

# the Networker

December 2008 / January 2009 **Issue 83**

**SPECIAL REPORT**

## **FINANCIAL CRISIS**

**THE IMPACT  
ON NGOS AND  
DEVELOPMENT**



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- BOND Annual Conference and AGM
- Beyond aid: alternatives to alleviating poverty
- Highlights from the 2009 development calendar
- Right to health is fundamental to development

*Plus the latest funding, BOND groups and development news*



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# Welcome to <sup>the</sup> **Networker**

Recent months have seen the development of a global financial crisis on an unprecedented scale, of still unknown breadth, depth and duration. The consequences for international development are also unclear, but it is likely to challenge us in a number of areas, including a fall in voluntary income for UK NGOs and the possibility of declining public support for development issues. Most importantly, it is likely to have a corresponding impact on developing countries, ultimately exacerbating poverty and making life even harder for the poorest.

Whilst challenging on many levels, the crisis also provides us with a unique opportunity to shape a new, fairer global economic system that focuses primarily on people and our planet. BOND is working closely with the global economic justice networks including the Bretton Woods Project and Jubilee Debt Campaign to organise a collective UK civil society response to the crisis and a strategy going forward. In November, at a meeting with DFID Minister of State, Gareth Thomas, the strong messages from myself and several BOND members and networks were well received. Although some differences remain, the UK Government takes our concerns seriously and seems to be adopting strong positions in both Europe and in preparation for the Doha meeting.

An article by Nick Dearden, page 9, looks at the challenges and opportunities of the crisis in more detail, while on page 8 BOND members outline how it might affect their work and the measures they are taking to address this.

Our Annual Conference and AGM on 4 November 2008 provided BOND members with a strong platform from which to discuss and debate future challenges for international development. On the day, I outlined two areas that I think must occupy us in the coming year – those of giving service to the BOND membership, and of providing leadership within and to the sector. An overview of the day is on pages 6–7.

I hope you enjoy reading the range of articles in this issue. If you would like to comment on anything please contact the Membership and Communications team ([membership@bond.org.uk](mailto:membership@bond.org.uk)).

With my best wishes



**Nick Roseveare**  
Chief Executive



## About BOND

BOND is the UK membership body for non-governmental organisations working in the international development sector. We promote the exchange of experience, ideas and information and, as the UK's broadest network of international development organisations, provide our members with opportunities to influence change through collective action.

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Reg number: 3395681 (England and Wales)

## About *The Networker*

*The Networker* is a bi-monthly publication that is sent to all BOND members and subscribers. It offers topical and forward-thinking features and news relevant to the sector, with the aim of inspiring thought, debate and reflection. It is complemented by a monthly e-bulletin, *Your Network*.

## Contributing to *The Networker*

If you have an idea that you think would be of interest to readers, or if you would like to comment on this issue of *The Networker*, please contact Jemma Ashman, Communications and Marketing Officer: [jashman@bond.org.uk](mailto:jashman@bond.org.uk).

**Cover Image:** Owen Price/iStock Images

## Publishing and copyright

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# Member Spotlight: Mercy Mankind International

Mercy Mankind International was established in 2006 to help disadvantaged people around the world who would not otherwise receive help. We focus on providing free education and health care, whilst also promoting awareness of issues which directly affect these people.

We regularly carry out humanitarian projects and at the moment we are working in Pakistan and Bangladesh helping a variety of poor people, from hill tribes to Burmese refugees.



©Mercy Mankind Intl/Choudhury, Luthife Elahi

Mercy Mankind hope to eradicate child labour

Our current work includes:

- The WildFlower Campaign, which is tackling the trafficking of women and children
- Installing tube wells for clean, safe drinking water in arsenic free areas
- A free school for Burmese refugee children, and where poor children live in remote areas we provide a mobile school which travels to them
- Building toilets for poor families to improve hygiene and reduce the risk of diarrhoeal diseases
- Free eye operations to enable people to enjoy a better quality of life
- Sewing classes to help poor women learn a skill and earn a risk-free living

We run a wide range of programmes from our community centres, which includes working with orphans and vulnerable children, palliative home-based caregivers and the elderly.

We hope to expand our work to reach more people and provide more ways to help the poor. Already in the pipeline are arsenic filters for drinking water, computer training and much more!

For more information contact Sahar Choudhury, Chairman, Mercy Mankind:  
Email: [sahar@mercymankind.org](mailto:sahar@mercymankind.org)  
[www.mercymankind.org](http://www.mercymankind.org)



## Network Spotlight: Jubilee Debt Campaign

Jubilee Debt Campaign is a coalition of local and regional groups and national organisations and our focus is on changing UK government policy on debt. Our work at the moment focuses on the current financial crisis.

With the sub-prime mortgage collapse and unprecedented bank bail-outs, few people would regard debt as the sole responsibility of the debtor, but the international lending system has still not accepted its own role in the developing world debt crisis. Jubilee Debt Campaign is launching a major campaign looking at the illegitimacy of some debts in coming years – to ask why the governments of South Africa, Indonesia, Haiti and Congo are still paying back the debts of Apartheid governments, Suharto, Papa Doc and Mobutu respectively.

More generally, the debt movement needs to play a role in reshaping the disfunctioning global financial architecture that has failed to learn the lessons of the debt crisis. A massive overhaul of the financial institutions that govern the world is necessary and – for the first time in a many years – possible.

Next year, the G20 will be held in the UK and many are now speaking of a 'Bretton Woods 2' conference to redraw the global financial institutions. We will campaign to ensure these summits represent steps towards a fairer, more just and more sustainable world.

For further information:  
Email: [info@jubileedebtcampaign.org.uk](mailto:info@jubileedebtcampaign.org.uk)  
[www.jubileedebtcampaign.org.uk](http://www.jubileedebtcampaign.org.uk)



## Next membership round deadline

The next deadline for applications is **Friday 23 January 2009**. If you know of an organisation that is not a member of BOND but should be please let us know or direct them to the website.

Email: [membership@bond.org.uk](mailto:membership@bond.org.uk)  
[www.bond.org.uk/pages/membership.html](http://www.bond.org.uk/pages/membership.html)

## Staff news

We are very pleased to welcome two new members of staff:

**Georgina Newsam** is the new Advocacy Administrator, replacing Irene Lindenhovius Zubizarreta who left BOND to go travelling.

**Simona Daugnoraitė** joined as PA to our Chief Executive, Nick Roseveare.

Thank you and good luck to **Jarina Choudhury**, who left BOND in November after nearly three years, and to **Kirsten Petersen** who left in October.

Our new website provides BOND members with timely, relevant and up-to-date news, features and information. We hope that it will transform the way we work and communicate as a network and will be seen as a significant member benefit.

# NEW BOND website goes live



The website is logical, intuitive and easy to navigate so you should find what you are looking for quickly and easily.

Each section demonstrates the importance of the different areas of our work, from campaigning to engaging with Europe, from providing learning and training opportunities to advertising key sector jobs. There is also a central resources section which we will be developing.

We want it to be lively and engaging and so we have included lots of photos and images to enhance the information and bring it to life.

This is the first phase of the transformation. In the coming months we will further enhance the benefits you get for being a member of BOND by introducing other features including a members-only section that will give you access to a wide range of information including publications, documents and reports not available to the general public.

In the meantime, why not try it out by looking at the most popular pages:

- Homepage – [www.bond.org.uk](http://www.bond.org.uk)
- Learning and training – [www.bond.org.uk/learning-and-training.php](http://www.bond.org.uk/learning-and-training.php)
- Jobs – [www.bond.org.uk/pages/ads.html](http://www.bond.org.uk/pages/ads.html)
- Campaigning – [www.bond.org.uk/pages/campaigning.html](http://www.bond.org.uk/pages/campaigning.html)

We want the website to reflect the dynamism of the sector and the BOND network. If your organisation has photos of your work we would love to use them on the website. Please contact the Membership and Communications team if you are able to contribute:

Tel: 020 7520 0256 Email: [membership@bond.org.uk](mailto:membership@bond.org.uk)

The **BOND** Annual Conference and AGM, held on 4 November 2008, was our most successful yet with 213 delegates attending. The wide range of member organisations represented ensured that there was plenty of lively networking and debate on the key challenges facing the international development sector.

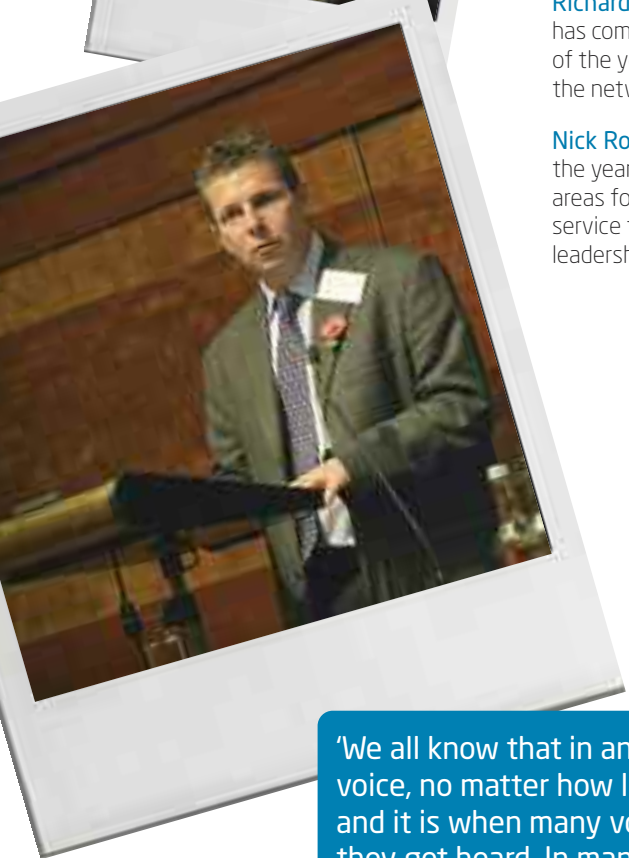
# Working Together in Challenging Times



**Minouche Shafik** (DFID Permanent Secretary) gave a challenging keynote speech that focussed on the future role of the UK development community here, in Europe and globally. She shared her vision of a dynamic relationship between DFID and UK NGOs and gave her thoughts on where we can make the most difference, together.

