

# 2023

# PARTNERSHIP IMPACT REPORT



## RESPONSE UPDATES

How Rotary has helped  
us continue our  
operations in 2023

## RESETTING THE PARTNERSHIP

How we have adapted our  
shelter support across  
the years

## SHELTERBOX ACROSS AFRICA

Find out more about our work in  
Ethiopia, Nigeria, Mozambique,  
Cameroon, Sudan & Burkina Faso

## ROTARY IN FOCUS

Amazing stories  
from our Rotarian  
supporters



**ShelterBox**

**Rotary**



ShelterBox and Rotary International are Project Partners in disaster relief. ShelterBox is a registered charity independent of Rotary International and The Rotary Foundation. **Charity No: 1096479**

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Front cover Image: An aerial image of one of the distribution sites in the Atlas mountains, Morocco.



# THANK YOU

FROM SANJ SRIKANTHAN (SHELTERBOX CEO)

*Our partnership with Rotary continued to be crucial to our responses in 2023 and remains fundamental to what we do.*

The last twelve months have been busy for ShelterBox, reflecting the scale of the current global humanitarian crisis which is ever growing. Our responses around the world continue to support people who have had their homes damaged or destroyed by disaster, conflict, or the climate crisis.

We supported thousands of people in Türkiye and Syria after earthquakes devastated the region, with invaluable collaboration with Rotary in Türkiye. In Morocco, where a powerful earthquake caused widespread damage in the Atlas Mountains, our teams worked with our partner, Association Le Grand Atlas, and Rotary District 9010 to distribute emergency shelter aid to over 20 affected communities.

Extreme weather events, like flooding and drought, are becoming more frequent and are affecting millions of people every year. Recently, we worked with our partner ACTED in Libya to ensure aid reached the people who have had their homes washed away by the floods. We have also continued our response to the monsoon flooding in Pakistan last year and we've supported thousands of people in Ethiopia, displaced by the drought, providing essential household items, tarpaulins and ropes. We also launched our first project in Somalia since 2011 this year.

As the conflict in Ukraine approaches its third year, ShelterBox has remained steadfast in its response to the people suffering from the devastating fighting. We are also continuing to support people affected by conflict in Syria, making sure people have thermal clothing, blankets, and tarpaulins to help make temporary shelters waterproof.

This year we are very proud of our work in Chad, supporting some of the millions of people who have been displaced by violent conflict in neighbouring Sudan. And in Cameroon, we've supported over 100,000 people who have had to flee their homes due to conflict, the climate crisis, and poverty.

I hope that this report shows you how vital our partnership with Rotary is around the world. Rotary members are fellow humanitarians who are part of the joint effort to see people recover after disaster. Whether raising awareness and fundraising; assisting with distributions, needs assessments or logistics in-country; or introducing us to important local authorities, we value your involvement.

It's only thanks to our supporters and to our partnerships with Rotary and others, that we can make the necessary commitment to working with communities in their long-term recovery.

SANJ SRIKANTHAN  
Chief Executive



# 2023

## OVERVIEW

Reaching communities with vital aid is only made possible with help from our partners, volunteers and global network of supporters. We have created this report to say thank you and show how this partnership of action has helped so many families rebuild their lives following disaster or conflict.

### KEY:

- Conflict
- Drought
- Flooding
- Earthquakes
- Tropical cyclone



### 2023 IN FIGURES:



**325,000**  
PEOPLE SUPPORTED



**65,000\***  
FAMILIES SUPPORTED WITH  
EMERGENCY SHELTER AID  
AND HOUSEHOLD ITEMS

YOUR SUPPORT HAS REACHED ACROSS 22 DIFFERENT PROJECTS  
IN 14 DIFFERENT COUNTRIES AFTER:



EARTHQUAKES



FLOODING



CONFLICT



DROUGHT



TROPICAL  
CYCLONE

\*Assuming 5 people per family

DEPLOYMENT FOCUS

# TÜRKIYE

## THE CRISIS IN TÜRKIYE

On 6 February 2023, two devastating earthquakes, measuring 7.8 and 7.5 magnitude on the Richter Scale, struck Kahramanmaraş, Türkiye, near the northern border of Syria.

Two weeks later, another powerful earthquake hit Türkiye, close to the border with Syria. More than 16,000 aftershocks occurred in the following weeks, with the impact felt across the ten provinces in which a three-month state of emergency was declared. Three million people were displaced by the earthquakes; more than 50,000 lost their lives and another 100,000 were injured. These earthquakes are the largest to hit the region in the last century.



## NEEDS ASSESSMENTS

A ShelterBox team travelled to the affected regions of Adiyaman and Hatay with members of Rotary Club of Istanbul and Rotary District 2430, who were leading in Rotary's emergency response in the region, within 48 hours of the first earthquakes. The assessment team saw that affected populations in urban locations appeared to favour more durable shelter options, such as containers. In rural populations however, where numbers had already swelled even prior to the earthquakes due to urban displacement, it became clear that tented accommodation remained a viable option. The provision of tents would allow families to stay at their homesites, not being forced to relocate to seek shelter assistance in larger cities; allowing rural communities to continue with livelihood activities and to feel safer in smaller localised settlements.

Following a request from the Turkish Red Crescent, an immediate 'gift in kind' was made by ShelterBox just days after the earthquakes. Over 500 tents were shipped on a flight provided free of charge by Turkish Airlines, from our warehouse in Panama, and sent directly by AFAD for distribution in Hatay.



The ShelterBox team worked with Rotary and municipality staff in Arzus, leading 'train the trainer' sessions, which focus on sharing knowledge and best practice on tent setup. Kivilcim Aksüt from Seyhan Rotary Club acted as translator.



