This year's cohort of 53 full and part time students are from Europe, North America, Africa and Asia. As with each intake, the cohort is a mix of experienced aid workers, those new to development and others with careers in other sectors looking to apply their skills within the humanitarian aid sector.

Caitlin Briggs from California came to Oxford after working in Haiti and before that west Africa. Camilla Higgins from Northern Ireland worked for an NGO in Peru just before joining the programme. Zainab Koroma from the British Red Cross, Amy Merone from Christian Aid, Clement Kalonga from Oxfam GB and Tamsin Morrison from Opportunity International are taking the programme part time while continuing to work, while Pam Silko is attending full time after spending several years working with World Vision in South East Asia, including the Asian tsunami and Bumma's Cyclone Nargis.

This year's cohort of 53 full and part time students are from Europe, North America, Africa and Asia. As with each intake, the cohort is a mix of experienced aid workers, those new to development and others with careers in other sectors looking to apply their skills within the humanitarian aid sector.

This year's cohort of 53 full and part time students are from Europe, North America, Africa and Asia. As with each intake, the cohort is a mix of experienced aid workers, those new to development and others with careers in other sectors looking to apply their skills within the humanitarian aid sector.

Caitlin Briggs from California came to Oxford after working in Haiti and before that west Africa. Camilla Higgins from Northern Ireland worked for an NGO in Peru just before joining the programme. Zainab Koroma from the British Red Cross, Amy Merone from Christian Aid, Clement Kalonga from Oxfam GB and Tamsin Morrison from Opportunity International are taking the programme part time while continuing to work, while Pam Silko is attending full time after spending several years working with World Vision in South East Asia, including the Asian tsunami and Bumma's Cyclone Nargis.

Damaris Frick writes, I am doing the CENDEP course part-time. I have worked as an emergency relief worker for The Salvation Army Emergency Services for the last five years. This has taken me to disaster and conflict zones around the world. I strongly felt that I wanted to increase my knowledge and background by doing a practical course. The CENDEP course has been doing that and more. It is giving me new impulses and inspiration for thought. I enjoy the fact that the lecturers have broad experience in the field themselves and relate their teaching to it. It is also great that the course attracts people from various backgrounds, ethnically and regarding experience. The practical course challenges me to improve not only my own work but to influence my organisation as well.

Rabecca Moriku writes, My experience from living in a refugee camp for 16 of my 26 years in Northern Uganda is my biggest driver and motivation for pursuing this Masters Degree in Development and Emergency Practice. I was born a year after the start of the civil war in Sudan, and therefore never had an idea of how living in your own peaceful and stable country feels like. I have been living in a congested refugee camp in Northern Uganda and waiting for relief aid each new month from the Humanitarian aid Agencies. My admiration for humanitarian work grew stronger each passing day while in the refugee camp. I loved the aid workers and kept hoping that one day, if an opportunity presents itself, I would study to become an international humanitarian aid worker assisting many people around the world who would be in a similar situation like me, living in refugee camps as a result of either violent conflict and/or displacement due to natural disaster. For me, doing this course is a dream come true. Secondly, things have changed in my then country Sudan. The castation of South Sudan (where I come from), from the North presents many post conflict reconstruction and development challenges for the South.

I am doing the CENDEP course part-time. I have worked as an emergency relief worker for The Salvation Army Emergency Services for the last five years. This has taken me to disaster and conflict zones around the world. I strongly felt that I wanted to increase my knowledge and background by doing a practical course. The CENDEP course has been doing that and more. It is giving me new impulses and inspiration for thought. I enjoy the fact that the lecturers have broad experience in the field themselves and relate their teaching to it. It is also great that the course attracts people from various backgrounds, ethnically and regarding experience. The practical course challenges me to improve not only my own work but to influence my organisation as well.

Rabecca Moriku writes, My experience from living in a refugee camp for 16 of my 26 years in Northern Uganda is my biggest driver and motivation for pursuing this Masters Degree in Development and Emergency Practice. I was born a year after the start of the civil war in Sudan, and therefore never had an idea of how living in your own peaceful and stable country feels like. I have been living in a congested refugee camp in Northern Uganda and waiting for relief aid each new month from the Humanitarian aid Agencies. My admiration for humanitarian work grew stronger each passing day while in the refugee camp. I loved the aid workers and kept hoping that one day, if an opportunity presents itself, I would study to become an international humanitarian aid worker assisting many people around the world who would be in a similar situation like me, living in refugee camps as a result of either violent conflict and/or displacement due to natural disaster. For me, doing this course is a dream come true. Secondly, things have changed in my then country Sudan. The castation of South Sudan (where I come from), from the North presents many post conflict reconstruction and development challenges for the South.

I am doing the CENDEP course part-time. I have worked as an emergency relief worker for The Salvation Army Emergency Services for the last five years. This has taken me to disaster and conflict zones around the world. I strongly felt that I wanted to increase my knowledge and background by doing a practical course. The CENDEP course has been doing that and more. It is giving me new impulses and inspiration for thought. I enjoy the fact that the lecturers have broad experience in the field themselves and relate their teaching to it. It is also great that the course attracts people from various backgrounds, ethnically and regarding experience. The practical course challenges me to improve not only my own work but to influence my organisation as well.

Rabecca Moriku writes, My experience from living in a refugee camp for 16 of my 26 years in Northern Uganda is my biggest driver and motivation for pursuing this Masters Degree in Development and Emergency Practice. I was born a year after the start of the civil war in Sudan, and therefore never had an idea of how living in your own peaceful and stable country feels like. I have been living in a congested refugee camp in Northern Uganda and waiting for relief aid each new month from the Humanitarian aid Agencies. My admiration for humanitarian work grew stronger each passing day while in the refugee camp. I loved the aid workers and kept hoping that one day, if an opportunity presents itself, I would study to become an international humanitarian aid worker assisting many people around the world who would be in a similar situation like me, living in refugee camps as a result of either violent conflict and/or displacement due to natural disaster. For me, doing this course is a dream come true. Secondly, things have changed in my then country Sudan. The castation of South Sudan (where I come from), from the North presents many post conflict reconstruction and development challenges for the South.

