

# Newsletter

## Relief and Rehabilitation Network

*EuronAid*

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September 1994

### Editorial

Whilst it is not the policy of the RRN to have 'theme mailings', conflict, its effects and its implications for relief agencies is a recurring one in both the Newsletter and the Network Papers which comprise this mailing.

Network Paper 4 by Koenraad Van Brabant is a fascinating and substantive examination of the political economy of relief and rehabilitation in Somali Region 5 of eastern Ethiopia. For the last century, conflict and instability have plagued this area. Over the last 20 years the conflict and instability have precipitated massive movements of people as refugees between Ethiopia and Somalia, and set the context in which relief, rehabilitation and repatriation programmes have been implemented on a more or less continuous basis. A number of lessons may be drawn from his description and critique of these programmes. At one level the paper highlights the need for, amongst other things: a greater understanding of the history, culture and socio-economic organisation of the area and its population by those involved in programme design and implementation; better coordination and more flexible interpretation of mandates among agencies working in such difficult and complex situations; and the need for more satisfactory institutional mechanisms to ensure coordination and continuity than transient Task Forces.

At a more profound level it is difficult not to draw the conclusion from his paper that peace and stability will not return to the region until the Somali people as a whole are allowed the right of self-determination and, if desired, the chance to recreate the 'Greater Somalia'. The irrational and divisive borders have contributed substantially to the events which required relief and rehabilitation assistance efforts since the Ogaden War of 1977-78 and simultaneously have been a factor limiting the effectiveness of such programmes. The former colonial powers which were largely responsible for creating these borders bear a heavy burden of responsibility in assisting the Governments and peoples of the region to address the problem.

Since the creation of the ICRC in 1863 following the Battle of Solferino in northern Italy, conflicts and the humanitarian needs they create have been largely responsible for the creation and expansion of humanitarian agencies. Save the Children Fund, which is currently marking the 75th anniversary of its establishment, was founded in response to the refugee emergencies and malnutrition which followed the First World War and the Allied blockade of Germany.

### In this Issue...

<b>Editorial</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Feedback</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>News Items</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Update</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>Training courses</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>Conferences</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>Publications</b>	<b>16</b>

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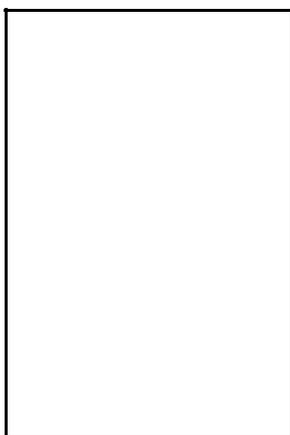
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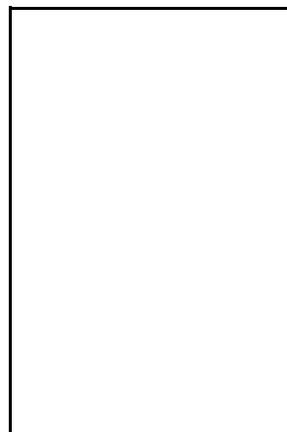
**Editorial (continued)**

Oxfam was formed in 1942 to provide relief to famine victims in Nazi-occupied Greece. MSF-France and Concern were both established as a direct result of experiences of their founding members during the 1967-70 Nigerian Civil War which saw NGOs in a central and controversial role in the provision of assistance to the Biafran enclave. The growth of cross-border operations by NGOs during the 1980s saw an increased involvement of NGOs in the provision of relief assistance in areas of conflict. However, it has been the ending of the Cold War, the unleashing of numerous ethnic and nationalistic tensions and a more interventionist stance by the international community that has caused the most dramatic growth in the number of NGOs involved in the provision of humanitarian assistance and the scale of their operations in zones of conflict.



With the exception of those agencies, most of them church-affiliated, which see peace and reconciliation as central to their mission, most international NGOs involved in the provision of humanitarian aid have generally avoided direct involvement in efforts to prevent conflicts actually developing. The feeling that conflict prevention activities were more properly the concern of national diplomatic services and the UN Security Council and that an involvement in peace efforts would jeopardise the 'neutrality' of humanitarian agencies are among the principal reasons why this separation between 'prevention' and 'relief' has prevailed. Recently however this separation and the generally weak links between humanitarian agencies and the human rights and peace communities are being questioned and look set to change. The appalling sequence of events in Rwanda since the beginning of April are largely responsible for this change in mood - many agencies are now asking themselves what might have been done in order to prevent the genocide and mass population movements (see the News Items section). Fearful of renewed violence in Burundi and critical of the slow response by the UN and its member

states to the peace building/conflict prevention needs in Rwanda and Burundi, some NGOs are now providing support for the deployment of human rights monitors and investigators in these two countries.



It is in this context that Network Paper 5 by Kumar Rupesinghe, Director of International Alert, is particularly timely. As well as providing an overview of recent trends and research on conflicts and the responses to them by the international community it gives an indication of the range of activities, short of armed intervention, which NGOs and Governments might support or undertake themselves in the field of conflict prevention. The involvement of international and local NGOs in relief and development projects in countries where tensions are increasing often provides them with much better information on the situation in particular areas than is available to many diplomatic/intelligence services, yet often it would seem that this information is not used to best effect by agencies. To help increase the awareness among RRN members of the groups and institutions involved in the human rights and peace/conflict fields, his paper provides a useful contact list.

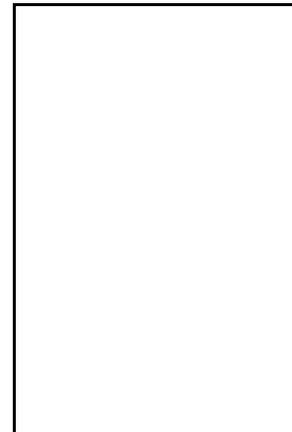
The events in and around Rwanda over the last six months and the massive humanitarian aid operations mounted by the international community can be expected to generate a number of papers and exchanges within the RRN. Network Paper 6 is the first such paper. Written by Susanne Jaspars who worked as a nutritionist for UNHCR in Benaco camp in western Tanzania, the paper provides an account and preliminary assessment of the food assistance operations in the camp during the weeks immediately following the initial influx of 170,000 people on 28th April. Measured in terms of malnutrition rates, morbidity and mortality, the response by the Tanzanian authorities, UN agencies and NGOs to this unprecedented influx was a success and stands in contrast to the response to the influx of Burundian refugees into

Tanzania in October 1993. The paper describes the food assistance programmes in the camp and attempts to identify the factors contributing to this success.



Nevertheless the food assistance programmes were problematic in several important respects, most notably in terms of controlling the growth of the 'apparent' camp population in the absence of a formal registration. Such difficulties resulted in public differences between WFP which was responsible for the supply of food to the camp and UNHCR which was responsible for coordinating the food distributions within the camp. The paper discusses these and other issues raised by the experience and suggests some of the lessons that might be learned from Benaco.

Earlier this year eight of the largest and longest established humanitarian agencies published a Code of Conduct intended to set, for the first time, universal basic standards to govern the way NGOs work in disaster assistance. The Code represents a significant and welcome step in the overall process of improving the effectiveness and accountability of NGOs involved in the provision of humanitarian aid. The Code lays down ten points of principle to which all NGOs should adhere in their disaster response work and in three annexes describes the relationships which agencies working in disasters should seek with donor governments, host governments and the UN system. The full text of the Code is reproduced as Network Paper 7 together with a preface prepared by the RRN Coordinator.




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## Feedback

**S**ince the first RRN mailing, we have received a number of positive comments some of which are reproduced below:

**'Really well done and useful'** - Debbie Guha Sapir, ECHO/CRED, Brussels.

**'It gives good first hand information and we can learn many things for our activities .... We are glad to be part of the Network'** Kabi Gangmei, Executive Director, North East India Committee on Relief and Development, Shillong.

**'The RRN is indeed off to a very good start'** Randolph Kent, Inter-Agency Support Unit, DHA-Geneva.

**'Very informative'** Assistant Executive Director, Caritas-India, New Delhi.

Welcome as these comments are, we remain slightly disappointed that we have not received more substantive

comments or suggestions. So, please, if RRN members have any views on the content and format of the RRN mailings, we would like to hear from you.

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## Membership

This mailing includes a listing, on a country basis, of the present RRN membership. At the time of writing there was a total of 190 members working within 94 different organisations. This number is increasing all the time and we expect to reach 400 by the end of 1995.

The disappointing take-up by Francophone agencies is readily apparent from the list and our priority over the coming months is to encourage a greater participation in the RRN by Francophone agencies. In recruiting the third member of the RRN team (see the advert below) we will be looking for someone with good links with the major Francophone humanitarian agencies.

## RRN Requires a Bilingual Research Fellow

ODI wishes to recruit a Research Fellow to work as part of the team running the RRN and also to undertake research and commissioned studies in the relief and disasters field. Applicants should:

- be fluent in French and English;
- have experience of humanitarian aid programmes;
- have familiarity with NGOs in France and other EU member states;
- be able to undertake unsupervised research;
- have a demonstrated ability to write clearly and concisely.

The contract will initially be for a two year period. Further particulars are available on request from the RRN Administrator.

## How Useful is the Update Section?

The EuronAid Working Group on Training and Research serves as the Reference Group for the RRN. At its last meeting some members questioned the usefulness of the Update section whilst other members felt that it was very useful.

It would be helpful to learn from RRN members, particularly those field-based personnel who may not have direct access to the range of information sources used in preparing the Update section, whether they feel it to be a useful component of the mailings.

Currently the Coordinator spends approximately two days each quarter preparing the Updates.

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# News Items

## Boutros-Ghali Accepts UN's Limitations

Richard Dowden, Diplomatic Editor, The Independent

**J**ust as this Newsletter was being prepared for despatch to our printers, the following article appeared in the UK newspaper *The Independent* on 27th October 1994. Because of its significance and interest to RRN members we decided to include it in the Newsletter. Our thanks to Richard Dowden and *The Independent* for permission to reproduce it.

"The United Nations cannot use more force in Bosnia because states contributing troops to the UN Protection Force in Bosnia will withdraw their personnel, Boutros Boutros-Ghali, the UN Secretary-General said in London this week. But he added that a fall-back position has been prepared if they are forced to withdraw. 'The problem is the member states are not ready to do peace enforcement' said Mr Boutros-Ghali in an interview with the *Independent*. 'The 36 members who are participating in the operation have done so on the basis of a peace-keeping operation. They have not the necessary equipment to do peace enforcement. So how can we do peace enforcement? NATO air strikes will not solve the problem and our troops will be in danger.'

The UN Secretary General had an even tougher response to US pressure to lift the arms embargo on Bosnia. 'It's very simple. The message I receive from Great Britain, from France, Spain, Canada and Russia

that if the embargo is lifted they will withdraw their troops. So if I want to keep troops on the ground for humanitarian reasons, for political reasons, for protecting the Muslims. I have to take this into account.' But he added: 'I have already done a study a few months ago at a meeting with [UN commander in Bosnia] General Rose to discuss our fall-back position and that position is now prepared.'