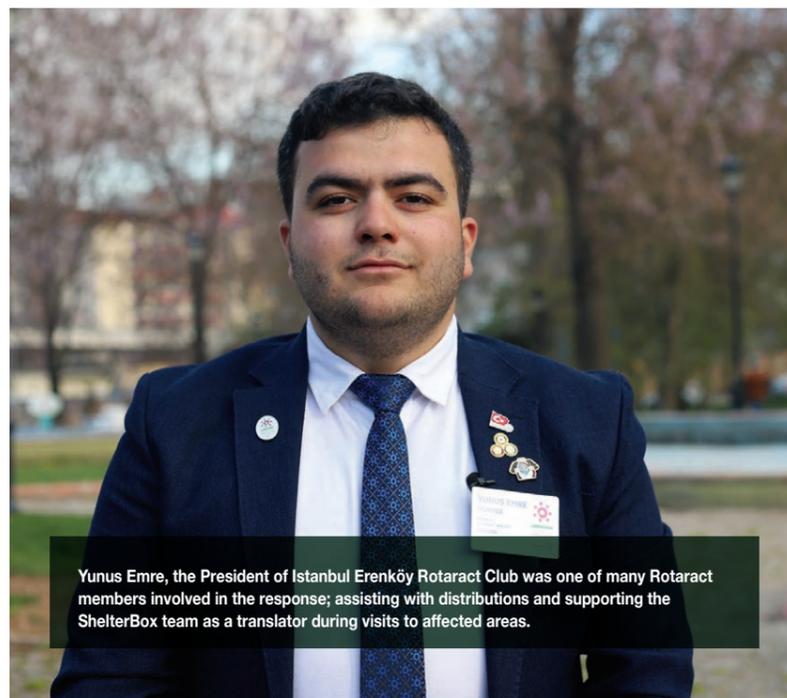
32 year old Aleu lives with her husband and two children, one year old Beste and four year old Boris, in Azurs district, Türkiye. When we first met with Aleu in March 2023, the family were sleeping in a small camping tent, not big enough to fit the four of them. Now, they are sleeping in the tent provided by ShelterBox. One day they hope to have a more permanent home.

*"This tent is not a small [gesture]. For us, it's a huge support. It makes us feel safe. We are going to buy some land and build a prefabricated home made from lighter materials, but no concrete. We do not want to go inside concrete anymore."*



## WORKING WITH ROTARY

Rotary in Türkiye supported the Government led response, which was coordinated through AFAD, Türkiye's Disaster and Emergency Management Authority, and supported by the Turkish Red Crescent (TRC). Rotary in Türkiye worked closely with AFAD, gaining permission to operate in some of the affected areas. Rotary's connections with AFAD, search and rescue organisations, supply chain and logistics businesses, and municipalities were critical in enabling the ShelterBox response and getting aid on the move in a dynamic and complex emergency. Through its network of clubs at city/municipality level, Rotary in Türkiye was very well connected to governmental mechanisms and able to support ShelterBox in obtaining permissions to operate and be a part of the relief effort.



Yunus Emre, the President of Istanbul Erenköy Rotaract Club was one of many Rotaract members involved in the response; assisting with distributions and supporting the ShelterBox team as a translator during visits to affected areas.

IN COLLABORATION WITH ROTARY, OUR RESPONSE IN TÜRKIYE SUPPORTED MORE THAN 12,500 PEOPLE, WITH MORE THAN:



2,500 UN FAMILY TENTS



6,000 MATTRESSES



8,000 BLANKETS



1,000 SOLAR LIGHTS



2,000 HYGIENE KITS

AND 1,000 SOLID FUEL STOVES PROVIDED TO THE MOST VULNERABLE FAMILIES DURING THE COLDEST WINTER MONTHS

# MOROCCO

**On 8 September 2023, a 6.8 magnitude earthquake struck Morocco, south west of the major city of Marrakech. According to the Red Cross, more than 3,000 people were killed, thousands more were injured.**

The villages high in the Atlas Mountains were the worst hit, with more than 50,000 homes reported to have been destroyed. The operational context and impact of the earthquake in Morocco was challenging as the country has not seen a disaster of this scale in a long time.

ShelterBox implemented the response in partnership with Association Le Grand Atlas and Rotary International, with communication with Rotary partners commencing the day of the earthquake. During disasters, ShelterBox seeks to partner with Rotary on the ground wherever appropriate and our response in Morocco was no different. We gained immediate assistance from the Rotary District Governor of 9010, Saadia Aglif, and Moroccan Rotary member,

Mo Sbai (Rotary Club of Salt Lake City). They both helped to speed up the process of getting aid in-country and made crucial introductions to Moroccan contacts.

Our response provided temporary emergency shelter for around 4,400 people who were left without shelter following the earthquake. We focused our response on remote villages spread far out across the Atlas Mountains, communities that have been left with very little. Many people had been sleeping out in the open since losing their homes, or through fear of buildings collapsing from continuing aftershocks. The household package provided shelter, warmth and light with the provision of solar lights and high thermal blankets suited to the cold temperatures of high-altitude villages; along with a kitchen set containing everything needed to cook and prepare food. The ShelterBox team worked closely with village communities, who helped with assessments, preparing tent sites, assisting with distributions and setting up tents.



ShelterBox team member, Martin Strutton, during assessments in the mountain villages affected by the earthquake.

WORKING TOGETHER WITH ROTARY PARTNERS IN THIS WAY MEANT THAT WE WERE ABLE TO:



**SUPPORT  
22 VILLAGE  
COMMUNITIES**



**DISTRIBUTE OVER  
1,200  
TENTS**



**SUPPLY OVER  
10,000  
BLANKETS**

ALONG WITH THE OTHER AID ITEMS, BEFORE THE SUB-ZERO WINTER TEMPERATURES ARRIVED IN THE ATLAS MOUNTAINS.

## EARLY ASSISTANCE FROM ROTARY

ShelterBox's partnership with Rotary took many forms during the cycle of the response, from before we arrived in Morocco, to after our teams left.

Our preparation was greatly assisted by the enthusiastic members of the Rotary Club of Majorelle, Marrakech who packed aid items into bags, alongside local volunteers, ready for distributions. As the ground in the mountains was so hard, we needed rebar pegs for the tents, which were kindly donated by a supplier who was a contact of Mo Sbai. Rotary members also helped in successfully finding a suitable multi-lingual person for our Feedback and Complaints role - a contracted role to enable reporting of issues and any requests.

