called for help.

A call you answered. You, and thousands of compassionate Canadians, came together to reach across the world and care for a hurt and grieving city. You contributed to MCC’s \$2.3 million emergency response in Beirut.

Your incredible generosity helped provide monthly food support to 1,300 families, give hygiene vouchers to 750 families, fix 75 homes and businesses and provide trauma care to 270 children and adults.

“Though the emergency stage has passed, many of those needs remain the same and are now worsened by the severe economic crisis Lebanon is witnessing,” says Tala Itani, peacebuilding advisor for MCC Lebanon. “We thank everyone who contributed to the emergency response.”

## Your donations helped thousands recover from the explosion in Beirut.

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*“We are now able to cook and make meals for our children.”*

ALICE JOUBANIAN  
Lebanon



Kate Mayhew, MCC representative for Lebanon, Syria and Iraq, walks through the Beirut neighbourhood of Gemmayze following the massive explosion in the city’s port in August 2020. (MCC photo/Garry Mayhew)

Mark Siemens (second from right) and his family on a camping trip to Banff National Park in Alberta. The Siemens family left to right: Mattea, Julie, Alexi, Katrina, Mark and Annika. (Photo courtesy of Mark Siemens)



## Donor profile

Mark Siemens’ family wanted their gifts to have real impact. They heard about Share Your Table, MCC’s monthly giving program, and thought it was a perfect fit. He says, “the combination of cooking as a family, trying new foods from around the world and reading about the lives of people throughout the world made this program both impactful and fun.”

## Relief program highlights:

**161,046**

people received emergency food assistance

**65,005**

people received locally purchased emergency relief items, including clothing, kitchen items and bedding

**1,231**

households received home repairs or reconstruction

**1,194**

people received financial support or rent assistance



## Your support enabled Sarothi to keep attending school

*“MCC’s partners provide quality access to education for children who wouldn’t have that opportunity due to violence, poverty, gender, ethnicity or disability.”*

LYNN LONGENECKER  
MCC education coordinator



Sarothi Pahan studies with a notebook that she received along with an MCC school kit. (MCC photo/James Kisku)

Sarothi Pahan wanted to be a teacher. But after finishing her primary school education, that dream seemed impossible. Sarothi has polio. Even though Bangladesh was declared polio-free in 2014, many remote areas, like Sarothi’s home of Vutahara, struggled to access vaccines.

That infection caused a serious physical disability in Sarothi’s legs, greatly limiting how far she’s able to walk. And because there are no high schools near Vutahara, her dream of teaching others was being pulled out of her reach.

Now, thanks to your generosity, Sarothi’s dream is on track to become a reality. An MCC partner in the area connected her to a group home for children with disabilities in a nearby city. The cost to support one student here for a year is \$112—beyond the financial capacity of her family. **But because of you, Sarothi’s room and board, food and education costs are fully covered, allowing her to pursue her education at a nearby high school.**

You’ve given Sarothi the ability to make her own choices about her future. She’s now in Grade 10 and is one the top students in her class. Her dream of sharing a love of education with others is becoming more her reality every day because of you.

Ron Mathies and his wife Gudrun Mathies pack MCC school kits with their grandchildren every year on Christmas Eve. (Photo courtesy of Ron Mathies)



## Volunteer profile

Ron Mathies and his wife, Gudrun Mathies, both worked in education and administration for their whole careers. Every Christmas Eve, they put together MCC school kits with their grandkids (in person or over a video call) while they share family stories. He says, “we wanted to build the habit that when we share gifts with family, we’re also remembering to share gifts with others.”

## Education program highlights:

**13,816**  
children and youth participated in K-12 education supported by MCC

**2,238**  
children received scholarships or tuition support

**87%**  
of children in an after-school tutoring program in Guatemala passed all their courses—a 71 per cent increase from the beginning of the project

**88%**  
of students who received tuition support at a school in Syria finished with average grades above 75 per cent



## Because of your support, Ayalew can drink clean water every day

When Ayalew Misgan was very young, there was no clean water at home. He lives in western Amhara, Ethiopia, where for much of his life, the water nearby wasn't safe to drink. The only water sources were shallow open-pit wells or small ponds that the local wildlife also drank from.

