

# NEWS

PROVENTION  
CONSORTIUM

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*The ProVention Consortium is a global partnership of governments, international organisations, academic institutions, the private sector and civil society organisations dedicated to increasing the safety of vulnerable communities and to reducing the impacts of disasters in developing countries.*

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*ProVention News provides a brief update on current ProVention activities, events and recent publications or resources for organisations and practitioners active in disaster risk management. For more information on the ProVention Consortium please visit [www.proventionconsortium.org](http://www.proventionconsortium.org).*

## Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction

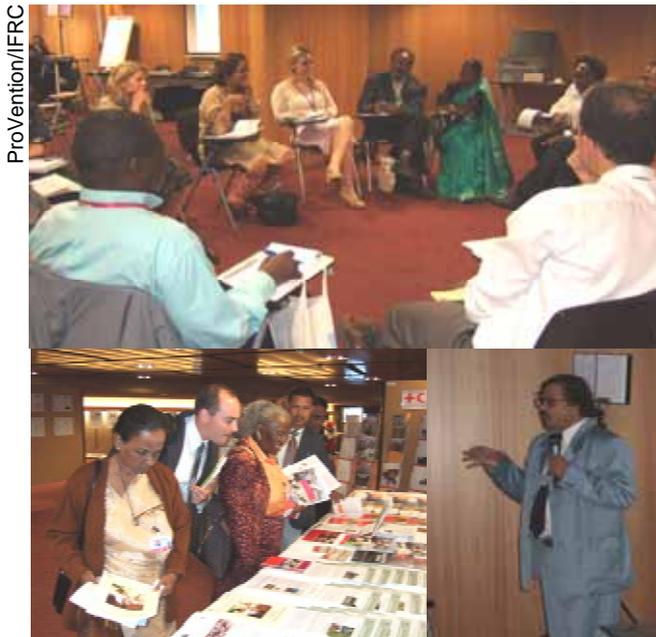


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The first session of ISDR's Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction (GP/DRR) took place on 5-7 June, 2007 in Geneva. Meant to be the main consultative forum on disaster risk reduction at the global level, the GP/DRR aimed to advocate for effective and timely action by all stakeholders to reduce disaster risk, and in so doing, to contribute to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals.

The ProVention Consortium supported the Global Platform through the organisation of a Session Workshop on *Disaster Risk Reduction as a National Priority: Exchange of Experience among Countries and Organisations on Different Institutional Options and Processes that Lead to Change*, as well as key contributions to other side events and parallel meetings.

The Session Workshop (Agenda Item 4.1.4) was co-organised by ProVention partners GROOTS International and the Huairou



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Commission, with additional inputs from Tearfund. The workshop focused on local action for implementation of the Hyogo Framework for Action (HFA). Community leaders, facilitating NGOs, and local/national government representatives from Peru, India, and Jamaica presented initiatives for hazard mapping, safe construction and sustainable livelihoods which are being scaled up through grassroots women's partnerships with local and national governments. Workshop participants explored how effective community-led strategies can be scaled up with the support of local and national government. However, the discussion also revealed the challenges of sustaining quality and effectiveness, dynamic community involvement and ownership when scaling up. Participants agreed that existing policies and programmes do not adequately value the efforts of women and their communities in coping with disasters. Nor do they build on lessons learned from community actions to cope with disasters.

Workshop participants recommended four action points to take forward in the coming biennium, including:

- establish a Global Community Disaster Risk Reduction Facility that channels funds directly to high risk, poor communities and their local authorities to demonstrate and scale up DRR strategies and enable their active participation in realising the HFA,
- engage local community innovators as technical experts in risk and vulnerability reduction through community-to-community exchange mechanisms;
- establish measurable targets for community participation and local action in reducing risks; and,
- promote local partnerships among community based organisations and local governments that inform regional, national and global efforts to implement the HFA.

ProVention also organised an informal meeting with institutions working on DRR Cost-Benefit Analysis to discuss where efforts stand, how to coordinate better and how to advance this common agenda.