DG Saadia Aglif, PDG Jilali Antari, Jalal Zemmama (Humanitarian Service Team lead) and other Rotary members went on to assist with some of the distributions - putting up tents and talking with the local community. The ShelterBox team were able to share and talk them all through our distribution approach, sharing how we go about the whole process.

## SHARING RESOURCES

Combining our resources, the ShelterBox team looked for opportunities to share capacity where possible with Rotary partners. This started with local clubs sharing their initial reports from visits to earthquake affected villages.

As several Rotary clubs in D9010 had been carrying out ongoing programmes to support mountain communities, they were able to provide important links and information about the setting there. ShelterBox team members, in turn, shared the findings of their needs assessments and community discussions with Rotary connections, allowing for ongoing support of the communities from the Rotary network in Morocco.

## ROTARY'S ONGOING WORK

Rotary clubs continue to manage needs for food, clothing, and hygiene, along with supporting a mobile hospital project and planned temporary housing. The Rotary Club of Majorelle, for instance, distributed one hundred of the wooden pallets that ShelterBox aid was brought into Morocco on, to 52 earthquake affected households, along with mattresses, pillows, sheets and rugs that the club supplied.

Plus, as part of our wider collaboration with Rotary, we shared documents around safeguarding, gaining consent for photographs and video, as well as our Feedback and Complaints function to ensure that we are serving the communities as best we can. This mutual sharing of information was hugely beneficial and has resulted in the district planning to apply for a Rotary Foundation grant to address water, sanitation and hygiene needs in the mountain villages, based on our community assessment data.



Mohamed is the community leader of a small village in the Al Haouz region of the Atlas Mountains in Morocco. Like many others, he suffered unbearable personal loss when a devastating 6.8 magnitude earthquake struck late one night in September 2023. However, unlike most, Mohamed bears a responsibility to not only re-build his own life following the earthquake, but to help everyone in his community re-build theirs.



Volunteers from Rotary and local universities helped to prepare the aid items which were then transferred via trucks for storage close to the villages we supported.



WITH SPECIAL THANKS TO: Saadia Aglif, District Governor of 9010; Rotarian, Mo Sbai; Rotary Club of Salt Lake City and Bouchra Soufiane; President of Rotary Club of Marjorelle, Marrakech.

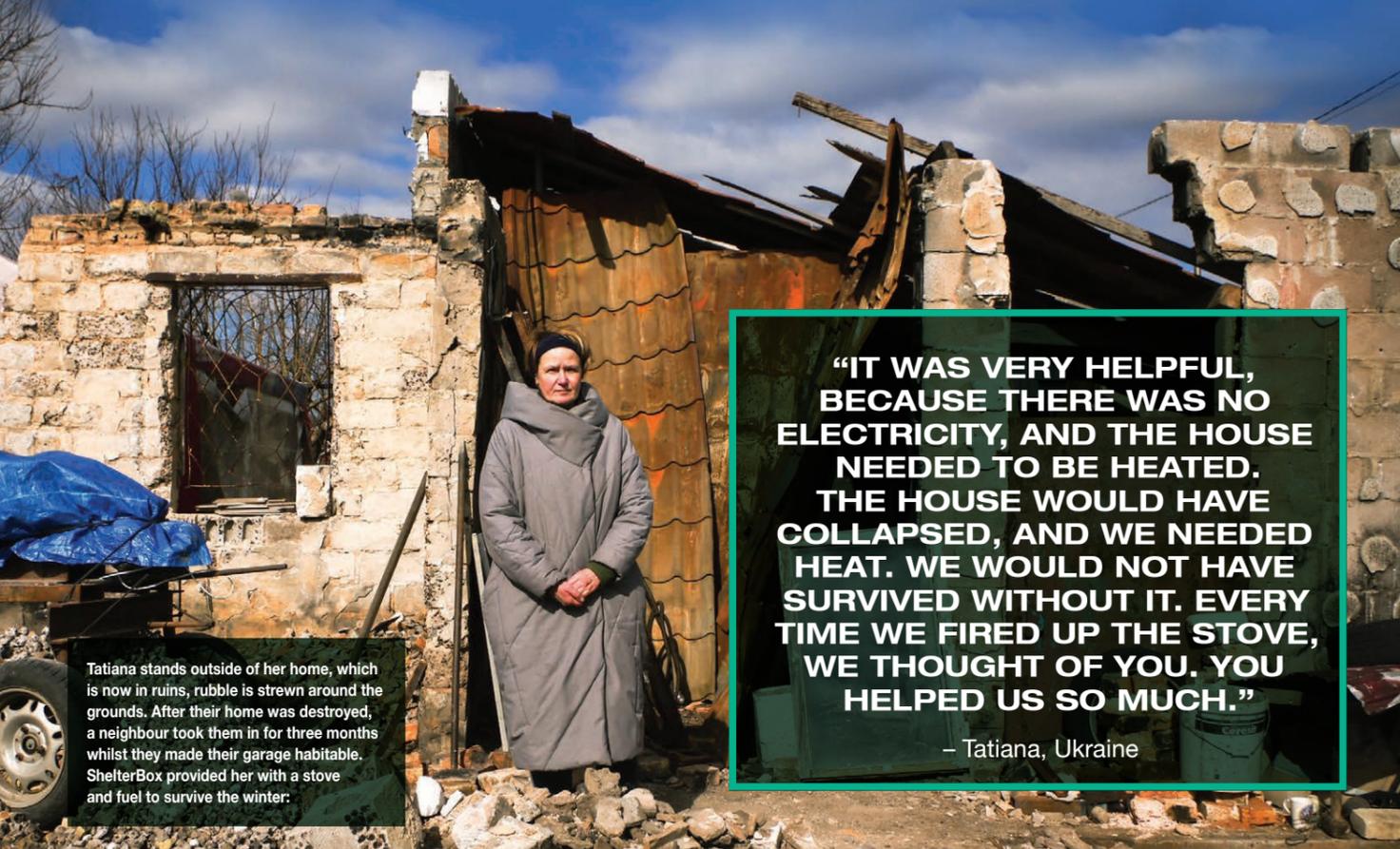
# IMAGES FROM UKRAINE

The war in Ukraine has raged on throughout 2023 and an estimated 6.2 million Ukrainians are now living as refugees in neighbouring countries across Europe and globally, with another 5.1 million estimated to be internally displaced within Ukraine.