As a result, women had to walk hours in either direction to collect water that was only sometimes safer to drink. These long walks could be dangerous and exhausting. Often, young girls missed time at school to assist their mothers in water-gathering.

But your caring support has drawn clean, safe water up from the ground for Ayalew and his whole village. Your support allowed an MCC partner to dig wells deep enough to reach safe, clean water. For the cost of \$5,200, one of these pumps provides an easy-to-access supply of drinking water free from disease or bacteria.

"Our life in the past had made us vulnerable to many problems. Now, we are able to fetch and use safe water here from our village, near our homes. From this time onwards, we have no worry of [getting sick]," says WorkuAbebe Chinais, who lives in the same community as Ayalew.

.....

*"Now we are able to fetch and use safe water here from our village, near our homes."*

**WORKUABEBE CHINAIS**  
Ethiopia



Ayalew Misgan drinks from the water pump that was built to bring clean water to his village in western Amhara, Ethiopia. (MCC photo/Daniel Stoltzfus)

Durga Bahadur Sunchiuri (left), MCC Nepal program coordinator, and PR Sharma, Shanti Nepal's program director, check on a recently built water tap in Dhola, Nepal. (MCC photo/Avash Karki)



## Partner profile

Shanti Nepal is an MCC partner, founded in 2003. They're committed to demonstrating the loving actions of God and all creation through their efforts to ensure everyone has access to food and water. They were a major part of MCC's emergency response following the 2015 Nepal earthquake.

## Water program highlights:

**18,638**

people now have access to an improved water source

**9,660**

people received access to a new or improved latrine or sanitation facility

**294**

drinking water systems constructed or repaired

**92**

water harvesting structures for irrigation constructed or repaired

For most of her life, the only option Floride Murhimanya M'nkware had to relieve herself was to use a hole in the ground. Her village, known as Mosho II, in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DR Congo) didn't have running water or bathroom facilities.

As she got older, it was a greater challenge for her to use these safely—two planks of wood don't make a very stable platform. Digging a hole more than a few metres deep is challenging, but a shallow pit will attract disease-spreading insects and fill up in a matter of months. It's an unhealthy and dangerous cycle.

But your compassion broke that cycle.

Thanks to you, an MCC partner in DR Congo has installed brand new latrines in Mosho II, including one at Floride's home. It costs \$252 to build a latrine like this. Now there's no smell, no risk of waste infecting water supplies and no danger of her falling and hurting herself. Floride also received a rain barrel in her home to collect rainwater that she can use for cooking and washing dishes or hands.

"We are old now," says Floride, 66. "We don't have strength to dig the toilet over and over again. But the water is helping us, especially when it rains. We are sure we'll have water all the time."

## Your gifts have kept Floride safe from disease.

*"This type of basic infrastructure for safe handwashing and waste disposal is essential for preventing the spread of new infectious diseases."*

PAUL SHETLER FAST  
MCC global health coordinator



Floride Murhimanya M'nkware (left) and her husband Jacques Safari Lukwebo stand beside their new latrine in the village of Mosho II in eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo. (MCC photo/Matthew Lester)

Paul Shetler Fast, MCC's global health coordinator, stands near a lava field after the May 2021 volcanic eruption of Mount Nyiragongo in the Democratic Republic of the Congo. (MCC photo/Mulanda Jimmy Juma)



### Staff profile

Paul Shetler Fast is MCC's global health coordinator. "Health is deeply personal for all of us," he says. "Even when I'm working with people across vastly different cultures, we can still connect on something shared but also personal. Celebrating with a mother whose child has recovered after serious illness is both as universal and personal as it gets."

### Health program highlights:

**37,450**

people received direct clinical care

**118,933**

people received hygiene items, including menstrual supplies

**88%**

of participants in one mental health project in Palestine and Israel experienced significant reductions in stress and other symptoms

**20x**

more people washed their hands at community gathering sites in Zimbabwe's Mwenzezi district following a health-messaging project



Everyone needs a home. Somewhere to feel safe and secure where their basic needs are met. Somewhere to come and go freely where they can imagine a future. But that is not the reality for Palestinians—or even for some Israelis.

