

Global IDP PROJECT

Global IDP Project **2001 Activity Report**

Geneva
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NORWEGIAN
REFUGEE COUNCIL

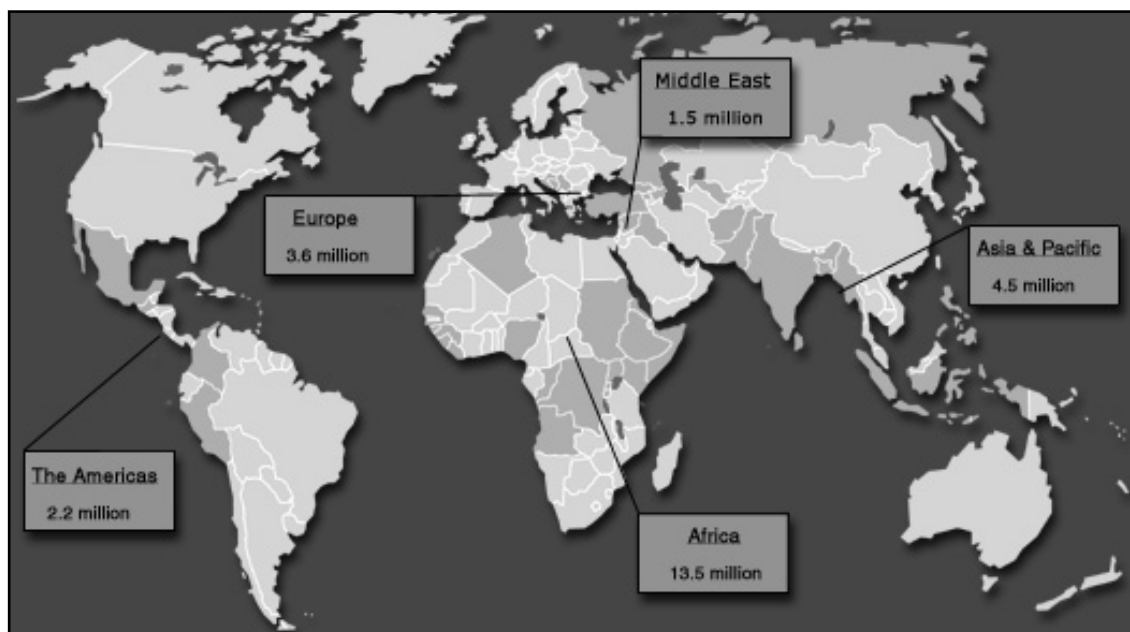
The Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC) has, since September 1998, been active in promoting improved international protection and assistance to the internally displaced through the Global IDP Project. Comprised of three components, the Global IDP Project provides the humanitarian community with comprehensive and updated information on internal displacement around the world through its Global IDP Database. Using the Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement, the Project's training component actively encourages national authorities as well as representatives of NGOs and IDP communities to collaborate and discuss the response to the needs of the displaced at the local level. Finally, the publications component seeks to identify, analyse and raise awareness of certain themes related to internal displacement through the publication of occasional reports and articles.

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Internal Displacement in 2001

The Global IDP Database estimates that by the end of 2001, at least 25 million people were displaced within their national borders due to armed conflicts and associated human rights abuses.



Africa today has the greatest number of internally displaced persons in the world, with 13.5 million – an increase of more than 5 million since 1998. Angola and Sudan have about four million IDPs each, followed by 2 million in the Democratic Republic of Congo. Although the majority of the African conflicts are usually referred to as “internal”, most of them are – in one way or the other – sustained by external factors.

Asia had over 4.5 million IDPs as of the end of 2001. Indonesia now accounts for almost one third of internal displacement in Asia, with 1.4 million people displaced due to increasing internal conflict. Afghanistan and Sri Lanka follow in magnitude with respectively 900,000 and

800,000 IDPs. Bangladesh, Burma, India and the Philippines each contain several hundred thousand displaced persons. Many of the conflicts in Asia are rooted in unequal distribution of land and/or historical tensions between the ruling governments and opposing ethnic or religious groups.

