



QUARTERLY UPDATE

January-March 2005

Introduction

This edition of the **Quarterly Update** covers the Global IDP Project's activities between 1 January and 31 March 2005. It is also available electronically at www.idpproject.org

The **Quarterly Update** should be read along with the 2005 Annual Appeal, which outlines the main objectives, activities and financial needs for the year.

IDPs high on the agenda

Following the signing of the tri-partite Memorandum of Understanding between the UN Representative on IDPs, the Internal Displacement Division and the Global IDP Project in November 2004, the agreement and the cooperation between the three bodies have been presented to the Humanitarian Liaison Working Group and, on 11 January 2005, to the delegations from Latin American countries at the Palais des Nations.

On 23 February, an evaluation report on donor support to IDPs was presented by the consultants that prepared the study at the request of a group of donors. The report, for which the Global IDP Project among other organisations was interviewed, confirms the interest of some key donors in improving their performance with regard to providing assistance and protection to IDPs. It also reveals the need for better coordination among the donor community and even within donor governments regarding funding of and policy towards IDPs.

As the only NGO representative, the head of the Global IDP Project attended a lunch meeting hosted by the director of the Internal Displacement Division for the deputy heads of the operational UN agencies on 28 February. The purpose

of the meeting was to discuss problems related to the lack of implementation of the Collaborative Response/IASC policy in the field, and to encourage stronger commitments from the agencies. The implementation of the Collaborative Response was also discussed at a lunch meeting with the NGO umbrella organisations on 10 March, also hosted by the director of the Internal Displacement Division.

On 16 March, the Secretary General of the NRC, Raymond Johansen, and the head of the Global IDP Project participated in a workshop meeting with Resident/Humanitarian Coordinators (HCs/RCs), organised by the Internal Displacement Division. The objective was to explore with the HC/RCs what can be done and what is needed to improve the implementation of the revised IASC IDP policy.



Launch of the Global Overview at the Geneva Press Club on 18 March 2005 (Photo: C. Benetti)

On 18 March, the Project's yearly *Global Overview* of the worldwide internal displacement situations was launched at a press conference in Geneva by the UN's Emergency Relief Coordinator, Jan Egeland. The survey, which Mr. Egeland referred to as "the authoritative report on internal displacement", received significant media coverage and contributed to raising awareness of the

gaps in the response to internal displacement situations around the world (see also under “Advocacy”).

The Database

In the first quarter of 2005, the Project published two in-depth reports on the internal displacement situation in Nigeria and Guinea. The publication of the reports, which include recommendations to the respective governments and other actors involved in addressing the IDP situation, followed fact finding missions conducted to both countries in late 2004. Nigeria and Guinea are among the countries selected by the Global IDP Project to focus its advocacy activities.

The database team contributed to the preparation of this year’s *Global Overview*, which mainly draws on information contained in the country profiles featured on the database. In their capacity as regional or thematic focal points, country analysts also contributed regional overviews and thematic chapters covering major issues related to internal displacement.

On the occasion of international women’s day on 8 March, and as part of its focus on gender issues, the Global IDP Project launched a web special on internally displaced women and children to draw more attention to their often dire situation. The new section features information related to displaced women and children as well as extensive links to resources, including key legal documents, training modules and guidelines. The web special can be accessed on the Global IDP Project’s homepage at www.idpproject.org, or directly at www.idpproject.org/thematic/women_children/women_children.htm.

The Project started a series of in-house briefings aimed at strengthening the country analysts’ expertise on thematic issues related to internal displacement. The first such briefing was organised by the focal points on women and children. More briefings on other thematic areas will follow during the year.