**Richard Hawkes**, whose term as BOND Chair has come to an end, presented an overview of the year celebrating the achievements of the network.

**Nick Roseveare**, Chief Executive, looked to the year ahead, focussing on two priority areas for BOND – that of providing appropriate service to the membership and providing clear leadership for the sector.



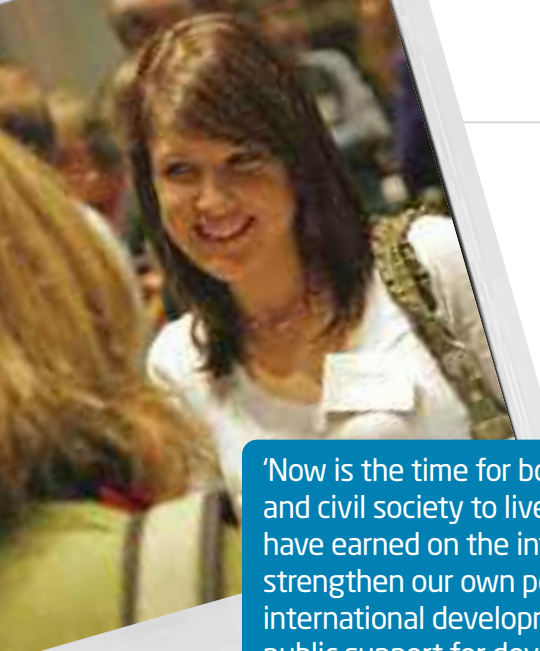
Delegates attended one of the four afternoon sessions:

- Rights-based development: the future
- Shared leadership 2010 and beyond: the key collaborative challenges for the international development sector
- Advocacy and campaigning for policy change: harnessing our collective power for greater future influence and impact
- Living up to the values we advocate: the role of human resources in organisational effectiveness

The sessions were supported by experts from the international development sector, whose knowledge and contribution added much to the stimulating discussions.

**'We all know that in an interconnected world one voice, no matter how large, can only carry so far and it is when many voices join together that they get heard. In many ways BOND is the embodiment of that spirit'**

Minouche Shafik, Permanent Secretary, DFID



*'I found the inputs throughout the day inspiring and motivational'*

'Now is the time for both the British Government and civil society to live up to the reputation they have earned on the international stage, to strengthen our own policies, to strengthen international development policy and to increase public support for development'

Minouche Shafik, Permanent Secretary, DFID



Throughout the day, members actively and enthusiastically engaged with each other, the BOND Board and staff providing a rich mix of ideas, opinions and knowledge. The participation and contribution from those who attended ensured that the day was a great success.

*'I had good conversations with colleagues in the sector, made new contacts and shared opinions with BOND staff. I also found the afternoon session valuable for improving my understanding of rights-based approaches'*



*'It was a valuable opportunity to see and hear more about how BOND operates and where it is going in the future'*

**Eight members were elected to the Board**

**Small member category**

Tariq Khokhar, Aptivate  
Nicola Macbean, The Rights Practice  
Michael Hammer, One World Trust

**Medium member category**

Matthew Snell, International Service

**Large member category**

Anna Feuchtwang, EveryChild (re-elected for a second term)

Paul Valentin, Christian Aid  
Willem van Eekelen, Islamic Relief  
Dominic White, WWF

Richard Hawkes, Margaret Gardner, George Gelber, Tracey Mitchell and Margaret O'Grady all stood down from the Board.

**'It was good for finding out what other BOND members see as their priorities'**



©All photos: Benedict Parsons/BOND

For more information about the Annual Conference and AGM 2008:  
[www.bond.org.uk/news.php](http://www.bond.org.uk/news.php)

With the global economy in crisis, NGOs are starting to take stock of what it might mean for their work. BOND members share their thoughts.

# Feeling the pinch

**'I am hearing mixed messages as to what the impact will be. I think the bottom line is that the age-old strategies will become the important ones - diligence in managing funds, diversification, clear financial management systems - in order for organisations to maintain a secure funding base.'**

Rachel Haynes, Skillshare, and co-chair of the BOND Funding Working Group

'The current financial turmoil is likely to affect individual giving more than anything else in the short-term. Government funding is committed and the income that trusts have to spend is known so they should be able to spend according to plan for the next 12 months. However, there are indicators in the real economy that show that, with unemployment up, increased redundancies and retail spending down, individuals' disposable income is less likely to come to charities.'

Alec Leggat, Salvation Army International, and co-chair of the BOND Funding Working Group

'One of the greatest challenges for us will be dealing with our supporters' perception of the current situation and what is to come. Charities like ours, whose cause is a more abstract concept for donors, may struggle more in this climate. We will be reminding donors that however bad things get for us here, without their continued support they will be getting even worse for the people in Africa, Asia and Latin America, and that now we need their help more than ever.'

Verity Owers, One World Action

**'We are seeing a slowdown in the receipt of legacy income and some signs that the recruitment of donors, especially regular givers, is becoming harder. We are preparing ourselves for the opportunity that a recession might present. We need motivated staff and their work still needs investment. Cutting and slashing would be a crude and short sighted response and would be handing fellow charities an opportunity to take our supporters.'**

John Trampleasure, The Brooke

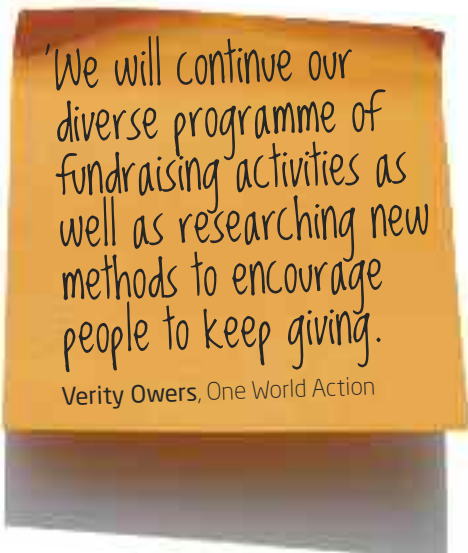
'Our best chance of riding the storm is to use what we're good at and adapt it for the current climate. We will try to tap into the markets that are benefiting from the credit crisis using the skills and capacity that we already have. We recognise that givers are not going to sign blank cheques but if we can encourage new and existing givers to donate a small amount on a regular basis then we can build a relationship and inspire loyalty. Going 'back to basics' gives us the opportunity to ensure that everything is in place.'

Rachel Kennedy, International Childcare Trust



'At the moment, there is no clear picture of how the current economic downturn will impact the sector. Some of the bigger NGOs might see a flattening, rather than decreasing, in their income because they generally have diverse sources of income. NGOs that rely on trust funding, typically smaller organisations, will find it much more difficult as they usually have fewer options. There is no one recipe for survival and we don't know how far this crisis is going but we'll need to think about different scenarios and keep watching the situation carefully.'

Alex Jacobs, MANGO



Has your organisation undertaken research into how international development funding is likely to be affected?

Are you planning to look in more depth at the impact on funding flows?

If you have information that you would like to share, the BOND Voluntary Income Group would like to hear from you. Please contact Joni Hillman, Donor Advocacy Officer:

Email: [jhillman@bond.org.uk](mailto:jhillman@bond.org.uk)

The financial crisis has shown that the current international economic system does not work. It does, however, present us with a possibility for radical change. Nick Dearden explores the opportunities and challenges.



# Bretton Woods II: Calling Time on Global Greed

Like many political leaders Gordon Brown has recently been converted to the merits of financial regulation and government intervention in the economy. He has called for a conference, like the Bretton Woods summit which created the World Bank and IMF 60 years ago, to reform the international economic system, and has poured vast quantities of public money into bail-outs of the banking system.

Brown joins a wide range of statesmen who, despite their role in maintaining 'hands off' global finance, have come to see the error of their ways.

## Real reform is needed

The rhetoric is good, but content remains far from impressive. In fact action in recent weeks has largely been about resuscitating and bolstering the IMF and concluding the Doha round of trade talks. The fear is that what Brown and others mean by 'reform' is simply acknowledging the new global balance of power by allowing a handful of new countries like China and India 'into the club'.

In particular a resuscitated IMF could take us back to the lost decades of development in the 1980s and 1990s. The IMF has suffered dry years as emerging lenders sprung up in the developing world and potential recipients shun the Fund, justly frightened and indignant by the economic policies that will be foisted on them as a result of borrowing.

Now, falling demand in many developing countries, combined with spiralling debts from the Fund and elsewhere, could well lead to a debt crisis as serious as the one Jubilee Debt Campaign was established to end.

Meanwhile, world leaders have swept more radical proposals, including tax reform, debt tribunals and legally-binding creditor responsibility, speculation tax, and a 'new green deal' recovery package, under the carpet.

'This crisis allows an opportunity not afforded in 30 years – to get to the root causes of poverty through structural reform of the institutions that have created and sustained it'

## Crisis offers opportunities

It is important for NGOs to understand the opportunities and threats presented in the current situation. There has never been a better time to urge fundamental reform of the 'Washington Consensus' ideology which lies behind the international financial institutions and which has landed us in the current mess.

But this requires an enormous, co-ordinated campaigning effort as hasn't been seen since 2005 and the suspension of 'business as usual'. It means reaching out to trade unions and to people who have lost out through the financial crash here – to make connections between their problems and the problems of those in the developing world, and to make the case for radical reform for the benefit of all of us.

## Co-operation is essential for success

Over 2,500 individuals and organisations from around the world have signed an international statement calling for fundamental reform of the Bretton Woods Institutions (notably the IMF and World Bank). As financial reform continues we must redouble our efforts, insisting most importantly on two things.

