



2000 report

Jesuit Refugee Service



Set up by Pedro Arrupe SJ in 1980, JRS is an international Catholic organisation with a mission to accompany, serve and plead the cause of refugees and forcibly displaced people.

The **2000 Report** is published in English, Spanish, Italian and French.

Cover photo: Mark Raper SJ/
JRS, Nimule, southern Sudan

Publisher: Lluís Magriñà SJ
Editor: Danielle Vella
Production: Stefano Maero

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Fr Pedro Arrupe, his heart as large as the world, focused our service to the refugee poor in establishing JRS. Now, 20 years later, Jesuits and companions are present with refugee and displaced communities in nearly every area of the world. This presence is often just 'being there', listening, crying, praying, bonding, healing, learning how to be servants of Christ's mission.

*Mike Schultheis SJ,
former JRS associate director*



<http://www.jesref.org>

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John Kleiderer/JRS



Tanzania: The Jubilee Cross of Kigoma Diocese, carried by refugees in Mtendeli camp on Ash Wednesday.

MESSAGE FROM THE INTERNATIONAL DIRECTOR

20 YEARS OF SERVING DISPLACED PEOPLE



The year 2000 was of special significance for Jesuit Refugee Service, because we marked 20 years of existence, and 10 years since the death of our founder, Pedro Arrupe SJ.

Since the start of its mission, JRS has aimed to be present primarily among refugees forgotten by the mass media. This commitment has led some of our companions to sacrifice their lives in the service of displaced people. One of these was Br Antonio Bargiggia, a JRS worker in Bujumbura, Burundi, who was assassinated in October, on the day I started my service as international director.

This year, our team in the Moluccas was evacuated due to intensified ethnic violence. During 2001, we hope to be able to help displaced people return home to those Indonesian islands. In Colombia, violence and displacement worsened with the approval of the US aid package, *Plan Colombia*, and many Colombian refugees arrived in Venezuela, Panama and Ecuador, where we developed new projects. We increased assistance to internally displaced people in Kinshasa and Lubumbashi, Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC). In India's southern province of Tamil Nadu, our team grew, extending its service to Tamil refugees from Sri Lanka in 100 of 125 camps.

We are increasingly worried about the many refugees who have lived in camps for several years, not knowing when they will be able to return home. The patience of refugee-hosting countries appears to be getting thin as they tire of the lack of political will to solve long-running conflicts. Sudan, Sri Lanka, Burundi, Angola and Colombia are some countries ravaged by wars, which risk becoming chronic and forgotten by the international community.

International debate during 2000 focused on identifying an institutional solution to the plight of 30 million internally displaced people worldwide, those who fled violence but did not leave their country of origin. No international agency sees it within its mandate to co-ordinate assistance and protection for internally displaced people. Difficulty of access to such populations and their frequently insecure surroundings, continue to be prevalent obstacles faced by humanitarian agencies.

One sign of hope this year was the growing possibility of return home for the Bhutanese refugees, who have lived in camps in eastern Nepal for the past decade. We hope they will be able to go back home as soon as possible. In West Timor, despite violence and intimidation in the camps, refugees returned to East Timor little by little. JRS was present with the refugees throughout the whole year, helping them and informing them on the situation in their home country.

In Europe, we witnessed contradictory trends over the past year. While the European Union (EU) tried to elaborate a Human Rights Charter, it closed its borders more firmly than ever against those who needed protection. Some countries were more concerned with detaining asylum seekers and enacting ever more rigid laws, than

taking action to redress the situations these people fled from. Asylum seekers from countries at war were often classified as 'illegal' because they did not fit the strict definition of who is a 'refugee' according to the 1951 Geneva Convention.

The adaptation of existing international and national legislation to respond to the present reality is a pressing challenge, to interpret laws in a fair and flexible way, based on an in-depth analysis of the countries asylum seekers come from. Traditional hospitality towards refugees has given way to hostility not only in Europe, but also in places such as Thailand, Guinea Conakry, and Tanzania, to name a few. This year, JRS witnessed India closing its borders to refugees escaping from Sri Lanka, where their lives were in danger.

In 2000, we celebrated the Jubilee, which urged us to keep on working for reconciliation. Our closeness with refugees and displaced people gives us strength and hope to persevere in the construction of a world where peace, justice and fraternity become a reality.

I would like to close by mentioning Mark Raper SJ, JRS International director for the last 10 years, whom I have the honour of succeeding. We thank him for the huge work he has done and we ask God to help him in his new service. To all of you, thank you for your collaboration, prayers and support of our mission in favour of refugees in these 20 years of JRS.

Thank you very much,

Lluís Magriñà SJ

REFUGEE RIGHTS

JRS advocacy work in 2000

Amaya Valcárcel, JRS International policy officer

It is an intrinsic part of our spirituality work to strengthen international laws and encourage governments to pay attention to the problems of the refugees.

Pedro Arrupe SJ, addressing African Bishops in Cameroon, 1981

In recent years, the link between human rights and forced displacement has assumed a growing importance within JRS as field workers have become increasingly conscious of an urgent need to bear witness to the violations experienced by those they work with. As an organisation, JRS is in the process of developing advocacy networks, both within and with other agencies, to ensure that the primary right of refugees to speak for themselves is respected.

The first step in our mission to defend refugees is to listen to them; we seek to represent their views and concerns in international fora where their fate is often decided. To achieve this end, personnel on the ground collaborate closely with JRS workers in Geneva, Brussels, Rome and the US. In several countries, JRS also lobbies extensively on a national level for fair and humane treatment of refugees and asylum seekers. Areas of particular concern to JRS are asylum seekers in detention and refugees in urban areas.

Activities undertaken in 2000

Internal displacement

Debate among United Nations (UN) agencies and non-governmental organisations (NGOs) about an institutional response to the needs of internally displaced people dominated much of the year. Together with other NGOs, JRS was involved in visits of international bodies to situations of internal displacement, especially the UN Senior Inter-Agency Network on Internal Displacement, set up in September this year to identify gaps in assistance and protection.

Other initiatives included:

- research in Angola and Kenya;
- lobbying against *Plan Colombia*, a US aid package, which NGOs argued would increase forced displacement in Colombia.

Repatriation

Nepal

Together with refugee leaders, JRS workers in Nepal, Geneva and Brussels continued to lobby for the return home of the Bhutanese refugees.

West Timor

JRS consistently drew public attention to the assistance and protection needs of East Timorese refugees.

Tanzania

JRS expressed concern, both publicly and with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), about repatriation plans voiced this year regarding Burundian refugees in the Tanzania camps.

Cambodia

Research on the reintegration of returnees was undertaken this year.

Asylum policies

JRS monitored EU attempts to harmonise national asylum and immigration policies. With other groups, JRS

produced analyses of EU proposals on temporary protection, family reunification and the Dublin Convention, as a basis for advocacy. A report on irregular migrants, based on research commissioned by JRS in Germany, Spain and the UK, was published.

JRS actively lobbied for two different US legislative proposals: one to reverse the extremely restrictive asylum policies passed in 1996 and another to provide protection for unaccompanied minor children in detention.