As of June 2023, Ukraine announced its long anticipated counter offensive was underway aiming to reclaim territory occupied by Russia in the east. With the passage of time, the number of refugees in need of shelter

assistance has reduced whilst the gap in provision within Ukraine has remained widespread. Therefore, we are now fully focused on supporting people within Ukraine.

Waves of attacks on energy infrastructure have periodically left millions of people without electricity, and disrupted water supply and heating systems. Ukrainian winters are exceptionally cold, with temperatures often dropping well below freezing. For families whose homes have been severely damaged in the conflict, winter has been especially difficult.

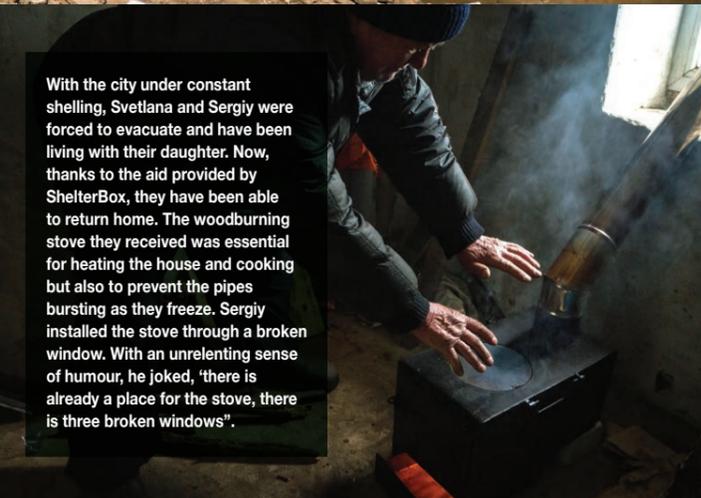


Tatiana stands outside of her home, which is now in ruins, rubble is strewn around the grounds. After their home was destroyed, a neighbour took them in for three months whilst they made their garage habitable. ShelterBox provided her with a stove and fuel to survive the winter.

**“IT WAS VERY HELPFUL, BECAUSE THERE WAS NO ELECTRICITY, AND THE HOUSE NEEDED TO BE HEATED. THE HOUSE WOULD HAVE COLLAPSED, AND WE NEEDED HEAT. WE WOULD NOT HAVE SURVIVED WITHOUT IT. EVERY TIME WE FIRED UP THE STOVE, WE THOUGHT OF YOU. YOU HELPED US SO MUCH.”**  
– Tatiana, Ukraine



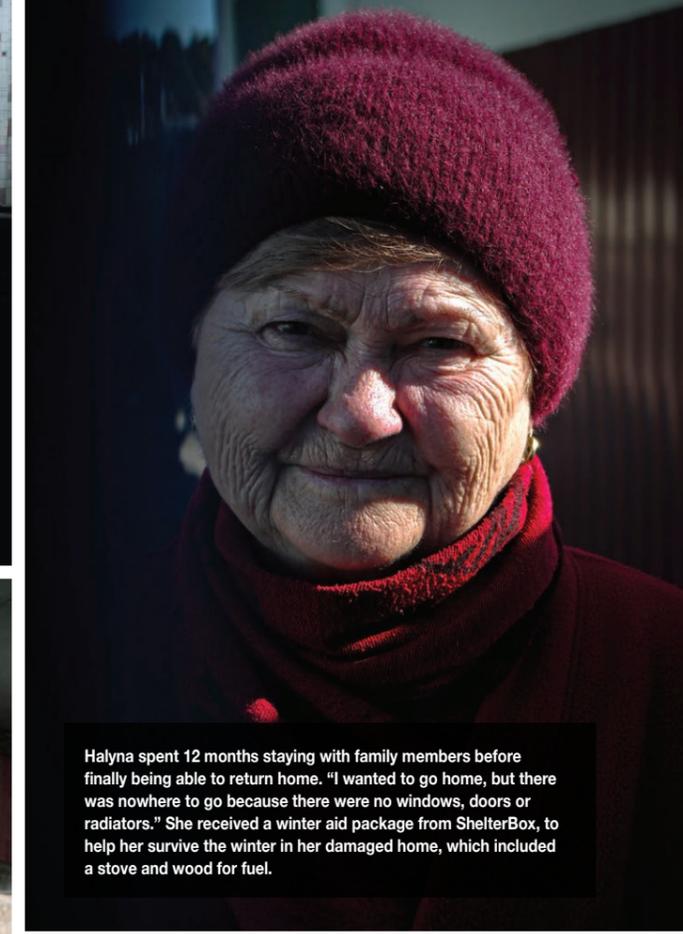
Svetlana and Sergiy live in Kharkiv. They were putting the final changes on their new home when the war began. Not only did the war bring an abrupt halt to their work, but missiles blew out their windows and doors leaving nothing to keep the bitter wind out.



With the city under constant shelling, Svetlana and Sergiy were forced to evacuate and have been living with their daughter. Now, thanks to the aid provided by ShelterBox, they have been able to return home. The woodburning stove they received was essential for heating the house and cooking but also to prevent the pipes bursting as they freeze. Sergiy installed the stove through a broken window. With an unrelenting sense of humour, he joked, “there is already a place for the stove, there is three broken windows”.



Halyna sits alone by her stove to keep warm during the bitter winter.



Halyna spent 12 months staying with family members before finally being able to return home. “I wanted to go home, but there was nowhere to go because there were no windows, doors or radiators.” She received a winter aid package from ShelterBox, to help her survive the winter in her damaged home, which included a stove and wood for fuel.