First, it is essential to include those who have suffered most and had least say in the economic system up to now – poorer developing countries and representatives of citizens' groups, social

movements and trade unions. The G20 cannot be allowed to create the new system on its own.

Second, we must be clear that reform needs to be fundamental. We cannot resuscitate a system which has proven so detrimental to ordinary people. We need a recovery package of public spending, especially in low-carbon industries, radical cancellation of debt, new trade rules, a fairer tax system.

Whether any of this comes to pass is essentially up to us.

Nick Dearden is Director of the Jubilee Debt Campaign.

BOND is working closely with the global economic justice networks including the Bretton Woods Project and Jubilee Debt Campaign to organise a collective UK civil society response to the crisis a strategy going forward. Work so far includes:

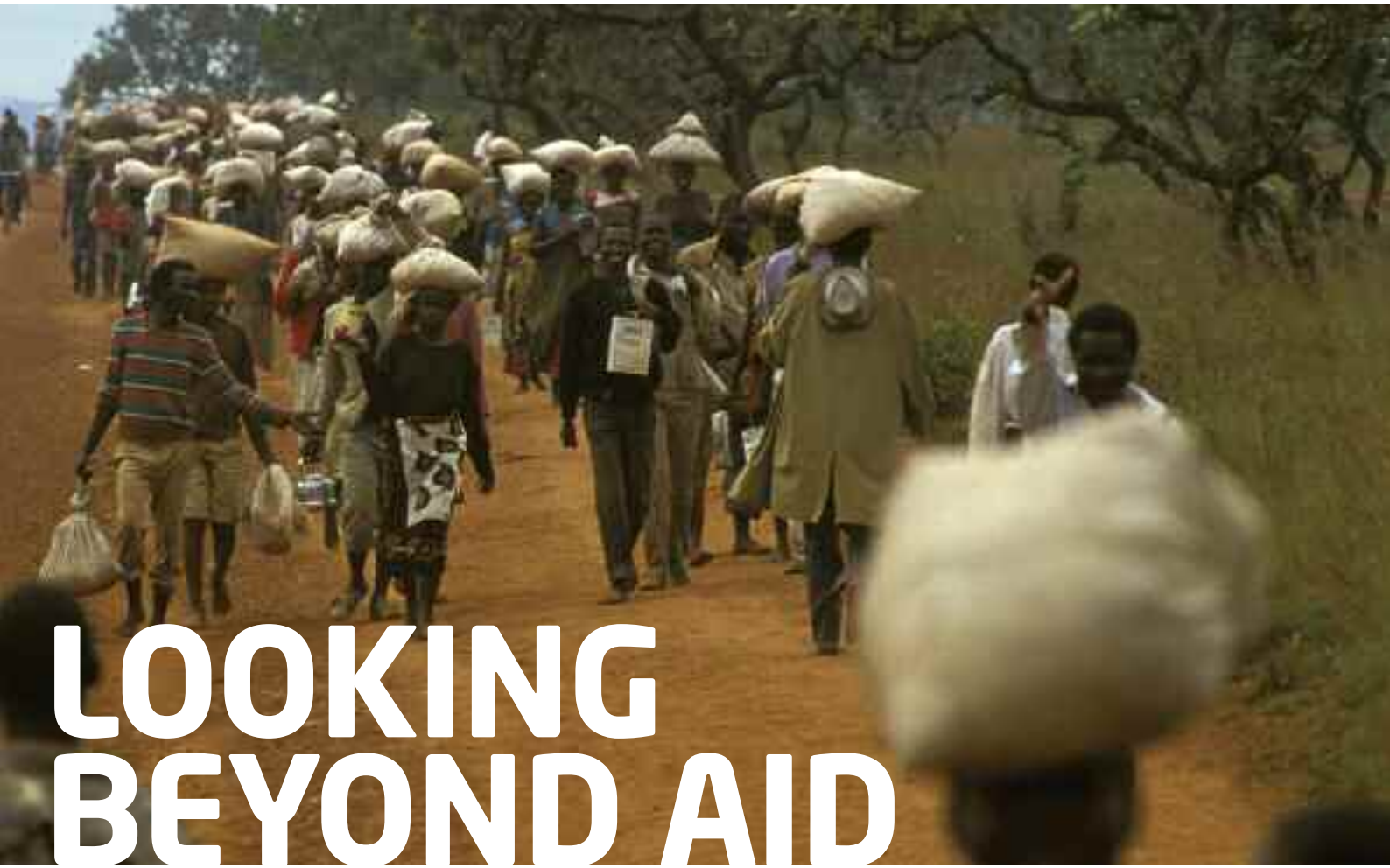
- An open letter to Gordon Brown in the UK national newspapers
- Meetings with the Government, DFID and NGO representatives
- Joint statements with other networks, organisations and institutions

For more information about how BOND is involved contact Elvira Groll, Network Policy Officer or visit the website:

Email: [egroll@bond.org.uk](mailto:egroll@bond.org.uk)  
[www.bond.org.uk/pages/financial-crisis.html](http://www.bond.org.uk/pages/financial-crisis.html)

## Useful links

[www.jubileedebtcampaign.org.uk](http://www.jubileedebtcampaign.org.uk)  
[www.brettonwoodsproject.org](http://www.brettonwoodsproject.org) – for more analysis and information on process  
[www.choike.org/bw2](http://www.choike.org/bw2) – the international statement signed by over 2,500 organisations



# LOOKING BEYOND AID

**The development sector needs to embrace a wider vision of poverty alleviation, says Daleep Mukarji.**

Following recent conferences around more and better aid (in Accra and New York) there is hope that rich nations will provide more funds for poverty eradication. Even so, the promises made at the 2005 G8 summit are unlikely to be fulfilled.

Campaigning around aid volumes needed to meet the Millennium Development Goals has inadvertently focussed the development debate on the issue of more money for poor countries.

Yet while aid is important, we must recognise aid alone will not deliver poverty eradication. And it may create dependency and avoid addressing the real structural and root causes of poverty and exclusion at local and international levels.

The development community – government departments, international donors and NGOs – must look beyond aid to other aspects of poverty eradication and social justice.

Our approach to development needs to be more integrated. Economic growth, social justice and equity, sustainable development

and the implications of climate change, and finally more democratic space for people's participation and ownership in their development are all important to development, now and in the future.

Development discussion today must provide an alternative vision – where hope, change and a new sense of worldwide cooperation can achieve results.

We need to build a global movement for poverty eradication. One that inspires and involves ordinary people to do something about the injustice, exclusion and poverty we see. One that holds governments and institutions accountable, while challenging them to show political will to tackle the causes of poverty and ensure all people have their basic needs satisfied.

What then are the choices for financing development beyond aid? What else must development agencies do today? I see four challenges (*see opposite*) which development agencies need to embrace if we are going to contribute to building a better world.

British international NGOs have a leading role in the UK and Europe and on the world scene. We need now to look beyond aid.

While we spend time on the quality, volume and impact of aid – all very important – we need to recognise we are not only about aid/grant management and the transfer of some funds. We are about development – a more just, inclusive and sustainable world community must be our vision. We are about empowering people and countries, throughout the world, to believe that a better world is possible.

We can all be agents of change. This means working together for the protection of the planet and the progress of all people.

Daleep Mukarji is Director of Christian Aid  
[www.christian-aid.org.uk](http://www.christian-aid.org.uk)

If you have an opinion on the issues raised in this article, please email Jemma Ashman, Communications and Marketing Officer, with your comments:  
[jashman@bond.org.uk](mailto:jashman@bond.org.uk)

## 1. TRADE JUSTICE

Trade Justice was one of the three basic demands in the 2005 Make Poverty History campaign. We called for a fairer trading system, where people and governments had policy choices for their future. We did not want forced trade liberalisation and we saw trade contributing to economic growth and poverty eradication.

The failure of the World Trade Organisation's Doha 'development round' talks has meant that developing countries have lost out in real ways where a more just trading system could contribute to their progress. Trade policy options can still provide opportunities for countries to raise or lower tariffs and taxes to encourage growth and income for developing countries. These choices must be made by the governments themselves.

## 2. TAX SYSTEMS

Developing countries need to be able to raise resources so that they can finance their own development. They need tax systems that enable them to raise money from their citizens and the companies that work in their country.

Tax is the most reliable means by which poor countries can finance their development, exit from aid dependency and build accountability and transparency in governance. Most of the rich countries have financed their own development with taxes so we should assume that, in the long term, developing countries can be supported in taking this step.

International agencies could help build greater capacity in developing countries' revenue authorities, while at the same time assisting civil society in those countries to monitor and hold accountable those revenue authorities and governments for the taxes raised and how they are spent.

## 3. ADDRESSING CONFLICT

Working on long-term peace, security, conflict resolution and building more inclusive societies could mean that violence, displacement, civil strife and denial of human rights are tackled.

Agencies cannot just be firefighters or respond to a variety of emergencies, many of them man-made. We need to spend time on prevention – and this means tackling the root causes – of conflict, oppression and displacement.

Regional solutions and cooperation, backed by international authority and resources, could help. Better disaster risk reduction investment would save funds spent on the actual emergencies. Yet these are serious problems with complex dimensions. The world must find ways to ensure there is peace and harmony where possible.

## 4. REFORMING GLOBAL INSTITUTIONS

Review of global governance and reform of major institutions are also needed. The global financial crisis has brought up the need for transparency, accountability and international cooperation on a regulatory framework. National regulatory systems alone will not work. We live in an interdependent and interconnected world.

The economic downturn is affecting poor people and developing countries in a variety of ways. Any solutions to the global financial crisis must take into consideration how global governance can truly support poverty eradication and social justice. Proposed meetings of world leaders to consider new forms of global financial governance must review the role, function and experience of existing institutions: the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund (known as the Bretton Wood Institutions), the UN and its agencies, and the World Trade Organisation.