Mr Boutros-Ghali, who once dreamed of a UN army ready to quell local disputes, anywhere in the world, now accepts that most UN operations are under-funded and under-equipped. 'You have to accept second-best and if not second-best you have to accept third-best' in peace-keeping operations, he said. Since the optimism of his first year in office, Mr Boutros-Ghali said he had learnt to accept failures and admitted that the UN had made mistakes. We have to accept the setbacks' he said. Our impression was that once the UN intervenes there must be success and this was wrong.'

The second problem the UN had was under-funding, especially for peace-keeping operations. Describing himself as a super-beggar who must borrow what he can from member states, he said 'You ask for US\$130 million and you get US\$30 million ... I have no power in this. I just borrow the power from the member states.'

The UN still has a deficit of US\$1.3 billion (£733 million), he said, and many poorer countries could not afford to offer troops unless they were paid immediately. He was critical of richer countries who have become less willing to provide money, troops and equipment but

would not directly criticise Washington's decision to subject every request from the UN to intense scrutiny.

Mr Boutros-Ghali welcomed the British-backed initiative on preventative diplomacy which aims to identify problems before they break out in military conflict and send teams of experienced diplomats to attempt negotiation. 'It will cost 10 times less than what you will pay in case of a disaster.'

He was also critical of discrepancy in the UN's treatment of different countries, pointing out that there were thousands of UN troops in former Yugoslavia but none in Georgia where President Eduard Shevardnadze had appealed for help. He also said that, even with all the media exposure of Rwanda, there were still only 4,000 UN troops, 1,500 short of the number agreed in the Security Council Resolution.

'You may be shocked for purely ethical reasons but we have to accept this. Everyone is equal but some persons are more equal. This is a political body and the member states have national interests so they will obtain a resolution in their favour and not pay attention to others.' In Angola and Afghanistan more people were dying than in Bosnia, he said. 'My role is to correct this distortion, to put things in the limelight ... but as long as you do not receive the financial support of the member states what can you do?'

On Somalia, however, the Secretary-General appears to have accepted the US view that the Somalis have had their chance and the UN should now withdraw its operation. It will be wound down over the next three months, leaving the political situation even further from resolution than it was when the UN first sent troops three years ago. Mr Boutros-Ghali said it had cost an average of US\$ 3 million a day and that hundreds of soldiers had died. He accepted that the UN might be dragged back to Somalia by reports of starvation in a year's time, but he said: 'There is no political will there to solve the problem. It is like an addict who does not want to be cured ... How can we impose our will on them. We are there to keep the peace, we are there to help them but if they do not want to be helped ...'

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## **Campaigns to Ban Anti-Personnel Mines: What Progress?**

**A**s some RRN members are aware a number of international campaigns have been initiated over the last few years with the objective of curtailing the use of anti-personnel mines. These have spawned numerous national campaigns. In addition a number of publications on the effects of anti-personnel mines have appeared over the last year or two. Rather than duplicate this informative and shocking literature, this article is intended to inform members of the results of the various

campaigns and the problems that lay ahead.

In response to the UN General Assembly's 1993 resolution and pressure from the various campaigns, many countries have now enacted export moratoria on the export of all anti-personnel mines. The states in this category include the USA, France, Belgium, South Africa, Israel, Germany, Spain, the Czech Republic, the Slovak Republic, South Africa and Argentina.

Other states have only agreed to partial moratoria. In the UK the export moratoria announced in July only covers anti-personnel mines that do not self-destruct or self-neutralise. UK NGOs characterised this as a cynical move as the UK has not exported the type of mine covered by its moratoria since 1985. Switzerland and the Netherlands will allow the export of mines but only to those countries which have ratified Protocol 2 of the UN's 1980 Inhumane Weapons Convention.

In Italy much attention has focused on the Valsella Meccanotecnica plant at Brescia which produces most of Italy's landmines. Trade Unions at the plant have indicated their support for the campaign to ban landmines and Fiat appears to be trying to distance itself from the plant by selling its shares in Valsella to another company Borletti, though it has to be said that Fiat owns 50% of Borletti. In August the Italian Senate passed a motion instructing the Government to ratify Protocol 2 of the 1980 Convention, introduce a moratoria and cease production of mines by Italian companies and companies operating in Italy and support workers in the affected plants. During the debate it emerged that the Government has not been issuing export authorizations for antipersonnel mines since November 1993.

Though export moratoria are valuable in marking out anti-personnel mines as an unacceptable type of weapon, many of those involved in the various campaigns believe that export moratoria alone will not reduce the toll of landmines on civilians and are pressing for a complete ban on production, stockpiling and use of anti-personnel mines. They point out that if Western countries continue to argue that anti-personnel mines are legitimate defensive weapons then so will poorer countries. If poorer states are unable to import anti-personnel mines because of the export moratoria or because they are unable to afford to varieties which self-destruct or self-neutralise, they will simply develop their own capacity for producing cheap, unsophisticated anti-personnel mines.

An advantage of a total ban on production, stockpiling, sale and use is that any breach will be immediately obvious and it will serve to stigmatise any state or group which continues to use them. Whilst a total ban on production, stockpiling, sale and use will be difficult to achieve and enforce it appears that unless the debate move on to focus on the such issues the civilian deaths

and injuries from landmines are unlikely to be reduced.

In the USA the debate, lead by Senator Leahy, appears to be moving on to the next stage concerning the military utility of anti-personnel mines. In June Senator Leahy entered a bill that would require a one-year moratorium on the production of anti-personnel mines and their procurement by the US Government.

The information for this article was obtained from the Landmines Update for September 1994 produced by the Vietnam Veterans of America Foundation (VVAFA) and from Ian Woodmansey of Oxfam-UK's Policy Department.

Those wishing to subscribe to Landmines Update should contact:

VVAFA  
2001 'S' Street N.W.  
Suite 740  
Washington DC 20009 - USA

Oxfam-UK has produced a manual for development and humanitarian agency personnel entitled *Landmines: A Legacy of Conflict* written by Rae McGrath who is Director of the Mines Advisory Group (MAG) a UK NGO. The book presents an overview of the problems caused by landmines, describes the most common type of mine and how they are deployed and provides practical guidance and advice to fieldworkers. Copies can be obtained from:

Oxfam  
274 Banbury Road  
Oxford OX2 7DZ - UK  
Tel: (44) 865 311311 - Fax: (44) 865 312417

Those seeking information on the trade in anti-personnel mines should obtain copies of a seven page article: 'The Market for Anti-Personnel Landmines: A Global Survey' by Steve Askin and Stephen Goose in the September 1994 issue of *Jane's Intelligence Review*, London.

The contact address for the Mines Advisory Group (MAG) is:  
54a Main Street  
Cockermouth  
Cumbria CA13 9LU - UK  
Tel: (44) 900 828580 - Fax: (44) 900 827088

Handicap International  
14 avenue Berthelot  
69361 Lyon Cedex 07 - France  
Tel: (33) 78 69 7979

## **Bernard Kouchner Launches Conflict Prevention Initiative**

At the end of June Bernard Kouchner hosted a dinner in London which was attended by the Heads or senior representatives of the principal UK humanitarian agencies. One of the founders of Médecins Sans Frontières and formerly the French Minister for Humanitarian Affairs, Bernard Kouchner is currently a Member of the European Parliament and Chair of the Parliament's Development Committee as well as being President of the Paris-based NGO Association pour l'Action Humanitaire. Frank Judd (Lord Judd of Portsea, formerly a UK Minister of Overseas Development and Director of Oxfam) acted as the Master of Ceremonies.

In his speech Bernard Kouchner surveyed the principal humanitarian emergencies from Biafra (where he worked with the French Red Cross) to Rwanda which he had visited twice in the period since the genocide began in April. He focused upon the general tendency of humanitarian agencies to concentrate their efforts on responding to humanitarian emergencies rather than preventing such events. He highlighted what he termed the 'Red Zone' - the period between the need for political and humanitarian assistance and/or intervention becomes clear to the humanitarian agencies and the point at which the international community, pressured by the media and public opinion responds significantly. His principal concern was why NGOs were not working together more in the 'Red Zone' period to mobilise public opinion and political action. Among the reasons he put forward as to why NGOs were not more involved in prevention was that 'saving' was more attractive to agencies than 'preventing' because the latter was low profile and, if successful, difficult to claim credit for. He proposed that European humanitarian agencies should work together to pool their information to form an early warning and information centre and then coordinate their efforts on those countries highlighted by the warning system.

In the weeks following the dinner, UK humanitarian agencies and groups interested in conflict prevention met to devise ways of carrying the proposal forward. These meetings were facilitated by International Alert. As a result of these discussions, three action-oriented working groups have been established. Two of them are concerned with particular countries where conflict is at markedly different stages of development - Burundi and Kenya. The objective of these two working groups is to encourage and coordinate NGO actions to reduce tensions and help prevent the development of conflict in these countries. The third working group is exploring ways in which a capacity, independent of governments, might be established to provide information and early warning of conflict and humanitarian emergencies.

Links are being maintained between these initiatives and those resulting from the efforts of Bernard Kouchner and others in the context of the European Parliament where a Parliamentary InterGroup on Preventive Diplomacy and

Humanitarian Action has recently been formed.

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## **Strategies for Aid and Media Agencies in the News Coverage of Humanitarian Emergencies**

**T**he whole area of media coverage of humanitarian emergencies is replete with issues concerning the way the coverage is prepared and presented, the images that are used, the impressions they create, and the influence that it has on the response to particular emergencies.

A notion which appears to be gaining currency is that the extent of TV News coverage of an emergency rather than the scale of humanitarian needs alone influences the level of resources allocated to particular emergencies. Recently for instance the President of the International Committee of the Red Cross, Dr Cornelius Sammarunga, has been trying to draw attention to what he terms 'the Forgotten Emergencies' in countries like Liberia, Afghanistan and Angola. He sees the lack of coverage of these emergencies by TV companies as being an important factor in the lack of attention being given to such conflicts by the international community. To encourage more extensive coverage of these emergencies the ICRC increasingly 'hosts' visits by TV film crews to the scenes of such conflicts. Quantitative evidence to support the notion that the extent of TV coverage influences the level of resources allocated to a particular emergency is presently limited. However, it is possible to see why this influence might be increasing: the number of humanitarian emergencies around the world is increasing; the resources allocated by the international community for responding to them are limited (even though they represent a substantial increase over previous levels); and the techniques for comparing relative levels of 'need' between such emergencies are poorly developed. There is a pressing need for research on the complex relationship between media organisations, donor organisations and humanitarian agencies in the coverage of humanitarian emergencies by the media and the response to them by the international relief system.

Another important dimension of the media coverage of humanitarian emergencies is that TV News coverage is the principal source of information on developing countries for the majority of the western public. Yet such coverage invariably focuses on major political events, conflicts and disasters and serves to create a distorted image of the developing world where famine and conflicts are thought to be rife, affecting a much higher proportion of the population of developing countries than is actually the case.

