

RED ALERT

YOUR SUPPORT, OUR WORK, REAL DIFFERENCE

Gender, Age and Disability Kenya
Training of Trainers Lebanon
Post-Harvest Loss Sudan

redruk
people and skills for disaster relief



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Dear Friends,

As we look towards the second half of 2018, the humanitarian sector is facing some of its biggest challenges yet. Aid workers are responding to large-scale emergencies in Iraq, the Democratic Republic of Congo and Yemen. The numbers of Rohingya refugees seeking protection in Bangladesh continue to grow and the war in Syria is entering its seventh year, contributing to the world's largest refugee crisis.

This update illustrates the wide range of ways that RedR UK is supporting those on the frontline of the humanitarian response.

In 2017 we trained 8,050 people in 44 countries around the world. From empowering those working directly with Syrian refugees in Lebanon, to partnering with Welthungerhilfe to bring training to farmers and combat the hunger gap in Sudan your support is vital in ensuring that we can continue to provide life-saving skills and knowledge where they're needed most – thank you.

Martin McCann
Chief Executive

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Red Alert is produced once a year to keep our supporters informed about RedR's activities and achievements, and to encourage others to support our work. All RedR publications, including Red Alert, are printed on FSC accredited stock.

Tell us what you think! We're always keen to hear your thoughts about issues raised in Red Alert. Letters to the editor should be sent to: communications@redr.org.uk

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HUMANITARIAN ENGINEERS

Engineers can make a vital contribution to the humanitarian response to a crisis. In 2017, many of RedR UK's training participants were working in engineering-related sectors, including WASH, Shelter and Logistics. Our training helps participants to better understand the humanitarian system and the environment in which they are operating.

As the humanitarian sector continues to grow and develop, we conducted a series of interviews with RedR UK Members to better understand the challenges currently faced by engineers in the humanitarian sector.

Through these interviews we identified several key trends, including the opportunity to work with national training organisations, the need for on-the-job support and mentoring, and the importance of 'soft skills', such as project management and leadership skills for engineers working in the field.

One practical example was given by an interviewee who described a company donating solar lighting for a village, without providing tarpaulins for the lighting to stand on. The ability of engineers to put their technical engineering expertise to good use depends to a large extent on the ability to carefully consider the broader context in which projects are carried out.

"The problem I come across is not that much on the engineering side, it's the sustainability and the fact that people have a very poor understanding of what is needed to ensure that equipment can survive in the field over a length of time. The challenge is that engineers need to understand not just how a piece of equipment works, but what is needed to enable it to keep working over a period of time. You cannot look at the piece of equipment as the ultimate point of procurement, you have to be able to look at capability"

P.S. – RedR UK Member

RedR UK is proud of its engineering heritage and remains dedicated to working with engineers in the humanitarian sector, responding to the evolving needs of the sector by providing both technical and soft skills training to national and international staff as well as running mentoring programmes and offering technical support through technical Q&A forum KnowledgePoint. ■

It (Dadaab) is a place where there are multiple complex issues at play and these issues often revolve around age, gender, disability.

Diana Kaduka,
Save the Children



GENDER, AGE AND DISABILITY IN DADAAB

According to the WHO, roughly 15% of the world's population has a disability¹ and as of 2012, 12% of the global population was over 60 years old². Older people and people with disabilities are particularly vulnerable to armed conflict and disasters, but discrimination based on disability, age and gender often means those most in need of humanitarian assistance are excluded.

There is also limited capacity among humanitarian workers to reach these groups; less than 1% of international humanitarian aid³ is dedicated to older persons and people with disabilities. RedR's Gender Age and Disability training in Kenya aimed to build capacity in this area, helping to ensure that humanitarian workers have the necessary skills to build better programmes, allowing them to respond effectively to those most in need.

In 2017 Diana Kaduka attended RedR UK's *Gender, Age and Disability* course in Nairobi.

Diana works in Dadaab Refugee Camp, Kenya, as a Best Interest Determination

Determination (BID) and Child Protection Officer for Save the Children. Established by the Kenyan government in 1991 as a temporary haven for 90,000 people fleeing the fighting in neighbouring Somalia, Dadaab is now home to more than 330,000 refugees, many of whom have been there since the camp opened.

Diana describes the importance of Gender, Age and Disability in her work in Dadaab:

"Working with children, they come with a lot of issues surrounding them. We are working with children who are boys or girls, and we are working with caregivers who are male or female. Some caregivers are elderly and have disabilities.