In addition, the Consortium contributed to a number of side events and parallel meetings, including organising a panel on Community Based Risk Assessment for the side event entitled *The State of Disaster Risk Globally*, supporting the launch of the Global Forum for Urban Risk, participating in a roundtable discussion to identify areas for further private sector engagement in risk reduction, and engaging in the NGO Platform meetings.

A publications booth was co-organised with the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies to share information on ProVention activities and received a large number of visitors.

For more information, please visit [www.preventionweb.net/globalplatform](http://www.preventionweb.net/globalplatform) ■

## ProVention Forums in Africa

To influence policy dialogue and advance the risk reduction agenda in Africa, the ProVention Consortium hosted three regional forums and its annual Forum in Africa between November 2006 and February 2007.

Organised in partnership with the International Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies in Johannesburg, ActionAid in Nairobi and ENDA Tiers-Monde in Dakar, the regional forums gathered community-based organisations, international NGOs, local government, research and training institutions and the Red Cross/Red Crescent movement. Participants critically reflected on the scope of disaster risk reduction (DRR) in Africa. They discussed effective and replicable methods, approaches and practices for DRR that can be developed and 'owned' by affected or at-risk communities. The three regional forums' reports are now available at [www.proventionconsortium.org/publications](http://www.proventionconsortium.org/publications).

Building on the results and momentum of the regional forums, the ProVention Consortium held its Annual Forum in Dar es Salaam on 13-15 February 2007. The central theme of the 2007 Forum was "Making Disaster Risk

*Work: Building safer communities in Africa and worldwide* – looking at the issues that drive risk and vulnerability and at solutions for improving risk reduction in the context of ongoing political, economic, and social development at different levels.

Margaret Arnold, the new Head of the ProVention Secretariat, welcomed the 110 participants from a wide range of organisations and countries to the Annual ProVention Forum. She highlighted the objective of this event to bring global DRR experience and a critical focus on challenges for risk reduction in Africa. The Parapanda Theater Lab illustrated disaster risk facing African communities with musical and theatre performances. Adam Kimbisa, Tanzanian Red Cross Secretary General & Lord Mayor of Dar es Salaam, opened the Forum and gave an overview of the challenges of urban life in Dar es Salaam where 70-80 per cent of the population live in vulnerable unplanned settlements.



From left to right: Batilda Burian, Minister of State, Tanzanian Government. Adam Kimbisa, Tanzanian Red Cross Secretary General & Lord Mayor of Dar es Salaam. Margaret Arnold, Head of ProVention Consortium Secretariat.

Batilda Burian, Minister of State for Tanzanian Government, also contributed opening remarks and emphasised the need for integrated planning and for continuing advocacy for disaster risk reduction at the national level where disasters, drought in particular, continue to be seen as inevitable. She argued that 'droughts may be a fact of life but they need not erode life and livelihoods'. Reflecting on his experience in Kenya, Abbas Gullet, Secretary General of the Kenyan Red Cross, emphasised the role to be played by civil society and Red Cross in reducing risk as well as responding to disaster. All plenary speakers agreed that building and maintaining trusting partnerships between civil society and government was difficult but that where this had been done risk reduction was more likely to be integrated into everyday development work.

Afterwards the participants divided into smaller workshop sessions to explore several key themes:

- Urban risk: moving from analysis to action
- Risk transfer: promoting disaster insurance in low-income countries
- Climate adaptation, slow onset disasters and disaster risk reduction: an uneasy alliance?
- Community and civil society perspectives, local knowledge and coping strategies
- From research and learning to training and action
- Governance and disaster risk reduction: enabling factors and challenges.

During the Forum a number of organisations also had the opportunity to highlight their work on disaster risk reduction in a series of partner sharing sessions on topics ranging from community-based approaches used in the Philippines to the strengthening of risk analysis networks among NGOs and academics in Africa to the development of international support mechanisms through the ISDR Global Platform and World Bank Global Facility for Disaster Reduction and Recovery. There was also a chance for participants to venture out of the Forum setting with two past recipients of ProVention Research & Action Grants to review their project activities in two high vulnerability sites on the edges of Dar es Salaam where informal housing settlements are rapidly encroaching on a river floodplain at one site and on a quarry site at the other.