Taking this second aspect as its starting point the Annenberg Washington Program organised a roundtable

meeting in Washington and a smaller working group meeting in London during 1993 to examine issues of media coverage of disasters and humanitarian emergencies and to develop practical strategies for media and relief organisations to improve the coverage of humanitarian emergencies and disasters and reduce the distorting effects resulting from the concentration of news coverage upon extreme events. Participants in these meetings included reporters, editors, producers, academics and senior relief agency personnel.

The product of these meetings was a six page summary by Fred Cate produced earlier this year 'Media, Disaster Relief and Images of the Developing World: Strategies for Rapid, Accurate and Effective Coverage of Complex Stories from Around the Globe'. This paper also forms part of a recently published collection of papers under the title 'International Disaster Communication: Harnessing the Power of Communications to Avert Disasters and Save Lives'.

Specific strategies were suggested for media organisations and for development and humanitarian agencies. The specific strategies for development and humanitarian agencies included the following points.

***Articulate and evaluate communications strategies.*** Agencies should publicly articulate their strategy for communicating with the media and the public. What are the purposes of those communications - to raise money, inform the public, change public opinion, motivate political action, promote the organisation? Conflicts among these goals should be explicitly acknowledged. Communications strategies should be regularly evaluated to determine their effectiveness, relationship to the organisation's goals and impact. Relief organisations should regularly evaluate their communications strategies for their impact on public understanding and ethical and professional appropriateness.

***Train personnel to work with the media.*** Agencies should provide training, particularly for personnel in the field, on how to work with the media so as to improve the timeliness, quality and accuracy of reporting about developing countries. Field offices might regularly identify stories warranting media coverage which head offices might then try to interest media organisations in covering. Assistance to the news organisations might be provided including the provision of indigenous spokespeople and logistical support. Agencies should also try to link stories to those events relating to developing countries which are traditionally covered by western media such as meetings of the IMF and World Bank.

***Evaluate media content.*** Agencies should evaluate media coverage for accuracy, quality, completeness, timeliness and professionalism. Excellent media coverage should be recognised and used to help improve

other reporting. Inaccuracies or misperceptions should be corrected through direct contact with the media and reporters involved, letters to the editor, guest columns, counter-information and other means available.

**Create alternative programming.** Agencies should work to facilitate documentaries and other programming that provides a more complete image of developing countries than that conveyed by TV News items.

**Adopt standards for communications with the public.** Many relief agencies - individually and cooperatively - have adopted standards for their communications with the public. For example, InterAction requires its members to 'respect the dignity, values, history, religion and culture of the people served by the programmes. They shall neither minimise nor overstate the human and material needs of those whom it assists'. SCF-UK has also adopted standards for communicating with the public: 'The images and text used in all communications must be accurate and avoid stereotypes and clichés.....Attempts should be made where possible to identify and quote people being photographed or interviewed. If they wish to remain anonymous, their requests should be honoured. Wherever possible the views and experiences of the people interviewed should be communicated.'

For copies of the publications contact:  
The Annenberg Washington Programme  
The Willard Office Building  
1455 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW Suite 200  
Washington DC 20004 - USA  
Tel: (1 202) 393 7100  
Fax: (1 202) 638-2745

## NGOs Attending IDNDR World Conference Form 'Forum Global'

According to an item in the May-June issue of *IDNDR Informs* Bulletin for Latin America and the Caribbean produced by the IDNDR Regional Office in San José, Costa Rica, more than 45 NGOs were registered as participants at the International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction (IDNDR) World Conference held at Yokohama in Japan in May. Feeling they had no 'voice nor vote' in any of the sessions or in the Drafting Committee they met several times and prepared an 'NGO Resolution' that was presented in a Plenary Session and distributed during the Conference. The document highlighted the absence of representatives of the communities and groups most vulnerable to, and affected by, natural hazards from both the Conference and most National IDNDR Committees. National Committees and international agencies were urged to integrate the poor, women and children into their disaster reduction efforts

To carry this agenda forward and facilitate the exchange of information between NGOs involved in disaster reduction activities a network called Forum Global was formed. The intention is to produce a directory of NGOs with a particular interest in these activities and organise joint meetings. For the first year the network will be coordinated by the Indian NGO Joint Assistance Centre and by the Citizen's Disaster Response Centre in the Philippines in the second year.

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122002 Haryana - India  
Fax: (91-11) 463 2517

## The Upsurge of Interest in the 'Relief-Development Continuum': What Does It Mean?

The last few months have seen a surge of activity in relation to the 'relief-development continuum' and its various guises 'relief-development linkages', 'the transition from relief to development' and 'relief-development interface'. The subject is definitely 'à la mode' with numerous reports appearing and conferences and workshops taking place. It is our sense is that many of those involved in the provision of relief and rehabilitation assistance are finding it difficult to make sense of the various initiatives, in part because the terms are often used loosely and the discussions are often very generalised with little indication of what their practical implications might be. This article, which unavoidably reflects the personal views of the RRN Coordinator, is an attempt to explain what is going on.

Within the UN two processes have been underway.

- UNDP's 'Continuum Project' was initiated in late 1993 after a request by UNDP's Governing Council and Management Board for the preparation of guidelines on the organisation's role in humanitarian affairs. This project involves an international team of researchers led by the Institute of International Studies, Geneva and has produced an overview report 'UNDP In Conflict and Disasters'.
- an Inter-Agency Working Group on the Continuum, comprising representatives of the principal UN departments and agencies involved in relief and development activities, was formed in mid-1993. The Working Group has obliged the relevant departments and agencies to develop their positions on relief and its relationship to development.

The Working Group is chaired by UNDP and this has led to some confusion between the two processes. In addition the Working Group has in the words of the

Continuum Project's overview report 'brought out latent inter-agency rivalry'.

An example of the discussions outside the UN was a workshop 'Linking Relief and Development' held at the Institute of Development Studies at Sussex University in March 1994, a report on which is available as IDS Discussion Paper 344 (tel: (44) 273 606261).

The recent upsurge of interest may be seen as a product of the increase in expenditures on disaster relief and humanitarian aid during the second half of the 1980s and in particular the dramatic increase in expenditures since 1991. Such expenditures now account for almost 10% of total development expenditures and for some donor organisations the proportion is more than twice this level. At least in part the additional expenditures have been funded by switching resources from 'development' activities and this is providing an important motive for the upsurge in interest in the 'continuum'. Inevitably those concerned with 'development' are taking a much closer interest in 'relief' activities and questioning whether, in view of such large expenditures, there is room for using relief expenditures more 'developmentally' by strengthening local institutions, developing the 'human resources', improving local infrastructure and local productive capacity. This source of motivation is viewed with some cynicism by relief workers, some of whom see it as an attempt by 'developmentalists' to climb onto the humanitarian aid 'bandwagon' after years of effectively ignoring the subject of disasters and relief.

A related motive is that of institutional positioning and competition. For instance UNDP's central development coordinating role within the UN system has been threatened by the creation of the DHA and its mandate to coordinate humanitarian aid activities. Whilst UNDP's interest in pushing forward the conceptual thinking on the 'continuum' is yielding positive insights, it is also beneficial to the organisation in trying to reassert its central position within the UN system.

However, other factors are also contributing to the upsurge of interest in the 'continuum'.

The narrowness of the definitions of disaster relief and humanitarian aid used by many donor organisations and the limitations of their response mechanisms which give greatest priority to speed of response and the alleviation of immediate needs, has been increasingly exposed over recent years. The increased number of conflicts and the development of the notion of 'complex emergencies' where the situation is chronic rather than transitory calls for a more programmatic approach involving a wider range of activities than those within the 'immediate relief'. Yet in attempting to broaden their range of activities to include the provision of seeds and tools, veterinary programmes, education and training activities, and the local procurement of food aid and equipment,

relief agencies have often found donors unable to respond as a result of their narrow and restrictive regulations.

Such definitional problems are brought into particularly sharp focus in two sorts of situation. First, as a result of their dislike of the regime in power and their poor human rights records, donor organisations have effectively halted their 'development' aid programmes in several countries leaving only a 'humanitarian' aid channel in place. In such situations there is no development programme to complement or 'provide cover' for the funding of those activities which are considered 'too developmental' by donor officials. Second, the (apparent) ending of conflicts in countries such as Cambodia, Afghanistan and Ethiopia around the beginning of the current decade, the enormous requirement for post-war recovery and rehabilitation, and the time lag involved in the development of state and administrative structures in these cases exposed the lack of appropriate modalities among donor organisations for providing assistance that was neither 'relief' nor 'development'. In response several donors have, or are in the process of, creating new funds specifically for 'rehabilitation' purposes or they are modifying their arrangements to make it possible to fund 'transitional' or 'rehabilitation' activities from within their existing 'relief' and 'development' budgets.

Another quite different source of motivation contributing to the upsurge of interest in the 'continuum' is that of making the 'prevention' and 'mitigation' of natural and human-caused 'disasters' explicit objectives of aid programmes generally. Intellectually this is the most exciting aspect of the 'continuum' as it involves far more than just adjusting definitions of relief and opening new 'rehabilitation' budget lines, indeed, it questions many of the assumptions underlying aid and development cooperation programmes over the last three decades. Persistent assumptions have been that development is a linear process with 'disasters' representing temporary diversions from the 'development path' and that development is, or should be, apolitical and distanced from foreign policy objectives. Such assumptions have been seriously challenged over recent years by the slide into conflict of countries in receipt of substantial volumes of development aid; the requirement for substantial volumes of relief assistance in highly hazard-prone countries where the aid programme has effectively ignored the potential risks; the provision of substantial volumes of humanitarian aid in conflict situations where diplomatic efforts and international pressure offer the best chances for the conflicts to be resolved and the causes to be addressed; and the development of chronic, complex emergencies which may persist for a decade or more. What is the development process supposed to be about if it does not include vulnerability reduction and conflict prevention as explicit objectives?

Assisted by the IDNDR there has been increased interest in the last 2-3 years in the prevention and mitigation of

natural disasters and the role development programmes in bringing this about. For this to be achieved requires aid programmes and projects to recognise the inherently dynamic nature of environmental systems. As noted elsewhere in this mailing conflict prevention is now also very much on the agenda and this implies the use of aid programme resources in support of tension reduction and conflict prevention measures and greater coordination between the aid and foreign policy objectives of the donor countries.

In reviewing the course of the debate so far on the 'continuum', it has to be said that the discussion has focused much more on issues associated with the 'transition' from relief to development (ie. those of narrow definitions of relief and the need for new 'rehabilitation' budget lines) rather than the more fundamental issues of reorienting aid and foreign policy programmes towards 'prevention' and 'mitigation'. The use of broad terms such as 'relief-development linkages' and 'the continuum' when the discussion is essentially about post-conflict rehabilitation and recovery is unhelpful. The process is essentially about making relief (or at least the bulk of it) more developmental and

making development more relevant by addressing variability in natural systems and socio-political affairs. A clearer statement to this effect might have avoided some of the confusion associated with the debate so far.