Vasiliy lived a normal life with his family in Kharkiv before the war. They would all cook together on the barbeque in summer as a family - until February 24th, 2022; when everything changed. Repeated missile strikes have left a considerable amount of damage to his home, leaving it vulnerable to the freezing winter temperatures. ShelterBox provided winter aid, delivered by ReliefAid, including: warm clothing, blankets, and a stove. Vasiliy had already installed the stove in a temporary spot to begin heating his freezing home and boil water for cups of tea.



The war has had devastating consequences for Kateryna and her family. She lost both her son and her husband in the conflict but still remains hopeful for the future. Kateryna now lives with her grandson. They were given a stove and firewood, about which she said: “I knew that I wouldn’t have to cook outside, as we did when the whole village was burning and crashing. I knew I could cook, and my children would not be starving. We are very grateful.”

SINCE THE CONFLICT ESCALATED IN 2022, SHELTERBOX HAS SUPPORTED OVER 100,000 PEOPLE, OVER FIVE DIFFERENT PROJECT PHASES. PROJECT 5 HAS SUPPORTED MORE THAN 35,000 PEOPLE (14,000 FAMILIES) WITH:

-   
WINTER CLOTHING
-   
SOLID FUEL STOVES
-   
HIGH THERMAL BLANKETS
-   
SOLAR LIGHTS
-   
10L WATER CARRIERS
-   
SLEEPING BAGS

**IN 2023, OUR PRACTICAL AND FLEXIBLE APPROACH HAS SEEN US PROVIDE:**

**CASH ASSISTANCE:  
SYRIA EARTHQUAKES**

First piloted in the Philippines in 2020, we now include cash assistance alongside many of our shelter packages as it allows people the flexibility and freedom to buy what they need to support their own recovery.



Our partner, BCHR, demonstrating the use of fire extinguishers in Yemen.

**FIRE EXTINGUISHERS:  
YEMEN & SYRIA EARTHQUAKE**

In April 2022, our partner in Yemen, BCHR, proposed that we include fire extinguishers as part of the aid package. Fire outbreaks were commonplace in camps and several people had been killed. Powder fire extinguishers were bought locally by our partners and training was given to communities on how to use them. We have continued to provide fire extinguishers as part of the aid package in Yemen and also to communities in resettlement sites in Syria following the earthquakes.

**TRANSITIONAL SHELTERS:  
BURKINA FASO, CAMEROON, SOMALIA & YEMEN**



Which are built for long term occupation anywhere from one to seven years, in situations when it may be unclear when displaced people will be able to return home.

Ebrahim and his children stand outside of their 'iron net' shelter in Yemen. It has an iron frame, an inner layer of fireproof thermal insulation, and an outer layer of corrugated steel. For better protection against flooding, it is built on a concrete base, with a surrounding brick wall. It also has wooden windows and doors for better ventilation and privacy, as well as lights and power sockets.



Construction training for the communities in Mozambique.

**COMMUNITY TOOL KITS:  
BURKINA FASO, CAMEROON**

Designed to be shared across an average of 12 households, these kits may include a range of reusable construction tools such as wheelbarrows, hammers, saws, shovels, and brick molds. They are made available to people who have received other shelter materials to support the construction or repairs of their shelter but are also often utilised by people in the community who have not received any other items.

**RESETTING THE PARTNERSHIP**

**We're experts in shelter – the foundation for life. For over 20 years, shelter has been our one focus. That's not about to change. We're determined that no one should be without shelter after disaster.**

Right now, over 100 million people worldwide have been forced from their homes by disasters, conflict and climate change – and that number is growing every day. So, we have to scale up our response and work in new ways. We are constantly innovating, expanding the types of shelter and support we provide, sourcing materials locally and looking for ways to reduce our impact on the planet.

We are seeking to address power imbalances in the way international aid is provided. We do this by listening to the people we support so they shape how we work with them, learning from shelter partners who are already based in the affected countries, sharing our skills and becoming more diverse ourselves.

We are also measuring and studying our work more closely than ever. We are developing new processes to ensure everything we do is led by evidence and data, and investing in research to make sure we keep learning and increasing our impact.

**DURABLE SHELTER SUITED TO LOCAL CONTEXTS:  
PAKISTAN, CAMEROON & SOMALIA**

In the form of shelter kits which include materials to build shelter suited to the needs of people likely to be displaced for more than a year, but designed to last upwards of five years where people have a right to remain on the land. The kit could include framing materials to form the structure, timber, cement, sand and/or CGI (corrugated iron sheeting) for roofing or doors. It could also include training for communities to ensure that shelters are built to a specified standard and will last.



Haoua is an internally displaced woman living in the far north of Cameroon with her family of eight. ShelterBox and Public Concern have supported Haoua with a durable shelter package, allowing her to reconstruct her home to be a more durable structure.

**TENT LEVELLING & CONCRETE BASES  
SYRIA EARTHQUAKE, MOROCCO, SOMALIA**



Ground levelling for tents is normally constructed using cement blocks, gravel and casted cement to make emergency shelter more durable and increase protection from flooding and extreme weather conditions.

Jassim lies on the concrete base floor of his tent in Syria.

**HYGIENE KITS  
UKRAINE, PAKISTAN, LIBYA, CHAD**

Often locally procured, these kits typically include basic personal hygiene items that displaced people have been forced to leave home without, such as toothpaste & toothbrushes, soap, washing powder, washing up liquid, shampoo, toilet roll and feminine hygiene items. The kit may also contain nappies for families with babies and young children.



**WE'VE GONE BEYOND THE BOX**

**When we started responding to disasters 23 years ago, all of our aid was shipped in boxes. But today we've gone beyond the box, and there are lots of reasons that we no longer use them.**

- 1 Our tents are bigger to provide more space for families so some of our aid no longer fits in the boxes.
- 2 We're working to procure more items locally, to cut our carbon footprint and support local economies.
- 3 Using pallets to ship items means faster delivery times and custom checks.
- 4 Storing aid items without boxes means we need less warehouse space, and we can be more flexible with storage options closer to affected communities.