MCC Canada’s A Cry for Home campaign has been educating and advocating for action to end the illegal occupation of Palestine and create safe, just and peaceful communities for all Palestinians and Israelis.

Your faithful support has empowered MCC to raise the voices of our partners in Palestine and Israel to the highest levels of government in Canada.

Our advocates have been meeting with members of Parliament and citizens across Canada, carrying the stories of the people on the ground. You’ve enabled us to meet with government officials, rally Anabaptist and other faith groups together and equip all Canadians with tools to let their voices be heard to say we need a just peace in Palestine and Israel.

## Your donations have lifted the needs of the people in Palestine and Israel to the halls of Parliament.

*“The advocacy offices have been meeting with partners on the ground—they’re hearing from people directly engaged in this work. These monthly exchanges give partners hope.”*

JOAN ALTY  
MCC representative for Jordan,  
Palestine and Israel



Woroud Al-dibs, left, who attends music classes with an MCC partner in Palestine and Israel, plays a traditional instrument called the oud with Viviane Eyer who was visiting with an MCC learning tour to Palestine and Israel. (MCC photo/Naomi Enns)

Anna Vogt carries a sign that reads, “The moment has come to reconcile ourselves. Yes to peace, to forgiveness, to life,” during a peace march in Bogotá, Colombia, in 2016. (MCC photo/ Amy Eanes)



### Staff profile

Anna Vogt started with MCC’s Seed program in Colombia and now serves as director of the new Peace & Justice Office in Ottawa. “A wise mentor once told me that advocacy means listening boldly,” she says. “You can’t advocate with someone if you’re not listening to them. I feel honoured to listen to the stories of our partners and boldly raise their voices up to a bigger platform.”

### Peace & justice program highlights:

15,441

people trained in conflict transformation, peacebuilding or mediation

162

Peace Clubs active this year

36

Peace Clubs and restorative justice units operating in prisons in Zambia

85%

of participants in a youth peacebuilding program in Cambodia say they’ve changed their behaviour toward “the other”

Shadi Alkhannous knows what it's like to land at an airport in Canada without knowing a single person. That's why he joins refugee sponsor groups as often as he can to greet newcomers who are walking out of the airport into Canada. He knows firsthand the comfort of hearing a familiar language.

Shadi arrived in Canada from Syria in October 2016. Along with his wife Sultana and his children Ghazal and Hussein, they escaped a dangerous conflict zone and made a new home in St. Catharines, Ont.

Shadi quickly found a job at a grocery store called Alnoor Halal Food Market. Last year, he opened a take-out and delivery counter in the store, offering meals like beef kabab and chicken shawarma. Even during the pandemic, when the food counter can be open safely, lines at the take-out window are a common sight.

And he wouldn't be here without you. **It's your support that has enabled MCC Canada to resettle more than 13,000 refugees in Canada over the last 42 years.**

Now that he's in Canada, Shadi and his wife have helped other newcomers find sponsors for family members still living as refugees. Shadi says it very simply—he likes to help people however he can. “When people call me, I'm happy to do what I can for them,” he says. “I do the same as people did for me when I came new.”

**Your donations gave Shadi an opportunity for a new life in Canada.**

.....

*“When people call me, I'm happy to do what I can for them .... I do the same as people did for me when I came new.”*

**SHADI ALKHANNOUS**  
Former refugee from Syria



Shadi Alkhannous runs the take-out and delivery counter at the Alnoor Halal Food Market in St. Catharines, Ont., serving meals like shish tawook, chicken shawarma and beef kabab. He and his family have been living in Canada since they were resettled here in 2016. (Photo courtesy of Shadi Alkannous)

Terry Schulz and his wife, Sandi Schulz, have supported a number of refugees for resettlement. (Photo courtesy of Terry Schulz)



### Volunteer profile

Terry Schulz is a refugee resettlement sponsor from Abbotsford, B.C. “We do it because we're grateful,” he says. “We've never had to worry about food or safety in our life, so we decided we'd try to help people who don't have all that. And God's really put people in our life that have made it possible.”