I am doing the CENDEP course part-time. I have worked as an emergency relief worker for The Salvation Army Emergency Services for the last five years. This has taken me to disaster and conflict zones around the world. I strongly felt that I wanted to increase my knowledge and background by doing a practical course. The CENDEP course has been doing that and more. It is giving me new impulses and inspiration for thought. I enjoy the fact that the lecturers have broad experience in the field themselves and relate their teaching to it. It is also great that the course attracts people from various backgrounds, ethnically and regarding experience. The practical course challenges me to improve not only my own work but to influence my organisation as well.

Rabecca Moriku writes, My experience from living in a refugee camp for 16 of my 26 years in Northern Uganda is my biggest driver and motivation for pursuing this Masters Degree in Development and Emergency Practice. I was born a year after the start of the civil war in Sudan, and therefore never had an idea of how living in your own peaceful and stable country feels like. I have been living in a congested refugee camp in Northern Uganda and waiting for relief aid each new month from the Humanitarian aid Agencies. My admiration for humanitarian work grew stronger each passing day while in the refugee camp. I loved the aid workers and kept hoping that one day, if an opportunity presents itself, I would study to become an international humanitarian aid worker assisting many people around the world who would be in a similar situation like me, living in refugee camps as a result of either violent conflict and/or displacement due to natural disaster. For me, doing this course is a dream come true. Secondly, things have changed in my then country Sudan. The castation of South Sudan (where I come from), from the North presents many post conflict reconstruction and development challenges for the South.

I am doing the CENDEP course part-time. I have worked as an emergency relief worker for The Salvation Army Emergency Services for the last five years. This has taken me to disaster and conflict zones around the world. I strongly felt that I wanted to increase my knowledge and background by doing a practical course. The CENDEP course has been doing that and more. It is giving me new impulses and inspiration for thought. I enjoy the fact that the lecturers have broad experience in the field themselves and relate their teaching to it. It is also great that the course attracts people from various backgrounds, ethnically and regarding experience. The practical course challenges me to improve not only my own work but to influence my organisation as well.

Rabecca Moriku writes, My experience from living in a refugee camp for 16 of my 26 years in Northern Uganda is my biggest driver and motivation for pursuing this Masters Degree in Development and Emergency Practice. I was born a year after the start of the civil war in Sudan, and therefore never had an idea of how living in your own peaceful and stable country feels like. I have been living in a congested refugee camp in Northern Uganda and waiting for relief aid each new month from the Humanitarian aid Agencies. My admiration for humanitarian work grew stronger each passing day while in the refugee camp. I loved the aid workers and kept hoping that one day, if an opportunity presents itself, I would study to become an international humanitarian aid worker assisting many people around the world who would be in a similar situation like me, living in refugee camps as a result of either violent conflict and/or displacement due to natural disaster. For me, doing this course is a dream come true. Secondly, things have changed in my then country Sudan. The castation of South Sudan (where I come from), from the North presents many post conflict reconstruction and development challenges for the South.
Urban disasters – lessons from Haiti

Haiti’s earthquake of 12th January 2010 killed over 220,000 people, injured 300,000, left over one million homeless, and destroyed infrastructure, services and homes. Urban areas were particularly badly hit, with extensive damage and large numbers of people killed.

In response to the UK Disasters Emergency Committee (DEC) report, the UK government committed millions of pounds to help Haiti. But the aid had to go through the local government, which was slow to act, and so it did not reach the people for whom it was intended. The DEC commissioned a review to ask, “what can be learnt from international NGOs for the next urban disaster?” The question results from the recognition that NGOs are largely unprepared for urban disasters - events which are set to increase in number and severity, and which the World Bank calls a ‘game-changer’ in terms of the need for agencies to gear up for better response.

The 30 page review, led by David Sanderson with a team from India and Haiti, provided 10 recommendations, including the need to work closely with local government, to use cash-based approaches where possible, to reconsider the use of temporary shelter (and focus on long term housing instead), to work with the private sector and local markets, and to use ‘urban-oriented tools’. The final, main recommendation was to prepare for the next 3-5 large urban disasters that will almost certainly occur in the next 10 years. The report, which was launched by the DEC in March, is available on the DEC and CEDDEP websites. A two minute movie summarising the findings can also be seen on YouTube.

Architecture and Conflict


After an investigation of the role of architecture and space in conflict as well as the potential of architecture for peace and conflict transformation, this special issue combines a range of theoretical concerns - including national sovereignty, international law, human rights, territoriality and vulnerability - with case studies of key cities and regions, which include Belfast, Jerusalem and the West Bank.

Recent publications


Sanderson D and S. Swenarton M (2011) Learning from archi- tecture and conflict: Architecture Policy, Planning, Practice, Feb-


Sanderson D (2010) Architects are often the last people needed in disaster reconstruction, Article, The Guardian, 3 March

Architecture and Conflict


After an investigation of the role of architecture and space in conflict as well as the potential of architecture for peace and conflict transformation, this special issue combines a range of theoretical concerns - including national sovereignty, international law, human rights, territoriality and vulnerability - with case studies of key cities and regions, which include Belfast, Jerusalem and the West Bank.

Recent publications


Sanderson D and S. Swenarton M (2011) Learning from archi- tecture and conflict: Architecture Policy, Planning, Practice, Feb-


Sanderson D (2010) Architects are often the last people needed in disaster reconstruction, Article, The Guardian, 3 March

Urban disasters – lessons from Haiti

Haiti’s earthquake of 12th January 2010 killed over 220,000 people, injured 300,000, left over one million homeless, and destroyed infrastructure, services and homes. Urban areas were particularly badly hit, with extensive damage and large numbers of people killed.