Based on conservative estimates, 3.6 million people were internally displaced in **Europe and Central Asia** by the end of 2001. The crisis affects ten of the 45 countries of the Council of Europe, of which five have an internally displaced population close to or above 500,000 people: Azerbaijan, Turkey, the Russian Federation, the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, and Bosnia and Herzegovina.

The current crisis of internal displacement in Europe is mainly a post-Cold War phenomenon resulting from the collapse of multi-ethnic socialist states.

The number of IDPs in the **Americas** at the end of 2001 was estimated to be 2.2 million. Although there are still displacement problems in Guatemala and Mexico, the vast majority of IDPs in Latin America are to be found in Colombia (estimated over 2 million).

Civil conflict has been the predominant cause of internal displacement in this region.

The **Middle East** had over 1.5 million IDPs as of the end of 2001. Almost half of the internally displaced in the Middle East are in Iraq, but people in Lebanon, Syria, Israel and the Palestinian territories also experience situations of internal displacement. Many people in the region have been displaced for several decades.

I. Global IDP Project in 2001

• **General overview**

Throughout 2001, the Global IDP Project continued to improve its information, training and advocacy work. It put much effort into expanding and improving the database and was able to reach its objective of full coverage of IDP situations worldwide. It strengthened its training expertise and organised a total of five national workshops to promote the Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement. It was also able to reinforce its publication/advocacy component. By the end of 2001, the Project had reached what it considers its full capacity in terms of activities.

Close cooperation with the United Nations continued throughout 2001. Discussions on information sharing and support were intensified with a

number of UN agencies such as OCHA and its newly established IDP Unit, WHO (with whom a Memorandum Agreement was signed), and UNICEF (examining the availability of information in IDP children).

NRC also provided support to the Senior Network on Internal Displacement (made up of members of the humanitarian community including the UN, NGOs and the Red Cross Movement) and to the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Internally Displaced Persons (RSG), notably with updated background and country briefs prior to field visits. During the 2001 Commission on Human Rights, the Project co-hosted a meeting with the RSG on the implementation of the Guiding Principles. Government representatives from Angola, Burundi and Georgia were invited to make

presentations on how their governments had used the Guiding Principles in their response to internal displacement.

The NRC/Global IDP Project continued to be actively involved in IDP issues at the international level, notably as a participating and founding member of the NGO Reference Group on IDPs that provided an informal forum for NGOs to discuss their role and involvement in the work of the Senior Network. As the IDP focal point of ICVA (International Council for Voluntary Agencies), the Project also continued to represent the position of NGOs at Working Group meetings with members of the UN Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC).

At the regional level, the Global IDP Project concentrated its advocacy work on the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE). Great efforts were made to persuade the OSCE's highest political body, the Ministerial Council, to integrate the issue of internal displacement into the activities of the OSCE, and to use the Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement as a framework.

• **Achievements in 2001**

1. Database

In 2001, the Global IDP Database reached its target of covering all ongoing situations of conflict-induced internal displacement.