Is reform likely? Our government has often given priority to the reform of the World Bank, the IMF and the UN – this crisis may be an opportunity.

Development agencies must demand more accountable, transparent and democratic systems. The Bretton Woods institutions are out of date and need serious reform. It is a scandal that the Benelux countries (Belgium, Netherlands and Luxembourg) have together more votes in the IMF than China, India and Brazil. It may also be necessary to widen the G8 nations gathering to include India, Brazil, South Africa, China and Nigeria.



We are about development – a more just, inclusive and sustainable world community must be our vision.

Malaria kills millions of people every year and holds back development in affected countries. NGOs need to campaign for recognition that the right to health is fundamental to development, says the **Malaria Consortium**.



*A mother and child benefit from a mosquito net*

©William Daniels

# MALARIA

## the epidemic of the poor

'Malaria is an extremely serious human rights issue on an enormous scale,' said former UN Special Rapporteur on the Right to Health, Professor Paul Hunt, at Malaria Consortium's 2007 lecture.

Malaria affects 40% of the world's population – putting 3.2 billion people at risk in 107 countries. Each year, there are an estimated 250 million cases, resulting in over 1 million deaths, the vast majority among children under five and pregnant women. 90% of malaria deaths are in sub-Saharan Africa, where a child dies from the disease every 30 seconds.

All this despite malaria being completely preventable and treatable.

### 'The epidemic of the poor'

Malaria is often referred to as 'the epidemic of the poor'. It is intimately linked with poverty – as both a root cause and a consequence.

The impact of malaria takes its toll on the poorest – those least able to afford preventative measures and medical treatment. People living on low incomes and in rural areas, who lack information, money or access to health care, are the most vulnerable.

As well as causing suffering and death, malaria has significant economic impacts, for both households and national economics.

Families have to pay from their own pockets for things such as nets, doctors' fees, drugs and transport to health facilities, putting an often unbearable strain on household resources.

Meanwhile, for malaria-endemic countries, the disease slows economic growth and perpetuates the vicious cycle of poverty and ill health. Countries with higher malaria transmission rates have historically had lower

economic growth than countries without malaria. The disease costs Africa some \$US 12 billion in lost Gross Domestic Product every year. It is estimated to have slowed economic growth in Africa by 1.3% per year, as a result of lost life and lower productivity.

**Simple interventions work**

A package of relatively simple but proven interventions can greatly reduce suffering among the most vulnerable: young children, pregnant women and unborn babies.

For children under five, regular use of nets can cut malaria incidence by half. When combined with early diagnosis and treatment, the drop is even greater. The majority of deaths from malaria in children are caused by delayed diagnosis and treatment – people simply cannot get their children to health facilities in time. Death can come in a matter of hours or days so minimising delays is vital. Information and education – on how to make proper and consistent use of nets, how to recognise the illness in a child and what measures to take – are also key for prevention efforts.

Pregnancy reduces a woman’s immunity to malaria, making her more vulnerable to the disease, with devastating consequences for both the woman and her unborn child. In sub-Saharan Africa, malaria infection is estimated to cause 400,000 cases of severe maternal anaemia, which contributes significantly to maternal mortality – causing an estimated 10,000 deaths per year. It is estimated that fewer than five per cent of pregnant women have access to effective malaria interventions.

The unborn children of women with malaria are also affected and at greater risk of spontaneous abortion, stillbirth, premature delivery and low birth weight. Some 200,000 newborn deaths a year are estimated to be due to malaria in pregnancy.

Empowering women by giving them a greater voice in household and community decisions is essential for reducing their vulnerability to malaria.

Efforts to prevent malaria in pregnant women focus on getting them to sleep under long-lasting insecticide treated nets and have intermittent preventive treatment during their pregnancy. Antenatal clinics offer the best setting for women to be made aware of the problem and take preventative steps – these clinics should distribute malaria interventions alongside other maternal health services.

Women are more vulnerable to malaria not only physically, but also because of socio-cultural and gender-based factors. Low social status, lack of access to formal education, poor nutrition and less access to financial resources are some of the key factors that increase women’s vulnerability to malaria. Empowering women by giving them a greater voice in household and community decisions is therefore essential for reducing their vulnerability to malaria and ensuring they and their children enjoy the right to health.

**The right to health**

It is imperative that the NGO community re-emphasises the importance of health as a human right. This year, when we are celebrating the 60th anniversary of the Declaration of Human Rights, is an excellent opportunity to highlight once again that malaria is still a big problem, and needs to be controlled for all people to realise and enjoy their right to health.

If the right to health is not recognised as fundamental to international development, then diseases like malaria will continue to exact a heavy burden on the poorest in the world, claiming millions of lives and inflicting suffering on those most powerless to fight back.



For more information about the Malaria Consortium: [www.malariaconsortium.org](http://www.malariaconsortium.org)

Malaria Consortium is holding a lecture on malaria and human rights on 10 December.

For more information:  
Email: [s.pickwick@malariaconsortium.org](mailto:s.pickwick@malariaconsortium.org)  
Tel: 020 7549 0217

It is widely acknowledged that controlling malaria is an integral part of a comprehensive development framework with a key role in poverty reduction. It therefore has a major effect on the ability to achieve the MDGs, and must be addressed if we are to improve upon progress towards meeting these goals.



Patients wait in the children’s ward

©William Daniels

It is imperative that the NGO community re-emphasises the importance of health as a human right.

# Development Calendar 2009

## JANUARY

**1 January**  
Czech Republic assumes EU Presidency

**1 January**  
Italy assumes G8 presidency

**27 January-1 February**  
World Social Forum  
Belem, Brazil

**28 January-1 February**  
World Economic Forum Annual Meeting  
Davos, Switzerland



## MARCH

World Water Day

**2 March**  
International Development  
Campaigning Forum

BOND organises bi-yearly, free, campaigning forums for professional campaigners and key activists to network, strategise and plan future campaigns.

Responding to the changing economic and political environment, the Campaigning Forum will be a time to build a coherent and effective collective response to the global economic crisis and to plan together for the UK General Election.

To book your place, contact Tim Gee,  
Campaigns Communications Officer:  
Email: [campaigns@bond.org.uk](mailto:campaigns@bond.org.uk)

**8 March**  
International Women's Day

## APRIL

G8 Development Ministers Meeting

OECD DAC to publish provisional  
ODA figures for 2008  
Paris, France

**2 April**  
G20 Heads of State  
and Government Summit  
UK

**25-26 April**  
Spring Meeting of World Bank and IMF  
Washington DC, USA



## JULY

**1 July**  
Sweden is taking over the EU Presidency

**8-10 July**  
G8 Summit  
La Maddalena, Italy

Italian civil society has already started to mobilise in preparation for the G8 Summit which will be focusing on the financial crisis and its impact on the global economy. Some key issues for international civil society will be financing for development, climate change, food crisis and economic and basic rights.

BOND will convene a UK G8 Working Group to prepare for the summit and engage with UK decision-makers.

If you want to get involved please email:  
[advocacy@bond.org.uk](mailto:advocacy@bond.org.uk)

## SEPTEMBER

Informal EU Development  
Ministers Meeting



## OCTOBER

**5-6 Oct**  
World Bank/IMF Annual Meetings  
Istanbul, Turkey

**16 Oct**  
World Food Day

**17 Oct**  
World Day for the Eradication of Poverty  
Washington DC, USA



- UN Year of Reconciliation
- UN Year of Human Rights Learning

## Key dates

### MAY

Launch of 2009 Aidwatch Report  
Europe

Meeting of the EU General Affairs and  
External Relations Council (GAERC)  
Brussels, Belgium

**1 May**  
International Workers' Day / May Day

**25-26 AMay**  
World Business Summit on Climate Change  
Copenhagen, Denmark



### JUNE

**4 June**  
European Parliament elections

The European Parliament has a crucial role to play in forming European Union (EU) policies that work for the world's poor. Together with the European Council, the Parliament decides on budgets and scrutinises aid programmes including Country Strategy Papers. On trade, the European Parliament has to ratify all European agreements and has the power to raise issues with the European Commission.

In June 2009, half a billion EU residents in all 27 member states will elect 736 Members of the European Parliament (MEPs) in the biggest trans-national election in history. From the UK, 72 MEPs will be elected.

To find out more about the European Parliament elections in the UK and the activities of the UK development sector, please contact the BOND Advocacy and Representation team, please email: [advocacy@bond.org.uk](mailto:advocacy@bond.org.uk)



### NOVEMBER

BOND Annual Conference and AGM

Meeting of the EU General Affairs and  
External Relations Council (GAERC)  
Brussels, Belgium

New EU Commission appointed  
Brussels, Belgium

G20 Finance Ministers Meeting  
UK

**7 Nov-9 Nov**  
European Development Days  
Sweden



**30 Nov-11 Dec**  
UN Framework Convention on  
Climate Change Meeting  
Copenhagen, Denmark

It is hoped that 2009 will see a new agreement on climate change to follow the current phase of Kyoto Protocol targets which end in 2012. The parties of the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and those of the Kyoto Protocol (CMP) will convene in Copenhagen following intensive negotiations throughout 2008 and 2009.

The BOND Development and Environment Group has been actively engaged on climate change issues and members have been lobbying hard for strong commitments. A sub-group on International Climate Negotiations has been established.

If you want to join them in their work for a strong global deal and a progressive agenda addressing climate change, please email: [advocacy@bond.org.uk](mailto:advocacy@bond.org.uk)

### DECEMBER

**1 Dec**  
World Aids Day  
[www.worldaidsday.org](http://www.worldaidsday.org)



From 1 September - 20 October 2008, UK campaigners joined people across the world to participate in 50 Global Days of Action Against Poverty and Inequality. **Tim Gee** gives an overview of the highlights.