Recent publications


Sanderson D and S. Swenarton M (2011) Learning from archi- tecture and conflict: Architecture Policy, Planning, Practice, Feb-


Sanderson D (2010) Architects are often the last people needed in disaster reconstruction, Article, The Guardian, 3 March

Architecture and Conflict


After an investigation of the role of architecture and space in conflict as well as the potential of architecture for peace and conflict transformation, this special issue combines a range of theoretical concerns - including national sovereignty, international law, human rights, territoriality and vulnerability - with case studies of key cities and regions, which include Belfast, Jerusalem and the West Bank.

Recent publications


Sanderson D and S. Swenarton M (2011) Learning from archi- tecture and conflict: Architecture Policy, Planning, Practice, Feb-


Sanderson D (2010) Architects are often the last people needed in disaster reconstruction, Article, The Guardian, 3 March

Architecture and Conflict


After an investigation of the role of architecture and space in conflict as well as the potential of architecture for peace and conflict transformation, this special issue combines a range of theoretical concerns - including national sovereignty, international law, human rights, territoriality and vulnerability - with case studies of key cities and regions, which include Belfast, Jerusalem and the West Bank.
The PUNJAB AGRARIAN CRISIS: IDENTIFYING THE CRITICAL FORMS OF RESILIENCE AND SUSTAINABLE FOOD SYSTEM

Mannneet Kaur

In this case study of rural Punjab, India’s introduced agricultural innovations, which came to be known as the Green Revolution, were evaluated in terms of their potential to transform the region into a sustainable food system. The study used this question as an entry-point and went beyond the local context to explore the wider contexts, considering the importance of linking commu- nity resilience to disaster risk reduction (DRR) and human security. It is proposed that the process of identifying and assessing the resilience of the institutional and community structures can be used to set precedents. This study challenges this notion by unearthing the unsustainable aspects that have come with the Green Revolution, such as water shortage and pollution, soil degradation, health problems, and campaigning for a more sovereign and sustainable food system.

REVISITING SHARANOBILA: A REVIEW OF POST- DISASTER ASSISTANCE: FROM RELIEF TO DEVELOPMENT IN A POST-CONFLICT ENVIRONMENT

Paul Stockley

The one day forum will explore and share lessons about community development through the arts and cultural action. It will comprise invited guests, plenary and smaller seminar optional sessions. Presentations (case studies, reflective pieces) by practitioners and academics from the NGO, business and cultural sector will be included, with the focus on specific areas of interest, where insiders may want to investigate the different forms of resilience and sustainability of the Palestinian people when facing the ‘Wall system’. Those forms of resilience include the different coping strategies of the population to keep on developing their life despite the system of occupation, and also all the different initiatives of Palestinian and the international civil societies through advocacy, symbolic actions (such as the paintings on the Wall), alternative tourism or humani- tarian and development programmes. The conference brought together around 160 participants and led to the launch of ‘Wall Studies’, a commitment of the different universities to keep on investigating and acting through different research and creative pro- jects for a better understanding of Occupation of Space. The conference was co-organised by the Arab Educational Centre, a local NGO specialised in conflict transformation.
Bill Flinn writes, Shelter after Disaster is a new CENDEP 20 credit optional module. Over 35 students attended the course - an indicator of the interest that this emerging subject is generating. The module sought to set a balance between a reflective, discursive methodology through group work and case studies and a more rigorous approach to building principles, shelter theory and disaster risk reduction. Guest speakers, mainly from practice and all experts in their field, used examples from, among other countries, Haiti, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Indonesia, Cuba, Bangladesh and India to illustrate the scale, breadth and the complexity of shelter programmes. The course emphasises that there are no easy answers to shelter after a disaster and every set of circumstances is unique. There is one common factor however: that the people affected by a disaster are not victims but the first responders and the most important partners in any response.

The reasons for this failure are several. They include: the lack of secure funding for UNHCR and its consequent dependence on government donations; the sheer volume of the refugee crisis in the post-colonial world; and the narrow scope of the protection regimes. The usual protection mechanisms which are decentralised and being able to constantly adapt; and creating workable partnerships.

They were also asked what kind of academic offeringBrooke's Business School were interested in. Many responded that short courses (particular where supported by distance and flexible learning), coaching, mentoring and action learning would be attractive options. While identifying the usual leadership functions in NGOs (such as setting direction, articulating vision and values, and staff management), the research also revealed a range of unique leadership concerns in NGOs, for example, the need to keep a close eye on the bottom line; productivity metrics, value for money and staff motivation. In addition some new elements are being drawn from the business sector, such as the best business planning practices. According to Richard Carver, Executive Director of UNHCR, UNHCR has become largely focused on the coordination of organisations which are decentralised, the need for ‘rights-based approaches,’ the trend in the twenty-first century takes increasing account of humanitarianism. Whereas much humanitarian work in the colonial world; and the narrow scope of the protection regime, which is still largely unchanged, excludes the refugee as an individual fleeing the threat of persecution, usually on grounds of belief or political affiliation. It takes little account of the actual causes of most contemporary forced migration, such as conflict, disaster and ethnic cleansing.

Small some but important steps forward have been taken. For example, there have been serious efforts to address the singular protection needs of people displaced by disasters or conflict who do not cross national borders. In Europe and North America, the response to refugeefugees has become bound up with the ‘war on terror.’ The victims of violence have often suffered doubly, being excluded or detained as part of a geometric influx has become bound up with the ‘war on terror.’

In 2011-12 CENDEP will be offering a new 20 credit optional module. ‘The Refugee Experience: Humanitarian Challenge’ will examine the changing protection regime and political context of forced migration, as well as issues such as refugee livelihoods, the psychosocial impacts of displacement, and durable solutions.

CENDEP are now carrying out a major initiative, with the support of the Workforce Development Fund of Oxford Brooks University, with a view to developing new initiatives in this area.

