



Administration
Report
2021



Contents	▪ Introduction	3
	▪ The Board of Administrators	4
	▪ Bangladesh	6
	▪ Yemen	8
	▪ Somalia	10
	▪ Syria	11
	▪ Malta	12
	▪ Safe and Legal Routes	14
	▪ Conclusion	15

Introduction

This Annual Report covers the period 1st January 2021 to 31st December 2021.

Upon launching its first mission in August 2014, MOAS was the first non-governmental organisation to run a Search and Rescue operation in the Mediterranean. Over the course of three years at sea, MOAS rescued and assisted more than 40,000 people in the Central Mediterranean and Aegean. MOAS continues to advocate and lobby for the increased implementation of Safe and Legal Routes for vulnerable people in need of international protection, who currently can't access the scarce mechanisms in place. Through our experience in humanitarian logistics, MOAS has expanded to rapidly respond to crises around the world.

In September 2017, MOAS focused operations in South East Asia, where the organisation began working to provide aid and medical care to forcibly displaced Myanmar nationals (FDMN) in Cox's Bazar, Bangladesh. By the end of 2018, 90,000 people had received care at MOAS specialist field clinic Aid Stations.

MOAS has established a Flood and Water Safety training course for displaced individuals who are currently living in refugee camps. Since 2018, MOAS has provided bespoke training to mitigate drowning risk in camps, and have designed and manufactured international-standard rescue equipment to supply trainees. This project has since expanded, MOAS is providing bespoke Disaster Risk Reduction training to mitigate the risk of fires in camps.

Fires are a huge risk in refugee camps, they happen frequently and can quickly escalate due to the tightly packed camp infrastructure and building materials. MOAS has implemented the use of backpack water containers as a first response tool to put out fires. They are portable and allow trained volunteers to rapidly respond to fire outbreaks. MOAS is supporting the development of one-of-a-kind Disaster Risk Reduction project for Fire Safety and Response focused on risk mapping, training in first response and the prototyping and manufacture of firefighting equipment.

In 2019, MOAS launched its first humanitarian campaign in Yemen. In response to the growing humanitarian crisis caused by protracted war, MOAS coordinated the delivery of vital aid for distribution by in-country partners ADRA Yemen and IMC Somalia. In 2021, MOAS delivered 2 Plumpy Nut containers and 1 Plumpy Sup container to Yemen, nearly 130 tonnes of specialised nutritional aid. To supplement this aid, we also delivered 1 container of pharmaceutical aid to Yemen, to support medical capacities at partner centres. We also delivered 1 container of Plumpy Nut to Somalia, where the aid was distributed to malnourished children by our in-country partner, IMC Somalia.

2021 also saw MOAS establish a brand-new partnership with Action for Humanity, MOAS will be delivering nutritional aid to hospitals in the Raqqa region for communities currently underserved by medical services, due to the unstable humanitarian context, which continues to disrupt capacities.

Today, MOAS is proud to be an international humanitarian organisation dedicated to providing aid and emergency medical relief to the world's migrant and refugee communities.

The Board of Administrators

During this period the administrators were:

- Christopher Catrambone
- Regina Egle Liotta Catrambone
- Charlot Bartolo

The Migrant Offshore Aid Station Foundation (VO/0939) was established by Christopher and Regina Catrambone on 24 January 2014. On 15 April 2014, MOAS subsequently was enrolled as a voluntary organisation governed by the Voluntary Organisations Act, Chapter 492 of the Laws of Malta (VO/0939). MOAS is also a registered charity in Italy, the UK, Germany and the US.

The purpose of MOAS, as recorded in its statute, is “mitigating loss of life at sea and to endeavour to reduce human suffering generally through the deployment of maritime, aerial and other operations”.

Day to day running and management of the organisation is carried out by the MOAS Director, Regina Catrambone. Operations are carried out by MOAS’ team of qualified and professional humanitarian service providers and logisticians. These are a team of skilled professionals specialising in marketing, fundraising, communications and development. They run administrative, back of house aspects of the organisation.