In Asia, JRS lobbied against the forced return of Tamil refugees fleeing the war in Sri Lanka, who were prevented from reaching Indian shores.

In Australia, JRS undertook research about temporary protection and the adoption of "safe third country" legislation.

In Lusaka, Zambia, JRS developed information guidelines for refugees in urban areas.

Global consultations

JRS prepared contributions to the UNHCR Global Consultations on the 1951 Refugee Convention, which will take place in 2001.

Contextual analysis

Contextual analysis is vital for a just advocacy strategy. In April, a seminar, *Africa at the Threshold of the XXI Century*, took place in the Deusto University, Bilbao, Spain, at the initiative of JRS and the Human Rights Institute of Deusto.

Campaigns

JRS kept up its activities in the International Campaign to Ban Landmines and the Coalition to Stop the Use of Child Soldiers.



John Kleiderer/JRS

In October, the JRS Uganda director arrived back in Kampala from Labone in South Sudan, travelling through the area of the Ebola virus outbreak. His journey highlighted several current issues for Sudan: there is the need to start new work, especially in education, in South Sudan; the fact that the war goes on, and few have returned home; the outbreak of the Ebola virus, which compounded the misery of poor and displaced people in northern Uganda.

However, in spite of misery, I am impressed by how much people achieve against the odds. At our refugee community centre in Addis Abeba, a Yemeni refugee described how he was helped to learn both English and Amharic in a short time, when he arrived with only Arabic.

In Ethiopia, JRS started a new project this year to help people return home after displacement at the end of the last war (1991). Now more assessment is to be done for those displaced in the most recent war. New arrivals in Tanzania from Burundi throughout 2000 are numbered in tens of thousands. On the border, our pastoral workers explored the many dimensions of the term 'reconciliation'. The JRS Radio Kwizera project in Ngara, Tanzania, has been thoroughly overhauled and is highly regarded by all agencies in the field. In Kenya, the new JRS director, Jane Munge, led our Nairobi projects to re-evaluate present work and to plan for the future in a country where the situation has not changed much. A sign of change was the possible hope of repatriation for Somalis, but at the same time, more new arrivals came from Sudan and the Grands Lacs region.

On 1 October this year, a former Sudanese slave girl was canonised: St Bakhita, meaning 'fortunate'. In spite of her trials, she had a great sense of the goodness of God. May she help us to feel the same way. Many thanks to all our helpers, supporters and especially those who pray for us; we do the same for you!

Stephen Power SJ, JRS Eastern Africa director



This year saw the arrival in Kenya of asylum seekers from Eritrea, Ethiopia, DRC, Burundi, Rwanda, Sudan and Somali Bantus. At the beginning of the year, it was estimated that the population of refugees in Kakuma camp was 65,000 and 125,000 in Dadaab camp. According to the UNHCR, there were over 12,000 refugees and many more asylum seekers in urban areas. Kenya has enjoyed relative peace in the past. However this year, adverse socio-economic and political factors threatened the country's stability. In 2000, a sharp rise in the inflation rate and the introduction of electricity rationing led to increased costs and a drop in the living standards of many people. The declining economic situation, with unemployment at 42 per cent, meant more hardship for rejected refugees and asylum seekers.

JRS Kenya director
Jane Munge

JRS projects in Kenya

parish outreach

NAIROBI This program, operational in nine parishes, offered counselling, food and non-food items, medical vouchers and financial assistance.

Project director: Antoninah Njau

Beneficiaries: 880 people regularly received assistance, mostly rejected refugees pending appeal, single heads of households, elderly people without support, and new arrivals. Around 1,300 families received packages in four food allocations.

income-generating

NAIROBI Refugee projects funded by the JRS income-generating program suffered this year, as handicraft products were considered by many to be luxuries and hence not affordable. Despite this setback, refugees (70 per cent women) continued to benefit through loans and grants, and new projects indicated a good success rate.

Project director: Anna Rutainurwa

Beneficiaries: 200 families

scholarships

NAIROBI

Project director: Luise Radlmeier OP

Beneficiaries: 236 students enrolled on the program

KAKUMA camp The program enabled refugee students to get placements in Kenyan schools.

Project director: Antony Vadakkanchery

Beneficiaries: 128 secondary and 13 primary school students

distance learning

KAKUMA The JRS distance learning centre served students selected for a pilot project with the University of South Africa, UNISA.

Project director: Connie Dryden RSCJ

Beneficiaries: 28 students, ranging between 23 and 42 years

social service

KAKUMA Services included counselling, alternative healing, and a rehabilitation centre for victims of abuse, torture and other traumatising experiences.

Project director: Dorothy Pilkington SSJ

Beneficiaries:

- counselling: clients increased from 1,225 per month to over 1,900;
- 62 refugees received training in counselling, 20 became JRS employees;
- alternative healing: 5,000 women until September, 943 men until May;
- teenage mothers program: 20 girls;
- rehabilitation centre: 64 to 80 clients daily.

Tanzania hosted 496,093 refugees as at December 2000. Most refugees came from Burundi and live in camps in Kibondo and Ngara districts. Detailed plans for repatriation of the Burundians from Tanzania dominated concerns for this refugee population. However, although there are plans for return phased over three years, starting from mid-2001, repatriation is not expected to be immediate, given the unabated violence in Burundi. In fact, new arrivals from Burundi kept crossing to Tanzania throughout the year. Nearly 50,000 arrived in the Kibondo camps and a new camp, Kitali, was opened in Ngara when 7,100 refugees arrived in October alone. The poor quality of information put out about possible repatriation caused considerable tension for the refugees, who faced further hardship when their food rations were slashed to 60 per cent for several months.



JRS Tanzania director
Katie Erisman MM

JRS projects in Tanzania

NGARA district The number of pupils attending our pre-school project in Lukole A and B camps increased in 2000 with the completion of a fourth school, which was constructed with considerable support from the community, especially parents of the pupils, and other NGOs.

Project director: Marie Huguet-Latour
Beneficiaries: 1,300 children

pre-school

KIBONDO district JRS co-ordinated pastoral services in five camps – Mkugwa, Kanembwa, Nduta, Mtendeli, Karago – concentrating its efforts on the last three.

Project director: Elias Lopez SJ
Beneficiaries/achievements:

- accompanying more than 100 small Christian communities;
- formation of 300 leaders through seminars and workshops;
- Christian education addressing 3,000 youths;
- peace building and reconciliation formation for 50 people;
- two libraries in Nduta and Mtendeli camps used by 5,000 people;
- facilitating liturgical celebrations attended by more than 8,000 people.

pastoral

NGARA Radio Kwizera continued to broadcast to both refugees and the local population, contributing to reconciliation by providing accurate and balanced information and through awareness and educational programs.

Project director: Hugues Delétraz SJ
Achievements included:

- technical evaluation in June;
- Radio Kwizera staff started to implement recommendations of overall and technical evaluations, including an upgrading of radio equipment and an extension of services to Kibondo district.

Radio Kwizera

We saw groups of refugees, both Hutu and Tutsi. It was very sad. We saw refugees, mostly mothers, fatigued by the flight, and children with swollen eyes due to lack of sleep and infection. The refugees carried their livestock (chicken, goats, sheep, pigs), intent on taking their only wealth to the camps. But UNHCR vehicles had little room so the refugees had to sell the animals to Tanzanians at throw-away prices.