In Europe and North America, the response to refugia refugees has become bound up with the ‘war on terror.’ The victims of violence have often suffered doubly, being excluded or detained as part of a geometric influx has become bound up with the ‘war on terror.’

Some small but important steps forward have been taken. For example, there have been serious efforts to address the singular protection needs of people displaced by disasters or conflict who do not cross national borders. In Europe and North America, the response to refugees has become bound up with the ‘war on terror.’ The victims of violence have often suffered doubly, being excluded or detained as part of a geometric influx has become bound up with the ‘war on terror.’
Since 2010 the world has witnessed overwhelming urban disasters in Japan, Haiti, Christchurch and Brisbane. Japan, often considered the most prepared country, has been able to recover fairly quickly. The tragic impact of Haiti’s earthquake underlines this. Littleis better action is taken. rapid urban growth with large concentrations of people, too often living dangerous places, will lead to more stories like those of Haiti.

In this in the humanitarian aid community is looking for the ‘silver bullet’ to end disaster. More importantly it also needs to prepare for it in advance. It is often the case that forcing good building codes, building a strong civil society, still suffered losses and catastrophic damage. It is however a capability that can be learnt. After all is often liberating! And while the non-architects would talk, brainstorm and write, so the architects would talk, brainstorm and write, so the architects

Social change born of responsible popular uprising is something to be celebrated. It stands in stark contrast to the atrocities and societal trauma of development by civil war and political trauma. It is a very rare period of time that development practitioners need to understand and leverage to good effect. The old poor countries will set the pace in the next 20 years.

CENDEP is wise to be using partnerships and alumni to build networks across these rich-poor regions. Brian Phillips (Programme Leader, 2002-2006) writes, It was especially exciting to be invited to become part of CENDEP in 2002 – just as vital conversations about the need for ‘rights-based approaches’ in both the humanitarian and development sectors started to become urgent themes in global activism. Having spent the previous eleven years working for Amnesty International, I was delighted to develop a distinctive human rights practice strand for the Centre’s renowned Master’s course. It was an immense privilege to help forge imaginatively links between previously separate disciplines as the boundaries between humanitarianism, development, and human rights work were increasing blurring. Today’s upsurge in inter-governmental and non-governmental organisations alike. The growing emphasis on the protection of social and economic rights in human rights work at this same time made that creative process within CENDEP even more compelling.

I will always remain grateful to the many colleagues and students who contributed to the development of the Centre’s evolution – whether through the testing and refinement of new curriculum or other CENDEP initiatives such as the now-annual Oxford Brookes Human Rights Film Festival, currently in its ninth year and going from strength to strength.

CENDEP’s Masters of Science degree in Development Practice (DP) was first offered in 1991 and had an intake of 15. Since then it has evolved into a multidisciplinary degree offering modules concerning conflict, disasters, chronic poverty, refugees and human rights. The programme has had four programme leaders, who here reflect on the past 20 years and speculate on the next 20.

David Sanderson (DEP programme leader since 2006 and DP student 1991) writes, Arriving from the USA the buzz was of well over 8 billion. Of these around five billion will live in cities and towns, with the biggest commuting happening in Africa. As engines of economic growth, cities and towns bring opportunities for communities in managing their own risk, especially among those who are the most vulnerable - but is it possible to reduce vulnerability. The tragic impact of Haiti’s earthquake underlines this. Little is better action is taken; rapid urban growth with large concentrations of people, too often living dangerous places, will lead to more stories like those of Haiti.

In this in the humanitarian aid community is looking for the ‘silver bullet’ to end disaster. More importantly it also needs to prepare for it in advance. It is often the case that forcing good building codes, building a strong civil society, still suffered losses and catastrophic damage. It is however a capability that can be learnt. After all is often liberating! And while the non-architects would talk, brainstorm and write, so the architects would talk, brainstorm and write, so the architects

In this in the humanitarian aid community is looking for the ‘silver bullet’ to end disaster. More importantly it also needs to prepare for it in advance. It is often the case that forcing good building codes, building a strong civil society, still suffered losses and catastrophic damage. It is however a capability that can be learnt. After all is often liberating! And while the non-architects would talk, brainstorm and write, so the architects would talk, brainstorm and write, so the architects

In this in the humanitarian aid community is looking for the ‘silver bullet’ to end disaster. More importantly it also needs to prepare for it in advance. It is often the case that forcing good building codes, building a strong civil society, still suffered losses and catastrophic damage. It is however a capability that can be learnt. After all is often liberating! And while the non-architects would talk, brainstorm and write, so the architects would talk, brainstorm and write, so the architects

In this in the humanitarian aid community is looking for the ‘silver bullet’ to end disaster. More importantly it also needs to prepare for it in advance. It is often the case that forcing good building codes, building a strong civil society, still suffered losses and catastrophic damage. It is however a capability that can be learnt. After all is often liberating! And while the non-architects would talk, brainstorm and write, so the architects would talk, brainstorm and write, so the architects

Social change born of responsible popular uprising is something to be celebrated. It stands in stark contrast to the atrocities and societal trauma of development by civil war and political trauma. It is a very rare period of time that development practitioners need to understand and leverage to good effect. The old poor countries will set the pace in the next 20 years.

CENDEP is wise to be using partnerships and alumni to build networks across these rich-poor regions. Brian Phillips (Programme Leader, 2002-2006) writes, It was especially exciting to be invited to become part of CENDEP in 2002 – just as vital conversations about the need for ‘rights-based approaches’ in both the humanitarian and development sectors started to become urgent themes in global activism. Having spent the previous eleven years working for Amnesty International, I was delighted to develop a distinctive human rights practice strand for the Centre’s renowned Master’s course. It was an immense privilege to help forge imaginatively links between previously separate disciplines as the boundaries between humanitarianism, development, and human rights work were increasing blurring. Today’s upsurge in inter-governmental and non-governmental organisations alike. The growing emphasis on the protection of social and economic rights in human rights work at this same time made that creative process within CENDEP even more compelling.