# 50 Global Days of Action

## 1 SEPTEMBER

The 50 Global Days of Action was launched at the Civil Society Forum on Aid Effectiveness in Accra (partner meeting to the High Level Forum on Aid Effectiveness the following day). At the High Level Forum, civil society influencing ensured that donors committed to transfer more ownership to the countries that receive aid and to improve the predictability of aid flows.



## 23 SEPTEMBER

In Brussels, activists from the UK Trade Justice Movement joined up with their counterparts from Belgium, Austria and France to hand over a petition to the European Commission against the EU's proposed unfair trade deals - Economic Partnership Agreements.



## 23 SEPTEMBER

Campaigners took the opportunity to lobby International Development Secretary Douglas Alexander, shortly before his departure to the UN High Level Event on the Millennium Development Goals in New York.



## 25 SEPTEMBER

At the UN High Level Event on the Millennium Development Goals in New York, the Global Call to Action Against Poverty brought together anti-poverty campaigners from across the world for a civil society conference and launched a major interactive project called In My Name.

An estimated \$16 billion was announced at the High Level Event, including \$1.6 billion to bolster food security, \$4.5 billion for education and \$3 billion to combat malaria. However many of these commitments were reallocations of money rather than increases in aid budgets.



For more information about our campaigning work please contact Tim Gee, Campaigns Communications Officer:  
Email: [tgee@bond.org.uk](mailto:tgee@bond.org.uk)  
[www.bond.org.uk/pages/campaigning.html](http://www.bond.org.uk/pages/campaigning.html)

# on Against Poverty

## 4 OCTOBER

As domestic poverty hearings took place across the world, GCAP joined in solidarity with UK domestic poverty campaigners at the 'End Child Poverty' march and rally.



## 7 OCTOBER

On World Day for Decent Work, over 350 events took place in over 100 countries. In the UK, the TUC held a day of seminars and workshops in Congress House, attended by 100 trade unionists, campaigners and students.

## 11 OCTOBER

Grassroots campaigners gathered in Central London for a forum to discuss the challenges and opportunities of the current economic situation.

There was widespread agreement that NGOs and activists should work together better, and that all must call for a radically restructured financial system that places people and the planet at its core.



## 15 OCTOBER

People from all over the UK massed in London to demand an escalation of the fight against climate change. In a victory for campaigners, the UK government announced that it would increase its CO2 emissions reduction target to 80%, rather than 60% by 2050.



## 15 OCTOBER

700 UK bloggers joined 12,800 worldwide to blog about poverty on Blog Action Day. UK participants included TUC General Secretary Brendan Barber, War on Want Executive Director John Hilary and Jubilee Debt Campaign Director Nick Dearden, as well as politicians including David Miliband and Caroline Lucas.

## 17-19 OCTOBER

Over 116 million people from every continent took part in 'Stand Up and Take Action Against Poverty'. Their demand that leaders act on trade justice, debt cancellation, more and better aid and climate legislation was loud and clear.

Over 50,000 people in the UK took part in more than 300 solidarity events, organised by grassroots groups, churches, schools, universities and development NGOs. At Amnesty International's Human Rights Action centre, a new film 'The End of Poverty?' was premiered.

BOND co-ordinated and supported the contribution of UK civil society to the Global Call to Action Against Poverty's 50 Global Days of Action Against Poverty and Inequality.

For many years, the peasants of Mozambique have been doing what donors asked of them in return for aid, and yet many still live in poverty. With rising prices and increasing demand for food, do they now have the opportunity to grow themselves out of poverty? **Joseph Hanlon** examines the case.

# An unlikely blessing in disguise

Mozambique's peasants are asking if, with rising food prices, they will finally be helped to grow more food. For 15 years, they have been subjected to a bizarre ideological experiment to test a World Bank and donor theory - that if poor peasants are forced to bear all the risk of weather, pests and erratic markets and are given no help with credit or improved technology, then they will produce more food. The failure of the experiment is obvious - Mozambican peasants have proved too poor to be able to absorb all the risks and so become conservative, sticking to tried and trusted methods of producing their own meagre food.

Despite that failure, blind commitment to the experiment continues. One group says the problem is that peasants in Mozambique cannot lose their land. If they could lose their land after a bad season, that would also mean they could mortgage it and borrow money with which to take risks. Under this theory, landlessness will increase food production.

Recently the World Bank did a study which showed that the few Mozambique government agricultural extension workers were more pro-poor than those employed by NGOs, and that they had measurable impact in increasing productivity. But the Bank went on to say that since government cannot be allowed to hire more extension workers, then perhaps the few private sector agro-chemical salesmen should be trained to give extension advice.

The World Bank farm experiment in Mozambique has effectively demonstrated for the 21st century what had been amply proven in the United States, Europe and Africa in the 20th century - that the pure free market does not work in agriculture because it is highly risky. Production increases only when the risk is shared between farmer and government, which always means subsidies, state support for marketing including promises to buy at a floor price, and a huge state investment in agricultural research and extension services.

## Production increases only when the risk is shared between farmer and government.

Fifteen years ago Mozambique had a small but reasonable agricultural research programme to improve peasant crops, a state company doing multiplication of improved seeds, and a grain marketing board that promised to buy peasant maize. All were closed down as part of the experiment because the state had to stay out of those areas - but private companies did not fill the gap.

Slowly, the government has begun to rebuild its research capacity, and this year it is finally to be allowed to hire a few more extension workers. In neighbouring Malawi, in the face of fierce donor opposition, a fertilizer subsidy

was introduced, leading to a massive increase in maize production. But no such subsidy can be allowed in Mozambique.

The World Bank/donor experiment in Mozambique was backed up by food aid (using the surpluses from countries which were allowed to have subsidies), but rising world prices means an end to the global surpluses that drives food aid. Will donors allow Mozambique to finally end the failed experiment, and adopt the policies which have proved effective elsewhere? Mozambican peasants would like to be allowed to grow more food.

Joseph Hanlon is a Senior Lecturer in Development and Conflict Resolution at the Open University.

He is the author of six books on Mozambique. His book "Do bicycles equal development in Mozambique?" is published by James Currey.



Man cycles with sugar cane, Nampula province, Mozambique.

## Discount training for BOND members

Neo, the company that designs the new look Networker, is offering special rates on communications training for BOND members.

The Brighton-based agency is launching a new training service for not-for-profit organisations in areas such as branding, writing, presenting, creative thinking, media relations and strategy. BOND members can benefit from a 20% discount on all Neo communications courses, which promise to be fun and interactive and are designed to give you practical skills that you can apply straight away.

Neo's training services will launch in January 2009 at The Hub, an exciting new venue in Kings Cross that has been set up to inspire and support imaginative and enterprising initiatives for a better world.

Book online at [www.neocreative.co.uk/training](http://www.neocreative.co.uk/training) (ref: *Networker*), or contact Neo on 01273 600 500



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## Emergency Capacity Building Project seeks partners

A new \$5 million grant from The Gates Foundation has enabled the launch this autumn of a second phase of the Emergency Capacity Building (ECB) Project. Over the next five years, CARE, CRS, Mercy Corps, Oxfam, Save the Children and World Vision will continue working together to build global capacity to prepare for and respond to disasters and emergencies.

The ECB Project and the participating agencies are actively seeking partners for the funding, implementation and dissemination of their activities.

For more information and to explore how you or your organisation could be involved, email Matt Bannerman, ECB Project Director:

[info@ecbproject.org](mailto:info@ecbproject.org)  
[www.ecbproject.org](http://www.ecbproject.org)

## Fit for Purpose report available

A new report, reviewing the progress of the National Contact Point of the OECD Guidelines has been produced by UK civil society groups and the Trades Union Congress (TUC). The Fit for Purpose? report considers the significant reforms to the NCP procedures over the last year but finds that problems still remain.

Copies of the report are available at:  
<http://raid-uk.org/index.php>



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## Lecture on Malaria and Human Rights

The Malaria Consortium is holding a lecture on malaria and human rights on 10 December 2008.

For more information contact Sarah Pickwick:  
 Email: [s.pickwick@malariaconsortium.org](mailto:s.pickwick@malariaconsortium.org)  
 Tel: 020 7549 0217  
[www.malariaconsortium.org](http://www.malariaconsortium.org)

## 'Funding the Future' conference

Tuesday 9 December, 10.00am-4.00pm  
 Central Hall Westminster

Now in its seventh year, Funding the Future is the third sector's largest 'meet the funders' event and comprises a morning plenary session followed by seven concurrent afternoon streams to enable charities to meet funders interested in their field of work. There will be 40 top-level presentations from statutory, lottery and trust funders.

The event is organised by Action Planning with ACEVO, CAF, Blackbaud and UK Fundraising.

For more information and to book your place:  
[www.actionplanning.co.uk](http://www.actionplanning.co.uk)

## Putting Culture First report is launched

The Commonwealth Foundation report looks at the role of culture in development, including the issues of creative economies, culture as a process and tool for development and negotiating identities.

The report is available, free of charge, at:  
[www.commonwealthfoundation.com](http://www.commonwealthfoundation.com)

## Photography exhibition shows a different face of conflict

21 October-21 December 2008  
 Outside the National Theatre,  
 South Bank, London

Portrait photographer, Rankin, travelled with Oxfam to a refugee camp in the east of the Democratic Republic of Congo, the heart of this generally unreported conflict. The result is a stunning series of pictures, capturing the resilience and fatalism of those living there.

Despite the daily threat of violence and rape, these portraits capture people's true personalities, and highlight their humanity, their strength, and their hope in the future.

For more information:  
[www.oxfam.org.uk/oxfam\\_in\\_action](http://www.oxfam.org.uk/oxfam_in_action)

However you communicate  
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 visit [www.neocreative.co.uk/training](http://www.neocreative.co.uk/training) (ref: *Networker*)



**Fifteen years ago, at the International Conference on Population and Development, governments and NGOs agreed to a 20-year programme of action to put individuals and human rights at the centre of the debate on population and development. Now renewed commitment is needed to achieve this goal, explains Carol Bradford.**



More effort is needed to promote women's rights

# Reproductive Health: A new target – a new opportunity?

By recognising the importance of individual and human rights to population and development, development and the eradication of poverty became inextricably linked to women's empowerment. Eliminating violence against women, ensuring women's ability to control their own fertility and advancing gender equality became recognised as central to development policies.