Radio Kwizera station manager, Charles Njanga



Countries in conflict surround Uganda: DRC to the west and the civil war in Sudan to the north. In spite of its own problems with rebel groups in the north and west, Uganda still maintained a welcoming attitude to people fleeing from conflict in neighbouring states. In December, Uganda was hosting 213,872 refugees. The majority were refugees from the war in Sudan, living in northern Uganda in settlement areas, mostly Adjumani and Moyo districts, where they are gradually moving towards self-reliance. Around 6,000 new refugees from Sudan and an estimated 1,800 Congolese refugees came to Uganda this year. In addition, there were over 600,000 internally displaced people in Uganda at the end of the year, mostly as a result of rebel activity.

JRS Uganda director

Mike Foley CFX (until December), Aden Raj

JRS projects in Uganda

education **ADJUMANI district** As implementing partner of UNHCR, JRS provided formal education, at primary, secondary and tertiary level, for children from both refugee and local communities. The program faced difficulties this year due to cuts in UNHCR funding, with delays in payment of wages to school personnel and the suspension of activities like sports and peace education. JRS also ran a nursery program in 56 nursery schools.

Project director: Stefano Canu

Beneficiaries: 40,459 children; 1012 teachers.

adult literacy **RHINO camp, northern Uganda** Adults with no or low literacy skills were enrolled in this ongoing program.

Beneficiaries: 200 people, 75 per cent women

pastoral **ADJUMANI** This project, which included counselling, medical and educational services, aimed to strengthen lay leadership.

Project coordinator: Joan Kelleher RSM

Beneficiaries/achievements:

- training attended by 110 youth animators, leaders and 136 catechists;
- 'reflection days' drew 600 youths and 250 participants from lay associations;
- promotion of girls' education involved 850 women;
- 379 women learnt business skills; 425 women were assisted to set up shops; seeds, hoes and embroidery material were distributed to 47 groups.

RHINO JRS undertook sacramental ministry, assisted by 27 catechists and 25 church leaders. Regular training was held for catechists, pastoral leaders, and church groups.

Project coordinator: Francisco Ornelas SJ

Beneficiaries:

- around 18,000 Catholics;
- 400 benefited from training.

co-operatives **RHINO** Ten groups were formed, mostly led by women, to undertake cultivation or small-scale businesses.

Beneficiaries: 70 participants and their families

urban project **KAMPALA** JRS continued to assist asylum seekers, especially the most vulnerable cases. Most arrived from DRC. Psychosocial and basic legal counselling and referral were provided, together with subsistence assistance of food, rent, transport and medication.

Project coordinator: Frances Philipa Eluzai

Beneficiaries: 4,633 between January and October

The long-running civil war continued in Sudan, with no perceptible progress achieved in the Inter-Governmental Authority of Development (IGAD) peace talks. The war fuels widespread death and displacement: Sudan reportedly has the largest number of internally displaced people in the world, with estimates of about four million. In early 2000, Sudan became an oil-exporting nation. The oil development and export activities of the government only served to fuel the war, resulting in further suffering for civilians, as revenue was pumped into the government's war machine. Found in highly disputed territory, especially in the south, the oil is a stumbling block to any peace negotiations. Government bombing of civilian and humanitarian targets totalled 152 reported incidents throughout the year, with attacks intensifying in November and December.



JRS projects in Sudan

NIMULE, south Sudan JRS continued to support community-initiated schools among a population of indigenous and internally displaced people, with training and incentives for teachers, scholastic and construction materials, transport, and a school-feeding program. In March, Nimule was bombed twice in as many weeks, and many pupils dropped out of school for fear of the bombs.

Project director: Gemal Batwel

Beneficiaries/achievements:

- primary: 4,060 children in 11 schools;
- secondary: 208 students in one school;
- adult literacy: 512 learners in six centres.

LABONE, south Sudan In December 2000, JRS set up a new education project in a camp for internally displaced people. The program started to operate fully in January 2001, and will focus for the first months on improving the primary schools.

Project director: Mike Foley CFX

MAPOURDIT Mary Batchelor OLSH, seconded by JRS to the Rumbek diocese, carried on working in a primary school for displaced people.

Beneficiaries: 1,400 children

MAPOURDIT A sister seconded by JRS, Moira Lynch OLSH, continued to run a clinic.

Beneficiaries: 10,000 to 13,000 people a month

education

health

Primary school children in Nimule, south Sudan: JRS supports the education of over 6,000 children in Sudan.





A peace agreement brokered by the Organisation for African Unity (OAU) between Ethiopia and Eritrea was signed in December, ending a two-year border conflict, which had fuelled widespread death, deportation and displacement. The fratricidal conflict had been resumed in 1998 despite the fact that both countries were beleaguered by famine caused by drought, which affected between eight to 10 million people. Despite the obstacles facing Ethiopia, the war came to an end and the government and NGOs were seen to have handled the famine effectively, especially in terms of getting assistance to the victims. In Ethiopia, there are 271,000 refugees from over 15 countries in Africa, the majority from Sudan and Somalia. This year, the Sudanese refugee population increased by over 10,000, while the Somali refugees decreased as a result of voluntary repatriation.

JRS Ethiopia director
Ozy Gonsalves SJ

JRS projects in Ethiopia

parish outreach

ADDIS ABEBA The ongoing program provided assistance to refugees and asylum seekers trying to survive in the city. Services included medical treatment, provision of meal tickets, financial assistance and transport fare to camps.

Project coordinator: Hanna Petros

Beneficiaries: 1,774 refugees, 84% were Sudanese

rehabilitation

KALITI, outskirts of Addis Abeba The project was set up this year to offer skills training and capital to internally displaced people, to enable them to return home or relocate elsewhere in Ethiopia. The beneficiaries were displaced in the war ended 1991 and were living in deplorable conditions in a camp.

Project director: Abiy Alazar

Beneficiaries: 283 families

community centre

ADDIS ABEBA A community centre continued to function, aiming to enhance the self-reliance of refugees. Services included income-generating activities, counselling, medical support and emergency assistance. A library, recreational activities, and classes in English, French, music and day care, were also available.

Beneficiaries included:

- 244 received counselling or medical assistance;
- 30 children attended a day care centre daily for tutorial classes;
- 70 attended sports activities and training regularly;
- 25 benefited from income-generating projects.

I go with Tony Calleja SJ (JRS pastoral program) to Karago camp, western Tanzania, where he says Mass. Karago is a new camp started just over a year ago, when people were talking of the peace process for Burundi. The war in fact escalated.

The church is of great interest to me as last time I visited, it was just being started; the people made bricks and stood in long lines to pass them to points around the ground. Now it is there: new, large and with the roof of plastic sheeting. Tony says he feared it was too large but it turns out to be too small already. This seems to be Tony's parish and the people glow with smiles as he shakes their hands at the sign of peace. I suppose there must have been about 1,500 people just at this Mass.