### Migration program highlights:

**80**

refugees came to Canada through MCC's sponsorship program from:

Eritrea	<b>12</b>
Iraq	<b>12</b>
Syria	<b>32</b>
Palestine	<b>9</b>

Other countries:  
DR Congo, Myanmar, Ethiopia, Iran, Sudan – **15**

The global pandemic greatly reduced the number of people who could resettle in Canada this year. MCC included a number of safety measures and protocols for those who were able to enter the country to ensure their health.

## MATERIAL RESOURCES



Abdel\* lives in Homs, Syria, with his family in a temporary shelter. He's holding items from an MCC relief kit and enjoying the warmth of a comforter handmade by MCC volunteers. (Photo courtesy of FMEEC/Abuna Sergios)



**Your support is a tangible sign of hope in times of crisis.**

*"Here the light of Christ shines through MCC. [The kits] we received today will paint a smile on my wife and children's faces."*

LAITH BAJAJI, an Iraqi refugee in Jordan

### Material resources shipped last year:



**550,440**  
Canned meat (lbs)



**51,549**  
School kits



**77,240**  
Hygiene kits



**45,787**  
Comforters



**21,792**  
Relief kits



**5,812**  
Infant care kits



**1,600**  
Sewing kits

Abdel\* and his family have had a very challenging few years. They've been forced to abandon two homes because of the constant threat of violence in Syria. They're living in Homs, Syria, now—Abdel, his parents and his five siblings—in a house that desperately needs repairs to withstand the rainy winter months.

But your caring support offered warmth to Abdel on the coldest of nights.

He and his family received an MCC relief kit and comforters that were packed and sewn by MCC volunteers. These supplies provided his family with important basic necessities and the knowledge that people across the world were thinking of them.

*\*Name changed for security reasons.*



## MCC THRIFT

Ruth Jantz (left), shop manager of the Sargent MCC Thrift Shop in Winnipeg, Man., and shop assistant Essence Matthews say adapting to public health orders now feels somewhat normal. (MCC photo/ Allison Zacharias)

*"[The volunteers are] so dedicated, even though it took a while for it to sink in that we can't do things as we normally would [due to COVID-19]."*

RUTH JANTZ, manager of Sargent MCC Thrift Shop

**Your dedication kept thrift shops open for our communities.**

This year saw a major disruption to MCC Thrift shops across the country. But the staff and volunteers who operate our shops worked tirelessly to ensure shoppers got as close to a regular experience as they could.

Ruth Jantz, manager of the Sargent MCC Thrift Shop, says the flexibility of volunteers made a challenging situation much more manageable. "They've been great at adapting to the changes in their schedules, filling the gaps and figuring out a new routine," says Ruth. "They're eager to continue as much as they can."

And for volunteers like Pearl Plohman, her time at a thrift shop was also a way for her to connect. "MCC has been a lifeline for me [during the pandemic]," she says. "God made us to be sociable creatures, so you do need contact with people."



**MCC THRIFT**  
*Where every purchase is a gift to the world*

**\$12,387,000**

Donated by MCC Thrift shops in Canada and the U.S. to support the work of MCC in the 2020/2021 fiscal year.

# GLOBAL SERVICE LEARNING

GSL

YOUNG ADULTS VOLUNTEERING IN THE NAME OF CHRIST

Dr. Ela Castro, a 2019–2020 YAMEN participant, used her training as a doctor to serve at Casa del Migrante (Migrant House) in Guatemala City, Guatemala, offering medical care to migrants and refugees. (MCC photo/Lizette Miranda)



You are helping young adults experience service and growth

*“YAMEN is a great place for people to confirm their gift and their call.”*

DR. ELA CASTRO, a 2019/2020 YAMEN participant

Dr. Ela Castro always knew she wanted to spend her life serving those in need. By all outward appearances, this is what she was doing. She’d studied for years to earn her medical degree. She was working at a health-care clinic. She was helping people—but something was missing.

It wasn’t until she took a step of faith that she truly felt like she’d found her purpose. Through her church, Ela decided to try a one-year term of service with Young Anabaptist Mennonite Exchange Network (YAMEN) and was placed at a ministry serving migrants in Guatemala.