MOAS’ general affairs are entrusted to ReSyH Ltd, the foundation’s administrator. The role of the administrator is, inter alia, to meet the objectives and purposes of the foundation in accordance with its statute and applicable law. The administrator serves on a voluntary basis and is not entitled to remuneration except for a reasonable honorarium that does not prejudice the fulfilment of the purposes of MOAS. During the 2021 period, the administrators had private meetings. The administrator is assisted in the performance of its duties by a Board of Advisers, which is comprised of individuals who are appointed for a three-year period and serve on a voluntary basis. During the period the advisors had two additional meetings which the administrators also attend.





MOAS

MOAS in Bangladesh

Since September 2017, MOAS has been operating in South East Asia, where we initially set up specialist primary health centres to provide aid and medical care to forcibly displaced Myanmar nationals (FDMN) in Bangladesh. The FDMN are a minority Rohingya Muslim population from Rakhine State, Myanmar, who are denied citizenship, rendering them stateless. Since August 2017, targeted violence and human rights abuses have caused thousands of people to flee across the border into Bangladesh. By the end of November 2018, MOAS aid stations had assisted over 90,000 men, women and children. In 2019, MOAS launched our pilot Flood and Water Safety Training course in response to many of the camps in Cox's Bazar being prone to flooding, landslides and tidal surges during the monsoon season and the associated dangers.

Since September 2017 MOAS has been operating in South East Asia, where we initially set up specialist primary health centres to provide aid and medical care.



Disaster Risk Reduction

Flood and Water Safety Training

MOAS provided Flood and Water Safety Training in refugee camps, to train refugees as first responders in the event of water-related emergencies. This is part of a wider Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) initiative to mitigate drowning risk in camps, and provide volunteers with bespoke leadership training. This year, we trained 1158 refugees and 356 host community members, equipping them with a range of skills to safely perform rescues for people in distress. They were given training in a range of emergency simulations, so that they were prepared to respond efficiently and effectively. As part of this initiative, we have also provided MOAS throwbags to all participants, so that they could pull people to safety without risking their own lives.

Fire Safety

At the start of 2021, an increase in the frequency and severity of outbreaks of fire in crowded refugee camps led our team to support the development of one-of-a-kind Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) project for Fire Safety and Response. The ongoing project focuses on 3 elements; risk mapping, training in first response and the prototyping and manufacture of firefighting equipment.

The risk mapping model allows our technical experts to advise camp management and other stakeholders on areas of particular risk and develop response strategies according to each context, while the training also provides first response skills and strategy implementation techniques to community-based volunteers. Finally, the team has prototyped several camp-context specific pieces of equipment, including fire-fighting tuktuks and backpacks, and are producing and procuring/distributing across several projects. With support from USAID, GIZ and WFP our team has helped producing 40 tuktuk firefighting units and procuring & distributing 200 fire safety backpacks. It also helped training on their use.

This fire safety programming will continue into the 2022 period, with more exciting developments to come.



MOAS in Yemen

Since the end of 2014, Yemen has been experiencing a violent civil war which has had a devastating impact on the local population. The ongoing conflict has created the world's worst humanitarian crisis, causing 23.7 million to depend on humanitarian assistance. Ongoing 5 tensions make delivering aid to Yemen challenging. The destruction of vital infrastructure across the country has made access to basic facilities such as schools and hospitals all the more challenging. This destruction, along with a lack of access to medical care has resulted in a rise in diseases such as cholera and diphtheria, with over 10,000 suspected cases of cholera being reported every week in five of the most affected governorates in the country. In 2020, the combination of the pandemic along with a resurgence in fighting, decreased humanitarian funding and access, losses of income, hikes in food prices, and increased displacement, further exacerbated the already critical situation.

Since the end of 2014 Yemen has been experiencing a bloody civil war which has had a devastating impact on the local population.