How the debate will proceed over the coming months and the extent to which it will lead to changes in the modalities and objectives of relief and development programmes is difficult to anticipate at this stage. In some donor organisations and indeed relief agencies, the recent dramatic increase in expenditures on humanitarian aid has seen a greater distance being placed between 'relief' and 'development' and those seeking to make 'relief more developmental' are likely to experience substantial resistance. Much of this distancing has resulted from pressures on donors and relief agencies to act, and be seen to be acting, in a rapid and high profile manner in responding to emergencies. The strength and source of these pressures will need to be addressed if substantial progress is to be made in making 'relief more developmental'. In terms of making 'development address variability' UNDP's notion of making 'human security' an objective of aid programmes - an idea pushed in both the UNDP in Conflict and Disasters Report and in the 1994 Human Development Report (see Publications) - represents a radical challenge to those concerned with development. So far the notion has yet to elicit a substantive response from donor organisations.

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## Update

**T**his section attempts to provide summary information on current and potential humanitarian emergencies with the objective of informing RRN members of the situation in countries other than those in which they are working/directly concerned. The information sources used are not always comprehensive in their coverage and so some humanitarian emergencies are not described here. The period covered is July to September 1994.

### Africa

**Angola** - The deadline for the signing of the Lusaka Peace Accords set for the end of September was not met though prospects for successful outcome in near future look good. As a result of the Lusaka Talks, agreement was reached to allow a resumption of airlifts to the cities of Huambo and Malange in August and to Kuito in September. A recent nutrition survey in Malange indicated the halting of the airlift had resulted in sharp increase in levels of wasting. Fighting continues in many areas hampering relief efforts as well as seed distributions in time for the main planting season. Relief food distributions running at around 15,000 tonnes/month of which almost half has to be airlifted. The estimated

number of people in need of food and non-food aid remains at 3.2 million.

**Liberia** - Estimates of the number of displaced/refugees remains unchanged ie. Liberia 1.75 million, Sierra Leone 0.3 million, Cote d'Ivoire 0.25 million and Guinea 0.54 million. However, the security situation has deteriorated over the last two months in eastern Sierra Leone and areas of Liberia outside the control of ECOMOG (Economic Community of West African States Monitoring Group) and the estimates have yet to be revised to reflect recent changes. In **Liberia** regular food distributions are undertaken only to the 1.06 million beneficiaries in the ECOMOG-controlled areas around Monrovia and Buchanan. In the rest of the country, ie. in NPFL (National Patriotic Front Liberia) and ULIMO (United Liberation Movement for Democracy in Liberia)-controlled areas where fighting has increased, distributions are sporadic depending on local security guarantees for the cross-line and cross-border programmes. At the end of July SCF-UK, MSF(H), LWS and ICRC suspended distributions in these areas. Extremely high levels of malnutrition (wasting) existed in several towns before the increased fighting. Little is known about current conditions in inaccessible areas.

Not surprisingly the elections scheduled for September have been postponed until October 1995. In **Sierra Leone**, attacks on the main road between Bo and Kenema hampered food distributions in the east during August. The displaced population in Freetown has increased and 23,000 are receiving assistance. Even prior to the recent deterioration in security, half of the estimated 300,000 displaced/refugees were inaccessible to relief agencies. Information on the size and condition of the affected population in the light of recent events is limited.

**Somalia** - At a time of good harvests the political and security situation is poor and the prospects for the future bleak. In September the UN Security Council extended the mandate of UNOSOM for just one month indicating a general dissatisfaction with UNOSOM's efforts to patch together a new government and a frustration at the continued wrangling between faction leaders. What if anything will replace UNOSOM and its 17,000 peacekeeping soldiers and 700 civilian expatriates after October is unclear. Attacks on UNOSOM troops (9 Indian soldiers were killed in one attack) and increased insecurity (three Indian doctors were killed by a grenade attack in Baidoa at the end of August) have resulted in the evacuation of international agency personnel from Bardera, Bossasso and Kismayo and limited rehabilitation and development activities in Baidoa and Mogadishu itself. The cholera outbreak earlier in the year has been contained. Out of a total population of 7.7 million, 0.5 million remain as refugees in neighbouring countries and 400,000 are internally displaced - the majority of these in and around Mogadishu.

**Ethiopia** - Of the total 1994 import requirement of 1.27 million tonnes 0.97 million has been pledged and 0.66 million tonnes imported. Offtake from Assab has exceeded historical records, though off-take through Massawa in Eritrea has been hampered by lack of funding for spare parts for port equipment. The recently harvested 1994 secondary 'belg' crop is estimated to be sharply below normal levels. However, normal to above normal rains in July and August benefitted the main 'meher' coarse grain crop and the outlook for the harvest is favourable. Direct distribution programmes being wound down in many areas to leave a carryover stock for use in building up national and regional food security reserves.

Refugee ration card revalidation operation in refugee camps in Somali Region 5 has reduced each household to one card only and a new official refugee population figure of 180,000. However, increased malnutrition (wasting) among the populations in Darwonji and Teferiber camps have resulted in the implementation of a three month supplementary feeding programme by UNHCR and NGOs. Approximately 41,000 Somali refugees are settled around Gode in Somali Region 5.

**Kenya** - Drought situation improved. Good harvest

anticipated in main agricultural areas of Western, Rift Valley and Central Regions. Wholesale prices for maize and beans have eased considerably and in mid-August the Government announced a suspension of the commercial imports of wheat and maize. Districts in the southern part of Eastern Province and the arid areas in the north require continued food assistance. Total number of refugees in Kenya currently 275,000 - mostly from Somalia but some from Ethiopia.

**Eritrea** - Food aid supply situation has improved considerably with 85,000 tonnes in stock and good rainfall reported in highlands and western lowlands.

**Sudan** - Heavy rains in northern Sudan during July-August resulted in localised flooding but favourable harvests, significantly above those of last year, are now being forecast throughout Sudan. Cereal prices are falling in anticipation of the harvest and WFP is planning reduction in operations in the South. In South Sudan fighting near the Ethiopian border has increased the numbers of displaced seeking refuge in western Ethiopia, the total now standing at 50,000. WFP barges have been supplying drop-off points along the Nile, and airdrop operations have been operating out of Khartoum and Lokichokio in Kenya to several locations in the south. Supplies have been maintained to Juba by a regular Entebbe-based WFP flight and the NGO consortium SEOC. Total food deliveries by WFP since beginning of year 25,000 tonnes. After 9 years working in Northern Sudan, Concern recently withdrew from the country because of difficulties in gaining access to its target groups and providing an effective service to its beneficiaries.

**Rwanda/Burundi/Tanzania/Zaire** - The RPF advanced southwards and westwards during July capturing Kigali and Butare at the beginning of the month and Gisenye on the Zairean border on 17th July. Two days later a new 'Broad-Based Transitional Government' was inaugurated. The capture of Gisenye, the transfer of the rump of former Rwandan Government and Army across the border into Zaire and the call, through Radio Mille Collines, for all Hutus to move into Zaire so as to leave the Rwandan Patriotic Front with 'an empty country' resulted in a massive exodus of approximately 1 million people to Goma and the surrounding areas. What preparedness arrangements had been made were overwhelmed. Inadequate sanitation arrangements and supplies of safe water resulted in a widespread cholera outbreak. Peak mortality rates in late July and early August were 100-180 times normal - the highest ever recorded in the early stages of a refugee crisis. At least 50,000 people died in and around Goma during this period.

As part of 'Opération Turquoise' French Forces controlled the south west of the country from the end of June until the third week of August when they were

withdrawn. Confrontation between the French Forces and the advancing RPF was avoided. Fearing the RPF advance into the area following the French withdrawal approximately 200,000 people moved across the border to Zaire in mid-August to Bukavu- Uvira area. Agencies were generally better prepared for this exodus. Current number of refugees here approximately 270,000.

Having stabilised the refugee situation, rehabilitation of the administration and infrastructure in Rwanda and returnee programmes for the refugees are now the priority of the Transitional Government and the international community. As of mid-September 93, NGOs were registered with UNREO. A WFP/FAO mission in August suggested the current population of Rwanda is 5 million compared to a pre-April population of 7.9 million. With 1.9 million living as refugees in neighbouring countries, this implies the death toll resulting from the genocide and conflict at up to 1 million people. The mission estimated 2.5 million would require food assistance for a five-month period until the next harvest. The difficulties of monitoring population movements in such a dynamic context were revealed by a survey in September by a British Army contingent of UNAMIR which estimated the displaced camp populations within the country at 2.1 million compared to previous estimate of 0.8 million.

An estimated 50,000 refugees have returned from Zaire. Efforts to encourage and facilitate refugees to return under 'Operation Homeward' are hampered by vicious intimidation in the camps where the remnants of the Interahamwe and supporters of the former Government remain powerful. Insecurity in the camps has forced the withdrawal of relief agencies, in the case of one camp for a five-day period. Presenting the refugees with a favourable picture of conditions and security in Rwanda is proving difficult as RPF forces do appear to have engaged in recriminations and human rights abuses. The slow deployment of UN human rights monitors is hampering efforts to obtain a clearer picture.

The situation in **Burundi** remains volatile, though since late August the international community has been doing considerably more to try and prevent any repeat of Rwanda's ethnic and political violence. Agreement on a new President (Sylvestre Ntibantunganya) was reached in the first week of October and it is hoped this will substantially improve the political situation. The estimated population requiring assistance is currently 557,000 internally displaced and 220,000 Rwandan refugees. Insecurity and fighting in the northern and central areas of the country has hampered logistical operations and for a one-month period the displaced received less than a 50% ration. Sanitary conditions are very poor in several camps and in some areas the presence of Government and NGOs is limited as a result of the insecurity. Efforts to station human rights monitors in the affected areas continue but are hampered

by limited funding and lack of vehicles.

In **Tanzania** the total refugee caseload was estimated at 538,000 in September. The overall condition and nutritional status of the refugees is reported to be deteriorating compared to the middle of the year, largely as a result of diarrhoeal disease.

**Mozambique** - Preparations for the UN-supervised elections at the end of October have proceeded reasonably satisfactorily. As well as FRELIMO and RENAMO another 12 parties have registered for the contest. Demobilisation of RENAMO and Government soldiers has proceeded though with frequent disturbances usually relating to lack of pay and food rations. Repatriation has continued apace - since the signing of the Peace Accords between the GOM and RENAMO in October 1992 approximately 0.9 million Mozambiquan refugees have returned home. The majority of these are from Malawi (0.7 million) with the remainder from South Africa, Swaziland and Zimbabwe. Large-scale repatriations from Zambia and Tanzania planned to start in July have been delayed. Nutritional status data generally shows a stable situation though other types of data indicate pockets of stress. 1.8 million people remain in need of humanitarian aid - a number unlikely to fall substantially until the harvest in 1995.