JRS Eastern Africa director, Stephen Power SJ



Mtendeli camp, Tanzania



Lukole camp, Tanzania

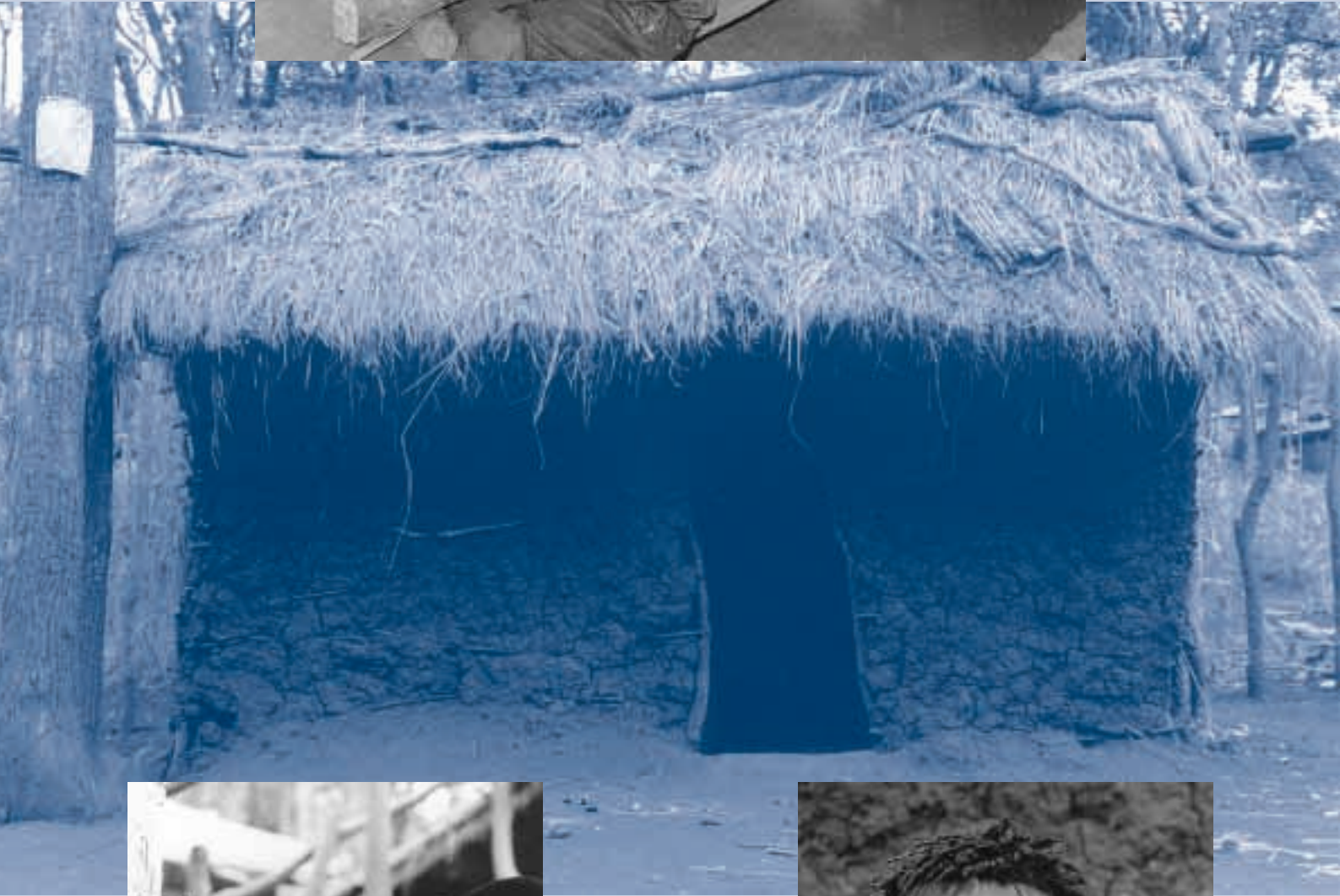


in the church of
Nduta camp, Tanzania



Photos:
John Kleiderer/JRS

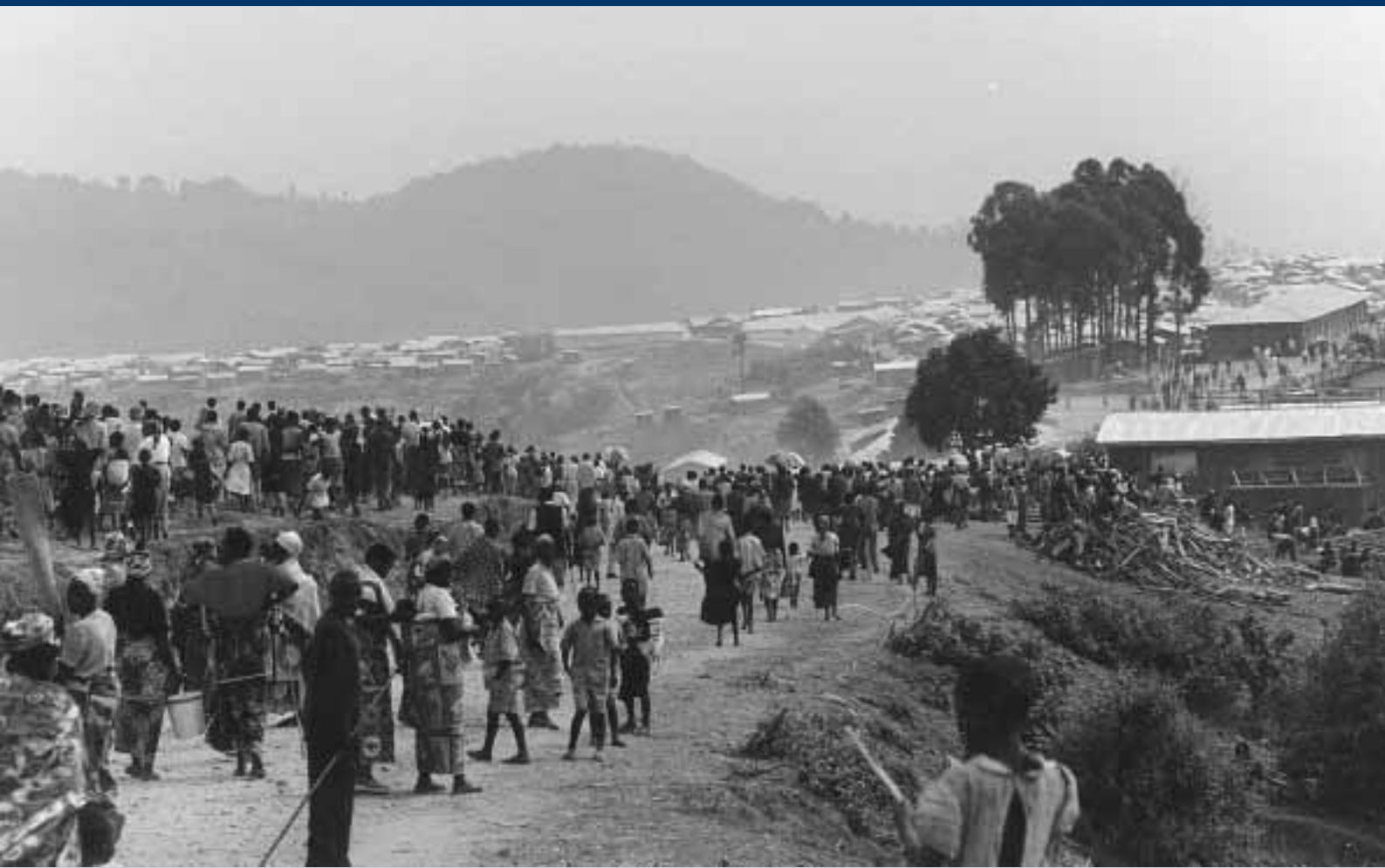
hut in a Tanzania camp



Mtendeli camp,
Tanzania



Nduta camp,
Tanzania



Mark Raper SJ/JRS

The Republic of Congo is making a slow recovery thanks to last year's cease-fire. Sadly, as in all wars, the conflict tore at the country's social fabric, and the destruction of the infrastructure hindered the return of displaced populations, as well as their reintegration. Another cease-fire was signed in 1999 in a neighbouring country, DRC. However, the cease-fire was violated twice this year with fighting in Kisangani and Equateur. Meanwhile, in Kivu province, conflict intensified and the Bishop of Bukavu, Mgr Katakilo, a symbol of peace and truth, died in October.

The Burundi government and the Hutu and Tutsi opposition parties, engaged in peace talks since 1998, signed the *Arusha Agreements about Peace and Reconciliation in Burundi* in August and September. We believe this is an important step towards the end of the conflict and the commitment of Burundi to a stable and dynamic process of development and democracy. However, fighting continued, with civilians as the main victims. It is impossible to know how many were killed, but we know there was heavy loss of life. One victim was an Italian, Br Antonio Bargiggia, a member of JRS Burundi. At the end of the year, more than 200,000 people were still living in camps located in several parts of Burundi, such as Bururi and Bubanza. These sites are in remote places, with little or no humanitarian assistance, and the displaced people often had no means to protect themselves from harsh weather conditions.

In this context, JRS has committed itself to the rehabilitation process in the Republic of Congo with two new projects to assist returnees. In DRC, JRS also set up new projects to reach out to internally displaced people living in urban areas. In Burundi, an initiative took off in Bujumbura diocese, both to prevent the spread of Aids and to assist those dying of the disease.

Joaquin Ciervide SJ, JRS Grands Lacs director

Fr Ciervide took over from Mateo Aguirre SJ in July



JRS Burundi director
Vincent de Marcillac SJ

A peace accord signed in Arusha on 28 August by Tutsi and Hutu political parties was a step forward after seven years of civil war. However, a cease-fire was not reached with the major Hutu rebel groups, which refused to sign the agreement. The security situation on the ground remained volatile; civilians were caught in the cross-fire and submitted to human rights violations perpetrated with near impunity by warring parties. According to the Organisation for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), there were 393,776 internally displaced people and 25,048 refugees in Burundi as at December 2000. Although some regroupment camps set up by the government in 1999 were disbanded this year following international condemnation, new relocation took place in remote areas. A visit by the UN Senior Inter-Agency Network on Internal Displacement in October revealed that lack of safe access to vulnerable populations was a "major constraint" to the provision of assistance.

JRS projects in Burundi

food distribution

REGROUPMENT CAMPS Until November, JRS distributed World Food Program (WFP) food in two regroupment sites set up by the government in September 1999.

Project director: Javier Marticorena

Beneficiaries: 40,000

health

MUNANIRA A JRS clinic maintained provision of health services to people in Muramvya province. This year, the clinic was robbed twice and money and medicine stolen. A local team worked alongside international workers.

Project director: Sylvie Clement

Beneficiaries: around 34,000 people in the province

KIYANGE JRS continued to operate a dispensary in this suburb of Bujumbura.