Next year the ProVention Forum will take place in Latin America and ProVention hopes for similar success in strengthening dialogue on disaster risk reduction with colleagues in the Americas.

For a copy of the Forum report, presentations and workshop papers, please see the ProVention website: [www.proventionconsortium.org/forum2007](http://www.proventionconsortium.org/forum2007). ■

## Launch of Third Round of ProVention Grants

The ProVention Consortium is pleased to announce the launch of the 2007-2008 Research & Action Grants for Disaster Risk Reduction.

Launched in 2003 and repeated in 2005, the Programme funds innovative projects to reduce disaster risks in developing countries that are proposed and implemented by researchers and practitioners under 35 and guided by experienced mentors. It is designed to engage enthusiastic young students and professionals in creating innovative links between research and action in disaster risk reduction. To date ProVention has provided grants of up to USD 5,000 to 119 projects in 40 developing countries under this scheme. Abstracts, project briefs and full reports are available describing the many successful projects on a wide range of subjects at [www.proventionconsortium.org/grant\\_projects](http://www.proventionconsortium.org/grant_projects).



Grantees' projects have been selected for presentation at international symposia, published in regional collections, and highlighted in collections of inspiring case studies.

Applicants are invited to seek ways to cut across professional disciplines and to exchange knowledge and engage stakeholders from scientific and academic, civilian, public and private sectors. This year, proposals are encouraged in, but not limited to, the following thematic focus areas:

- Identifying enabling factors and incentives for disaster risk reduction
- Developing mechanisms to strengthen community resistance and resilience
- Applying local risk analysis and risk management (especially for schools and hospitals)
- Improving education materials and curricula
- Promoting risk reduction in response and recovery activities
- Engaging the private sector in disaster risk reduction (especially micro-enterprises)
- Linking climate adaptation and disaster risk reduction efforts.

The Research and Action Grants for Disaster Risk Reduction programme is administered in association with the University of Wisconsin Disaster Management Center with regional partners:

- Asian Disaster Preparedness Center;
- University of Cape Town Disaster Mitigation for Sustainable Livelihoods Programme;
- the Latin American Social Science Faculty Secretariat General;
- and Bogaziçi University Center for Disaster Management. ■

*The deadline for proposal submissions is 15 July, 2007. For more information and to download the request for proposals, please visit [www.proventionconsortium.org/research\\_and\\_action\\_grants](http://www.proventionconsortium.org/research_and_action_grants).*

## Risk Reduction Indicators

In March national partners from the Tsunami Recovery Impact Assessment and Monitoring System met in Bangkok to review progress in their countries toward recovery and to consider further efforts to measure progress, particularly in terms of 'building back better' and disaster risk reduction. Representatives from Indonesia, the Maldives, Sri Lanka, and Thailand participated in the workshop, which was hosted by the IFRC, WHO, and UNDP.

During the workshop each of the countries gave an overview of their current efforts and future plans toward risk reduction. These presentations highlighted the difficulties of pursuing risk reduction in environments where there are too often trade-offs of risk reduction against other pressing recovery concerns, and yet still numerous examples were also mentioned of growing concern for future risks and vulnerabilities. On the positive side were examples like the "safe island" initiative in the Maldives, which is linked to economic "growth centres" and has been developed based on a comprehensive risk assessment that was carried out after the tsunami. Other examples were more cautionary such as the presentation from the team from Sri Lanka which outlined both progress and ongoing

challenges since the development of the “Road Map for Disaster Risk Management”, particularly due to the growing conflict in that country.

Afterwards, ProVention helped lead a discussion on risk reduction indicators and presented a working paper on DRR indicators that had been developed last year as preliminary input to the TRIAMS initiative. That working paper is available at [www.proventionconsortium.org/themes/default/pdfs/TRIAMS\\_full\\_paper.pdf](http://www.proventionconsortium.org/themes/default/pdfs/TRIAMS_full_paper.pdf). In follow-up discussions the country teams offered several suggestions for the inclusion of basic risk reduction indicators within TRIAMS and committed more generally to continue to work towards tracking issues of risk and vulnerability more explicitly in TRIAMS and related monitoring activities. ■

## Strengthening Social Analysis in Rapid Assessment

ProVention/IFRC



Workshop participants review posters highlighting different partners experience with social analysis.

communities themselves. In January 2007 ProVention and the IFRC hosted a workshop in Panama to pick up this theme and to share experiences among a number of partner organisations on the topic of social analysis in rapid assessment.