**WINTERISATION KITS:  
TÜRKIYE, SYRIA, LIBYA**

Typically include thermal blankets and winter clothing such as coats, boots, gloves and hats (for both adults and children), along with sleeping mats, and heaters or stoves with the necessary fuel.



*Over our 23 year history, we have evolved to work with affected communities in a wide range of ways, offering more combinations of aid to better meet the needs of the people we support.*

# SHELTERBOX ACROSS AFRICA

With more high-profile conflicts and disasters dominating the headlines in 2023, here's a closer look at what support from Rotary helped us to achieve for communities affected by violent conflict and climate change across Africa this year.



Community training sessions in Ancuabe district.

## MOZAMBIQUE: CONFLICT

**Project 2**, which was integrated with ECHO\* and implemented by our partner CARE, supported over 9,000 displaced families with shelter kits and household items.

**Project 3** is integrated with an ECHO funded project to address the needs of crisis affected communities in northern Mozambique. As part of a consortium with other NGOs, ShelterBox and CARE Mozambique will support over 4,000 internally displaced (IDP) families with emergency household items such as blankets, kitchen sets, solar lights, and mosquito nets. We will also be seeking to understand the environmental impact of shelter materials, including how much single use plastics are re-used and recycled.

## BURKINA FASO: CONFLICT

In partnership with HELP, **project 5** focused on the construction of new transitional shelters, called Sahel Tents, to support over 1,100 newly displaced families. Following feedback from the communities, we acknowledged the need to make them more durable.

The construction of a concrete base protects the shelters from flooding and helps to improve levels of hygiene and dignity. The items that form the structure of the Sahel Tents, along with wash kits, cooking pots and water carriers were locally procured. We are now in the planning stages for **project 6**.



Boureima with his Sahel tent.

\*European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations



Samira and her six children are one of the 12,000 families affected by the drought in the Somali region that received a mix of emergency shelter support and household items as part of project 5.

## ETHIOPIA: CONFLICT/DROUGHT

In partnership with IOM\*, **project 6** will support at least 7,000 displaced families with shelter and household items. We plan to take a flexible approach and focus on more communities in lowland regions affected by the drought, with an adjusted aid package to meet the warmer conditions. 15% of the shelter kits will also be adjusted to meet the needs of people with disabilities and at least 2,000 of the most vulnerable families will receive cash assistance intended to pay for labour to help construct the shelters. Distributions will start in March 2024.

\*International Organization for Migration

## CHAD: CONFLICT

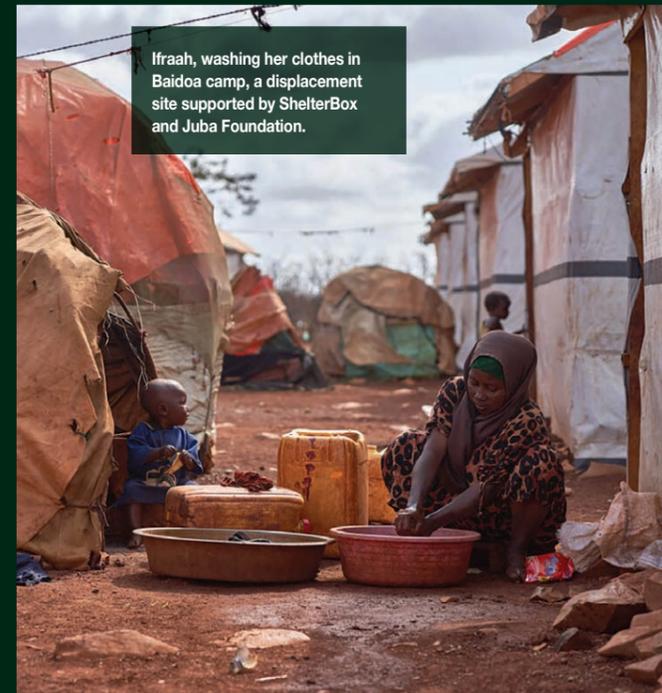
In partnership with INTERSOS, **project 1** aims to support people affected by the conflict in Sudan with emergency shelter and locally procured household items. The Elite Rotary Club of N'djamena assisted the ShelterBox team by offering support with local logistics and helping them gain government permissions required for travel to the affected area.

**Phase 1** has seen ShelterBox provide 400 UNHCR family tents and 1,600 tarpaulins to construct emergency shelters for Zabout refugee camp. With the unrelenting number of refugees and returnees arriving in Chad, the shelter gap remains huge.

**Phase 2** has therefore provided over 2,600 additional families with UN family shelters, constructed using an additional 8,000 tarpaulins.



Asiza and her family received emergency shelter after escaping the conflict in Sudan.



Ifraah, washing her clothes in Baidoa camp, a displacement site supported by ShelterBox and Juba Foundation.

## SOMALIA: CONFLICT/DROUGHT/FLOODING

With our partner, Juba Foundation, we supported 500 households displaced by the drought as part of a pilot project. Along with a household item package, we focused on constructing transitional shelters that would enable families to settle for longer periods of time. A key element of the project was providing routes to secure tenure for families to remain on the land long enough to enable self-recovery (two to five years).

**Project 2** will focus on the construction of more durable shelters and provide household items. The construction of shelters will begin in January 2024.



Apsatu, originally from Nigeria, is now settled in Minawao camp after being forced to flee her home following violent attacks by Boko Haram.

## LIBYA: FLOODING

Storm Daniel hit north-east Libya in September, 2023. Flash flooding left over 40,000 people displaced. In partnership with ACTED, we designed an aid package focused on providing warmth and protection from cold winter conditions for over 2,000 vulnerable people.

Hygiene kits, winterisation kits and household items were distributed through a community door-to-door approach, enabling our partner to provide hygiene promotion sessions alongside distributions.