Beneficiaries: 200 patients daily

KIYANGE A project set up this year focused on health education and provision of food and care to abandoned Aids victims. Around 30 volunteers were trained to raise awareness about Aids prevention in parishes in Bujumbura diocese.

Project director: Chantal Gerard

income-generating

BUJUMBURA A coffee shop set up by JRS late in the year also served as a venue to sell handicrafts produced in JRS workshops in Buterere (a suburb of Bujumbura) and Kiyange.

BUTERERE A restaurant was run as an income-generating project by 15 women.

BUTERERE A centre for the formation of women provided adult literacy classes, training and income-generating projects.

Beneficiaries: around 80 women

KIYANGE Tailoring, weaving, carpentry and other skills were learnt and applied in JRS workshops, which produced a range of items including carpets, baskets, belts and wallets. Another project produced bricks. Bread was baked and mushrooms grown for sale to restaurants.

Project director: Pascal Martin

Beneficiaries: around 20 people in each workshop

orphans

BUTERERE JRS continued to run a home for orphans apart from other projects in this neighbourhood.

Beneficiaries: 25 children

DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO

The civil war continued despite a cease-fire agreement signed in Lusaka in July and August 1999. Six other African nations were involved in the war, which also spawned three major rebel movements. None of the parties to the conflict fully respected their commitments under the cease-fire. Rwandan and Ugandan forces clashed in Kisangani and the army, rebels and Ugandan troops fought in Equateur province. Little respect was shown for the human rights of the civilian population; indiscriminate attacks, extrajudicial executions of civilians, rape, and large-scale destruction of civilian property were reported. Following a request by the parties to the conflict for rapid deployment of a UN peace-keeping force, the UN Security Council approved a force in February, which would be deployed only after cessation of hostilities. There were over two million internally displaced people in DRC at the end of the year, not to mention thousands who sought refuge in other countries. OCHA reported an increase of almost 50 per cent this year in the number of affected people.



JRS projects in DRC

JRS assisted internally displaced people in Lubumbashi, and in three camps – Sicotra, Ngandamusolo, Bralima – in and near Kinshasa. About 4,700 people were sheltered in the sites in Kinshasa. JRS set up in Bralima and Sicotra this year.

SICOTRA, NGANDAMUSOLO camps JRS operated training workshops in sewing and embroidery.

Beneficiaries: 45 women attended workshops

training

SICOTRA JRS sponsored secondary school registration for some students.

Beneficiaries: 42 students

education

NGANDAMUSOLO JRS set up a primary school in this site.

BRALIMA, NGANDAMUSOLO, SICOTRA camps JRS delivered monthly food packages to children suffering from malnutrition in Ngandamusolo and also provided primary health care and food in the other camps.

Beneficiaries: over 4,000 people

food, primary care

LUBUMBASHI JRS provided assistance to displaced people living in urban areas.

Beneficiaries: around 1000 people

I am – quite simply – a resident in Buterere who goes to the well for water and who runs away with the people in the night when the shooting comes. This presence allows me to approach everyone. Young people come to our house and we have a personal relationship with them, where trust is reciprocal. To our house comes a mother who weeps at the loss of her son... she knows she can confide in us and be understood. It is easy to visit someone old or sick and to bring a smile with us. We look, as much as we can, for ways to offer concrete help to those who have nothing to eat, to those who are sick with AIDS, who need special attention.