I will always remain grateful to the many colleagues and students who contributed to the development of the Centre’s evolution – whether through the testing and refinement of new curriculum or other CENDEP initiatives such as the now-annual Oxford Brookes Human Rights Film Festival, currently in its ninth year and going from strength to strength.
Daniela Mota writes. In January 2011, as part of the annual DEP field trip, 14 students undertook a 12 day community assessment in Morjin, a village in India’s Goa State. The work was undertaken with the Indian NGO SEEDS India and the International Centre in Goa (ICG). The assessment focused on the threats of climate change along the coastal northern edge of Goa and the potential threat to vulnerable communities. Activities included discussions with local stakeholders and the use of participatory rapid appraisal (PRA) tools, including mapping and transect walks.

At the end of the assessment student made two presentations. The first was to local residents in the fish market, wherein attendees were invited to provide feedback and comments on draft findings, including voting on which recommendations residents thought were most important. A second session was held later in the same day at the ICG offices and was attended by academics, experts and journalists. At that event the final report ‘Morjim at risk? Vulnerable communities field trip’ was launched and discussed. The report received widespread interest in the media and was reported on the front pages of the Times of India and The Goa Herald, as well as appearing in several websites and other newspapers. As a result of this study an electronic platform ‘Goa Action Research’ was created to share information on current issues in Goa.

9th Human rights arts and film festival

Bethanie Cunnick writes. The line-up for the 2011 Human Rights Film Festival included mainstream feature films such as Ajami, Persepolis, Maria Full of Grace and this in addition to documentaries such as Forgotten Birds of Paradise. El Problema and Gender Against Men were shown by directors, activists, representatives from NGOs, scholars and authors, who discussed the role of women in the arts and development, accompanied by a visual feast of shorts, snippets of films and documentaries.

The children’s rights night, in conjunction with local organisation Community Albums who seek to give children a voice, began with an uplifting welcome message from a group of children in Uganda. The festival closed with a comedy sketch show, ‘Worlds Collide’ from comedy duo Robin and Partridge.

The Digital Human Rights Film festival is an annual event, showing feature films, documentaries, shorts and animations in venues throughout Oxford, presented by directors, activists, representatives from NGOs, scholars and authors. The event is run each year as an initiative of CENDEP students who organise the event and secure the films. The festival is free of charge and open to all.

Moriim at risk? Vulnerable communities field trip

Bethanie Cunnick writes. The line-up for the 2011 Human Rights Film Festival included mainstream feature films such as Ajami, Persepolis, Maria Full of Grace and this in addition to documentaries such as Forgotten Birds of Paradise. El Problema and Gender Against Men were shown by directors, activists, representatives from NGOs, scholars and authors, who discussed the role of women in the arts and development, accompanied by a visual feast of shorts, snippets of films and documentaries.

The children’s rights night, in conjunction with local organisation Community Albums who seek to give children a voice, began with an uplifting welcome message from a group of children in Uganda. The festival closed with a comedy sketch show, ‘Worlds Collide’ from comedy duo Robin and Partridge.

The Digital Human Rights Film festival is an annual event, showing feature films, documentaries, shorts and animations in venues throughout Oxford, presented by directors, activists, representatives from NGOs, scholars and authors. The event is run each year as an initiative of CENDEP students who organise the event and secure the films. The festival is free of charge and open to all.

9th Human rights arts and film festival

Bethanie Cunnick writes. The line-up for the 2011 Human Rights Film Festival included mainstream feature films such as Ajami, Persepolis, Maria Full of Grace and this in addition to documentaries such as Forgotten Birds of Paradise. El Problema and Gender Against Men were shown by directors, activists, representatives from NGOs, scholars and authors, who discussed the role of women in the arts and development, accompanied by a visual feast of shorts, snippets of films and documentaries.

The children’s rights night, in conjunction with local organisation Community Albums who seek to give children a voice, began with an uplifting welcome message from a group of children in Uganda. The festival closed with a comedy sketch show, ‘Worlds Collide’ from comedy duo Robin and Partridge.

The Digital Human Rights Film festival is an annual event, showing feature films, documentaries, shorts and animations in venues throughout Oxford, presented by directors, activists, representatives from NGOs, scholars and authors. The event is run each year as an initiative of CENDEP students who organise the event and secure the films. The festival is free of charge and open to all.

Moriim at risk? Vulnerable communities field trip

Bethanie Cunnick writes. The line-up for the 2011 Human Rights Film Festival included mainstream feature films such as Ajami, Persepolis, Maria Full of Grace and this in addition to documentaries such as Forgotten Birds of Paradise. El Problema and Gender Against Men were shown by directors, activists, representatives from NGOs, scholars and authors, who discussed the role of women in the arts and development, accompanied by a visual feast of shorts, snippets of films and documentaries.

The children’s rights night, in conjunction with local organisation Community Albums who seek to give children a voice, began with an uplifting welcome message from a group of children in Uganda. The festival closed with a comedy sketch show, ‘Worlds Collide’ from comedy duo Robin and Partridge.

The Digital Human Rights Film festival is an annual event, showing feature films, documentaries, shorts and animations in venues throughout Oxford, presented by directors, activists, representatives from NGOs, scholars and authors. The event is run each year as an initiative of CENDEP students who organise the event and secure the films. The festival is free of charge and open to all.
Children’s wellbeing, Tanzania

Matt Banks (DP 2005-06) writes, Graduating with my MA has been a passport to many interesting adventures that I am still attaining in 2006. Immediately after graduating I got a job in Sri Lanka as director for a small English speaking charity in the north of the country. Initially I was supporting the emergency response team supporting the on-going responses to the 2010 Haiti earthquake and Pakistani floods along with numerous smaller disasters. As part of the training we went through an intense six month Emergency Operations Programme which includes distance learning sessions on topics such as health, child protection and project management. I am now off to all of this training into practice and spend the next six months helping implement Save programmes as a roving field officer in southern Sudan. It’s going to be an exciting time to be in South Sudan because it’s an independent country. The last year and a half has changed my life, from a banker and salesman in international business in Canada to an emergency worker in Sudan. I’ve got to have my place in this humanitarian community.