## CAMEROON: CONFLICT

**Project 11** supported over 9,800 vulnerable, displaced families with a range of emergency, transitional and durable shelters. **Project 12** will focus on supporting at least 7,500 vulnerable IDP families in the extreme north of Cameroon with a range of emergency and more durable shelters plus household items, including community tool kits, kitchen sets, mosquito nets and sleeping mats. The project will run through until the end of 2024.

*For every dollar raised per person in need in Ukraine in 2022, just 25 cents were raised per person in need across the world's ten most neglected crises (Norwegian Refugee Council, 2023).*

# THE IMPACT OF OUR AID

ShelterBox responded to a series of powerful earthquakes that struck southern Türkiye, near the northern border of Syria in February 2023.



Jassim and his family were displaced by the conflict from their home in Aleppo three years ago. With his family of 10, they moved to a small apartment in a town in North West Syria. Their home was destroyed by the earthquake in February and they were displaced once again to a camp near where they had previously lived. Jassim and his family received cash assistance which allowed them to fulfil their own needs. For Jassim however, the most important aid item was their tent, to protect the family against the extreme weather conditions of the winter ahead.

The earthquakes exacerbated the effects of the ongoing war, deepening the crisis for 2.9 million people. With our existing partners, Bahar Organisation and ReliefAid, we ran two separate projects to support more than 8,500 people affected by the earthquakes with shelter and vital household items; including blankets, mattresses, solar lights and water carriers. Following our response, our partner, Bahar Organisation, gathered data from earthquake affected families living in displacement camps across Aleppo to understand how they had benefited from our aid.

## THIS IS HOW THE COMMUNITIES RESPONDED:



**96%**

of people who received cash assistance agreed it was done in a safe, accessible, accountable, and participatory manner



**96%**

reported being able to meet the immediate needs of their household



**87%**

reported an improvement to their living conditions, and feelings of increased safety and dignity



**87%**

were satisfied with the performance of their tent one month after receiving it



**88%**

of female households felt safer and more protected after receiving their tent

THE PROJECT WITH RELIEFAID IMPROVED THE LIVING CONDITIONS OF OVER

**4,200 CRISIS AFFECTED PEOPLE**

(including over 2,600 children) through the provision of 3,000 mattresses and 3,000 blankets. The project exceeded the original target by reaching an additional 1,200 people more than originally planned.



# A GLOBAL PARTNERSHIP

In May, a multinational ShelterBox team assembled at the Rotary International Convention in Melbourne to celebrate the partnership with a global Rotary community visiting the House of Friendship.

With two separate booth spaces in the main exhibition hall ShelterBox was able to meet supporters old and new, demonstrate our aid items, and showcase our evolution with a Theory of Change display.

ShelterBox Australia hosted a number of engagement events through the week. We were able to meet many Australian ShelterBox supporters as well as those from around the world who were in the city making good use of Melbourne's wonderful venues and the convening power of the Convention. One highlight was seeing our new film featuring communities in Türkiye, who the partnership supported after the devastating earthquakes in February.

Another highlight was the breakout session that raised awareness of "Responding to Disasters Through Partnerships". Our panellist included old friend of ShelterBox and Rotaract member Ashish Chaulagain, originally from Nepal, who spoke movingly of his role in the Nepal earthquake response of 2015. Haresh Ramchandani, from District 7020 in the Caribbean, also spoke about the preparedness work that his district is doing including the design and implementation of a Hurricane Recovery App.



Our international teams at the RI Convention in Melbourne.



ShelterBox teams were delighted to contribute to Rotary Zone Institutes around the world. At the Manchester Action Summit Sanj Srikanthan gave a key note speech about ShelterBox's work around the world and our approach to ethical story telling.

In Rome, our team from ShelterBox Germany and ShelterBox Italy were able to give an update on our current responses to RI President Gordon McInally. He also met our team from ShelterBox USA at the 30-31 Zone Institutes in North America where a silent tent building competition was held aimed at encouraging communication and overcoming language barriers. The losers of the competition (District Governor Nominees) donated 1,000 USD and the winners (District Governor Elects) matched it!

# GLOBAL AMBASSADORS

This year we introduced a new role for volunteer fundraisers in countries outside of the ShelterBox affiliate network.

Our global ambassadors are a group of enthusiastic volunteers with a passion to make a difference and support our mission - no one without shelter after disaster. It's an exciting step towards building a diverse and global community, particularly in countries where we have previously responded or are currently responding.

Our first cohort includes a mix of experienced SRTs (ShelterBox response

team members), Rotarians, teachers, scout leaders and business professionals. We currently have global ambassadors based in Pakistan, Nigeria, Malawi, Thailand, Panama, UAE, India and Egypt; with more volunteers continuing to express their interest from all around the world.

Their role is to raise awareness and funds in support of Shelterbox's mission, through presentations at Rotary clubs, workshops with local community groups, engagement with global corporations or fundraising with schools. We're excited to see what the future holds for this growing group of dedicated volunteers.

*"As a Global Ambassador, I am deeply honoured to be a part of a global network that actively contributes to making our world a better place."*

- Jide Ogunleye



Check out our website if you are interested in the role

# FUNDRAISING STORIES FROM OUR AFFILIATES



Three generations of women from a family in Wisconsin, USA, completed one of Yosemite's greatest hikes – the North Dome, and summited the nearly 11,000 ft Mount Hoffman. Rotarian, Frances Wargolet, 77; Katrina Wargolet Kyne, 49; and Sophie Kyne, 13, raised an incredible \$15,000 for ShelterBox USA.



Christian Biernath-Wüpping, a Rotarian and ambassador for ShelterBox Germany, spent the year cycling around the globe, taking the opportunity to raise awareness for ShelterBox. As part of his travels, he stopped off in Cebu to meet the ShelterBox Operations Philippines team.



In The Netherlands, inbound students were inspired by the work ShelterBox has done over the last year, resulting in the highest amount of money ever raised by the Rotary Youth Exchange in the Netherlands, over 18,000 Euros!