Since 2019, MOAS has been working with our partners at ADRA to deliver nutritional aid and medical supplies to the port of Aden. ADRA have since coordinated the distribution of these deliveries across local governates.

In 2021, we delivered 2 containers of Ready-to-use Therapeutic Food (RUTF) Plumpy’Nut™, as well as 1 shipment of Plump’Sup™, and a container of pharmaceutical aid to the port of Aden, worth 135,000 Euros. The nutritional supplies were provided by our partner Edesia, a US-based nutrition company. The preventative nutrient supplements provided by Edesia were Nutriset’s Plumpy’Nut™ which are specifically created for children six months or older who are at risk of developing acute malnutrition and provide all the essential nutrients required to prevent malnutrition in children whose diets are severely lacking – helping children to recover at home, rather than at difficult to access clinics. The treatment usually lasts between twelve to sixteen weeks, with one Plumpy’Nut™ sachet being distributed each day for every child. All of our aid deliveries are coordinated and distributed through the established health cluster and nutrition pipeline by our in-country partners, ADRA Yemen, who are taking care of distribution in the country.

In 2020, we delivered over 50 tonnes of Ready-to-use Therapeutic Food (RUTF) Plumpy’Nut™, as well as a shipment of 70,000 euros worth of pharmaceutical aid to the port of Aden. The nutritional supplies were provided by our partner Edesia, a US-based nutrition company. The preventative nutrient supplements provided by Edesia were Nutriset’s Plumpy’Nut™ which are specifically created for children six months or older who are at risk of developing acute malnutrition and provide all the essential nutrients required to prevent malnutrition in children whose diets are severely lacking – helping children to recover at home, rather than at difficult to access clinics. The treatment usually lasts between twelve to sixteen weeks, with one Plumpy’Nut™ sachet being distributed each day for every child. All of our aid deliveries are coordinated and distributed through the established health cluster and nutrition pipeline by our in-country partners, ADRA Yemen, who are taking care of distribution in the country.



MOAS in Somalia

The humanitarian crisis in Somalia is one of the most prolonged and complex in the world. For nearly three decades, pervasive conflict combined with intensifying natural hazards, including recurrent droughts, have led to critical food insecurity, poverty and displacement throughout the country. These continual disasters have resulted in widespread malnutrition, as well as the creation of over 2.6 million internally displaced persons (IDPs) in their search for food, safety and humanitarian assistance. Food insecurity is rampant across Somalia, as there are approximately 4.5 million people at risk of acute food shortages, particularly among rural communities and displaced populations. The combination of the persistent insecurity caused by the conflict, prolonged climate-related disasters, and displacement has significantly restricted the ability of Somalis to support themselves economically. This has consequently led to extensive reliance on external assistance for survival, as more than 5.2 million people are in need of humanitarian assistance

In 2021, we provided nutritional aid health centres in Somalia. 2021 marked the 30th anniversary of the collapse of the Somali state. This year, domestic and international institutions were focused on plans for the delayed presidential and parliamentary electoral process. Political tensions have continued to un-stabilise services in-country, while conflict-related abuse, security issues, and humanitarian crises have taken a heavy toll on civilians.

Once again partnering with Edesia Nutrition, we successfully shipped a container of Ready-to-use Therapeutic Food (RUTF) Plumpy'Nut™ to the port of Mogadishu, Somalia. This delivery was coordinated and distributed through the established health nutrition pipeline by our in-country partners, International Medical Corps (IMC) Somalia, who are undertaking the distribution in the country. Considering that one in seven children under the age of five in Somalia are acutely malnourished, shipments such as this are vital to combating infant malnutrition and mortality in the country.



MOAS in Syria

2021 saw us establish a brand new partnership with Action for Humanity, we will work in collaboration to provide nutritional aid to hospitals in the Raqqa region, for communities currently unserved by such services who are in desperate need. This will be the first project of its kind in-country.