Results from the workshop indicate that there is a strong interest in social analysis and a range of tools that are already being used by individual agencies. However there is also quite limited experience in working together to share information on the ground. Highlights from the workshop have been captured in the workshop report which is available at [www.proventionconsortium.org/?pageid=37&publicationid=137#137](http://www.proventionconsortium.org/?pageid=37&publicationid=137#137).

As further follow-up, ProVention and the IFRC are currently facilitating the development of a Technical Reference Group on Social Analysis to inform the development of a social analysis component as part of the revision of the ECLAC assessment methodology and further development of the UNDP and ECLAC-led Post Disaster Needs Assessment (PDNA) initiative. The intent is to draw on the experience and learning of a broader set of stakeholders, particularly NGOs, and provide guidance to the development of the PDNA initiative. ■

The TEC and other evaluations of the response to recent disasters have highlighted the critical role of social analysis in better understanding the impacts of disasters and effectively identifying needs, priorities, capacities, and resources for relief and recovery in

## Expanding the Community Risk Assessment (CRA) Toolkit

At a workshop in Cape Town last year the CRA Toolkit was extensively tested and participants were asked to recommend ways to improve and further expand it. One recommendation concerned the revision of the homepage. As a result, the content of the homepage was made more accessible for a lay audience and a Q&A section was added. Also a CRA Toolkit flyer was developed following suggestions made at the Cape Town workshop. The Toolkit search tool is currently being revised. A number of guidance notes, already developed for the CRA case studies, will be revised and updated, as suggested.



Work has also started on the further expansion of the Toolkit. For some methods and case studies, already included in the CRA Toolkit, guidance notes are currently being developed. It is expected that an additional 30 case studies will be added by the end of 2007, which will bring the total number of CRA cases documented to 60. This process is led by Dr. Ben Wisner in collaboration with a Project Advisory Group. Following the completion of this work, key good practices and lessons learned will be documented in a commercial publication which is expected to be developed in early 2008. For more information on the CRA Toolkit, see: [www.proventionconsortium.org/CRA\\_toolkit](http://www.proventionconsortium.org/CRA_toolkit). If you would like to submit your organisation's method or case study for inclusion in the Toolkit, please contact [cra@ifrc.org](mailto:cra@ifrc.org). ■

## African Urban Risk Analysis Network (AURAN) Update

AURAN first phase project activities have been completed in Accra, Algiers, Cape Town, Dar es Salaam, Nairobi and Saint Louis. In Ghana a field assessment survey for Accra has been carried out and data entry and analysis in view of the development of a disaster risk reduction strategy for Greater Accra has been completed. In Algiers a seismic vulnerability mapping of buildings in selected neighbourhoods of the city of Algiers has also been finalised. In Senegal awareness raising events have been held in several flood prone districts of Saint Louis and household surveys on local perceptions of flood risk have been carried out. The team in Tanzania has produced detailed case studies of three settlements in Dar es Salaam looking at health risks and risk accumulation processes that contribute to increased risk of large scale disasters, including cholera epidemics, flooding and large-scale disasters. The Cape Town team has developed a powerful database, called MANDISA, which allows planners and managers to track changing trends in disasters, particularly fire incidents in informal settlements. The Nairobi team is carrying out research on road traffic accidents in two towns in western Kenya and is developing strategies to avoid them.



Fire in an informal settlement, Cape Town, South Africa.

DIMPI/University of Cape Town.