As part of World Refugee Day, ShelterBox Australia hosted the 'Off the Grid' for ShelterBox challenge, where individuals and Rotary clubs across Australia camped out to raise funds and awareness for disaster relief. This year there was strong support from Rotary clubs camping in cold to freezing temperatures without electricity. Their hard work and camping competence raised an incredible \$17,000 for ShelterBox Australia!



Skipper, Paul Weatherill, launched his ShelterBoat again in 2023, sailing all the way from Stratford to Tewkesbury in the UK for ShelterBox. That's 43 miles and no less than 16 locks. He was joined along the route by supportive Rotary clubs and raised over £3,500.

# NORDIC ROTARACTORS

Once a year, the ShelterBox teams from Sweden, Denmark, Finland and Norway get together to put on an immersive weekend training course called 'We Are ShelterBox Nordics'.

The course is a fantastic opportunity to inform new ambassadors, update current members and build relationships. This year we sat down with members from Vaasa Rotaract Club in Finland who took part in the training for the first time, to find out what they thought.

## HOW DID YOU FIRST HEAR ABOUT SHELTERBOX?

**Annika:** During my first Rotaract meeting! We went to a Rotary event and ShelterBox were there with a tent. I instantly wanted to be a part of it, and I made a donation right there and then.

**Paulina:** I first heard about ShelterBox through my Youth Exchange in Brazil.

## DID YOU ENJOY THE TRAINING?

**Janith:** I really appreciate the amount of effort that went into this. The simulation really felt like a real scenario. The actors were great, and it really hits a nerve.

**Annika:** The training is great. I exploded into tears at one point. It made me realise the type of choices you have to make in a disaster situation. I had no clue what to do ultimately. I'm assuming in those situations, no one knows what to do and you have to hold it together and work as a team to work out the next steps.

**Paulina:** This year I was here as a facilitator, having taken part in the training myself last year, and I always find the experience positive. The training creates a safe environment for everyone. Even as a staff member, I was still learning so many more things.

## HOW DO YOU FEEL ABOUT SHELTERBOX NOW

**Annika:** I'm even more impressed with the whole organisation now, and I'm even more interested in the work they do. Everything was a lesson and we're intrigued to do more.

**Janith:** We are at an age where we didn't know about ShelterBox before now. It's important to get young people interested in ShelterBox.

*"ShelterBox are on the right track, they're in the right place. I see a whole new future ahead for Shelterbox. I learned everything about ShelterBox, I'll go home knowing so much more about what they do. We 100% need to get other Rotaract clubs involved with ShelterBox."*

– Jennifer

ShelterBox teams from Sweden, Denmark, Finland and Norway.



# SHELTERBOX THEORY OF CHANGE

## 1. INPUTS

- Equitable partnerships
- Thriving teams
- Sustainable and flexible funding
- Environmentally sustainable, market strengthening procurement
- Culturally relevant technical expertise
- Enabling systems and processes

### ROOT CAUSE

Increasing numbers of people are unable to meet their own sheltering needs after crisis

## 2. ACTIVITIES

- Preparedness
- Distributions
- Shelter training and information sharing for programme participants
- Referral to Protection services including support for Housing, Land and Property
- Capacity sharing with partners
- Local influencing to enable humanitarian access and security of tenure
- Referral/handover to recovery or development shelter actors
- Coordination, collaboration and networking

## 3. OUTPUTS

### Shelter

- Emergency shelter
- Repaired shelter
- Upgraded shelter
- Rented accommodation
- Transitional shelter
- Household items

### Capacity Sharing

- Partner capacity to respond to shelter crisis increased

*Principles of accountable and locally-led, inclusive humanitarian response*

## 4. OUTCOMES

### Shelter

- People live in improved shelters

### Capacity Sharing

- Local partners better equipped to lead local response

## 5. IMPACTS

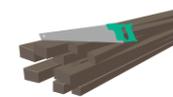
Quality shelter supports self-recovery by contributing to:

- Personal safety
- Maintaining family units
- Physical and mental wellbeing
- Livelihood activities, benefiting household income and the local economy
- Space for education and learning

### GOAL

Crisis affected people are healthy and resilient and no longer require assistance related to their displacement

## ASSISTANCE METHODS



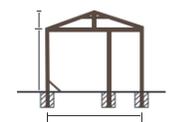
**In-kind Assistance**



**Cash and Voucher Assistance**



**Contracting Services**



**Technical Assistance**

## MEET A SHELTERBOX TRUSTEE

# YINKA BABALOA

**ShelterBox is a partner of Rotary International. When I was a Rotary International Director I served on the Joint Partnerships Committee. During this time I learned that ShelterBox had evolved significantly since it first began in 2000.**

After my tenure as an RI Director, I was asked by the RI President and General Secretary if I would consider becoming the RI nominated representative on the Board of Trustees of ShelterBox. Since becoming a Trustee I have learned just how extensively the organisation has evolved and developed as it has continued to learn from the communities it serves.

The evolution has been across the whole organisation as it has become an internationally recognised expert in emergency shelter after disaster. That expertise has led to improvements in the ways of supporting communities after disaster, adaptations to the aid items and the training that ShelterBox provides, their approach to local procurement and prepositioning aid through to the way they seek to work with local partners, Rotary entities and civil societies.

In July I was invited by a Rotary entity in Las Palmas to come and address a Peace Camp they had organised.

Every year they bring about 50 young people from around the world together for a seven day Peace Camp. I gave a talk about the causal links between the climate crisis and conflict and the role that ShelterBox is playing in intervention by providing shelter for those displaced by conflict. Additionally, when ShelterBox intervenes in climate related situations we are helping to reduce growing tensions and conflict. I was also able to share with this group of young people the work ShelterBox is doing to help protect the environment in cutting thousands of single use plastics and reducing their carbon footprint in their logistics supply chain.

*“There is great alignment between Rotary’s action plan and ShelterBox’s strategic objectives. It is important that Rotary around the world is aware of the evolution of ShelterBox to ensure that we can, through partnership, take action, reach more people and have greater impact.”*