“YAMEN is a great place for people to confirm their gift and their call, and for me it was proof that I can do something different than other doctors are called to do,” she says. She also says her time with YAMEN played a pivotal role in her faith formation and in planning what is next for her life.

“It was my Gethsemane,” says Ela. “It was an opportunity for me to experience my faith by myself without the support of my mom and dad and closer family.”



NEPAL

# Give a gift today

## Help families in poverty survive the effects of COVID-19

Even as the impact of the pandemic recedes in Canada, in many countries the hope of widespread vaccinations could still be two or three years away. This leaves people incredibly vulnerable to the health and economic effects of the pandemic.

Join us with a gift to help respond to the overwhelming need for health care and relief. Your generous donation will provide life-saving support for families living in poverty.

[mcccanada.ca/covid-19-donation](https://mcccanada.ca/covid-19-donation)



# COVID-19 RESPONSE



In the early months of 2020, it became clear the COVID-19 disease was going to be a global threat. Adapting our programs around the world to ensure everyone stayed safe was a top priority. Working with our partners across the globe, we adapted and shaped projects to meet the constantly changing situation. As universal as the threat of the coronavirus was, each project required a unique approach. Here are just a few of the ways we responded.

A staff member\* from MCC partner Popular Aid for Relief and Development (PARC) prepares to distribute MCC blankets and relief items in Tyre, Lebanon, in March 2020. She wears a mask and gloves to protect herself and recipients. (MCC photo/Evangeline Hammond)

\* Name not used for security reasons.



## Kenya

Anna Mwatha (right) and Joel Esapaya (left) support families and pregnant mothers in Mathare, a neighbourhood of Nairobi, Kenya. Our partner shifted how they provide health care and support for pregnant mothers to one-on-one sessions, mostly by phone. And they maintained a network of handwashing stations in the area.

(MCC photo/Scott Stoner-Eby)



## Afghanistan

In Afghanistan, we shifted some funds to buy personal protective equipment for project staff so they could keep meeting safely to provide mental health care and share COVID-19 prevention information with their clients. The name of MCC's partner in this work and the names of the people pictured are not provided for security reasons.

(MCC photo)



## Nepal

Public health inspector Ram Udgar Yadav (right) takes Pramod Kumar Yadav's (left) temperature in front of a health facility in Nepal. We shifted our program here to a more direct care approach, providing items such as hospital beds and thermometers to under-equipped hospitals in the area. At the time the photo was taken in May 2020, the government of Nepal did not require face masks to be worn outdoors.

(BICWS photo/Sanjog Luitel)



## El Salvador

When tropical storm Amanda devastated communities in rural El Salvador, we quickly launched an emergency response that included food and personal protective equipment. These women in Cuisnahuat, El Salvador, were some of the 300 households who received a one-month supply of food.

(MCC photo/Kathy Figueroa)



## India

In India, our local partner introduced social distancing and other safety protocols to distributions of food, water and hygiene kits like this one to make sure no one was exposed to any extra risk.

(ISARA photo/Jajati Pandit)