We do a lot of sensitization and awareness on the rights of children, making the community aware of the policy of 'do no harm' and everything that comes with the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child.

We conduct Best Interest Determination (BID) whereby we help make important decisions for children. Through BID, we get to interact with not only the child but the caregiver, the neighbour, the block



Ibrahim Mohamed Hussein, 13, with his mother during an interview with Diana Kaduka. The conversation was regarding returning to school despite the bullying he was receiving from other pupils because of his disability.

leader and any other person within the network of the child. These are the people who could have different vulnerabilities."

RedR's training, supported by XL Catlin, helps participants to recognise the barriers faced by people of different genders, older people and people with disabilities. It analyses how discrimination and violence manifests in emergency situations against different groups and gives humanitarian workers the necessary skills to help change discriminatory attitudes and actions.

Diana explains the impact of RedR's training on her work:

"Everything that we have learned here is relevant. I was working on one BID case where the child is an orphan and was living with multiple disabilities -- psychosocial and physical. It was a BID that required a lot of time and patience. This training would have allowed me to understand those cases better in terms of approach. Right now, if such a case were to come back to me I know how to engage a child before going to a partner for support."



Jibril Mustaf Jibril, aged 8, and his caregiver, Muslimo Ahmed Mudey, as well as Mudey's mother aged 96 (featured on cover) and her daughter outside the Save the Children office in Dadaab Refugee Camp, Kenya.

What I learned in the training allows me to make more informed decisions for the child. This means working from sex, age and disability data and being specific on the environment and other vulnerabilities surrounding the child.

Not only focusing on care arrangement but focusing on gender issues in the home, the age factors in that home and how compatible they are.

The way I assess a pre-schooler and an adolescent are different because mental development is different. You are being an advocate for the child."

The impact of RedR's *Gender, Age and Disability* training is not limited only to the participants. Through the training, participants gain the necessary skills and knowledge to create programmatic change, helping to overcome barriers to inclusion and reduce the risk of violence in urban and rural settings. Diana shares the effect of RedR training on her organisation and its relevance to the complex and often volatile context

of her work in Dadaab:

"With the new knowledge, it will start with the staff and increasing their capacity. I know staff capacity is essential even before going to the field. This is where the training can help me to know how to interact with them, how to bring them on board with decisions. I would recommend for everyone in my organization to attend the training. The reason being everything you are working with in the context of Dadaab. It is a place where there are multiple complex issues at play and these issues often revolve around age, gender, disability. Dadaab is a unique area and the training has helped me contextualise it." ■

¹WHO & World Bank (2018), World Report on Disability. <http://www.who.int/mediacentre/factsheets/fs352/en/>

²UN (2015), World Population Ageing Report: http://www.un.org/en/development/desa/population/publications/pdf/ageing/WPA2015_Report.pdf

³HelpAge International & Handicap International (2012), A Study of Humanitarian Financing for Older People and People with Disabilities. <http://www.helpage.org/silo/files/disasters-and-diversity-a-study-of-humanitarian-financing-for-older-people-and-children-under-five.pdf>

TRAINING OF TRAINERS



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The ongoing conflict in Syria continues to contribute to the largest refugee crisis in the world. There are now more than 5.3 million Syrians refugees in neighbouring countries, with over 1 million Syrian refugees registered with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) in Lebanon. In 2017 RedR UK ran a *Training of Trainers* course in Lebanon. Thanks to funding from the HCD Memorial Trust we were able to offer free places on the course to those working directly with people affected by disaster. We caught up with two of the trainees, Antoinette Maroukel and Sawsan Safa.

Antoinette Maroukel is a field officer for Nabad, a Lebanese NGO working directly with Syrian refugees in Lebanon. She explains the challenges created by this context and the work her organisation does to address them:

“Syrian refugees were evicted from the Lebanese village where they were living, due to tensions with the local population and were sent to four different villages in Beqaa.

I work with the refugees and Lebanese communities, implementing projects to increase social stability. Through the training people from different cultures, different backgrounds are introduced to each other in a good way. We hope that this project will help them to live together without conflict.”

RedR’s Training of Trainers course gives humanitarian workers the skills and knowledge to become effective trainers.

A project officer for Lutherine World Relief, working with Syrian refugees,

Sawsan Safa shares her challenges:

“I think the hardest part of my job as a trainer is to reach the biggest number of people with your ideas.