The goals agreed at the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD) – reducing infant, child and maternal mortality and ensuring universal access by 2015 to reproductive health care, including family planning, assisted childbirth and prevention of sexually transmitted infections including HIV/AIDS – have yet to be fully realised. Indeed its central tenet – that of universal access to reproductive health – was even omitted from the Millennium Declaration and the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).

This omission was partially corrected through the addition of a new target (5b) – universal access to reproductive health by 2015 – under MDG 5. However, despite the ICPD programme of action and the new MDG target, progress towards achieving universal access to reproductive health has remained remarkably slow.

## The importance of reproductive health for development

As Kofi Annan, former UN Secretary-General, said at the 5th Asian and Pacific Population Conference in 2002, 'The MDGs, particularly the eradication of poverty and hunger, cannot be achieved if questions of population and reproductive health are not squarely addressed. And that means stronger efforts to promote women's rights, and greater investment in education and health, including reproductive health and family planning'.

Despite this, DFID estimates that 32% of maternal deaths could be averted through family planning, one of the most cost-effective interventions in public health; for every US\$1 million spent, 360,000 unwanted pregnancies and 150,000 induced abortions could be prevented saving the lives of 800 mothers and 11,000 infants<sup>1</sup>. Yet people still do not have access to reproductive health nor has the international community committed the necessary resources to deliver such services.

## The 15th anniversary of the ICPD programme of action

The ICPD is still relevant but requires rejuvenation. The question remains how much government support there is for achieving the goals agreed in 1994 and for reaching target 5b of MDG 5? Judging by the progress to date, the answer is probably not enough.

It is a critical year for making progress. The 15th anniversary provides us with a new opportunity to refocus attention, to monitor implementation so far and promote the full integration of target 5b into the MDGs. Concerted efforts are required. Universal access to reproductive health needs to be added to policies and programmes and resources need to be earmarked by donors. Civil society must play a crucial role in holding governments accountable for these commitments.

The UK Network on Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights has established a working group on ICPD@15. It is coordinating UK civil society efforts to take up the challenge of ensuring that every opportunity is used to drive forward the implementation of universal access to reproductive health.

Action now is the only way to get these commitments back on track.

**Carol Bradford is an independent consultant in sexual and reproductive health and is Chair of the UK Network on Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights.**

The UK Network on Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights is a BOND group comprised of a broad range of UK-based organisations working on reproductive health and rights.

For more information about the UK Network on Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights: [www.bond.org.uk/pages/groups-home.html](http://www.bond.org.uk/pages/groups-home.html)

Information on ICPD@15 activities will be posted regularly at [www.NGOsforICPD@15.org](http://www.NGOsforICPD@15.org)

For a summary of the ICPD Programme of Action: [www.unfpa.org/icpd/summary.cfm](http://www.unfpa.org/icpd/summary.cfm)

<sup>1</sup> DFID (2008) 'Maternal Health Strategy – Reducing maternal deaths: evidence and action' Third Progress Report

# Group Spotlight:

## Small NGOs Group

Over the summer BOND conducted research into the needs of its small NGO members, which account for 50% of the membership. The purpose of this research was to relaunch the Small NGOs Group, which had become inactive, and to increase the effectiveness and value of the services offered to this group.



### Challenges facing small NGOs

Small NGOs face particular challenges and the research found that members were both unaware of what services BOND offered and how they could influence the range of services provided. One commented: 'I have recently started my own NGO and am looking for help and guidance in all areas from accounting to fundraising and website design.' Other topics suggested included accounting, HR, business planning, staff management and governance issues.

Time pressures are acute for small organisations, with the difficulty of managing day-to-day operations as well as making time for learning and networking. Many suggested a preference for events to be smaller, informal and in 'non-core hours'.

'I find it difficult to make myself available for a working group – a shorter more easily accessible format would be more appropriate'

It was agreed that there needs to be a space for small members to interact separately, with some expressing the concern that though working groups were informative and useful they tended to concentrate on the needs of large NGOs. Despite this some felt that greater collaboration and exchange with larger NGOs would also be useful and could lead to beneficial partnerships.

The research has highlighted the need for targeted services including:

- A programme of networking evenings to focus on one key topic and to feature a short presentation from a leading specialist or relevant organisation, enabling members to meet each other and BOND staff and share learning and practice.
- A dedicated area of the website designed to meet the needs of small NGOs, including resources and links to organisations that provide services and advice for new and small charities, frequently asked questions, and a forum for members to share ideas and experiences.

### Next steps

Many members put themselves forward to take part in a Small NGO Advisory Panel and dates are being agreed for its first meeting. This panel will help ensure that BOND services are member-led and meet genuine needs. It will help steer a programme of activity and this will be announced over the coming weeks.

If you are interested in joining the Advisory Panel please contact Eeva Sarkkinen, Membership and Networks Officer: [esarkkinen@bond.org.uk](mailto:esarkkinen@bond.org.uk)

For updates on the small NGOs' programme visit: [www.bond.org.uk/pages/small-ngos-group.html](http://www.bond.org.uk/pages/small-ngos-group.html)

## Upcoming BOND groups meetings

### Quality Group

Thursday 11 December, 1.00pm–5.00pm

For more information or to register: [sangidou@bond.org.uk](mailto:sangidou@bond.org.uk)

### Latin American and Caribbean NGO Working Group

Thursday 29 January 2009, time to be confirmed

For more information or to register: [mmorris@bond.org.uk](mailto:mmorris@bond.org.uk)

## Governance Group

Over September and October a group of members came together with BOND staff to discuss the need for greater collaboration around the issue of governance. The discussions focused around the existing efforts and context, the need for engagement of other actors, and the potential for forming a new BOND group.

A second meeting concentrated on the practical steps and also heard about an existing Governance Club which has members across the public and private sectors as well as government. This group is coordinated by Advocates for International development (A4ID) who can be contacted on [info@a4id.org](mailto:info@a4id.org) or via their website [www.a4id.org](http://www.a4id.org)

Terms of reference for the group have been drafted and are out for consultation with the steering group. For more information about this group or to sign up please contact Matt Morris, Membership and Communications Administrator: Email: [mmorris@bond.org.uk](mailto:mmorris@bond.org.uk)



Violence against indigenous people is escalating in Bolivia

## BOND Latin American and Caribbean Group

The group have been raising awareness of the issues in the region with the UK Government. Two letters have been sent to the Secretary of State, David Miliband, by members of the group:

- On 1 October a letter was sent raising the issue of the recent escalation of violence in Bolivia, particularly on indigenous people and NGOs working on human rights and development.
- On 24 October a letter was sent regarding a recent Nicaraguan government report 'No more lies' which accuses 17 NGOs, including women's organisations, of 'embezzlement money-laundering and subversion'.

To find out more visit the BOND website:

[www.bond.org.uk/pages/latin-american-and-caribbean-group.html](http://www.bond.org.uk/pages/latin-american-and-caribbean-group.html)

# Counter-Terrorism update

In the US there have been two significant developments in the counter-terrorism area. Firstly, there are signs that all donations to areas where designated terrorist groups are operating may have to be channelled through **USAID** in future, thus undermining the independence of NGOs and funders. The US Treasury has indicated that this may become a legal requirement.



**USAID**  
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

Secondly, and on a more positive note, a US NGO has won a concession in its struggle against the freezing of its assets since 2006 under counter-terrorism laws. **KindHearts**, which provides aid in Palestine and Lebanon among other countries, was not allowed access to its own records or funds to defend itself. The NGO is now mounting a constitutional challenge after a temporary restraining order was imposed on the US government.



Food aid for Palestinians

For more information on both these US stories, see OMB Watch at [www.ombwatch.org](http://www.ombwatch.org) and click on 'Nonprofit Issues' in The Watcher's archive.

The legality of counter-terrorism measures has been challenged in the **European Court of Justice**. In a key judgment in September, the Court held that the freezing of the assets of Saudi businessman Yassin Abdullah Kadi, and a foundation transferring funds to Somalia, because they had been added to a UN Security Council 'terrorist list' was unlawful. Under the relevant EU regulation, Kadi had been unable to see the evidence against him or to challenge it.

Also in Europe, Netherlands development NGO **CORDAID** is lobbying on the human rights implications of the listing of individuals and organisations as terrorist. It also funded the US-based Fourth Freedom Forum to produce a major report on counter-terrorism and development, which was presented at the UN at the end of October. The report considers how increasingly draconian counter-terrorism measures have narrowed the space for civil society organisations in development.

CORDAID is also monitoring the progress of the European Commission's Code of Conduct on the transparency of the non-profit sector, which includes safeguards to prevent financing of terrorist activity. This Code, still not finalised, has been in development since 2004. NGOs are hoping that the code will focus on co-ordinating member states' disparate approaches, rather than imposing a Europe-wide body similar to the UK's Charity Commission.

For more information on the human rights implications of counter-terrorism measures, see the **Fourth Freedom Forum's Center on Global Counterterrorism Co-operation** at [www.counter-terrorismcenter.org](http://www.counter-terrorismcenter.org) and click on 'Projects'.

In the UK, the **Charity Commission** is actively implementing its new counter-terrorism strategy. A trustee of a Muslim charity has been removed after he was designated under United Nations terrorism provisions for suspected links to Al Qaeda. Mohammed Al Ghabra was a trustee of the Al Ikhlas Foundation, which provides advice, guidance and financial support to Muslim prisoners and their families.

The report of this and other investigations is on the Commission's website: [www.charity-commission.gov.uk](http://www.charity-commission.gov.uk) Click on 'Meeting our Requirements' then 'Charity Commission Inquiry Reports'.