## Asia

**Afghanistan** - Heavy fighting involving artillery, surface-to-surface rockets and jet aircraft has continued in Kabul for the past three months between the forces of President Rabbani and those resulting from the alliance between Prime Minister Hekmatyar and the militia leader Dostam. The ICRC estimates that 30,000 war-wound cases have been treated in the city since the beginning of the year when the present round of fighting began. Hospital records alone indicate at least 4,500 have been killed. In mid-August the main medical stores were destroyed resulting in acute shortages of medical supplies. Attempts by the UN to bring a land convoy through to Kabul in early August failed when it was looted by a local commander on the eastern approaches to the city. The ICRC is currently planning to airlift supplies into the city. Cholera has spread throughout the city with 37,000 recorded cases by August. An estimated 440,000 people have been displaced within the city. Fighting has also taken place for control of the Salang pass to the Central Asian Republics and around the city of Kunduz. Large numbers of people have fled the fighting in Kabul and settled around Jalalabad. 160,000 are living in two large camps where water supplies and the food basket are inadequate resulting in high levels of malnutrition (wasting).

The number of Afghan refugees in neighbouring Pakistan stands at approximately 60,000 which compares with a

peak figure of around 3 million during the 1980s. Approximately 1.5 million remain in Iran where all but 23,000 are living amongst the local population. Repatriation efforts from Iran are being hampered by the present fighting - only 83,000 crossed over during the first nine months of 1994 compared with a target for the year of 0.3 million. Meanwhile in other areas of the country unaffected by the fighting the UN's rehabilitation activities continue - the mine clearance programme for instance is substantially exceeding its targets.

Though foreign involvement is an important factor in fuelling the current fighting, the role of opium-derived finance is likely to be significant. The UN Drug Control Programme estimates Afghanistan's production to be around 3,200 tonnes making it the world's largest producer. Much of it is now processed in laboratories in Afghanistan and moves north to Russia via the Central Asian Republics.

**Armenia** - The ceasefire begun in May continues to hold. Rapid inflation and depreciation of the local currency (Drams) is causing widespread poverty - the Government estimates 88% of population living below poverty line. Humanitarian assistance concentrating on maintaining supplies of wheat and wheat flour to state bread programme, direct distributions to refugees and the 'socially vulnerable', and provision of medicines and infant formula. Most of the food aid is entering the country via the port of Poti in Georgia. The principle donors are ECHO, EU member states, the USA and WFP. The IFRC and the Armenian Red Cross are heavily involved in final distributions.

**Azerbaijan** - The May ceasefire is enabling internally displaced people to return to their homes and international agencies to establish their programmes in the area.

**Georgia** - The UN Security Council has called for an increase in the UNIMOG contingent in Georgia to monitor the peace agreement between the Government and the Abkhazian authorities. Continued presence of Georgian troops in the Kodori valley is causing increased tension as is the precipitated decision by the Russian and Georgian Governments that 20,000-30,000 internally displaced people would be repatriated to Abkhazia. Massive price increases announced by the Government with state-rationed bread increasing by 28,570% and electricity by 60,000% with only a 5,000% increase in minimum salaries.

**Tajikistan** - Tensions high in advance of the referendum on the new constitution and presidential elections held at the end of September. Explosion at Dushanbe airport and heavy fighting in Garm Valley and Tavildara area. Combined with a poor harvest and inadequate imports food shortages have sharply worsened. Food availability prospects for the winter appear bleak and international agencies are increasing their import and distribution

plans.

**Iraq** - The overall economic situation continued to deteriorate due to problems of financing essential imports and the limited availability of commodities and spare parts. Over the last year food prices have increased by over 400% in the centre and south and by around 90% in the northern governates. A recent household survey by OFDA/ODA financed consultants indicates a dramatic fall in living standards and increasing numbers of destitutes and vulnerable groups.

## Europe

**Former Yugoslavia** - The optimism of the summer in which Sarajevo saw a return to a semblance of normality has been steadily eroded. A combination of Western frustration at the lack of progress at the Geneva Peace Talks and greater willingness by UNPROFOR to deploy NATO airstrikes in confronting the Bosnian-Serbs has resulted in restricted movements by convoys and a tightening of the Bosnian-Serb pressure on Sarajevo, including the cutting of basic services to the city and increased sniper activity. To increase pressure on the parties to settle, but particularly the Bosnian-Serbs, the UN Security Council has threatened to lift the arms embargo currently enforced on the Bosnian Government linked to a simultaneous withdrawal of UNPROFOR. The UN Secretary General has approved a withdrawal plan which would take two months and would require the deployment of additional UN forces to cover the withdrawing troops. In the event of such a scenario there would probably be a full scale resumption of hostilities between the Bosnian Government forces and the Bosnian Serbs but unlike in 1993 the former would be better armed and relatively stronger. The implications of such a scenario for humanitarian agencies currently operating within the UNPROFOR/UNHCR framework would be bleak.

## Sources:

British Agencies Afghan Group - Political Update October 1994.

DHA-Geneva Situation Reports.

FAO Food Outlook, September 1994.

Refugee Nutrition Information System (RNIS), N° 6, August 1994, ACC/SCN, Geneva.

WFP Weekly Telex Reports.

Africa Confidential.

USAID Famine Early Warning System (FEWS) Bulletins, Washington DC.

# Training Courses

***The Management of Stress in Humanitarian Work***, 27-31 March 1995, Refugee Studies Programme, Oxford.

This five-day short course is aimed at providing humanitarian workers with an understanding of how they can take care of themselves and their families and support their co-workers and/or staff more effectively. It looks at cumulative stress, crisis and trauma, crisis intervention, stress prevention and management and critical incident management.

***The Law of Refugees***, 20-21 May 1995, Refugee Studies Programme, Oxford.

This weekend workshop on the scope of the refugee definition gives participants the opportunity, through a mix of lecture and working group exercises, to grapple with the difficulties of the application of legal norms in the context of factual scenarios based on actual refugee claims.

For more information, contact: The Education Unit, Refugee Studies Programme, QEH, University of Oxford, 21 St Giles, Oxford OX1 3LA, United Kingdom. Tel: (44 865) 270 723.

***Enhancing Personal Effectiveness in Humanitarian Relief Work***, 11-13 May 1995, International Health Exchange and RedR, Bristol.

This three-day residential course aims to provide an opportunity for relief workers to enhance their ability to

remain effective in their professional and personal capacities when faced with the challenges common in relief work.

For more information, contact: Anita Ademoye, International Health Exchange, The Africa Centre, 38 King Street, London WC2E 8JT, United Kingdom. Tel: (44 171) 836 5833.

***Health Emergencies in Large Populations***, 8-26 May 1995 in Budapest; 19 June - 7 July 1995 in Geneva; 6 - 24 November 1995 in Bangkok, International Committee of the Red Cross, the Faculty of Medicine of the University of Geneva and the World Health Organization.

The purpose of this course is to train experienced health personnel who may be called upon to deal with disaster situations; to develop a common approach allowing better programme coordination between the various humanitarian agencies involved; to select methods of assessment tailored to the specific emergency situation and stimulate research in this particular field; and to foresee the possible extension of immediate assistance projects into development programmes. The course encompasses eight interrelated fields which cover most activities involved in emergency situations.

For more information, contact: International Committee of the Red Cross, Medical Division, H.E.L.P. 95 - Geneva, 19 avenue de la Paix, 1202 Geneva, Switzerland. Tel: (41 22) 730 2810.

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# Conferences

confront different experiences - scientific and practical - in dealing with them.

## Forthcoming Conferences

***International Seminar on Disasters, Environment and Development*** - 9-12 December 1994 - Delhi, India.

Contact: Dr R.B. Singh (Convenor), Department of Geography, Delhi School of Economics, University of Delhi, Delhi 110 007, India.

***War, Exile and Everyday Life*** - 30 March - 1 April 1995 - Zagreb, Croatia.

This conference will focus on various problems concerning refugees and displaced persons in general and

Contact: Maja Povrzanovi, Institute of Ethnology and Folklore Research, Kralja Zvonimira 17, PO Box 287, 41000 Zagreb, Croatia. Tel/fax: (38) 5 41440880.

***Education and Training for Refugees and Displaced Persons*** - 3-8 April - Kampala - Uganda.

This international conference will look at all aspects of education and training, focusing on the following major themes: vocational training, education of girls, adult education, social and psychological factors, and

emergency teacher training.

Contact: Barry Sesnan, PO Box 9802, Kampala, Uganda.  
Tel/fax: (256) 41 541562.

***The Third World Congress on Stress, Trauma and Coping in the Emergency Services Professions*** - 19-23 April 1995 - Baltimore - Maryland - USA.

Contact: International Critical Incident Stress Foundation, 5018 Dorsey Hall Drive, Suite 104, Ellicott City, Maryland 21042, USA. Tel: (1) 410 7304311.

### Reports on Earlier Conferences

***Conflict, Development and Military Intervention: Role, Positions and Experiences of NGOs, 8-9th April 1994, Brussels. Staged by the Liaison Committee of Development NGOs to the European Union.***

The Conference was attended by 300 participants representing NGOs, the Commission, ECHO, politicians, journalists, the military and academics. Plenary Sessions were interspersed with case studies (Somalia, Cambodia, Ex-Yugoslavia and Haiti) and four workshop modules covering:

- The principles justifying intervention
- How effective are the institutional players?
- The means for more effective action
- Non-governmental action

A 63 page report on the Conference, containing a four page overview and the text of the main points presented by speakers in the various sessions can be obtained for 300 Belgium Francs (£6-00) from:

NGDO-EU Liaison Committee  
Square Ambiorix 10  
B-1040 Brussels  
Belgium  
Tel: (32) 2/736 4087  
Fax: (32) 2/732 1934  
E-mail: clong.gn.apc.ong

***World Conference on Natural Disaster Reduction, 23-27 May 1994, Yokohama, Japan.***

This was attended by 2,000 participants and produced an extraordinary amount of material. The special May-August double issue of STOP Disasters Number 19-20 contains

- The Draft Yokohama Strategy and Plan of Action for a Safer World: Guidelines for Natural Disaster Prevention, Preparedness and Mitigation
- Summaries of the Technical Panels on:

Vulnerable Communities  
Hazard Resistant Structures  
The Effects of Disasters on Modern Societies  
Interrelationships Between Technological and Natural Hazards  
Economic Aspects of Disaster Reduction for Sustainable Development  
Warning Systems  
Drought Management

A full report on the Conference with summaries of all the different sessions is being prepared by the IDNDR Secretariat with the intention of future publication by a commercial publisher.

For more information contact:

IDNDR Secretariat  
Palais des Nations  
1211 Geneva 10  
Switzerland  
Tel: (41 22) 798 8400  
Fax: (41 22) 733 8695

***PARINAC Global Conference 6-9 June 1994, Oslo, Norway.***

After 12 months of regional consultations the UNHCR/ICVA Partnership in Action process culminated in Oslo. The conference brought together 182 NGOs from 83 countries. The final Plan of Action adopted at the conference includes 134 recommendations on:

Protection  
Internally Displaced Persons  
Response to Emergencies  
Relief to Development Continuum  
Partnership

For more information contact:

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# Publications

***The Politics of Ethnic Conflict Regulation: Case Studies of Protracted Ethnic Conflicts***, edited by John McGarry and Brendan O'Leary, 1993, Routledge, London and New York, 321 pages, Price £12.95.