You have a message, the challenge is to communicate this message to the biggest number of people and to take them with you.”

By passing on their knowledge and experiences through effective training techniques, humanitarian aid workers can extend the impact of their work to future projects and generations. Sawsan shares the impact of the training on the refugees that she works with:

*“After taking the training I feel more empowered and this has had a positive impact on the refugees that I work with. They look at you and think, wow she’s confident! If she can deliver a training with confidence then maybe I can do it too. **If someone is sitting in a room feeling desperate, but they can see that I’m confident and empowered then I think it will inspire them.**” ■*



POST-HARVEST LOSS IN SUDAN

According to the 2017 Sudan Humanitarian Needs Overview, 4.8 million people in Sudan are in urgent need of humanitarian assistance¹. Decades of conflict, compounded by socio-economic and climatic factors, have led to large-scale displacement within the country's borders and caused significant challenges relating to food, shelter, WASH, health, and livelihoods.

In 2017, RedR UK partnered with Welthungerhilfe (WHH) to deliver trainings designed to help prevent post-harvest loss to 2,094 farmers in Kassala and Red Sea states in Sudan.

We spoke to Aline Dessarzin, Head of programmes for WHH, who explained the challenges faced by small-scale farmers in Sudan:

"A big challenge is that a lot of the farmers have been displaced, so their agricultural methods are not really adapted to the locations where they are; to the land they work with, to the plants they work with. So to just increase the skill level a little bit already helps a lot. Another challenge is that illiteracy rates in this area are very high. This meant that we needed to take a different approach with the training. You can't just

lecture people, you have to make it more participatory. So what RedR did was to develop a training package that focused a lot on pictures and practical exercises".

RedR UK's office in Sudan worked with national trainers to develop materials and adapt the delivery of the training to suit the context, to ensure that the project was effective. Aline describes the impact of this adapted training process:

"You do see the difference where the training has been adapted to the context. I remember the RedR trainers demonstrated a practical test to see if the grain is dry before you put it into the storage silo. To do the test, you don't need anything fancy, just an empty glass bottle with a little bit of grain and salt, but you get a really clear, useful result. It's a very visual part of the training and that's something that the trainees actually practiced and there you can see 'that's going to stick'. You can see what the trainer means and you can actually do the test later with your own grain. So in this regard I think the adaption of the material is incredibly important. The feedback from the beneficiaries was that they really felt that there was a clear increase of knowledge and skills." ■

¹OCHA www.unocha/sudan

FROM BRAZIL TO BASINGSTOKE

On Friday 9 February, the most **red-hotly** anticipated event of the year, Wear Red for RedR UK, took place. More than 140 offices from over 25 companies from Brazil to Basingstoke took part, helping to raise over £25,000



photos © Amny Murrell

Patron and corporate supporters dressed as chilli peppers, sold their homemade biryani, soups, and cakes, and took part in fundraising fantasy rugby and chess competitions, all in support of RedR's humanitarian work.

We are pleased to announce this year's winners from our Wear Red competitions:

Most Red-iculous Outfit: Estrela from Mott MacDonald Southampton for her 'Red Hot Chilli Pepper' outfit

Original Fundraising Idea: Silly hat competition at WSP Shrewsbury

Dedicated Wear Red Ambassador: Judith Cross at Stantec for all her campaigning throughout Wear Red week

Best Social Media: Mott MacDonald for campaigning throughout Wear Red week on Facebook and Twitter

Best Bake: Pell Frischmann for their lego cake

Highest Fundraiser: Arup, who have already fundraised over £10,000

Highest Fundraising Worldwide Office: Arup Cork and Mott MacDonald Singapore, who both raised around £1,000.



WHY I SUPPORT REDR

Yehya Hawila is a dedicated RedR UK Champion working for Costain and has been raising RedR awareness around his London office. He's also a keen runner, and ran the Royal Parks Half Marathon on behalf of RedR in October 2017.

"As a RedR UK Champion, it's my responsibility to keep the team at C405 Paddington up to date with the latest news and fundraising opportunities. I have arranged for our team to take part in football and table tennis tournaments, bake sales, the Royal Parks Half Marathon and Wear Red day. The most rewarding moment I've had so far was when I crossed the finish line at the Royal Parks Half Marathon. It was an overwhelming experience especially with all the support of the children and everyone there. Being a champion has also given me amazing opportunities like meeting HRH the Princess Royal. I am passionate about RedR's work. Any one of us could be affected by disaster and it's great to know that as a RedR Champion I'm supporting RedR UK to train life-savers to respond to emergencies around the world."



