



ADRAUPDATE

Emergency Response

The events in Haiti and Chilli early in the year have once again brought to our attention how quickly normality can be disrupted. In just a few seconds the precious lives of men, women and children were changed forever. Fortunately ADRA Haiti's warehouse and office survived the earthquake and within hours ADRA workers started helping people.



As news about the disaster spread across the world ADRA-UK immediately donated £25,000 from our emergency disaster fund to assist. Our Haiti appeal has raised approximately £125,000 to help the afflicted and start rebuilding. In addition, ADRA-UK negotiated a grant of €800,000 from ICCO Netherlands (an inter church organisation for development cooperation) for the relief work in Haiti.

At these times of crisis the ADRA network is a strong partner.

Whereas other relief agencies need to look for partners on the ground in the disaster area, ADRA, both through its network of offices but also through the local churches, can always respond. And, unlike other agencies, ADRA will remain to help people in need.

In addition to the above, ADRA-UK has been involved in relief work in Uganda, China, Poland and Hungary this year.

New Projects Started

Our work in the last twelve months has continued to grow steadily.

In late 2009 ADRA-UK signed two large contracts with the European Commission for projects in Mongolia and Ghana. Together with a third project in Nepal these development projects started in early 2010.

Supported with funds from the 2010 Annual Appeal, the three projects each have a different focus. In Nepal ADRA will assist former child-soldiers to be re-integrated in society.

In Mongolia ADRA will help children with disabilities to have access to education and health care. The project in Ghana will address chronic food shortages in the north of the country and help 10,000 farmers to improve their food security and income levels. The projects with a total value of €2,3 million are co-financed by ADRA-UK and the EC, where our contributions vary between 5% and 25%.

For the Ghana project the European Commission will increase each pound ADRA-UK provides to £13. We have more information about these projects available on our website: <http://adra.org.uk>

New Submissions

Our Programmes Team has worked with many potential implementing partners. We are currently waiting for outcomes of submission for Burkina Faso (EC), Ghana (EC), Rwanda (both EC and DFID), Myanmar (EC) and India (DFID). A full proposal for South Africa is also in development (DFID).

Advocacy

The ADRA-UK team attended a two-day refresher workshop on 'Advocacy in Development' in November 2009 conducted by Dorte Pommerening of DPEvaluation. ADRA-UK has worked in the field of advocacy for many years but the workshop helped to fine-tune the approaches for our work.

The Programmes Team is currently researching advocacy issues arising from different countries e.g. child trafficking, child labour, advocacy rights for vulnerable people such as migrants, former child soldiers, orphans, the disabled and the elderly. Approaches to help resolve such issues would be of interest to DFID for funding in certain countries.

Staff Changes

In recent months we have had some personnel changes at ADRA-UK. Former Finance Officer David Yeo returned to his homeland Australia late last year.

Replacing him for some of his work is Helia Mateus who started part-time work as Programmes Finance Officer, strengthening the financial capacity of the team.

Valerie Austin returned to work for the South England Conference and has been replaced by Hilary Thompson as Office Secretary.

Tom Pignon was welcomed on the 1st of May to the team as a new Programmes Officer. Tom has worked most recently with the Red Cross in London and comes with overseas experience working in Afghanistan, Mozambique and Ecuador.

Kennedy Habasimbi is currently volunteering with our Programmes Team. Kennedy was previously a Programmes Manager for one of our projects in Zambia.

Annual Appeal Success

The 2010 Annual Appeal has been a success. We expect that, even amidst financial difficulties in the UK, the total raised will match that of 2009 at £600,000. Thousands of people have worked hard to help reach this success and we want to express our heartfelt thankfulness on behalf of all those we can continue to help.



New TV Spots and Development Video

In cooperation with Panopro, our video production company, ADRA-UK will be releasing a set of five new 30-second TV spots to feature elements of our work. The spots will also be available on YouTube for downloading. The new 7-minute video explains what ADRA-UK does and how you can help. The series will be available on DVD in September and is entitled 'you+ADRA=opportunities'.

Area Coordination

ADRA-UK will start to organise ADRA Area Coordinators this year. This will help to tie the work of ADRA closer to the churches and increase awareness of what the charity does. Godwin Benjamin, our Annual Appeal Coordinator, will contact the areas for their input. We are planning area meetings to inform about the work of ADRA-UK, organise the shoebox appeal and help in fundraising. If you are interested in being a part of this process please send us an email to info@adra.org.uk

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