An excellent entrée into the subject of ethnic conflicts and potential means of averting or 'regulating' them. Of particular interest to RRN members will be the contributions on Burundi by René Lemarchand, the Soviet Union and its successor states by Domimic Lieven and John McGarry, Yugoslavia by George Schöpflin and the Punjab by Gurharpal Singh. The contributions on Canada, Northern Ireland, Spain and Belgium are fascinating and welcome reminders that ethnic conflict is not a problem limited to Africa, Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union.

Introduction: the macro-political regulation of ethnic conflict

Canadian responses to ethnic conflict: consociationalism, federalism and control

Ethnic conflict in the Soviet Union and its successor states

Ethnic conflict in India: a case-study of the Punjab

Malaysia: Malay political hegemony and 'coercive consociationalism'

Containment or regulation? The British approach to ethnic conflict in Northern Ireland

Burundi in comparative perspective: dimensions of ethnic strife

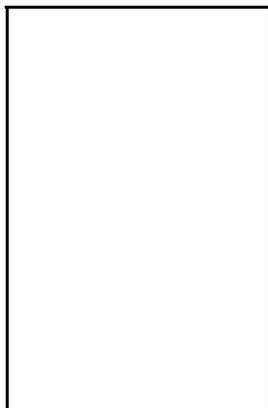
The rise and fall of Yugoslavia

Spain: peripheral nationalism and state response

South Africa: the opening of the apartheid mind

Balance and ethnic conflict in Fiji

Belgium: the variability of ethnic relations



***Guidelines for Aid Agencies on Disaster Mitigation***, Guidelines on Aid and Environment No. 7, the OECD Development Assistance Committee, 1994, Paris, 56 pages. Available from OECD Publications, 2 rue André

Pascal, 75775 PARIS CEDEX 16, France.

Aimed at policy-makers and project managers of the 21 donor organisations represented on the DAC, these Guidelines are intended to increase awareness of the threats posed by natural hazards in developing countries (drought, floods, tropical cyclones, earthquakes, tsunamis and volcanic eruptions) and the range of measures that may be adopted so as to reduce their impact. The text (prepared by the RRN Coordinator) was agreed on by a Working Group of donor representatives and copies have been widely disseminated among donor organisations. Contains useful overviews of the main hazard types and characteristics and a critical summary of available disaster statistics.

Introduction

Terms and concepts

Organisational and procedural arrangements within aid agencies

Disaster mitigation at the country level: approaches

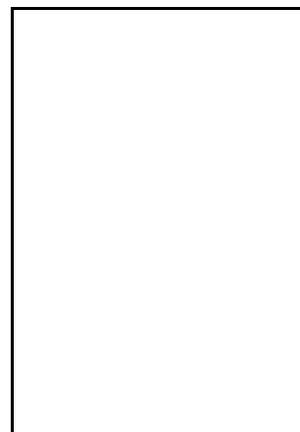
Disaster mitigation at the country level: specific techniques

Annex 1: Natural Hazards and Disasters: Types and Characteristics

Annex 2: The Effects of Disasters

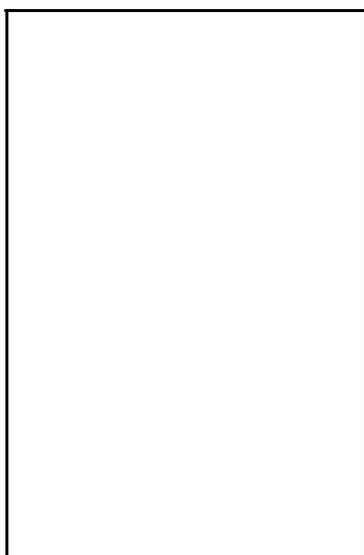
Annex 3: Disaster Statistics

Annex 4: Selected Documentation



***Crisis or Transition in Foreign Aid?***, edited by Adrian Hewitt, ODI Special Report, 1994, Overseas Development Institute, London, 97 pages, Price £17.50. Published in association with the Overseas Development Council, Washington and the North-South Institute, Ottawa.

Has the end of the Cold War caused a crisis in official aid, already beset by budgetary cuts, challenges on effectiveness and so-called 'donor fatigue'? Or are the problems specific to a few donors, while others move ahead with more constructive policies, stronger and broader-based public support, and larger programmes? This Special Report assesses the current position in eleven of the leading donor countries plus the European Union and looks to the future role of foreign aid.



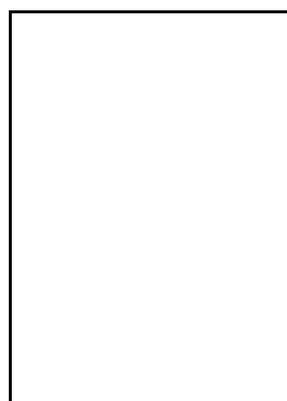
Adrian Hewitt	Introduction
Maureen O'Neil & Roy Culpeper	Development Cooperation in Canada
Poul Engberg-Pedersen	Foreign Aid in Denmark
Adrian Hewitt	The European Union: Fundamental Change Without Crisis
Zaki Laidi	The Paradox of French Aid
Hans-Helmut Taake	German Aid Policy
Marta Dassù & Marco de Andreis	Italian Foreign and Development Cooperation Policy
Ryokichi Hirono	Japan's Official Development Assistance
Louk Box	Crisis Management in Dutch International Development
Arne Tostensen	Norway: Trends in Aid Volumes and Priorities
Swedish Parliamentarians	Swedish Development Aid: Building Global Human Security
Adrian Hewitt & John Howell	UK Aid in the 1990s

John Sewell & Catherine Gwin  
 Adrian Hewitt  
 US Foreign Assistance: Facing New Challenges  
 Conclusions and Policy Recommendations  
 Bibliography of Recent Titles on Aid in Transition.

***Family Tracing: A Good Practice Guide***, Lucy Bonnerjea, 1994, Save the Children Fund UK, London, 122 pages, Price £4.95.

This comprehensive book draws together recent experiences of family tracing and reviews five of SCF-UK's family tracing programmes in Angola, Ethiopia, Liberia, Mozambique and Uganda. It is not a prescriptive manual as it recognises the need to adapt IDTR (Identification, Documentation, Tracing and Reunification) programmes to the particular contexts in which they are required. Rather is it a collection of ideas, principles and experiences to adapt and use flexibly in current and future situations with the emphasis on best practice in the interests of the child. It highlights the importance of assessing what is in the best interest of the child at every stage and the importance of seeing children in the context of their families and communities.

- Introduction
- Past Tracing
- What is IDTR?
- Identification
- Documentation
- Tracing
- Placement
- Success and Learning
- Staff and Training
- Politics and Partnerships
- Development

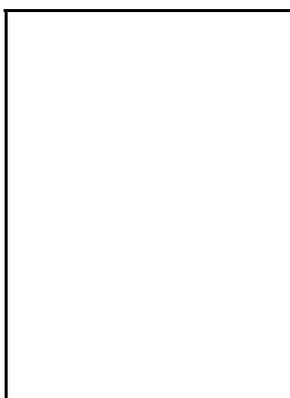
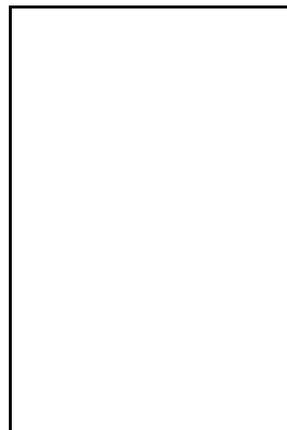


***Humanitarian Intervention and International Humanitarian Assistance: Law and Practice***, Danesh Sarooshi, 1994, Wilton Park, Paper 86, London HMSO, 33 pages, Price £5.

A conference report based on a conference held at Wilton

Park (a conference facility partially funded by the UK Foreign and Commonwealth Office) in July 1993. Provides a concise summary of the legal issues of humanitarian intervention and relates them to recent cases.

Introduction  
 Legal Framework  
 The Scope of International Peace and Security Under the Charter and Criteria to Govern Humanitarian Intervention by the Security Council  
 The Role of Regional Organisations  
 Case Studies: Bosnia; Cambodia; Somalia  
 Humanitarian Assistance and Non-Governmental Organisations  
 Conclusions



***Famine and Food Security in Ethiopia: Lessons for Africa***, Patrick Webb and Joachim von Braun, 1994, Wiley, Chichester UK, 158 pages, Price £14.95.

This book is the impressive result of an extended study of food security in Ethiopia by the Washington-based International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI) with field studies being conducted during 1989/90. It reviews the causes of famines in Ethiopia, the means by which households cope with risk and the experience of different techniques of preventing famines and providing relief to vulnerable groups. The chapter on reaching the poor is of particular interest to RRN members as it reviews experience in: direct food transfers (feeding camps and food aid distributions); public works (food-for-work and cash-for-work); asset transfers (ox-seed distribution); and technology transfer (single-ox plough). The book proposes the 'three pillars' required for effective famine prevention, namely good governance, policies for growth with a focus on agriculture and active preparedness.

Introduction  
 When Plenty is Not Enough  
 The Labyrinth of Famine Causality  
 How do Households Cope?  
 The Pastoral Experience  
 Attempts to Reach the Poor  
 Finally Conquering Famine: the Way Forward

***New Approaches to Famine***, edited by Jeremy Swift, IDS Bulletin, Vol 24 No.4, 1993, 79 pages, Price £8/copy, Institute of Development Studies, University of Sussex, Brighton BN1 9RE, UK.

A collection of interesting papers on the entitlements/coping strategies theme by some of the best known researchers in this field. Curiously, despite the crucial role of conflict in the causation of most modern famines, the subject is only directly dealt with by one contributors - Alex de Waal. It is only when the subject is defined in the terms of non-conflict situations that the editor's extraordinary opening paragraph makes any sense:

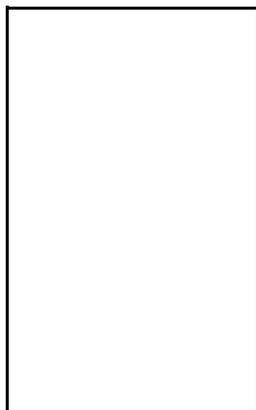
'Famine is a preventable tragedy. Unlike poverty or chronic food insecurity, famine could probably be eliminated rapidly by a quite simple set of policies. Such policies might be politically feasible. So the abolition of famine is a realistic goal, perhaps by the end of this decade'



Jeremy Swift	Understanding and Preventing Famine and Famine Mortality
Tim Dyson	Demographic Responses to Famines in South Asia
John Seaman	Famine Mortality in Africa
Alex de Waal	War and Famine in Africa
Alayne Adams	Food Insecurity in Mali: Exploring the Role of the Moral Economy
Stephen Devereux	Goats Before Ploughs: Dilemmas of Household Response Sequencing During Food Shortages
Susanna Davies	Are Coping Strategies a Cop Out?
Joachim von Braun, Tesfaye Tekly & Patrick Webb	Famine as the Outcome of Political, Production and Market Failures

**War and Hunger: Rethinking International Responses to Complex Emergencies**, edited by Joanna Macrae and Anthony Zwi with Mark Duffield and Hugo Slim, 1994, Zed Books, London and New Jersey, 235 pages, Price 14.95.