An AURAN brochure has recently been developed which provides an outline of these six key urban risk activities and gives a background to this unique initiative, describing the challenges AURAN has faced when getting this work going, situating urban risk in Africa within a risk continuum and highlighting the many opportunities for urban government to be engaged in disaster risk reduction. For more information, please visit [www.proventionconsortium.org/?pageid=32&projectid=4](http://www.proventionconsortium.org/?pageid=32&projectid=4). ■

## Update on Risk Transfer Initiatives

There are a growing number of risk transfer initiatives focusing on improving disaster risk management. To provide a better overview of the range of solutions being developed and tried in different contexts, ProVention has updated the resource page on Risk Transfer on the ProVention website ([www.proventionconsortium.org/?pageid=19](http://www.proventionconsortium.org/?pageid=19)). The resource page now includes a much larger and richer set of resources which are organised under 5 topics:

- Micro-insurance
- Traditional hazard insurance
- Index-based insurance
- Catastrophe pools and bonds
- Risk financing.

ProVention is also now working closely with several partners to develop 2 additional projects to further advance progress on risk transfer.

The first is a project with the World Bank in Madagascar to develop a comprehensive risk analysis as the foundation for the evaluation of potential interventions, including the establishment of more effective risk transfer mechanisms, for driving effective disaster risk reduction. A project team from Madagascar participated in the ProVention Forum in Dar es Salaam in February and was able to share an overview of the project with other ProVention partners

and also contributed to several of the Forum workshops, particularly to the climate change and governance workshops. The project is due to be completed in early 2008.

The second project will support a study and workshop to analyse experience gained and lessons learned in providing risk transfer solutions to poor, at-risk communities, which have been traditionally underserved by commercial insurance markets. This project will be led by AIDMI and IIASA. The intent is to conduct a study with 8 partners across 5 countries looking at existing micro-insurance schemes and their impacts on client households and small businesses in strengthening resiliency and reducing exposure to hazards. The study will also look at the challenges and solutions for starting micro-insurance schemes, continuing them and expanding them as well. Once the study is completed, AIDMI and IIASA will convene a workshop in India with a range of stakeholders to review the study results and draw in additional input from stakeholders representing policy-making and the regulatory environment and private sector engagement and partnership. The study and workshop results will also be used as the basis for a session on micro-insurance for disaster risk reduction at the Munich Re Micro-insurance Conference to be held in Mumbai, India in November 2007. ■

## RECENT PUBLICATIONS



### **Slow-onset disasters: drought and food and livelihoods insecurity – Learning from previous relief and recovery responses (ProVention Consortium / ALNAP)**

*By Kerren Hedlund*

To better prepare decision-makers in humanitarian organisations, national and local governments, and NGOs and community organisations, ProVention and ALNAP have developed a paper on lessons learned from previous relief and recovery activities in slow onset disaster and drought situations. The paper looks in particular at programmes addressing food and livelihood insecurity and is based on a review of more than 100 evaluations and other resource documents. This work builds on the earlier set of lessons learned papers on relief and recovery that ALNAP and ProVention developed after the South Asia Earthquake in Kashmir in October 2005.



### **Investigating urban risk accumulation in six countries in Africa (ProVention Consortium)**

*Compiled by Mark Pelling with contribution by David Satterthwaite*

This publication introduces the topic of urban risk in Africa and highlights six projects on urban risk accumulation under the umbrella of the African Urban Risk Analysis Network (AURAN) in Accra, Algiers, Cape Town, Dar es Salaam, Nairobi and Saint Louis (Senegal), an initiative supported by the United Nations Development Programme and the ProVention Consortium, in collaboration with the International Institute for Environmental Development and the University of Cape Town Disaster Mitigation for Sustainable Livelihoods Programme.



### **Applied Research Grants for Disaster Reduction II (University of Wisconsin Disaster Management Center)**

To explore innovative ways to address human vulnerability to hazards (natural and human-made), the ProVention Consortium invited a special disaster management audience—the world's youth. The Consortium launched a Program of Applied Grants for Disaster Risk Reduction in 2002 and a second Program in 2005. Projects from Latin America & the Caribbean and from Europe & Central Asia are presented in these Compendia. A third compendium presenting projects in Asia will soon be published by ADPC.