# MCC around the world

**Canada**  
444 MCC workers\*  
\$9.5 million  
\*includes MCC Thrift

**United States**  
156 MCC workers  
\$8.4 million

**Latin America & the Caribbean**  
67 MCC workers  
\$5.9 million

**Europe & the Middle East**  
35 MCC workers  
\$15.2 million

**Africa**  
138 MCC workers  
\$15.6 million

**Multi-Region**  
\$7.4 million

**Asia**  
128 MCC workers  
\$6.1 million

**47**  
countries

**385**  
partners

**508**  
projects

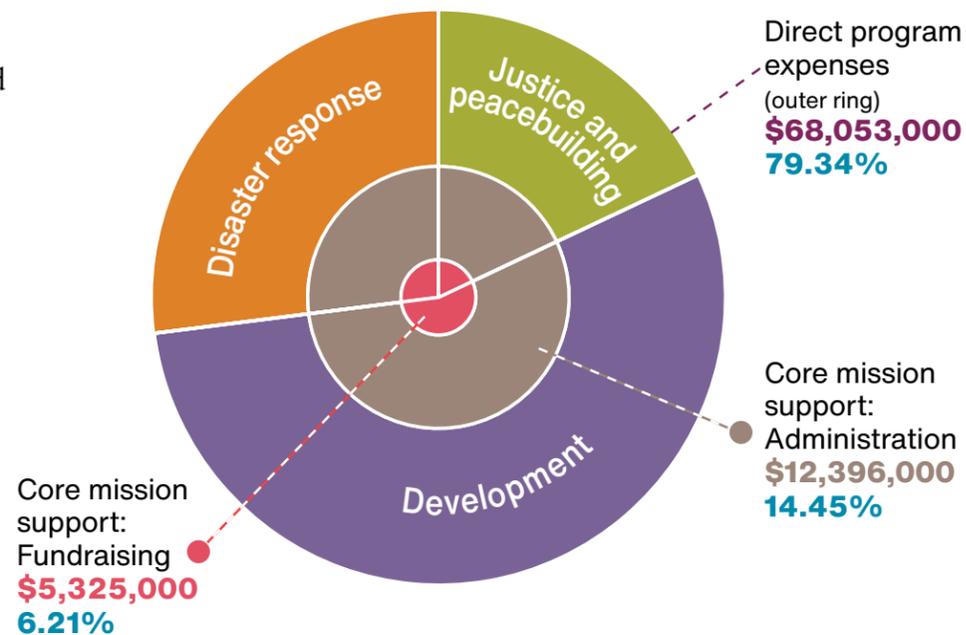
**968**  
workers

**31** participants in Global Service Learning programs: SALT, IVEP, YAMEN, Summerbridge, Seed and SOOP. Participant numbers last year were greatly reduced because of the pandemic.

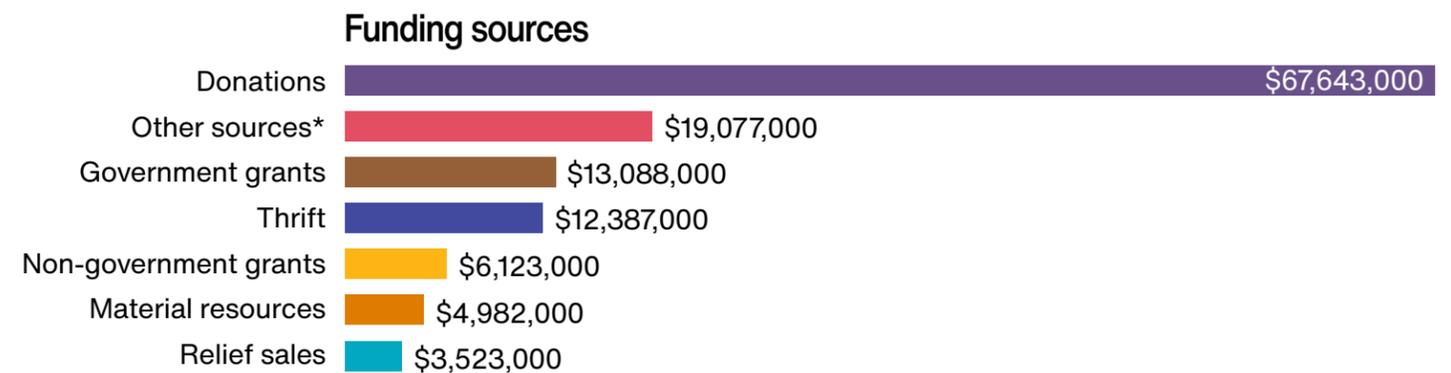
## FINANCES

The financial information on these pages presents the combined operations in Canadian dollars of the MCCs in Canada and the U.S. for the year ended March 31, 2021. More detailed financial and program reporting, as well as complete audited financial statements are available at [mcccanada.ca/annual-report](http://mcccanada.ca/annual-report).

**TOTAL EXPENSES:**  
**\$85,774,000**



**TOTAL REVENUE:**  
**\$126,823,000**



\*For a detailed list of funding sources see the electronic annual impact report online at [mcccanada.ca/annual-report](http://mcccanada.ca/annual-report).