Br Antonio Bargiggia, who wrote this, was killed on 3 October. He was shot by one of four men – soldiers in service – who stopped him at a roadblock. Forty-three-year old Br Antonio had lived in Burundi for 20 years, and for the last three, was JRS director in Buterere.



Mark Raper SJ/JRS



A brutal civil war in the Republic of Congo (RC), which caused massive displacement, ended with the signing of a cease-fire in 1999. With the cease-fire holding, displaced civilians returned to their homes in increasing numbers this year. Of an estimated 810,000 displaced people (including tens of thousands of refugees), more than 630,000 had returned to their places of origin by July, according to OCHA. Meanwhile, 100,000 new refugees from DRC, mostly from Equateur province, came to the north of Republic of Congo. Little humanitarian aid was available. The dispersal of the refugees in the forest hindered provision of aid and support, as the refugees were often located in places inaccessible to vehicles.

JRS projects in Congo

health **NKAYI** This year, JRS set up a mobile health centre to cater for tens of thousands of people who had sought refuge in the forests and who were in urgent need of humanitarian assistance.

Project director: Antoinette Loulendo FMM

Beneficiaries: 120 medical visits daily

reconstruction **KIBOUENDE** JRS supported the reconstruction of a town situated near the railway line Brazza – Pointe Noire.

Project director: Patrice Batantou SJ

Beneficiaries: 120 houses rebuilt

Rwanda: Adult literacy classes are provided by JRS to Congolese refugee women in Kibuye camp.



The speaker of the national assembly, the prime minister, and the president all quit their posts under pressure this year. General Paul Kagame was elected president by the assembly in April. The number of alleged 'disappearances' and people who were detained increased. Some 3,000 mainly Hutu Rwandans fled the country between April and July 2000, twice the number of the whole of 1999, allegedly because of increased insecurity. Many others were moved to government-established 'villages' in a forced relocation process largely seen to be a counter-insurgency strategy. Lacking the resources to build new houses, hundreds of thousands of people lived in temporary shelters made of tree limbs, leaves, and pieces of plastic. Estimates of internally displaced people in Rwanda vary: as of end of December 1999, UNHCR said there were none, while the World Refugee Survey of 2000 (US Committee for Refugees) put the figure at 600,000. Meanwhile, some 40,000 Congolese people of Rwandan ethnic origin are refugees in Rwanda.



JRS Rwanda director
Abbé Desiré Seruhungu

JRS projects in Rwanda

BYUMBA, KIBUYE refugee camps JRS carried on operating schools providing primary and secondary education as well as kindergarten.

Beneficiaries:

- Kibuye: 3,200 students in school, 300 children in kindergarten;
- Byumba: 3,500 students and 300 children.

education

KIBUYE Adult literacy was combined with learning how to improve child care, nutrition and other practical skills.

Beneficiaries: 80 to 100 women

adult literacy

BYUMBA, KIBUYE Workshops and income-generating projects included tailoring, weaving, handicrafts, carpentry and hairdressing. Three-month courses were organised, and people who were trained joined co-operatives.

Beneficiaries:

- 75 people in Kibuye;
- 120 people in Byumba.

**training,
income-generating**

BYUMBA A program for malnourished children provided complementary food.

Beneficiaries: 160 children

nutrition

BYUMBA, KIBUYE People deemed vulnerable, like the elderly and people suffering from Aids were accompanied and given supplementary food packages.

Beneficiaries: 100 people in each camp

vulnerable refugees

BYUMBA, KIBUYE JRS personnel worked with catechists in the camps, providing formation and preparing church liturgies.

Beneficiaries:

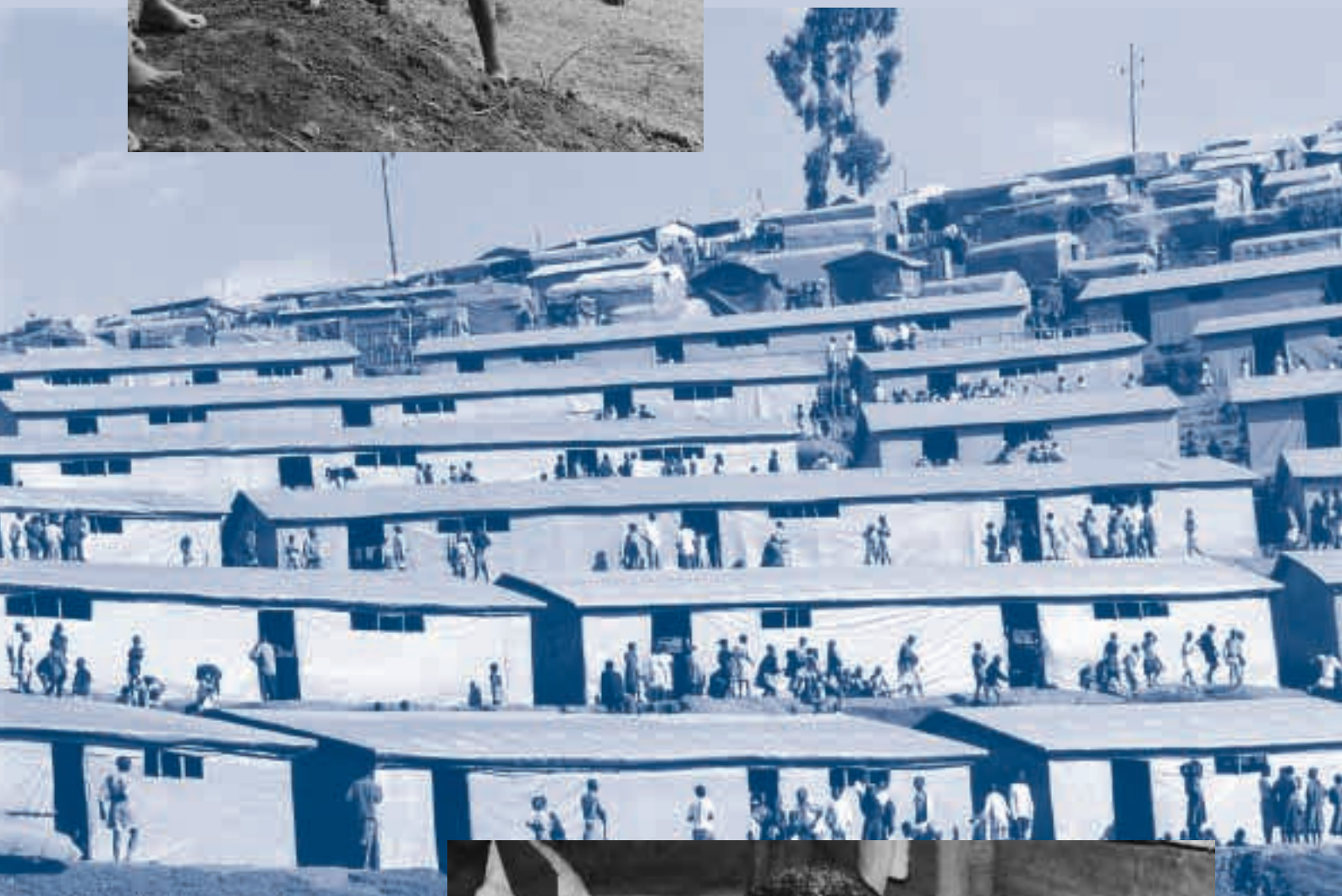
- around 30 catechists in each camp benefited from formation;
- each camp has a population of 15,000 people, around 80% are Catholic.