### **Strengthening the Social Analysis Component in Rapid Impact and Vulnerability Assessment (ProVention Consortium)**

As experience with recent disasters has shown, insufficient attention is paid to addressing social vulnerability and livelihoods needs and there is a general failure to include affected communities in recovery planning and programming, especially in its earliest phases. In general there is still need for a better understanding of how social groups are affected differently by disasters, what are the broader impacts and secondary impacts on social infrastructure and livelihoods systems, and what means might be most effective for reducing both immediate and future risks. This report documents a workshop ProVention organized together with the IFRC in Panama on 29-31 January, 2007 to share experience and ideas for strengthening the social analysis components in post-disaster rapid impact/vulnerability assessment.



### **ProVention Forum 2007 - Making Disaster Risk Reduction Work (ProVention Consortium)**

*By Mark Pelling, King's College London*

The 2007 ProVention Forum focused on the theme of 'Making Disaster Risk Reduction Work'. The Forum was held in Dar es Salaam and brought together more than 100 partners. The aim of this Forum report is to highlight the most innovative ideas, the greatest challenges and any emerging trends for disaster risk reduction that came out of the formal workshop discussions and more informal discussions between participants during the meeting.



### **Africa Forums on Local Perspectives on Disaster Risk Reduction (ProVention Consortium / ActionAid / ENDA Tiers-Monde / IFRC)**

To influence policy dialogue and advance the Africa risk reduction agenda with local perspectives, ProVention held three forums in Dakar, Johannesburg, and Nairobi, in November and December 2006. Organised in partnership with ENDA Tiers-Monde, the International Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies and ActionAid, the forums mainly gathered community-based organisations, international NGOs, local government, research and training institutions and the Red Cross / Red Crescent movement, that are working to effectively reduce the risks and impacts of disasters upon local communities on the African continent. Participants critically reflected on the scope of disaster risk reduction (DRR) in Africa. They discussed effective and replicable methods, approaches and practices for DRR, that can be developed and 'owned' by affected or at-risk communities.



### **Tools for Mainstreaming Disaster Risk Reduction: Guidance Notes for Development Organisations (ProVention Consortium)**

*By Charlotte Benson and John Twigg with Rossetto*

This document contains a series of 14 short, practical guidance notes focusing on where and how to take hazard-related concerns into account in each of the tools covered, so ensuring that disaster risk and related opportunities for reducing vulnerability are adequately and systematically considered in development initiatives in hazard-prone countries. The guidance notes cover the following topics: (1) Introduction; (2) Collecting and using information on natural hazards; (3) Poverty reduction strategies; (4) Country programming; (5) Project cycle management; (6) Logical and results-based frameworks; (7) Environmental assessment; (8) Economic analysis; (9) Vulnerability and capacity analysis; (10) Sustainable livelihoods approaches; (11) Social impact assessment; (12) Construction design, building standards and site selection; (13) Evaluating disaster risk reduction initiatives; and (14) Budget support.



### **ProVention annual report 2006 (ProVention Consortium)**

In 2006, increased international concern for disaster risk reduction triggered by events in 2004 and 2005 contributed to important changes in the global institutional set-up and resourcing of the disaster risk reduction system. ProVention continues to play an essential role in the global disaster risk reduction effort by linking key actors through multi-stakeholder networking. The Consortium also seeks to provide an informal forum for policy dialogue and agenda setting, catalysing innovative practice and combining knowledge advancement, gathering and sharing.



### **Natural Disaster Hotspots Case Studies (World Bank)**

*Edited by Margaret Arnold, Robert S. Chen, Uwe Deichmann, Maxx Dilley, Arthur L. Lerner-Lam*

These case studies complement the earlier work of *Natural Disaster Hotspots: A Global Risk Analysis* published in April 2005. Three case studies address specific hazards: landslides, storm surges and drought. An additional three case studies address regional multi-hazard situations in Sri Lanka, the Tana River basin in Kenya, and the city of Caracas, Venezuela.