A big thank you to everyone who took part in this year's Wear Red day.



TREK THE YORKSHIRE THREE PEAKS!

The Yorkshire Three Peaks represents a challenge for the keenest of walkers. To scale three mountains in two days is no mean feat and provides an exhilarating and demanding trek in some of the most spectacular countryside England has to offer. This is a tough but rewarding weekend offering an unforgettable sense of achievement. Register to trek for RedR UK for £49, over the weekend 21-23 September, and fundraise a further £650.



ROYAL PARKS HALF MARATHON

On Sunday 14 October join thousands of runners to take on this iconic 13.1-mile route past London's best-known landmarks and through the beautiful Royal Parks. Sign up to run for RedR UK for £50, and raise £400 to support our vital work.



GREAT NORTH RUN

With only a £30 registration fee, and a £350 fundraising target for RedR UK you can't miss your chance to take part in the largest half marathon in the world and run between Newcastle upon Tyne and South Shields on Sunday 9 September 2018!

Get in touch! To book a place contact us at: fundraising@redr.org.uk or 020 7840 6000



Q&A: NAOMI MORRIS

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In May 2018 RedR UK will take a leading role in the SimEx series, the UK's largest annual international disaster response exercise. Taking place over three days, on 14 sites with 600 actors and over 2,000 participants the event is an operational field exercise designed to test both national and international emergency response mechanisms. We spoke to the co-director of the SimEx series, Naomi Morris about her role in the event:

Tell us about who is involved:

"This year there are four lead agencies, one of which is RedR UK, there's also the University of Portsmouth, Hampshire Fire and Rescue Service, and L2S2. This is the first time that we've worked officially with RedR as a lead agency and it's really fantastic to have them and their experience on-board.

What is your role?

My role is helping to facilitate the various different organisations and to make sure that at the end it all comes together. While SimEx is running it's 24/7! I sit in the exercise control and we meet every two hours to check that we don't need to speed up or slow down any scenarios and that there are no health and safety concerns.

What is your favourite part of SimEx?

I really enjoy it when we get into the middle of the exercise; people are

getting into their roles, finding their operational feet whether they're new or more experienced and there's a real buzz. You can see that people really start to see the benefit of the training and the value of the evaluation system allowing us to gather evidence-based practice to help us all improve what we do.

What are you most looking forward to this year?

I'm looking forward to working with a wider demographic of role players including older adults from community groups and children from primary schools. The pre-training that we do with all of our groups of role players has been really rewarding; the primary school groups are interested in emergency response and it's a fantastic opportunity for them to participate. It's also a great opportunity for us to have that kind of real-life context in the scenario." ■



KnowledgePoint

Type a subject and search...



KNOWLEDGE POINT AN EXPERT IN YOUR BACK POCKET

Online humanitarian Q&A forum **KnowledgePoint** is celebrating the launch of its revamped website, bringing improved user experience, increased data security and innovative use of gaming technology to support humanitarian workers in the field.

Developed in 2012 through the collaborative partnership of RedR UK, WaterAid, IRC Wash and Practical Action, the forum gives free and fast technical advice to humanitarian workers. Since its launch it has gained over 80,883 users across 183 countries, with a network of more than 150 technical experts answering questions on topics ranging from public health to security and logistics.

It was used heavily by WHO specialists during the 2014-16 West Africa Ebola crisis to share information with field staff in remote locations. Between October 2015 and May 2016, 24

Ebola-related questions were asked, receiving 52 responses and being viewed collectively over 212,000 times. It was also used by the Global Water and Sanitation Cluster in both the Haiti earthquake and the 2017 Caribbean hurricanes.

Elhra's Humanitarian Innovation Fund (HIF) has provided extra support to upgrade the platform. The site is now optimised for mobile use, meaning that it is accessible even in low-bandwidth field conditions. KnowledgePoint Coordinator Harriette Purchas said:

"KnowledgePoint is like having an expert 'in your back pocket'. You can now have access to leading specialists across all sectors, regardless of where they are, and tap into the vast wealth of experience that exists in the humanitarian, development, academic and private sectors. For an aid worker in the field that is a powerful resource." ■