Kevin Dunbar, (DEP 2010-10) writes, I was lucky enough to move straight from handing in my dissertation to a traineeship in the Save the Childrens’ Emergency Department called the Humanitarian Skills Development Programme (DEP). This 13 month contract was an amazing opportunity to work with the emergency response team and support a range of local partners implementing a range of community orientated programmes that promote the development and well-being of young children. It is a combination of capacity building of service delivery to young children in targeted areas of the country backed up by a young evidence-based approach to community based programming. I’ve been continually supported by a range of experts in various fields, has greatly helped and has served to open doors for future employment opportunities.

From Haiti to the DRC

Ian and Monica Verhaeghe (DEP 2008-09) write, While writing our CENDEP dissertations, we felt it was important to focus on topics that would not only ‘tick’ all the academic boxes, but would also serve to open doors for future employment opportunities.

A short period interning with Tearfund, the end of our respective contracts coincided with the January 2010 earthquake that rocked Haiti and left more than 200,000 dead. This time we had already begun a 13-month contract as WASH (Water, Sanitation and Hygiene) Co ordinators with a US-based NGO. Under various USAID grants and privately funded programmes, Monica was responsible for facilitating household WASH kits and hiring national staff to create hygiene education and health interventions. As a sector, Ian was responsible for providing clear water and access to emergency latrines in over 100 camps, to try to mitigate the outbreak of disease.

In October 2010 just as Haiti began to stabilise and experience positive change, Hurricane Thomas was hurling a devastating storm at Haiti. A highlight has been using ASPIRE - our in-house poverty reduction and sustainability tool - that can be used for monitoring and evaluation as well as programme design and management. We undertook an assessment in Haiti in January 2011 following the January 2010 earthquake that rocked Haiti and left more than 200,000 dead. This time we had already begun a 13-month contract as WASH (Water, Sanitation and Hygiene) Co ordinators with a US-based NGO. Under various USAID grants and privately funded programmes, Monica was responsible for facilitating household WASH kits and hiring national staff to create hygiene education and health interventions in several camps. Ian was responsible for providing clear water and access to emergency latrines in over 100 camps, to try to mitigate the outbreak of disease.

From Haiti to the DRC

Ian and Monica Verhaeghe (DEP 2008-09) write, While writing our CENDEP dissertations, we felt it was important to focus on topics that would not only ‘tick’ all the academic boxes, but would also serve to open doors for future employment opportunities.

A short period interning with Tearfund, the end of our respective contracts coincided with the January 2010 earthquake that rocked Haiti and left more than 200,000 dead. This time we had already begun a 13-month contract as WASH (Water, Sanitation and Hygiene) Co ordinators with a US-based NGO. Under various USAID grants and privately funded programmes, Monica was responsible for facilitating household WASH kits and hiring national staff to create hygiene education and health interventions in several camps. Ian was responsible for providing clear water and access to emergency latrines in over 100 camps, to try to mitigate the outbreak of disease.

In October 2010 just as Haiti began to stabilise and experience positive change, Hurricane Thomas was hurling a devastating storm at Haiti. A highlight has been using ASPIRE - our in-house poverty reduction and sustainability tool - that can be used for monitoring and evaluation as well as programme design and management. We undertook an assessment in Haiti in January 2011 following the January 2010 earthquake that rocked Haiti and left more than 200,000 dead. This time we had already begun a 13-month contract as WASH (Water, Sanitation and Hygiene) Co ordinators with a US-based NGO. Under various USAID grants and privately funded programmes, Monica was responsible for facilitating household WASH kits and hiring national staff to create hygiene education and health interventions in several camps. Ian was responsible for providing clear water and access to emergency latrines in over 100 camps, to try to mitigate the outbreak of disease.

From Haiti to the DRC

Ian and Monica Verhaeghe (DEP 2008-09) write, While writing our CENDEP dissertations, we felt it was important to focus on topics that would not only ‘tick’ all the academic boxes, but would also serve to open doors for future employment opportunities.

A short period interning with Tearfund, the end of our respective contracts coincided with the January 2010 earthquake that rocked Haiti and left more than 200,000 dead. This time we had already begun a 13-month contract as WASH (Water, Sanitation and Hygiene) Co ordinators with a US-based NGO. Under various USAID grants and privately funded programmes, Monica was responsible for facilitating household WASH kits and hiring national staff to create hygiene education and health interventions in several camps. Ian was responsible for providing clear water and access to emergency latrines in over 100 camps, to try to mitigate the outbreak of disease.

In October 2010 just as Haiti began to stabilise and experience positive change, Hurricane Thomas was hurling a devastating storm at Haiti. A highlight has been using ASPIRE - our in-house poverty reduction and sustainability tool - that can be used for monitoring and evaluation as well as programme design and management. We undertook an assessment in Haiti in January 2011 following the January 2010 earthquake that rocked Haiti and left more than 200,000 dead. This time we had already begun a 13-month contract as WASH (Water, Sanitation and Hygiene) Co ordinators with a US-based NGO. Under various USAID grants and privately funded programmes, Monica was responsible for facilitating household WASH kits and hiring national staff to create hygiene education and health interventions in several camps. Ian was responsible for providing clear water and access to emergency latrines in over 100 camps, to try to mitigate the outbreak of disease.

From Haiti to the DRC

Ian and Monica Verhaeghe (DEP 2008-09) write, While writing our CENDEP dissertations, we felt it was important to focus on topics that would not only ‘tick’ all the academic boxes, but would also serve to open doors for future employment opportunities.