BOND is continuing to participate in the development of the Charity Commission's toolkit 'Protecting Charities from Harm', the first elements of which are due to be published by the end of 2008.

We are also keeping our members updated on this rapidly-changing field, and giving support where new regulations are causing difficulties.



European Courts of Justice

## Compact's Black and Minority Ethnic Code to be reviewed

The Commission for the Compact, the framework for relationships between UK government bodies and the voluntary sector, is carrying out a consultation to review the Black and Minority Ethnic (BME) Code.

The BME Code is a part of the Compact that may be particularly relevant to some international development NGOs. It sets out the Compact's commitments on tackling racism, ensuring BME participation in the policy process, fair funding for the BME third sector, involvement of BME representatives in local partnerships, developing the capacity of BME infrastructure, and involving BME individuals and groups in volunteering and mentoring.

For more information:  
[www.thecompact.org.uk/bmereview](http://www.thecompact.org.uk/bmereview)  
To take part in the discussion forum:  
[www.thecompact.org.uk/forum](http://www.thecompact.org.uk/forum)

**Compact**  
working together better together

## UK

### DFID consultation on UNICEF and Cambodia

DFID is currently carrying out public consultations on a new strategy with UNICEF and on its country programme in Cambodia. Civil society and other interested parties are invited to send in written submissions by the end of January 2009. For more information and the consultation questions see the DFID website: [www.dfid.gov.uk/consultations](http://www.dfid.gov.uk/consultations)

Updates on ongoing consultations by DFID and other relevant institutions can be found on the BOND website: [www.bond.org.uk/pages/consultations.html](http://www.bond.org.uk/pages/consultations.html)

### UK is chairing the G20 in 2009

The G20 consists of finance ministers and central bankers from the 20 biggest economies in the world and often serves as a negotiating forum for decisions on international economic and financial issues.

The G20 emergency summit on 15 November 2008, which discussed strategies and solutions for the international financial crisis, was the first G20 summit of heads of state and government stressing the new importance of this forum under the current circumstances.

The G20 includes the G8 countries as well as the European Union but also big emerging markets like Brazil, India, China, Indonesia, Mexico, Saudi Arabia and South Africa. However, other big economies such as Spain are left out and there are no developing countries presented.

The UK Government will be chairing the G20 in 2009, therefore setting the agenda and hosting different high-level meetings. Taking into consideration the active role of the UK in international negotiations around the financial crisis, it can be expected that these G20 meetings will receive much more attention in 2009 than ever before.

For updated information around the financial crisis and the activities of the G20:

BOND: [www.bond.org.uk/pages/financial-crisis.html](http://www.bond.org.uk/pages/financial-crisis.html)

Bretton Woods Project: [www.brettonwoodsproject.org](http://www.brettonwoodsproject.org)

## EU

### European Council Meeting, Brussels 11-12 December 2008

European Heads of States will meet in Brussels on 11-12 December for the third European Council organised under the French Presidency. Among other issues the Council will discuss the international economic and financial crisis and possible solutions to the Irish ratification of the Lisbon Treaty. <http://tinyurl.com/63p3ty>

### Czech Presidency of the European Union

The Czech Republic will take over the presidency of the European Union on 1 January 2008.

Among the Czech Government priorities for the presidency are: Europe's competitiveness, energy security and sustainability, EU Budget review, CAP reform and migration.

The Czech NGO platform, Czech Forum for Development and Cooperation (FoRS), will focus on good governance, development education, migration, climate change and food security. Go to [www.fors.cz](http://www.fors.cz) for more information.

### Commission paper on EU, Africa and China relations

The European Commission has launched a working paper on the EU, Africa and China relations entitled *EU, Africa and China: political dialogue and cooperation on peace and security in Africa*.

[http://ec.europa.eu/index\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/index_en.htm)

### Revision of the Cotonou Agreement

The Cotonou Agreement is due to be reviewed in 2010. A first draft negotiating proposal/mandate of the European Commission on possible changes in the Cotonou Partnership Agreement was brought forward. EU Member States and African Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) members – in separate taskforces – are currently discussing amendments to the current document and will present the final proposal in February 2009.

## International



### The UN Climate Change Conference in Poznań

1-12 December 2008

The United Nations Climate Change Conference in Poznań comes midway between COP 13 in Bali, which saw the launch of negotiations on strengthened international action on climate change, and COP 15 Copenhagen in 2009, which is due to conclude negotiations with a binding global climate agreement.

At the Conference in Poznań, parties are expected to agree on a plan of action and programme of work for the final year of negotiations and ensure progress on key environmental issues.

For more information on the UN Climate Change Conference in Poznań, go to the UN website: [http://unfccc.int/meetings/cop\\_14/items/4481.php](http://unfccc.int/meetings/cop_14/items/4481.php)



### World Social Forum in Belem, Brazil

27 January-1 February 2009

The World Social Forum (WSF), the annual meeting for social movements, networks, NGOs and activists, is taking place early next year in Belem, Brazil. For more information about how to participate in the event, visit the WSF 2009 website:

[www.forumsocialmundial.org.br](http://www.forumsocialmundial.org.br)

# What's on offer: books for NGOs

## Ending Aid Dependence

Yash Tandon  
South Centre, 2008

Developing countries need to break the chains of aid dependency

More and better aid has been one of the major slogans of international civil society over the last few years. However, as Yash Tandon emphasises in his new book, we need to look beyond aid.

The South Centre, an intergovernmental organisation of developing countries chaired by the former president of Tanzania, Benjamin W. Mkapa, has a tradition of challenging Western perception of international development. *Ending Aid Dependence* concurs and strongly criticises development aid and assistance by developed countries as a new way to control Africa and other underdeveloped parts of the world.

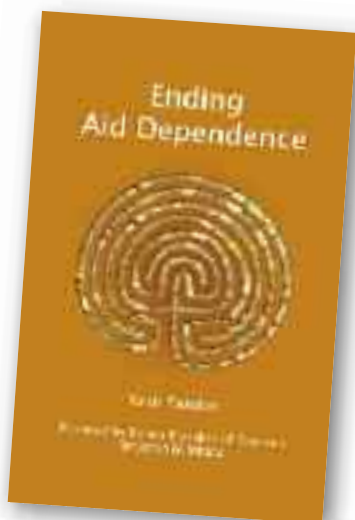
In this book, author Yash Tandon explores the history of aid identifying five different ways of spending aid – ideological aid, commercial aid, military and political aid, global public goods aid, and solidarity aid. He argues that only the last two categories can be counted as real aid while all the others are designed to enforce developed countries' interests and control rather than advancing political and economic progress in developing countries.

Therefore, developing countries need to overcome their dependence on aid to finally become independent of the West and establish national empowerment. In the book, seven steps to end aid dependence are presented based on 'The national project – a strategy for local, national, regional and South-South self determination, independence, dignity and solidarity'.

Yash Tandon offers some great reflections on donor led development efforts and the need for developing countries to control their own destiny. Many of his criticisms echo demands for better quality of aid that international civil society has long been calling for. However, he also suggests that aid is always of political nature, serving donor purposes and a neoliberal ideology.

This is certainly not a book that we, as NGOs, can use at a moment of a global financial crisis to make the case for aid. However, Yash Tandon raises important issues that often gets sidestepped in our discussions about aid effectiveness – how we support countries to break the cycle of aid dependence.

This book review was written by Elvira Groll, Network Policy Officer at BOND.



## Bad Samaritans: The guilty secrets of rich nations and the threat to global prosperity

Ha-Joon Chang  
Random House, 2008 (paperback edition)

Studies by Cambridge development economist Ha-Joon Chang can be found quoted at length in the arguments of Joseph Stiglitz, George Monbiot and most NGOs of the Trade Justice Movement. Despite this, Chang's own writings have not enjoyed a widespread readership, as they have been destined primarily for academic audiences. 'Bad Samaritans' is an attempt to bring Chang's work directly to a wider constituency.

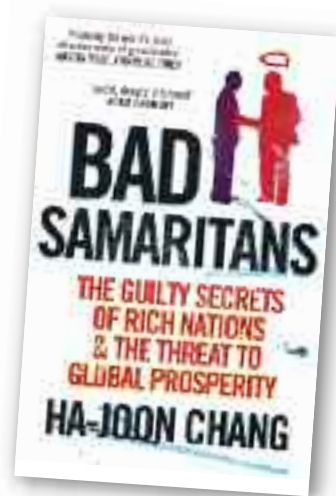
The book challenges the 'official narrative' of globalisation by showing that the currently rich countries became rich through interventionist economic policies, but have now become 'Bad Samaritans' by 'kicking away the ladder', so that other countries cannot follow.

Chang logically dismantles the case made for unbridled free trade, patents and privatisation. In its place he makes a pragmatic case for infant industry protection, pro-poor patent laws and strategic nationalisation in developing countries.

To emphasise his point, Chang draws on a wealth of examples, especially the experience of his home country – South Korea. He also finds pertinent similes to communicate his arguments – for example he argues that forcing developing countries to stop protecting industry, is like a parent forcing a six year old child to get a job, in the belief that increased competition would make it more productive.

The book's major drawback is the fact that the environment is mentioned only in passing, uncomfortably close to rhapsodies about successful case studies of state supported aeroplane or car industries. As climate change is recognised as the biggest threat to development, this is a key omission – especially as only a few changes to Chang's argument would bring it in line with the sustainable imperative.

Overall though, Chang delivers a powerful intellectual challenge to the prevailing economic orthodoxy, in words accessible to the general reader. As yet, it is an argument that still few bother to respond to. With these ideas now penetrating popular and academic literature alike, this could soon begin to change.



This book review was written by Tim Gee, Campaigns Communications Officer at BOND.

## Voluntary Income Fundraising Group

This new BOND group, focusing on individual giving, the private sector and trusts and foundations, will host its first meeting on Friday 5 December, 2.00pm-5.00pm.