This is an important book drawing together into one volume contributions by many of those who have been thinking through the implications of internal wars and complex emergencies but whose publications until now have been scattered across different journals and agency reports.



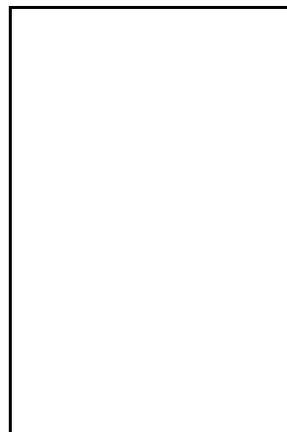
Joanna Macrae & Anthony Zwi	Famine, Complex Emergencies and International Policy in Africa: An Overview
Reginald Green	The Course of the Four Horsemen: Costs of War and Its Aftermath in Sub-Saharan Africa
Mark Duffield	The Political Economy of Internal War: Asset Transfers, Complex Emergencies and International Aid

Katerina Tomaševski	Human Rights and Wars of Starvation
David Sogge	Angola: Surviving Against Rollback and Petrodollars
David Keen	The Functions of Famine in Southwestern Sudan
Barbara Hendrie	Relief Behind the Lines: The Cross-Border Operation in Tigray
Alex de Waal	Dangerous Precedents?: Intervention and Famine Relief in Somalia 1991-1993
Lionel Cliffe	The Impact of War on Food Security in Eritrea: Prospects for Peace and Recovery
Judy el Bushra & Eugenia Piza-Lopez	Gender Dimensions of Complex Emergencies
Hugo Slim & Angela Penrose	UN Reform in a Changing World: Responding to Complex Emergencies
David Keen & Ken Wilson	Engaging with Violence: A Reassessment of the Role of Relief in Wartime
Duffield, Macrae & Zwi	Conclusion

**Forging War: The Media in Serbia, Croatia and Bosnia-Herzegovina**, Article 19, 1994, Bath Press, UK, 271 pages, Price £9.99.

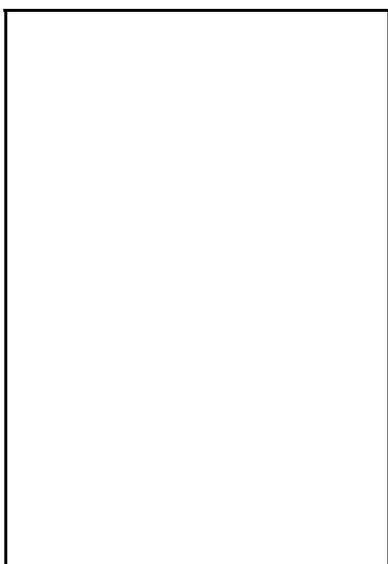
This is the first detailed study of the role of the media in the conflict in the former Yugoslavia. It recounts how the various republican governments took control of the main media and undermined the remaining pan-Yugoslavia media.

Introduction
The Media in Former Yugoslavia
The Pan-Yugoslav News Media
Serbia Sets the Pace
Croatia Catches Up
Bosnia-Herzegovina Left Behind



**Christian Perspectives on Disaster Management: A Training Manual**, Ian Davis and Michael Wall, 1992, Interchurch Relief and Development Alliance, 270 pages, Price £10 Copies available from Partner Training Section, Tear Fund, 100 Church Road Teddington, Middlesex TW11 8QE, UK.

This training manual for use by trainers as well as trainees grew out of training workshops run by the Tear Fund in conjunction with its christian partner agencies such as HEED in Bangladesh, EFICOR in India and World Relief International in the USA. One of the authors (Ian Davis) was formerly Director of the Disaster Management Centre at the Oxford Polytechnic and is currently Director of the Oxford Centre for Disasters Studies. It is organised in four sections. **Christian Dimensions** examines theological questions such as why is there suffering and the role of the church in disasters. **Attitudes** covers attitudes that those involved in a response should strive for (adaptability, integrity, accountability, humility, etc.). **Knowledge** covers the basic principles of vulnerability and hazards, disaster management. **Skills** covers practical management skills such as goal setting, coping with stress, team building, writing a report and project monitoring. The heavy emphasis upon christian values and regarding disasters as opportunities for the church to demonstrate its social responsibility and 'proclaim the Good News' of christian faith will put off many RRN members, but for those of the christian faith this will be a welcome manual with a lot of practical information.



**Food Scarcity and Famine: Assessment and Response**, Helen Young, 1992, Oxfam Practical Health Guide No 7, Oxford, 121 pages, Price £5.95.

A useful, very accessible and practical guide for field personnel. Deserves to be widely used.

Part 1: Food Scarcity, Famine and Malnutrition

Food scarcity and famine  
Nutrition and malnutrition  
Looking at the wider picture

Part 2: Assessments and Surveys

Deciding what information you need for decision making  
Choosing methods of collecting information  
Planning your assessment and organising your team  
Analysing and interpreting your findings  
Presenting your findings

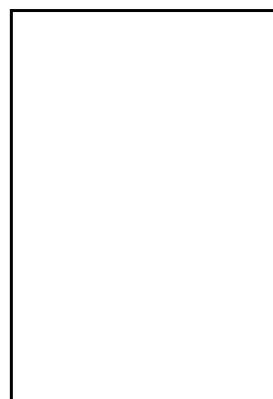
Part 3: Using Your Findings in Making Decisions

Your analysis of the situation  
Choosing the appropriate response  
Targeting

Part 4: Food Distribution

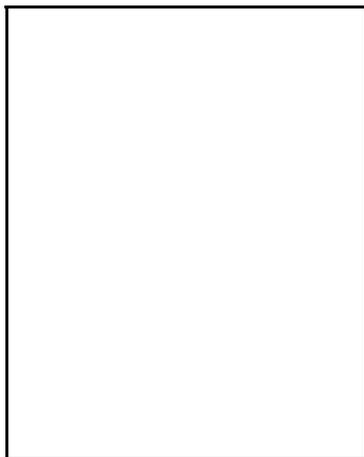
Some problems that might occur  
General food rations  
Supplementary feeding programmes  
Therapeutic feeding

Fourteen appendices provide summary practical information on such topics as: wealth ranking, selecting clusters for a nutrition survey, how to measure children, nutrition survey statistics, nutritional value of food aid commodities and common foods in Africa, Oxfam kits, food aid biscuits, recipes for supplementary feeding programmes, food storage.

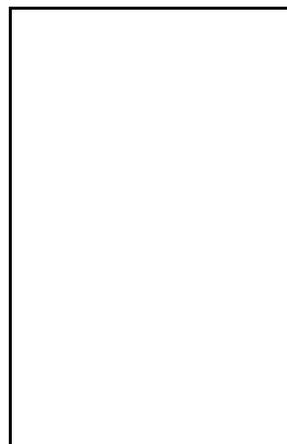


**Women and Conflict**, edited by Helen O'Connell, 1993, Oxfam Focus on Gender Series No. 2, Oxford, 58 pages, Price £7.95.

This pioneering and timely collection of papers argues that the effects of violent conflict on civilians have a powerful gender dimension which humanitarian and human rights agencies need be aware of and address in their programmes. Contains information on further reading and relevant periodicals.



between physical and natural scientists and engineers involved in disaster management with social scientists. The book is full of case studies to illustrate the overall arguments and the chapters on famine and natural hazards, biological hazards, floods, severe coastal storms, earthquakes, volcanoes and landslides. The closing chapters offer 12 principles for managing disaster recovery and 12 for managing a reduction of vulnerability. This book is likely to be much cited.



- |                                        |                                                                                                                      |
|----------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Judy El Bushra<br>& Eugenia Piza-Lopez | Gender-related violence: its scope and relevance<br>Working on gender in conflict situations: some ideas on strategy |
| Achta Djibrine Sy                      | Conflict and the women of Chad                                                                                       |
| Fiona McLachan                         | Life during wartime: women and conflict in Afghanistan                                                               |
| Tina Wallace                           | Refugee women: their perspectives and our responses                                                                  |
| Nalini Kasynathan                      | Working with women refugees in eastern Sri Lanka                                                                     |
| Judith Zur                             | The psycho-social effects of 'La Violencia' on widows of El Quiché, Guatemala                                        |
| Neila Sancho-Liao                      | 'Clutching a knifeblade': human rights and development from Asian women's perspective                                |
| Ruth Jacobson                          | Domestic violence as a development issue                                                                             |
| Anti-Slavery International             | Forced prostitution of women and girls in Brazil                                                                     |
| Jo Fisher                              | Colombian women prisoners in Britain                                                                                 |

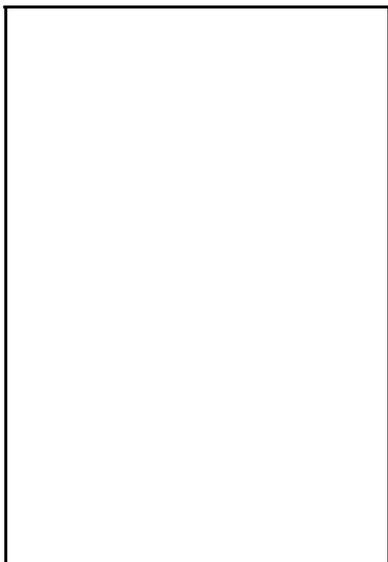
**World Disasters Report 1994**, published by Martinus Nijhoff, 1994, Dordrecht on behalf of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, Geneva, 176 pages, Price £33.25 (US\$ 48.50). Available in English, French, Spanish and Arabic.

This is the second edition of the World Disasters Report (that for 1993 was regarded as a pilot edition). For those who are not familiar with the publication it is produced in A4 format with the text illustrated with photos and charts. Focus boxes provide more detailed insight into particular issues. The series provides a useful, readable, global review of issues in disasters and relief policy and of responses in the previous year. It is a welcome, regular addition to the literature.

However, the disasters database which is prepared by the Centre for Research on the Epidemiology of Disasters (CRED) at the University of Louvain must be regarded as a problematic part of the Report. Though it comes with a 'health warning' on the reliability of the data it appears to substantially underrepresent conflict-related deaths. For instance whilst the CRED data indicates approximately 2.5 million conflict deaths over a 25 year period, a widely respected database on war-related deaths indicates approximately 13 million deaths over the same period (Ruth Leger Sivard, 1991, *World Military and Social Expenditures*, World Priorities, Washington DC). Surely, if inaccuracies of over 400% are suspected in a dataset then it needs more than a 'health warning' - the data should simply not be published!