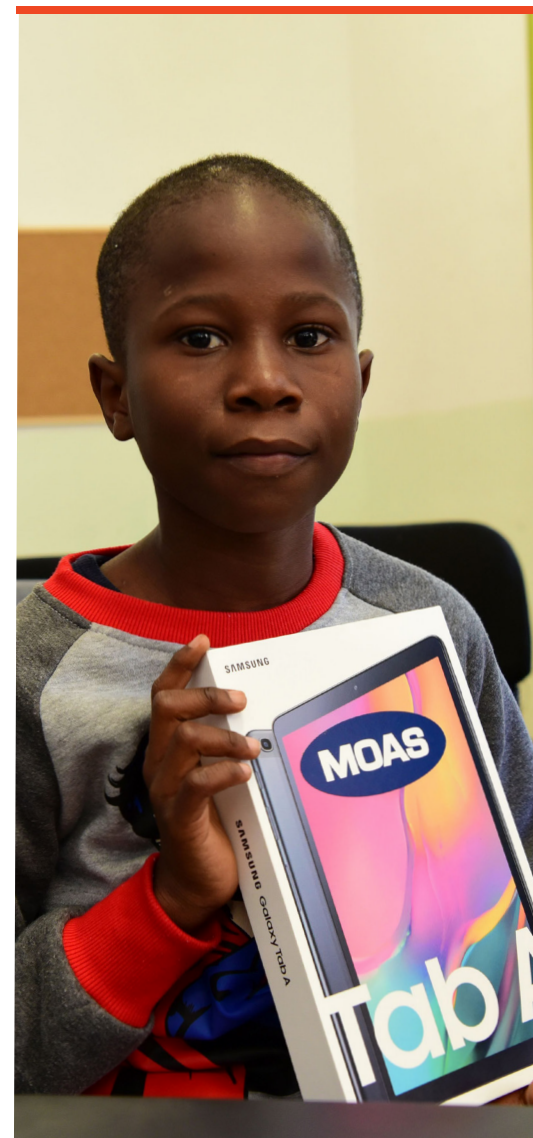
MOAS in Malta

Remote Learning Project

As the COVID-19 pandemic continued to take shape in 2021, in addition to the need for measures to combat the spread of the virus, ensuring access to education during this uncertain time was also a major concern. With the onset of the COVID-19 outbreak and enforcement of lockdown in Malta, several families living within the three open centres run by AWAS were experiencing difficulties in accessing remote learning resources on behalf of their children, due to a lack of access to electronic devices or an adequate internet connection. In response to this, we established our Malta Remote Learning Project with the aim to give these children access to remote education services through the purchase of technology for educational use. In total, we bought 40 tablets and modems with internet connections for families with school age children living in the centres.

Al Madad

MOAS began the process of developing a space in Malta's Migrant Open Centre, focusing on the provision of education initiatives. The space will eventually provide all children and residents of the centre with educational resources and access to computers, and various learning events will be put on throughout 2022 to support the residents. This initiative will benefit Refugee children and migrants living in Migrant Centres run by the Agency for the Welfare of Asylum Seekers (AWAS) in Malta.



English Lessons

MOAS offers 'English for Beginners' courses to residents at some of the transitional housing centers on the island: this course is adapted according to the needs of the asylum seekers beneficiaries and the aim is to build confidence listening to and speaking English in informal setting. The lessons, which focus primarily on conversational English, both boost the participants capacity to integrate into the local community and better access community resources. English language acquisition can be vital for participants to access better employment and build connections in the community. Ultimately, English classes play a vital role in the holistic well-being of refugees and the societies who welcome them.

Family Hosting Project

The first participant for the MOAS Family Hosting Project, where migrants are connected to families residing in Malta who wish to support them, completed his hosted year in 2021. Through this project we aimed to facilitate long-term integration and inclusion, and we supported the development and independence of participants. Welcoming a refugee to a family home can begin to open new dialogues, generate inclusivity and overcome prejudices. The first participant of the 1-year Family Hosting project said in an interview:

'My life today is so different from that of a year ago. Things are going great. I get everything I need. The family is really good, they support me and help me. They are good people. They respect me and I respect them a lot.'