A short period interning with Tearfund, the end of our respective contracts coincided with the January 2010 earthquake that rocked Haiti and left more than 200,000 dead. This time we had already begun a 13-month contract as WASH (Water, Sanitation and Hygiene) Co ordinators with a US-based NGO. Under various USAID grants and privately funded programmes, Monica was responsible for facilitating household WASH kits and hiring national staff to create hygiene education and health interventions in several camps. Ian was responsible for providing clear water and access to emergency latrines in over 100 camps, to try to mitigate the outbreak of disease.

In October 2010 just as Haiti began to stabilise and experience positive change, Hurricane Thomas was hurling a devastating storm at Haiti. A highlight has been using ASPIRE - our in-house poverty reduction and sustainability tool - that can be used for monitoring and evaluation as well as programme design and management. We undertook an assessment in Haiti in January 2011 following the January 2010 earthquake that rocked Haiti and left more than 200,000 dead. This time we had already begun a 13-month contract as WASH (Water, Sanitation and Hygiene) Co ordinators with a US-based NGO. Under various USAID grants and privately funded programmes, Monica was responsible for facilitating household WASH kits and hiring national staff to create hygiene education and health interventions in several camps. Ian was responsible for providing clear water and access to emergency latrines in over 100 camps, to try to mitigate the outbreak of disease.

From Haiti to the DRC

Ian and Monica Verhaeghe (DEP 2008-09) write, While writing our CENDEP dissertations, we felt it was important to focus on topics that would not only ‘tick’ all the academic boxes, but would also serve to open doors for future employment opportunities.

A short period interning with Tearfund, the end of our respective contracts coincided with the January 2010 earthquake that rocked Haiti and left more than 200,000 dead. This time we had already begun a 13-month contract as WASH (Water, Sanitation and Hygiene) Co ordinators with a US-based NGO. Under various USAID grants and privately funded programmes, Monica was responsible for facilitating household WASH kits and hiring national staff to create hygiene education and health interventions in several camps. Ian was responsible for providing clear water and access to emergency latrines in over 100 camps, to try to mitigate the outbreak of disease.

In October 2010 just as Haiti began to stabilise and experience positive change, Hurricane Thomas was hurling a devastating storm at Haiti. A highlight has been using ASPIRE - our in-house poverty reduction and sustainability tool - that can be used for monitoring and evaluation as well as programme design and management. We undertook an assessment in Haiti in January 2011 following the January 2010 earthquake that rocked Haiti and left more than 200,000 dead. This time we had already begun a 13-month contract as WASH (Water, Sanitation and Hygiene) Co ordinators with a US-based NGO. Under various USAID grants and privately funded programmes, Monica was responsible for facilitating household WASH kits and hiring national staff to create hygiene education and health interventions in several camps. Ian was responsible for providing clear water and access to emergency latrines in over 100 camps, to try to mitigate the outbreak of disease.
Early on I took on production of the newsletter, and decided to get articles from some of our guest speakers, as come and share their concerns and ideas which, as it turned out, became part of the development of the course. Viv Walker (former Programme Secretary) writes on water, pastoral and nomadic education programmes throughout Africa. Despite already 20 years’ experience of working in the field, the course was a real eye-opener for me. The stimulating subjects combined with the fascinating mix of students inspired rich and thought-provoking debates which fuelled my dream of deepening my understanding of development in Africa.

Since completing the course I have put my learning into practice as Director of SOS Sahel International UK for five years, and more recently worked with the Ministry of Northern Kenya and other Arid Lands to manage their Education for No-development, but had never previously had the chance to dissect. I really valued the opportunity to reflect on the conundrums that I had witnessed in development, but had never previously had the chance to dissect. Despite already having 20 years’ experience of working in the field, the course was a real eye-opener for me. The stimulating subjects combined with the fascinating mix of students inspired rich and thought-provoking debates which fuelled my dream of deepening my understanding of development in Africa.

Viv Walker (former Programme Secretary) writes on water, pastoral and nomadic education programmes throughout Africa. Despite already 20 years’ experience of working in the field, the course was a real eye-opener for me. The stimulating subjects combined with the fascinating mix of students inspired rich and thought-provoking debates which fuelled my dream of deepening my understanding of development in Africa.

Viv Walker (former Programme Secretary) writes on water, pastoral and nomadic education programmes throughout Africa. Since completing the course I have put my learning into practice as Director of SOS Sahel International UK for five years, and more recently worked with the Ministry of Northern Kenya and other Arid Lands to manage their Education for No-development, but had never previously had the chance to dissect. I really valued the opportunity to reflect on the conundrums that I had witnessed in development, but had never previously had the chance to dissect. Despite already having 20 years’ experience of working in the field, the course was a real eye-opener for me. The stimulating subjects combined with the fascinating mix of students inspired rich and thought-provoking debates which fuelled my dream of deepening my understanding of development in Africa.


Sue Cavanna (DP, 2002-03) writes, Before embarking on the Masters course at CENDEP I had spent five years with VSO in Zambia, five years working for ACORD in Equatorial Guinea, six years as WaterAid’s Country Representative in Rwanda, and three years for a Kenyan NGO in the Nairobi slums and the pastoral drylands. It was a big decision for me to begin the degree, juggling the coursework with helping my family adjust to life back in the UK. But, it is a decision that I am immensely glad I took.

Sue Cavanna (DP, 2002-03) writes, Before embarking on the Masters course at CENDEP I had spent five years with VSO in Zambia, five years working for ACORD in Equatorial Guinea, six years as WaterAid’s Country Representative in Rwanda, and three years for a Kenyan NGO in the Nairobi slums and the pastoral drylands. It was a big decision for me to begin the degree, juggling the coursework with helping my family adjust to life back in the UK. But, it is a decision that I am immensely glad I took.

Sue Cavanna (DP, 2002-03) writes, Before embarking on the Masters course at CENDEP I had spent five years with VSO in Zambia, five years working for ACORD in Equatorial Guinea, six years as WaterAid’s Country Representative in Rwanda, and three years for a Kenyan NGO in the Nairobi slums and the pastoral drylands. It was a big decision for me to begin the degree, juggling the coursework with helping my family adjust to life back in the UK. But, it is a decision that I am immensely glad I took.