**At Risk: Natural Hazards, People's Vulnerability and Disasters**, Piers Blaikie, Terry Cannon, Ian Davis and Ben Wisner, 1994, Routledge, London and New York, 284 pages, Price £16.99.

This jointly authored book argues that vulnerability is central to an understanding of disasters and their prevention or mitigation and is a welcome attempt to shift the emphasis within the disaster management community from the hazard 'triggers' to the underlying causes of vulnerability. The authors present a framework for analysing the relationship between vulnerability and hazards which, in certain situations, produces disasters. Their 'pressure and release' model offers a means for bridging the current conceptual and linguistic gap



## The human development index revisited



### Section 1: Knowledge, Power and Need in Disasters

How the misuse of power creates vulnerability  
 A professional code for disaster-response agencies  
 Information and vulnerability: how secrecy kills  
 Building response on indigenous knowledge  
 Anti-personnel mines: 200 million disasters

### Section 2: The Year in Disasters 1993

Appeal and needs: a year of Federation's operations  
 Somalia: response without government  
 Former Yugoslavia: The challenge for agencies  
 Southern Africa: holding back famine  
 Nordeste Brazil: an impending disaster  
 India: earthquake myths and realities  
 Caucasus: poverty, conflict and disaster

### Section 3: Disasters Database 1968-1993

Getting the facts and figures right  
 Tables and charts 1968-1993  
 Further reading  
 The International Red Cross and Red Crescent  
 Movement, contact details

**Human Development Report 1994**, published for UNDP by Oxford University Press, 1994, 226 pages, Price £13.50.

A challenging and important theme for this year's HDR. Puts the concept of human security as the objective of development firmly on the agenda, indicates some of the implications for aid programmes of doing so. Provides useful information on trends in conflicts and arms spending and includes a review of the Human Development Index which was first introduced in the 1990 HDR as a new way of measuring human development.

Towards sustainable human development  
 New dimensions on human security  
 Capturing the peace dividend  
 A new design for development cooperation

***The Benefits of Famine: A Political Economy of Famine and Relief in Southwestern Sudan, 1983-89***, David Keen, 1994, Princeton University Press, New Jersey, 289 pages, Price \$47.50 - £29.70.

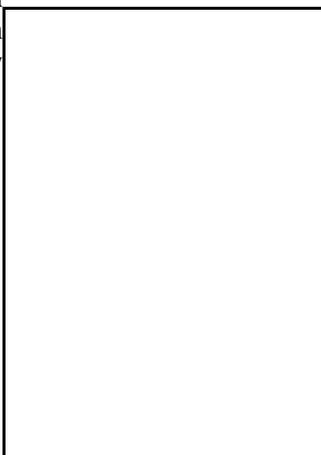
A provocative and important contribution to the literature. David Keen argues that famines, such as that which devastated the Dinka of Sudan in the 1980s, often have powerful beneficiaries within the affected nation, including political elites and traders. He shows how the assets of the politically powerless Dinka were forcibly transferred to beneficiary groups. In a sense, and contrary to the emphasis of Amartya Sen, he argues that it was the Dinka's wealth rather than their poverty which exposed them to famine in a context where they lacked political redress against exploitation. For the most part he sees international donors as having failed to counteract the process leading up to the famine or to speak up on behalf of those who lacked political influence in their own society.

Overview  
 Famine and Exploitation in Historical Perspective  
 Victims and Beneficiaries: A Case Study of Famine as a Combination of Exploitative Processes  
 The Inadequacy of Relief: A 'Policy Success' for Powerful Groups in Sudan?  
 The Inadequacy of Relief: The Role of International Donors  
 Discussion and Conclusions



***Humanitarian Aid to Somalia***, Operations Review Unit, 1994, Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Directorate General of International Cooperation, 334 pages. Copies obtainable from the Operations Review Unit, Bezuidenhoutseweg 67, PO Box 20061, 2500 EB The Hague, the Netherlands.

This study commissioned by the Operations Review Unit is an evaluation of the Netherlands supported humanitarian aid to Somalia from 1991 to 1993. The evaluation was based on desk and detailed case studies and on a general field-study. The case studies which covered nearly half of the total funds allocated by the Netherlands as humanitarian aid to Somalia during the period were: the LWF airlift, ICRC's Emergency Plan of Action, the use by Concern of King's Recovery Food, MSF-Hollands emergency programme, UNICEF rehabilitation projects and UNHCR's Cross-Border and Cross-Mandate Operation. The criteria employed during the evaluation were effectiveness, efficiency, sustainability and policy relevance. The study begins with a good review of the emergency, the Netherlands' humanitarian aid policies, the context of aid delivery during the period and excellent graphics and maps as well as some photos. The study is a valuable contribution to the literature reviewing events and actions by the international community during the period and its publication in this form makes it very accessible.



***The Kurds in Iraq: How Safe is Their Haven Now?***, David Keen, 1993, Save the Children Fund UK, 74 pages, Price £5. Copies obtainable from Publications Sales, SCF, 17 Grove Lane, London SE5 8RD, UK.

This is an excellent review commissioned by SCF-UK of the situation faced by the Kurds in northern Iraq, written in the author's usual highly readable style. It focusses on the commitments made to the Iraqi Kurds by the international community, particularly during 1991, and the extent to which these have been met. The inadequacy of the security and resource levels provided by the international community are highlighted.



A question  
of responsibility  
Inadequacy of protection  
Inadequacy of assistance  
The links between assistance and protection  
Righting the wrongs

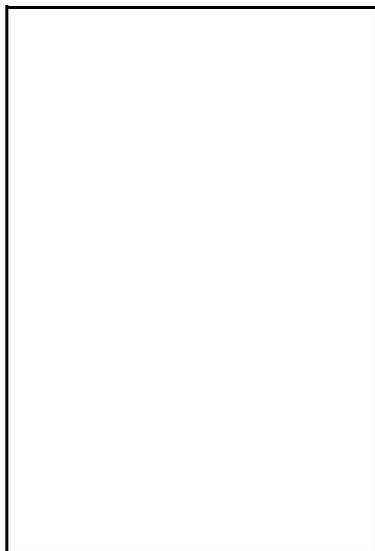
***DHA News: 1993 In Review***, Special Edition, January/February 1994 issue, DHA-Geneva, 122 pages.

A useful record of DHA's and thereby the UN and its specialised agency's activities during 1993. Composed of approximately 60 short 1-2 page contributions on:

- UN system developments: eg. 'The Evolution of the Inter-Agency Standing Committee'; 'Consolidated Inter-Agency Appeals: For What, Whom and Why?'
- Particular emergency operations: eg. 'Sudan: Relief in the Midst of Uncertainty'; 'Zaire: Ethnic Violence Followed Social and Economic Decline'
- Other agencies: eg. 'UNICEF: Focus on Emergency Situations'; International Organization for Migration:

New Areas of Intervention'

- DHA's operations and information activities
- DHA's Disaster mitigation activities
- Summary information on recorded hazard events during the year



**Disasters: The Journal of Disaster Studies and Management**, Blackwell Publishers for the Overseas Development Institute.

Volume 18 No. 2, June 1994 included:

'Socio-economic Restructuring and Vulnerability to Environmental Hazards in Bulgaria', Brent Yarnal.

'Environmental Change in Refugee-Affected Areas of the Third World: The Role of Policy and Research', Richard Black.

'Development of a Computer Workstation for Famine Early Warning and Food Security', Stuart e. Marsh.

'Malnutrition and Mortality During Recent Famines in Ethiopia: Implications for Food Aid and Rehabilitation', Helmut Kloos and Bernt Lindtjorn.

'Food Security Reserve Policy in Ethiopia: A Case Study of Experience and Implications', Stephen Jones.

'Cities Under Siege: Problems, Priorities and Programs', Frederick C. Cuny.

'Profile of Mortality from the 1989 Loma Prieta Earthquake using Coroner and Medical Examiner Reports', Jason E. Eberhart-Phillips.

'Bringing Population Dynamics into Food Balance Sheet Calculations', Charles Kelly.

Volume 18 No. 3, September 1994: 'Children and Childhood in Emergency Policy and Practice 1919-94: A special issue to mark the 75th Anniversary of Save the Children (UK)' included:

'Putting Children First', Murray Last.

'From Sentiment to Science: Children's Relief Organisations and the Problem of Malnutrition in Inter-War Europe', Paul Weindling.

'Saving Children During the Depression: Britain's Silent Emergency, 1921-1939', Charles Webster.

'Saving Enemy Children: Save the Children's Russian Relief Operation, 1921-1923', Rodney Breen.

'Innocents Abroad: Western Fantasies of Childhood and the Iconography of Emergencies', Erica Burman.

'Children's Experience of Conflict Related Emergencies: Some Implications for Relief Policy and Practice', Jo Boyden.

'Post-War Social Reconstruction in Mozambique: Reframing Children's Experience of Trauma and Healing', Sara Gibbs.

'Disasters, Family Tracing and Children's Rights: Some Questions About the Best Interests of Separated Children', Lucy Bonnerjea.

'Disabled Children in Post-War Mozambique: Developing Community-Based Support', Susie Miles and Elena Medi.

Subscription rates are as follow:

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Rest of world	£53.00	£79.50

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## Relief and Rehabilitation Network

**EuronAid**, the European Association of Non-Governmental Organisations for Food Aid and Emergency Relief was established in 1980 to provide logistics and financing services to NGOs using EC food aid in their relief and development programmes. Its offices are located in the Hague. The EuronAid member agencies are currently: ADRA Germany, CAFOD, Care Britain, Caritas Belgium, Caritas Germany, Caritas Italy, Caritas Netherlands, Caritas Spain, Catholic Relief Services, Christian Aid, Concern, Deutsche Welthungerhilfe, Diakonisches Werk der EKD, Diakonisches Werk der EKD/Bremen, Dutch Interchurch Aid, Lutheran World Federation, Oxfam Belgique, Oxfam UK, Prosalus, Save the Children Fund, Secours Catholique, Secours Populaire Français, SOS Sahel International, Tear Fund UK, Trocaire. AMI, Food Aid Management (USA), Help and the World Council of Churches have observer status. The **EuronAid Working Group on Training and Research** made up of representatives of six member agencies provides the reference group for the RRN.

The **Overseas Development Institute** was founded in 1960 as an independent centre for development research and a forum for discussion. The Institute is engaged in policy-related research on a wide range of issues which affect economic relations between the North and the South and which influence social and economic policies within developing countries. Besides the new RRN, ODI also maintains four other specialist networks of practitioners and researchers in agricultural research and extensions, irrigation management, pastoral development and forestry. Currently, ODI has over 30 staff in Research Fellow and Research Associate positions and some 25 support staff, including librarians and publications personnel.

**The RRN is supported by EuronAid with funds provided by the European Commission.**

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