### **Disaster Insurance for the Poor? A review of microinsurance for natural disaster risks in developing countries (IIASA / ProVention)**

*By Reinhard Mechler and Joanne Linnerooth-Bayer with David Peppiatt*

This study provides an in-depth review of microinsurance by analysing a range of case studies and examining the benefits and limitations of microinsurance. The results of the study show clear evidence of the value and potential of microinsurance in transferring risk and protecting low-income households and businesses against disaster losses.

ProVention publications are available for download at [www.proventionconsortium.org/publications](http://www.proventionconsortium.org/publications) and also as a collection of publications and resources on a new ProVention CD-Rom.

## PROVENTION PARTNER IN THE SPOTLIGHT



*ProVention News includes a profile of different partners of the Consortium. This edition focuses on ALNAP, the Active Learning Network for Accountability and Performance in humanitarian action.*

The Active Learning Network for Accountability and Performance in humanitarian action is now just about 10 years old. The idea for it came out of the multi-donor evaluation of the international community's response to the genocide in Rwanda in 1994, where it was pointed out that mechanisms to support the improvement of humanitarian practice did not exist. So ALNAP was set up as a collective response by the humanitarian sector, dedicated to improving humanitarian performance through increased learning and accountability.

From the beginning it had a focus on evaluations, which are seen as a key tool both for being accountable and for learning. Evaluations of humanitarian programmes at that time were uncommon, and ALNAP has encouraged them. It has also systematised the way they should be done and what they should include. Now there are many more evaluations carried out, and their quality has been improving, even if not dramatically. ALNAP maintains a library of evaluations, the Evaluative Reports Database, that is mostly open-access. The effort to improve the quality will continue, but the network is now also turning to the question of how evaluations are used and their findings taken up. The ability of organisations to learn from the evaluations they undertake should not be seen as separate from other processes they are taking to improve their performance.

ALNAP is also engaged in some of the more innovative and less standard forms of evaluation, such as 'real time' evaluations and joint evaluations; both of these types are being increasingly experimented within the humanitarian sector. In fact ALNAP hosted the secretariat of the Tsunami Evaluation Coalition over the last couple of years, as well as being a moving force in it. This was the first 'system-wide' joint evaluation since the one post-Rwanda.

The *Review of Humanitarian Action*, ALNAP's annual publication, regularly reflects back to the humanitarian community its performance, through a synthesis of evaluations that have been carried out over the recent past. At times this has concentrated on particular emergencies, such as Darfur in 2005; at other times it looks across the whole spectrum of response during the period. This enables the network to use the evidence that exists in evaluations to make informed comment on the performance of the humanitarian sector in the last period. ALNAP hopes to be more forward-looking and monitor trends in coming years. The Review of Humanitarian Action also has had chapters on various issues of importance, such as monitoring (2003) and capacity building (2004). The last edition had a lead chapter on the 'Utilisation of evaluation'. ALNAP has also taken a particular interest and published a book about the participation of crisis-affected people in humanitarian action and a Protection Guide.

ALNAP has always had a restricted membership to promote intimacy – there are currently 58 members – but they represent all the conventional stakeholders in humanitarian action: donors, UN, NGOs, Red Cross, academics and consultants. Within the membership all are treated equally and have an equal voice. This makes ALNAP a unique network and forum for collective thinking.

Members and some outsiders come together every 6 months at Biannual meetings, that have one day's focus on a particular theme and a second day on organisational and members' business.

ALNAP and ProVention have partnered on several recent projects, particularly to promote increased learning from past disaster response and recovery operations. After the South Asia Earthquake in Kashmir in 2005, ALNAP and ProVention published two lessons learned papers: one on lessons for relief and the other on lessons for recovery. In June 2007, ALNAP and ProVention are releasing a similar lessons learned paper which focuses on slow onset disasters, particularly drought, and food and livelihood insecurity.

For more information, please visit:

- ⇒ ALNAP: [www.alnap.org](http://www.alnap.org)
- ⇒ Evaluative Reports Database (ERD): [www.odi.org.uk/ALNAP/resources/erd/erd.htm](http://www.odi.org.uk/ALNAP/resources/erd/erd.htm)
- ⇒ Tsunami Evaluation Coalition: [www.tsunami-evaluation.org/](http://www.tsunami-evaluation.org/)