This project has allowed the beneficiary to gain autonomy and he has been able to continue his education and make concrete plans for his future. Such feedback really reflects the aims of this project as the participant is able to actively contribute to society and use the skills and connections they develop through the project to facilitate their growth and self-sufficiency within a new social setting. For asylum seekers and migrants, being part of a shared home can be such an important step in establishing full autonomy and independence. This project was a success, it received immense support from the Maltese population and many more families contacted the organization as they wish to participate in this 'long-term life initiative' in 2022.

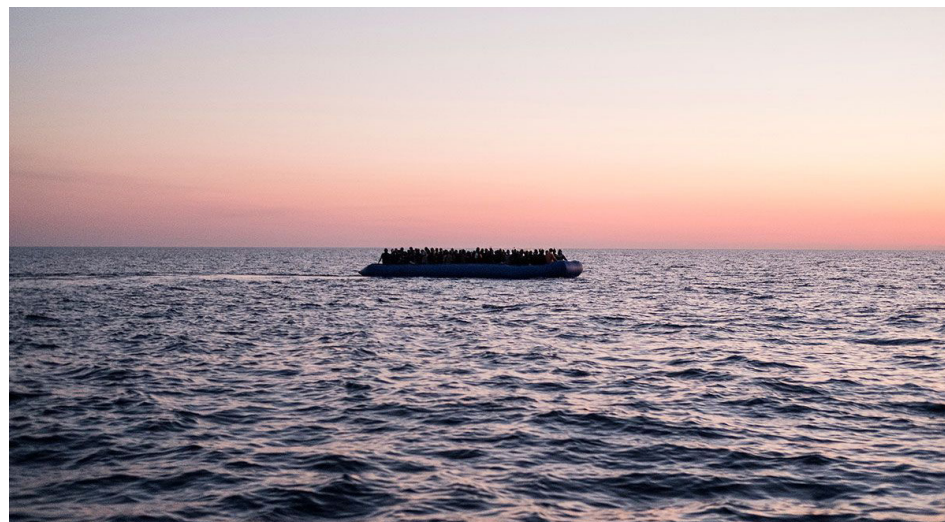
Mater Dei Hospital Visits

MOAS has continued to carry out hospital visits to migrants who need additional support while receiving in-patient care at Maltese health facilities. We have been assisted individuals by providing essential supplies, visiting regularly and acting as liaisons with other services, to arrange longer-term support if needed.

Safe and Legal Routes

We have continued to see unparalleled restrictions on borders and increased hostile policy towards migrants and asylum seekers, which has made it even more difficult for people fleeing poverty, persecution and conflict to access safety and protection.

Throughout the year, we continued campaigning for the implementation and expansion of safe and legal routes, calling for alternative pathways of migration in order to prevent migrants and refugees being mistreated and pushed to undertake perilous, irregular journeys.



Conclusion

MOAS is dedicated to rapidly and efficiently responding to global crises, and we have seen our operations expand throughout year in response to this. Throughout the next year, MOAS will continue to provide vital humanitarian services and aid to vulnerable communities across the world.

It is MOAS' intention to continue the aid delivery project in Yemen and Somalia, with expanded operations to Syria. We are dedicated to continuing our Flood and Water Safety Programming and Fire Safety Training, with a possible expansion to incorporate further groups that are vulnerable to these risks, into our training.

In Malta, we are aiming to expand our education-focused initiatives and integration projects in the open centres and wider migrant community. We will continue to advocate for alternative pathways of migration in order to prevent migrants and refugees being mistreated and pushed to undertake perilous, irregular journeys.





MOAS

(Migrant Offshore Aid Station)

54 Melita Street,
Valletta, VLT 1122,
Malta

MOAS is a charity registered in the
USA, Malta (VO 0930) and Germany