Country profile updates

During the first quarter of 2005, the Global IDP Project released 12 country profile updates:

Bangladesh	21 January 2005
Nigeria	1 February 2005
Philippines	11 February 2005
Burundi	15 February 2005
Senegal	17 February 2005
Guinea	17 February 2005
Uganda	24 February 2005
Azerbaijan	25 February 2005
Sri Lanka	7 March 2005
Russian Federation	14 March 2005
Bosnia and Herzegovina	24 March 2005
Sudan	24 March 2005

Protection & Training

Revision of modules

The first quarter of 2005 was dedicated to the revision of the Project’s training modules. This work has been done with the support of a training expert with an extensive experience in developing training materials. With the revision of its modules, the Project aims at updating its training materials with information on recent developments in IDP policy and practice within the UN system and other civil society actors. In particular, the training will provide more guidance on the Collaborative Response at the international and country levels. The revised materials will also reflect a more interactive and participative methodological approach. Finally, a module has been developed as an introduction to the IDP protection regime to be used as part of the Reach Out Programme (on refugee protection), and a new module on gender-aspect of internal displacement is being finalised.

Workshops postponed

The preparation of a workshop for the National Human Rights Commission of Nepal, initially scheduled for the second half of March, was suspended as a result of the uncertainty on the future of the Commission. The state of emergency declared by the King of Nepal in February 2005 has raised concerns about the human rights situation in the country, while the capacity of the National Human Rights Commission to monitor and promote human rights has been under threat. The Global IDP Project has thus decided to suspend its decision of holding a workshop in Katmandu until it can be confirmed that the Commission

will continue to be a functional human rights advocate in the country.

Two training workshops on the Guiding Principles and IDP protection scheduled to be held early April in Banda Aceh and Meulaboh, Aceh province, Indonesia, were not authorised by the authorities and thus had to be cancelled in the last minute. The workshops were scheduled upon a request of NRC in Indonesia, with the objective of reaching local authorities and civil society actors involved in the protection of those displaced by the tsunami in Aceh.

Advocacy & Public Information

One of the Project’s main advocacy tools, the *Global Overview* of the worldwide displacement situation, was launched by the UN’s Emergency Relief Coordinator, Jan Egeland, at a press conference in Geneva on 18 March. The report, which was published in a completely new and improved format, was covered by numerous media at the international and national levels, including by all major news agencies. The report was also widely distributed to decision-makers in donor governments, governments of IDP host countries, international intergovernmental organisations and NGOs. The *Global Overview* is available online on the Project’s website at www.idproject.org

In order to better reach out to non-English speaking audiences, the Project launched French and Spanish versions of its website. The French and Spanish pages, which contain translations of key information on the Global IDP Project, provide access to the summaries of country profiles translated into these two languages.

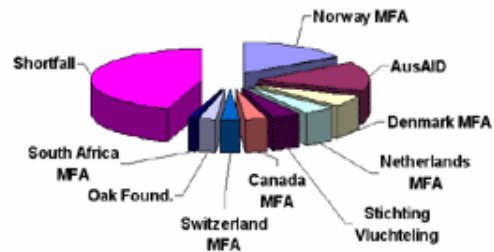
Financial Situation

Thank you for supporting the Global IDP Project!!

During the first quarter 55 per cent of the budget was covered by pledges and received contributions. The chart above indicates the Project’s current donors which include seven governments and two private foundations. The Global IDP Project is pleased to welcome “Stichting Vluchteling”

among its donors. A two-year agreement was signed with “Stichting Vluchteling” in early 2005.

Contributions received/pledged for the year 2005
[as of March 31, 2005]



The Project still needs more support in order to be able to implement the activities outlined in the Appeal 2005. We count on you for further support. All contributions are welcome!

Valuable information on IDPs

"I am a DRC national currently living in Harare, Zimbabwe as a refugee. Back home, I was a human rights activist and it's my involvement in the defense of the right of the oppressed that forced me to flee my country, as my work did not please the then rebel group controlling the South Kivu province of eastern DRC.

I keep constantly informed about the latest political developments in the DRC, and the Global IDP Project provides me with specific and valuable information on IDPs. I will share your report with other Congolese in Harare, but also in Europe and North America, and with other internationals I have met here, to sensitise them about the difficult situation of people who haven't had the chance like me to find safety in another country."

Ntumba Kapinga, Congolese Refugee in Zimbabwe



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