The meeting will focus on:

- Trusts and Foundations – transparency, feedback and building relationships
- The Credit Crunch – fundraising during an economic downturn, practical approaches and sharing good practice

If you would like to attend, please register with Joni Hillman, Donor Advocacy Officer: Email: [jhillman@bond.org.uk](mailto:jhillman@bond.org.uk)

More information about the group can be found on the BOND website:

[www.bond.org.uk/pages/voluntary-income-fundraising-group.html](http://www.bond.org.uk/pages/voluntary-income-fundraising-group.html)

## New discussion group on DFID Civil Society Challenge Fund

BOND is co-ordinating a new email discussion group (a dgroup) on DFID's Civil Society Challenge Fund, enabling grant-holders to share information and good practice and pose questions to other grant-holders.

If you would like to become a member of this group, please contact Joni Hillman: Email: [jhillman@bond.org.uk](mailto:jhillman@bond.org.uk)

### Visit our website for:

- the latest funding news
- a basic guide to funding sources for NGOs
- information about our donor advocacy work
- details of the BOND groups that work on funding issues

[www.bond.org.uk/pages/funding-for-ngos.html](http://www.bond.org.uk/pages/funding-for-ngos.html)



## Petition to stop the Lottery being raided for the Olympics

George, the South West Funding Advisers Forum, have started a petition on the Number 10 website to 'demand that the government stops making raids on the National Lottery to fund the 2012 Olympics. Lottery funds should benefit the voluntary and community sector, not the government.'

To sign the petition, please go to: <http://petitions.number10.gov.uk/Lottery-Funding> before 17 April 2009.

## Learning and training - funding and donor relations

On 5 and 6 January 2009, BOND is running a workshop on Assembling an EC Concept Note.

For more information, and details of all BOND learning events:

Email: [learn@bond.org.uk](mailto:learn@bond.org.uk)

Tel: 020 7520 0242

[www.bond.org.uk/learning-and-training.php](http://www.bond.org.uk/learning-and-training.php)



## EC Funding Advice Line

**Are you considering putting in a proposal to the EC?**

**Are you managing an EC Grant?**

If so, our EC Funding Advice Line can help!

The line offers:

- answers to questions on your funding applications
- help meeting grant report requirements

- the latest information on the co-funding budget line 21 02 03

- telephone and email contact with Angela James, an expert on EC funding issues with a wealth of experience, contacts and information

For more information and to find out how to subscribe email: [funding@bond.org.uk](mailto:funding@bond.org.uk)

Providing long-term support to local and national NGOs and networks in Africa, Asia and Latin America to deliver projects that protect children from violence is central to the success of ChildHope, explains **Emma Crewe**.



# Development People

## What inspired you to work in the sector?

In 1987 I was in Sri Lanka living with a family of potters researching how they were affected by an employment generation scheme. The impact was clear: some families in the community were getting rich while many others remained poor. However, the products they sold were great so those buying them benefited.

I realised that development is neither success or failure; it is both. But I also wanted to ask different questions. I was then offered a job by the NGO who commissioned the research, which gave me an opportunity to research the developers (including myself), so you could say I fell into doing development by accident.

Then, I stayed in development because I became angry: it is wrong that 200 million children are involved in child labour, that women are often denied property and that people die from preventative diseases, the list goes on. It is good to maintain some anger because it can make you determined to do something about it. I am inspired to continue because I believe that inequality doesn't have to be tolerated.

## Why did you want to work for a charity that works with children in particular?

Children's potential is inspiring and this feeling was accentuated by having children myself. I also wanted to work for a smaller organisation with aims that I agreed with. ChildHope works for social justice for children and young people. We support local and national organisations and networks in Africa, Asia and Latin America to challenge violence against children. We do this by offering high quality services, learning from others, enabling exchanges between the organisations that we work with, and influencing our own donors. That was a purpose that I found exciting.



*A family involved in a ChildHope child labour project in Peru*

'I am inspired to continue [working in development] because I believe that inequality doesn't have to be tolerated'

## Describe your role at ChildHope

Internally, I co-ordinate a team of 10 people, report to our Board of Trustees and externally I fundraise and try to influence debates around learning and partnership.

## What are you working on at the moment?

Broadly, fighting for the interests of NGOs, networks and social movements in the global South that are often bypassed by international NGOs (INGOs). I am also involved in debates concerning partnership, encouraging INGOs to think about how they are supporting local and national NGOs rather than taking control. There are lots of INGOs working in local communities without thinking about what is an appropriate role for them. There is a sense of arrogance, especially when they say that they are 'building capacity'.

Following in the footsteps of one of our partner organisations in Brazil - Promundo - I am keen to support national NGOs who encourage women's rights activists to combine with those working on children's rights. And today I am trying to get the media interested in different stories about child abuse - arguing that we can learn from Africa, Asia and South America about the importance of prevention, children's empowerment, and systematic change towards more integrated services when protecting children.

## What impact do you hope this work will have?

We hope ChildHope revives respect for national NGOs and social movements and demonstrates examples of how to work in solidarity with them. On the second issue, instead of women's and children's rights activists assuming that co-operation would dilute their work, we hope they find synergies to work together to achieve more.

But it is the national NGOs that we work with who attain most profound impact. They are

the ones who get children out of hazardous labour and into school, reconcile them with their families, empower children and young people, and persuade communities to protect them more effectively.

**Are there specific skills you need to do your job well?**

Communication is so important and this includes really listening properly to people and articulating ideas to people in ways that make sense and inspire. It is necessary to be decisive while accepting that I, and others, will make mistakes, which is fine as long as we learn from them. It is also important to have high expectations but be ready to give support when required.

**What is the most rewarding, and challenging, part of your job?**

Working towards social justice on behalf of children is both rewarding and challenging. Although I don't work with children directly ChildHope supports those who nurture their talent, resilience and generosity. Often, you hear a catalogue of tragedy and abuse that children have faced – too often at the hands of adults including people they know – but then many children choose to dedicate their

lives to helping other children as social workers, doing outreach, as lawyers and so on. That is humbling.

**In your opinion, what is ChildHope's most significant achievement?**

The choices my colleagues make about which local or national organisations to work with and then jointly developing mutually valuable relationships. ChildHope Programme Managers are good at choosing the ones with extraordinary staff and impressive leaders. Take Anannia Admassu Sahle and Alemu Hailu who run Children Aid Ethiopia. They have commitment, drive and thoughtfulness and I believe that they will change the prospects of girls in sexual exploitation for years to come.

**What lessons have you learnt from your career so far?**

That civil society in the global South should not be bypassed or ordered around by INGOs; learning through honest reflection, good relationships and appropriate communication is more useful than project cycle methodologies; that the choice doesn't have to be between reform and revolution – gradual radical change is often possible; and that it is always worth listening to people, including children.

**What is the key challenge for the sector in the coming year?**

For us, it is about raising funds in new ways that helps change the rules of engagement between national and global society in favour of social justice in the face of economic meltdown. It is worrying that some might use a shortage of funds as an excuse to bypass social and national organisations, or to be less ambitious for change. We will be forced to be more innovative.

Smaller organisations are clearly more vulnerable in this climate but they also have the ability to be more flexible and challenging than some of their larger counterparts.

Emma Crewe is Executive Director of ChildHope.  
For more information: [www.childhope.org.uk](http://www.childhope.org.uk)

*Photos: All the children, or a caregiver in the case of very young children, have given their informed consent for the use of their photographs.*



A schoolgirl in a ChildHope educational project in Kenya

## BOND Groups Programme

If you are a BOND member, joining a BOND group is an excellent way to work with other members on the issues that matter to you. The groups reflect the diversity of the BOND membership and often contribute to key sector debates.

- Advocacy Capacity Building Group
- Conflict Policy Group
- Development and Environment Group
- Disability and Development Group
- Disaster and Risk Reduction Group
- EC Funding Group
- European Neighbourhood Group
- European Policy Group
- Funding Working Groups
- Latin American and Caribbean Group
- Quality Group
- Small NGOs Group
- SMOLNet (The Strategic Management of organisational Learning Network)
- UK Network on Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights Group
- UK Water Network
- Youth Working Group

To find out more contact the Membership and Communications team or visit the website:  
 Tel: 020 7520 0259  
 Email: [groups@bond.org.uk](mailto:groups@bond.org.uk)  
[www.bond.org.uk/pages/groups-home](http://www.bond.org.uk/pages/groups-home)

**BOND sends out regular e-bulletins on a variety of subjects, including learning and training and the latest sector jobs.**

To sign up go to:  
[www.bond.org.uk/get-e-updates.php](http://www.bond.org.uk/get-e-updates.php)

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For more information on the range of options available contact the BOND Advertising team:  
 Tel: 020 7520 1042  
 Email: [advertising@bond.org.uk](mailto:advertising@bond.org.uk)



## Learn with BOND

Designed by NGOs for NGOs, our range of learning and training events will meet your professional needs. It is a great way to build your skills, meet other BOND members and share knowledge and experience. We are now offering a 10% early bird discount on all workshops.

Date	Workshop	Level
5 January	Assembling an EC Concept Note	All levels
6 January	Assembling an EC Concept Note	All levels
5 February	Strategies for E-campaigning	Intermediate
18-19 February	EU Study Visit to Brussels	Intermediate
3-4 March	Putting Together a Funding Proposal	Introduction
5 March	Introduction to Advocacy	Introduction
10 March	Introduction to Project Budgeting	Introduction
12-13 March	EU Corridors of Power	Introduction
17-18 March	Project Planning using a Logical Framework Approach	Introduction
19 March	Monitoring and Evaluation for Accountability	Introduction
24-25 March	What Difference Did We Make? How to do Impact Assessment	Intermediate
30-31 March	UK Corridors of Power	Introduction

For full details of the learning and training programme contact the Learning and Training team or visit the website: [www.bond.org.uk/learning-and-training.php](http://www.bond.org.uk/learning-and-training.php) or Email: [learn@bond.org.uk](mailto:learn@bond.org.uk)