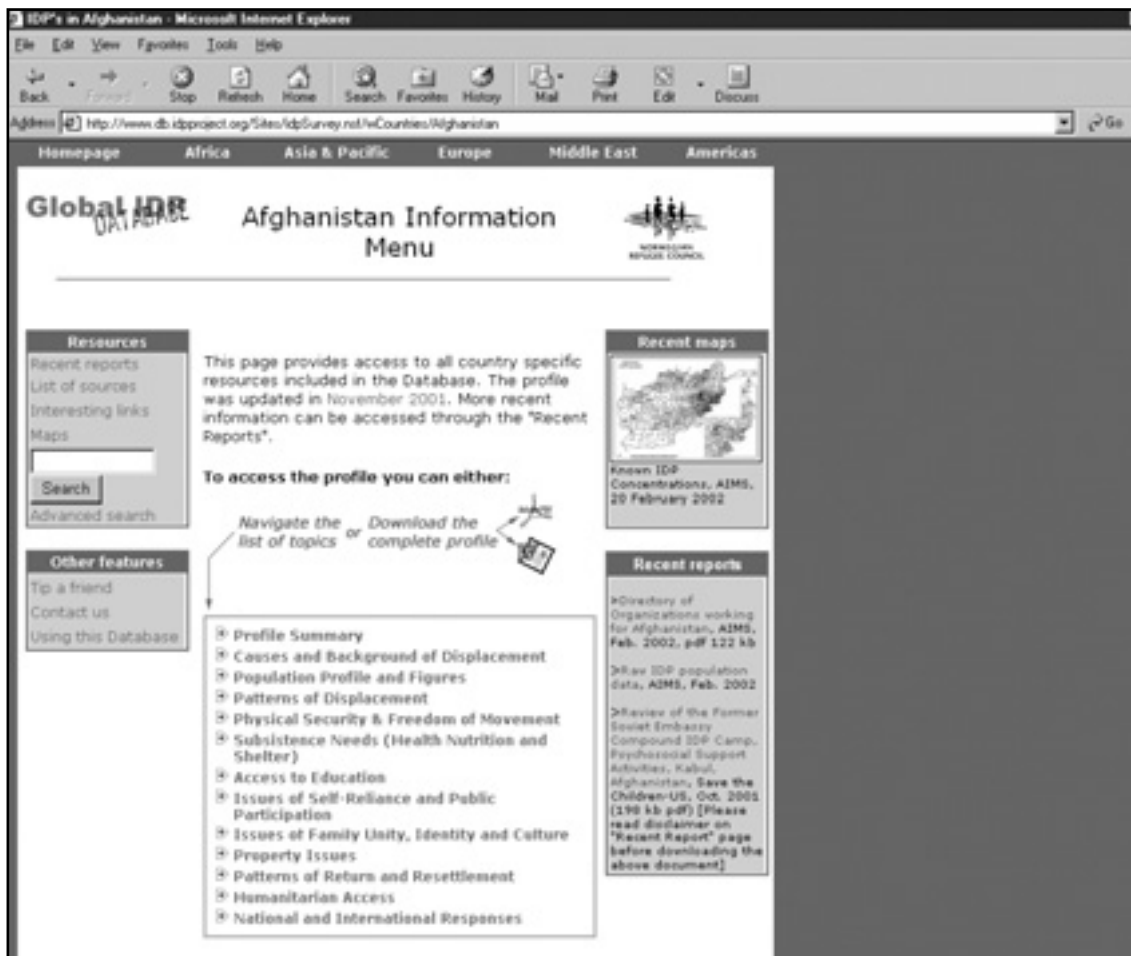
The Database is now monitoring IDP situations in a total of 47 countries. The Database team has continued to use the UN Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement as an analytical tool when regularly updating the country profiles, which cover all phases of displacement as well as review national and international responses. This contributes to promoting the Guiding Principles as both a monitoring instrument and an analytical tool.

During the course of 2001, the information officers dedicated much of their efforts to expanding their sources of information, notably through networking and establishing working relations with humanitarian actors at both HQ and field levels. This included occasional field visits and presence at training events to further networking, and to access first hand information. By the end of 2001, the Database had access to more than 4000 documents and 240 maps from over 700 sources.

The Global IDP Project also worked actively to make the Database better known among potential users. The number of visitors continued to increase throughout the year, reaching an average of 500 per day by the end of December. A sharp increase in usage after the September 11th events confirmed the relevance of the Database. The Database served an increasingly wide audience, including different UN agencies and humanitarian organisations at HQ and in some field positions, governments (Ministries of Foreign Affairs

and diplomatic services), academics, journalists and interested individuals. A systematic user survey confirmed that people were very satisfied with the information service, but also encouraged the Project to seek new

ways of presenting IDP information. Over the course of the year, the Project worked on up-grading the Database with a new web design, improved navigation facilities, and new information products.