pastoral



refugee camp, Rwanda

refugee camp, Rwanda

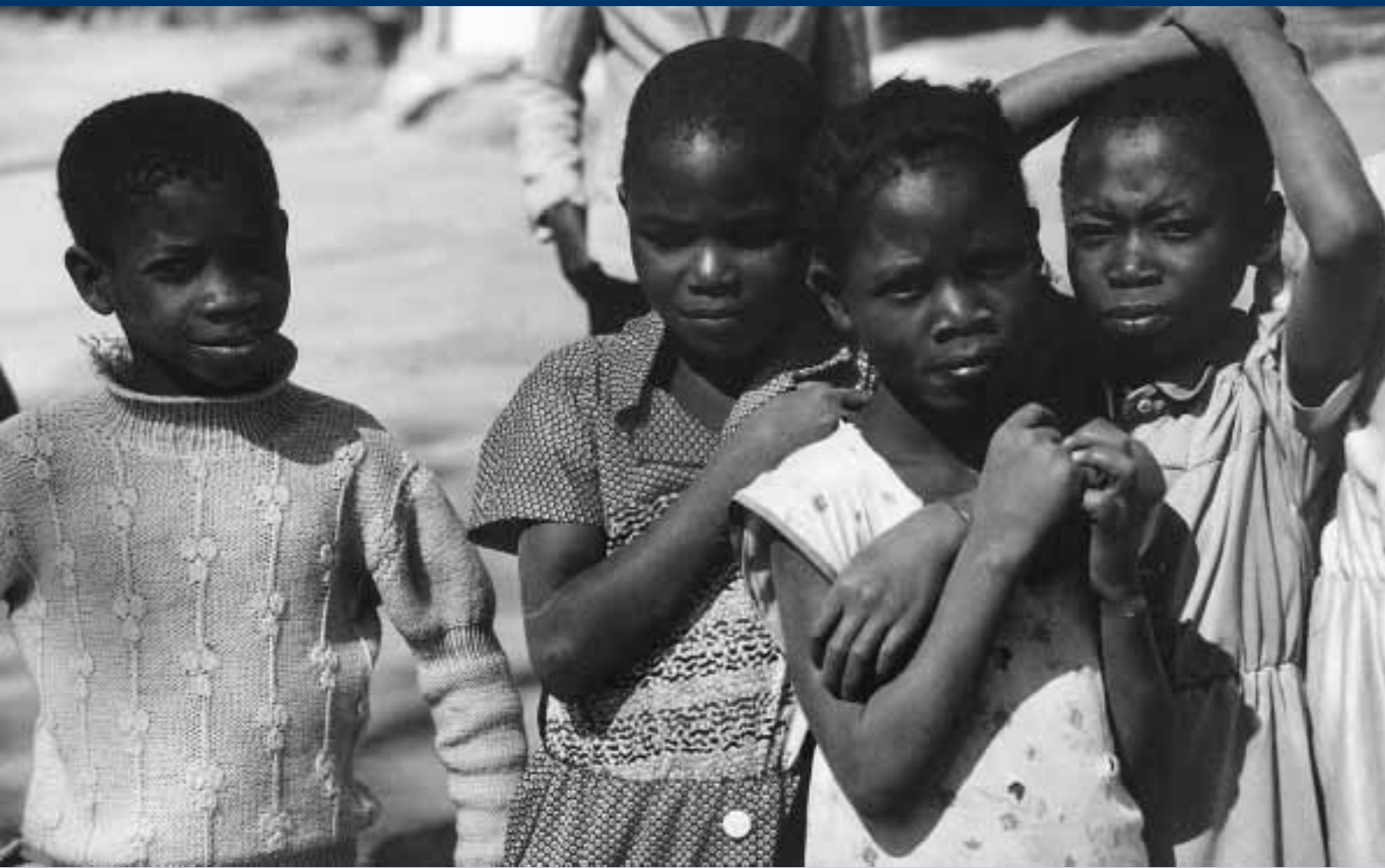


Lolín Menéndez RSCJ/JRS



a JRS workshop, Burundi

SOUTHERN AFRICA



Jenny Cafiso/JRS

For many, the new millennium brought hope for a new world with a more just order. For refugees in southern Africa, that expectation was belied by a blocked peace process in DRC, violated by belligerents on all sides, and by a renewed offensive from the Angolan armed forces, creating 2.7 million internally displaced Angolans, and thousands more new refugees in Zambia and Namibia.

During 2000 JRS found itself involved in new projects to meet growing needs. We returned to Negage, Angola, with renewed vigour, to work with displaced people in education, agriculture and provision of shelter, in spite of the town being surrounded by landmines. JRS also took on new educational commitments in Viana, Luanda.

In Zambia, initiatives taken this year focused on involvement in a new camp in the west, and an advocacy project in Lusaka for refugees illegally detained in gaol. Other developments included an education project in Namibia with the Catholic Archdiocese of Windhoek, the construction of a school in Malawi, and a library in Tongogara, Zimbabwe. In other projects, work continued to meet the needs of increased numbers of refugees reported in Zimbabwe, Johannesburg, Pretoria, Lusaka, Meheba, and Luena. All these developments were only possible with a 50% increase in staff levels (almost all local or refugee), and a larger budget for the year.

JRS can be proud of its achievements in offering hope for the future to people often seemingly devoid of any ground for optimism. Through their care, efficiency and professionalism, JRS workers, refugee, local or international, have remained faithful to the triple mandate of JRS in a world sometimes hostile and unforgiving, in a continent so full of potential, yet still unfulfilled, and in a region where great wealth and riches are so inequitably distributed.

Joe Hampson SJ, JRS Southern Africa director



Internal conflict has raged between the ruling Movement of the Popular Liberation of Angola (MPLA), and the rebel National Union for the Total Independence of Angola (UNITA) since late 1998, when UNITA violated the 1994 UN-brokered Lusaka peace agreement. The MPLA launched a strong military offensive this year, particularly in Moxico province, and extended its administration to most of the country. UN Secretary-General, Kofi Annan, said in October that human rights violations related directly to the conflict had created one of the largest forced relocations: about 2.7 million people were internally displaced at end August. Especially dangerous has been the use of landmines targeting civilians in the UNITA counter-offensive. Apart from internally displaced people, there were around 12,000 refugees from other countries in Angola at the end of the year: 6,400 were in Viana camp near Luanda and 800 in Luanda.