Djihan Skinner (DEP 2008-09) writes, The DEP course was my ‘launch pad’ out of a previous academic job in Islamic history and into my long-standing interest in cultural developmental education. Equipped with practical tools, approaches and thinking I was able to grasp the opportunity to put on-the-ground experience – somewhat engineered since I wanted this course to be the basis of my PhD thesis – and the work to be the basis of my dissertation. Numerous emails later I found myself volunteering at CARE Ethiopia on pastoralist livelihoods.

Once the dissertation was in, out went emails and a few weeks later I landed in Cambodia for more volunteering with CARE but this time working on a programme to expand the livelihoods and skills of smallholder farmers in the remote, jungle province of Koh Kong. One thing led to another and after an engaging 4 months I was offered a paid job by another international NGO there. So now it’s off to the paddy fields in Takeo Province, Cambodia to manage a project focusing on maternal and child health, education and skills of youth living in the remote, jungle provinces of Southern Cambodia.


Djihan Skinner (DEP 2008-09) writes, The DEP course was my ‘launch pad’ out of a previous academic job in Islamic history and into my long-standing interest in cultural developmental education. Equipped with practical tools, approaches and thinking I was able to grasp the opportunity to put on-the-ground experience – somewhat engineered since I wanted this course to be the basis of my PhD thesis – and the work to be the basis of my dissertation. Numerous emails later I found myself volunteering at CARE Ethiopia on pastoralist livelihoods.

Once the dissertation was in, out went emails and a few weeks later I landed in Cambodia for more volunteering with CARE but this time working on a programme to expand the livelihoods and skills of smallholder farmers in the remote, jungle province of Koh Kong. One thing led to another and after an engaging 4 months I was offered a paid job by another international NGO there. So now it’s off to the paddy fields in Takeo Province, Cambodia to manage a project focusing on maternal and child health, education and skills of youth living in the remote, jungle provinces of Southern Cambodia.

Djihan Skinner (DEP 2008-09) writes, The DEP course was my ‘launch pad’ out of a previous academic job in Islamic history and into my long-standing interest in cultural developmental education. Equipped with practical tools, approaches and thinking I was able to grasp the opportunity to put on-the-ground experience – somewhat engineered since I wanted this course to be the basis of my PhD thesis – and the work to be the basis of my dissertation. Numerous emails later I found myself volunteering at CARE Ethiopia on pastoralist livelihoods.

Once the dissertation was in, out went emails and a few weeks later I landed in Cambodia for more volunteering with CARE but this time working on a programme to expand the livelihoods and skills of smallholder farmers in the remote, jungle province of Koh Kong. One thing led to another and after an engaging 4 months I was offered a paid job by another international NGO there. So now it’s off to the paddy fields in Takeo Province, Cambodia to manage a project focusing on maternal and child health, education and skills of youth living in the remote, jungle provinces of Southern Cambodia.

Prior to studying at CENDEP in 1996-1997, Zenaida Delica-Willison (bottom photo, far right) was the Executive Director of the Citizens’ Disaster Response Center, a national civil society organisation in the Philippines with 18 regional affiliates. She served at the same Center for one more year after the Masters course ended. It was an opportunity to frame her years of practical experience into development theories. In 1999, she joined the Asian Disaster Preparedness Center (ADPC), a regional training and resource center on disaster risk management, where she served as the Director of Training and Education for four years. She designed and developed various training modules on disaster management and risk reduction intended for various audiences from government to NGOs and UN agencies, and directed national, regional and international courses.

Since January 2005, she has been with the United Nations Development Programme as Disaster Risk Reduction Advisor of the Special Unit for South-South Cooperation. She was actively involved in facilitating South-South cooperation among developing countries in disaster risk reduction.

Zenaida Delica-Willison-Prior to studying at CENDEP in 1996-1997, Zenaida Delica-Willison (bottom photo, far right) was the Executive Director of the Citizens’ Disaster Response Center, a national civil society organisation in the Philippines with 18 regional affiliates. She served at the same Center for one more year after the Masters course ended. It was an opportunity to frame her years of practical experience into development theories. In 1999, she joined the Asian Disaster Preparedness Center (ADPC), a regional training and resource center on disaster risk management, where she served as the Director of Training and Education for four years. She designed and developed various training modules on disaster management and risk reduction intended for various audiences from government to NGOs and UN agencies, and directed national, regional and international courses.

Since January 2005, she has been with the United Nations Development Programme as Disaster Risk Reduction Advisor of the Special Unit for South-South Cooperation. She was actively involved in facilitating South-South cooperation among developing countries in disaster risk reduction.

When she was studying at Oxford Brookes University, she was one of those 10,000 human rights victims who filed a pioneering action suit against President Ferdinand Marcos, under whose term Zenaida had been imprisoned for two and a half years for political activism. The Court of Hawaii judged in favor of the human rights victims and instructed the Marcoses to compensate the victims. However, justice was denied for too long. Only on 7th March this year, she was one of those 7,500 human rights victims who was compensated. As most of them said, it was not the amount - what matters most is that their cause was vindicated. She is proud to be part of the group who are pioneers in establishing principles of civil responsibility for massive violations of the laws of humanity.

When she was studying at Oxford Brookes University, she was one of those 10,000 human rights victims who filed a pioneering action suit against President Ferdinand Marcos, under whose term Zenaida had been imprisoned for two and a half years for political activism. The Court of Hawaii judged in favor of the human rights victims and instructed the Marcoses to compensate the victims. However, justice was denied for too long. Only on 7th March this year, she was one of those 7,500 human rights victims who was compensated. As most of them said, it was not the amount - what matters most is that their cause was vindicated. She is proud to be part of the group who are pioneers in establishing principles of civil responsibility for massive violations of the laws of humanity.