In 2001, the Database was also recognised by the UN General Assembly, which in its November resolution relating to IDP protection and assistance encouraged humanitarian organisations and governments to “continue to collaborate on and support this effort, including by providing financial resources”.

2. Training

The objective of the training package is to promote the Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement as a tool for improved assistance to and protection of the internally displaced. In 2001, the Global IDP Project conducted five workshops at the national level using its unique formula of bringing together local authorities, national and interna-

tional NGOs, and leaders from the displaced communities.

Training events in 2001 were held in Sierra Leone, Colombia, Liberia, Burundi and India. During the three-day workshops, participants analysed the current state of implementation of the Guiding Principles in their country or region and discussed ways of applying the principles more systematically in their work.

In Sierra Leone, Liberia and Burundi, the workshops were co-organised with the national government agency in charge of protection and assistance to IDPs, an arrangement which ensures government participation and commitment to the objectives and recommendations of the workshops.

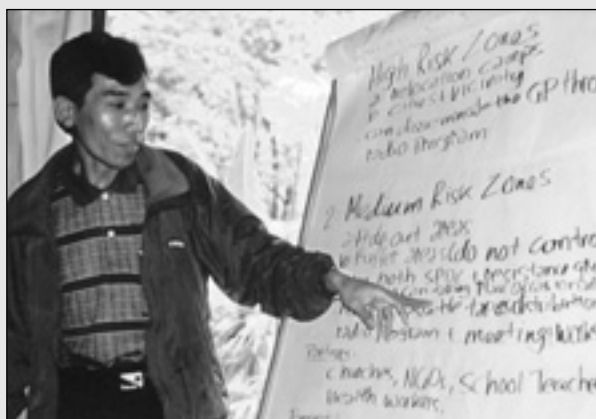
In Colombia, the workshop was organised jointly with the Human Rights Ombudsman's Office and targeted the recently elected Municipal

Human Rights Ombudsperson charged with the protection of IDPs.

In India, where the international community has very limited access to IDPs, the Project joined forces with Jadavpur University (Calcutta) and managed to introduce the Guiding Principles to practitioners in both Kashmir and the northeastern states.

Over the course of 2001, the Training Programme of the Global IDP Project in Geneva reached its operational limits of conducting five workshops per year. However, since demand for training continued to increase, the Project reviewed its training strategy during the last quarter of the year in order to explore possibilities for more field-based training.

All the workshop reports are available on the web site or in hard copy. The training modules are also posted on www.idpproject.org.



**Sierra Leone: 12-14 March 2001
Freetown**

**Colombia: 15-17 May 2001
Santa Fe de Antioquia**

**Liberia: 23-25 October 2001
Monrovia**

**Burundi: 29-31 October 2001
Bujumbura**

**India: 28-30 November 2001
Calcutta**

3. Publications

With the Database covering all conflict-induced situations, it has provided opportunities to identify trends and patterns as well as cross-country comparisons on a worldwide scale. Throughout the year, NRC was able to participate in the elaboration of a number of publications with the aim of enhancing the Global IDP Project's advocacy work.

In 2001, NRC published "**Caught Between Borders: Response Strategies of the Internally Displaced,**" in cooperation with the Department of Anthropology of the University of Copenhagen. This is one of the first books to examine how the internally displaced respond to the experience of displacement. It looks, for example, at how displaced communities develop protection mechanisms and information networks as well as economic survival strategies. The book begins to identify cross-cultural patterns and to assess which strategies are effective. Ten case studies are included covering displacement in Afghanistan, Angola, Burundi, Burma, Colombia, Georgia, Sri Lanka, Serbia, Sudan and Uganda. These case studies were written by teams of international and local academics, with the assistance of local displaced communities.

In November 2001, NRC organised a seminar in Oslo entitled "**Response Strategies of the Internally Displaced: Changing the Humanitarian Lens.**" The objective of the seminar was to launch the book as well as bring together 100 experts, including academics, practitioners and the contributors of the book, to discuss the findings and define practical methods and tools to improve response to the needs of the displaced. A printed report of the seminar is available.

Also completed in 2001 was a report entitled "**The Need for a More Focused Response: European Donor Policies toward Internally Displaced Persons.**" The report was produced jointly by the Brookings Institution-CUNY Project on Internal Displacement, the U.S. Committee for Refugees, and NRC. The focus of the study was on two European governments (Norway and the United Kingdom) and the European Union Humanitarian Office (ECHO).

NRC continued to support the "**Forced Migration Review**" - a specialised magazine published three times a year in English, Spanish and Arabic by the Refugee Studies Centre/University of Oxford, in association with the NRC/Global IDP Project, a member of their editorial board.

II. 2001 Financial Report

• 2001 Funding

During 2001, NRC was most thankful for the continued generosity of the governments that have supported the Global IDP Project since its beginning in 1998. In particular, we have been encouraged by the multi-year funding of SIDA and DFID, which reflects an appreciation of the usefulness of our work.

We wish to also express our appreciation for new contributions from two donor governments, the Netherlands and Italy, as well as from the World Health Organisation, with whom the Project recently signed a Memorandum Agreement.

Contributions to the Global IDP Project in 2001

Donors	Income USD
Department for International Development (DFID) – U.K.	141,809.00
Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs	87,907.00
European Union Humanitarian Office (ECHO)	63,922.00
Swedish International Development Agency (SIDA)	57,843.00
Danish Ministry of Foreign Affairs	48,613.00
Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs	32,909.00
Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs	32,000.00
Swiss Ministry of Foreign Affairs	30,000.00
World Health Organization	10,000.00
Canadian Ministry of Foreign Affairs	9,803.00
Save the Children – U.K.	7,552.00
NRC Headquarters participation	99,830.00
Carry over 2000-2001	52,416.00
Total Income 2001	674,604.00

• 2001 Expenditure

Budget 2001: USD 821,840.00

Total income 2001: USD 674,604.00

Expenses 2001

(2001 exchange rate CHF/USD = 1.70)

Fixed costs	
Salaries:	
-Project Coordinator, Administration officer	164,836.00
Travel	7,598.00
Office rent Geneva	26,426.00
Office supplies, equipment	6,574.00
Telephone, fax, postage, bank int./charges	5,840.00
Sub-total	211,274.00
IDP Database	
Staff (5.2 information officers)	244,708.00
Computer	5,059.00
Software development	25,415.00
Telecommunications/maintenance/hosting	28,040.00
Travel	7,887.00
Marketing/advertising/printing reports workshop sem	6,628.00
Sub-total	317,737.00
Training	
Protection workshops	54,635.00
One training officer	47,211.00
Sub-total	101,846.00
Publications	
Thematic Publications	43,747.00
Total Expenses 2001	674,604.00



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Our confirmation is concerning The Norwegian Refugee Council's (NRC) activities of the IDP project located in Geneva. This statement is the responsibility of NRC's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the accompanying statement based on our audit.

We have conducted our work in accordance with "the Norwegian Institute of Public Accountants" standard regarding the auditor's report on special purpose audit engagements.

We obtained the statement of revenues and expenditures for the year ended December 31, 2001 as prepared by management. The exchange rate used is 1,70 CHF/USD. The statement of income and expenditures shows the following:

Total IDP Activities	USD
Expenses 2001	<u>674.604</u>
Contributions received from 2000	52.416
Contributions external 2001	522.358
Net contributions from NRC 2001	<u>99.830</u>
Total contribution	<u>674.604</u>

We have traced the revenues and expenditures against the general ledger and on a scope basis tested the recorded revenues and expenditures against invoices and other sub documentation. Our work did not reveal any circumstances indicating that the statement of revenues and expenditures is not in accordance with contribution received or expenses incurred.

With kind regards,
ARTHUR ANDERSEN & CO.


By: Tommy Romskaug

Copy: NRC Geneva

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