JRS Angola director

Andrea Lari (until November), Marlene Wildner MSCS

JRS projects in Angola

human rights

LUANDA The JRS national office was involved with the diocesan Peace and Justice Commission to hold human rights seminars for leaders and members of parish groups.
Beneficiaries: 61 seminar participants

construction of camp

NEGAGE About 2,500 displaced people who arrived in Negage from Sanza Pombo in 1999, were placed in old storehouses in dismal living conditions. JRS embarked on a project to set up a camp. Construction work was undertaken by the displaced people and several institutions sponsored the project.
Project director: Hugo Villagra
Achievements/beneficiaries:

- the construction of Lundilo camp was completed by July;
- 41 latrines, two community kitchens were constructed;
- 200 houses (of wood and straw) were built;
- 396 families (1,608 people) were transferred there.

resettlement

BENGO, near Negage This JRS project aims to assist 60 displaced families to resettle in Bengo neighbourhood. Work on construction of houses was started in August with teams of displaced masons and Bengo residents working together.
Achievements/beneficiaries:

- 40 houses were completed by November;
- rehabilitation and expansion of Bengo primary school.

education

NEGAGE JRS maintained running of a school for displaced people in the *Aldeia Missao* neighbourhood. This year, JRS undertook a project to rehabilitate dilapidated buildings used by schools displaced from other municipalities: Puri, Bungo and Sanza Pombo.
Achievements/beneficiaries:

- new classes were created in the *Aldeia Missao* school, and the number of students increased from 300 to 550;
- three schools were constructed by masons and carpenters from Puri, Bungo and Sanza Pombo, for 407, 145 and 192 students respectively. Another 176 children in Lundilo camp were also provided for.

LUENA JRS continued to run three schools, two in camps for internally displaced, one in the city for disabled people, mine victims and street children.

Project coordinator: Carlos Sambongue

Achievements/beneficiaries:

- 350 children attended school;
- 200 children in two schools and another 100 children were fed daily.



Negage, Angola: JRS supported the reconstruction of three schools, and facilitated the education of 1,470 children in this locality.

VIANA camp near Luanda JRS helped mobilise the Katanguese refugee community and worked with teachers to set up *Aksanti* school. We also supplied roofing and frames for the school. JRS also continued to operate three other primary schools in Viana.

Achievements/beneficiaries:

- *Aksanti* school was officially opened on 12 September;
- 380 children attended *Aksanti* and 572 attended the other schools.

LUENA JRS sought to identify the most vulnerable people in the camps for those internally displaced, visiting them and working with other NGOs to supply non-food items.

Achievements included distribution of:

- seeds and agricultural tools to 90 families;
- plastic sheeting and blankets in the rainy season to 700 families;
- pots, water canteens, blankets and soap to 1,500 families.

LUENA JRS operated a health post in a camp. Malaria was the most frequent illness, followed by parasites, anaemia and respiratory infections. A nutritional assessment program was developed in the camps, which proved helpful to other NGOs in decisions regarding further assistance.

Project coordinator: Annjie Schiefelbein

Beneficiaries: 400 people monthly

LUENA A professional training course in carpentry was completed and JRS embarked on a project to make participants self-sufficient.

Project coordinator: James Nyawo

Beneficiaries:

- 14 carpenters completed formation and set up co-operatives;
- 25 people on a tailoring program run by the Social Reinsertion Ministry (MINARS) were provided with material support by JRS.

VIANA A micro-credit project was undertaken between June and December with the Katanguese refugees. The project aimed to help refugees become self-sufficient.

Project coordinator: Carmen Rodrigues

Beneficiaries: 45 people

LUANDA A survey of refugees led to the setting up this year of a community centre in partnership with UNHCR, offering health, education, counselling and other services.

Project coordinator: Carmen Rodrigues

family assistance

health

landmine victims

self-sufficiency

community centre



Unabated conflict in Angola and DRC led to large numbers of refugees entering Zambia throughout the year. This led to growing tension within the government due to heightened insecurity and political concerns. Immigration authorities reacted to these concerns by enforcing regulations governing refugees in urban areas. This meant round-ups, with refugees being placed in detention. Most refugees in Lusaka came from DRC, Rwanda and Burundi. Already established refugee settlements were being filled to capacity, and three new campsites were set up to cater for new arrivals. The population at Meheba refugee settlement had increased from 32,000 to 51,000 by the end of the year, including 45,000 Angolans. An influx of some 12,000 Angolan refugees along Zambia's south-western borders resulted in the setting up of a new camp, Nangweshi in Sioma district. The population in this camp at the end of the year was nearly 13,000.

JRS Zambia director

Francis Leong (until November), Christina Northey

JRS projects in Zambia

information, advocacy

LUSAKA The JRS national office developed an advocacy program, *Christian Initiative for Refugees in Prison*, to respond to the legal needs of those in detention.
Policy officer: Raul Gonzalez SJ

urban project

LUSAKA The project, which operates from a peace centre, concentrated on pastoral presence, information and training, playing a key role in advocacy. Pastoral visits to refugees and illegal immigrants in prison were undertaken.
Project director: Lyn Carroll
Beneficiaries/achievements:

- scholarships: 158 students (including 139 primary);
- completion of the peace centre chapel in November.

camp services

MEHEBA settlement JRS has a team of 11 co-ordinators and 67 refugee workers. In July, the Meheba project received additional funding to assist new arrivals.
Beneficiaries: 12,000 refugees, some benefiting from more than one program

health education

MEHEBA
Achievements included:

- training more health educators;
- home visits to vulnerable families;
- visits to new arrivals;
- seed distribution;
- provision of food, drugs and clothing in emergency situations.

pastoral

MEHEBA JRS workers were joined by 22 catechists to organise development of small Christian communities, construction of five new churches, and facilitation of church gatherings.

rural and community development

MEHEBA JRS community workers and a trainer promoted alternative farming through crop diversification and irrigation. They also monitored food distribution to vulnerable and new arrivals.
Beneficiaries/achievements:

- the first irrigation project, started in 1998, yielded a rice crop of 30 tons;
- 306 refugees had kitchen gardens;
- 34 families involved in tile-making projects.



Meheba, Zambia: In 2000, JRS assisted over 12,000 refugees in this camp settlement.

NANGWESHI camp As an implementing partner of UNHCR in this camp, JRS provided **education** primary education and support to initiatives at other educational levels.

Project director: Christina Northey

Beneficiaries/achievements:

- development of six community schools and one secondary school;
- completion of 59 temporary school shelters;
- registering 4,150 students for school;
- intensive English language course for 15 teachers.

NANGWESHI As UNHCR implementing partner also for community services, JRS identified and responded to those who are most vulnerable and promoted self-reliance of refugees. **community services**

Project director: Christina Northey

Beneficiaries/achievements:

- five refugee technicians in a workshop opened in June produced, among other materials, 53 crutches, 32 prostheses, 10 braille boards for the blind and 44 blackboards;
- 764 shelters were built in a shelter provision program for vulnerable refugees;
- three youth centres were set up;
- a home craft program was attended by 240 per week;
- a women's income-generating project was set up;
- English classes were held for 17 JRS community workers and 67 community leaders.



The Namibian government became seriously involved with the conflict in Angola in 1999, through an agreement with the Angolan government allowing MPLA soldiers to operate on Namibian soil. This military involvement led to a dangerous security situation in northern Namibia with hundreds of deaths and injuries to Namibians. Numbers of refugees arriving in Namibia increased with the escalation of war in Angola. By the end of December, the population in Osire refugee camp had reached 19,000, up from 6,000 at the end of 1999. The large population in the camp strained its capacity in water supply, latrines, food rations, education and health care. In October, discussions started on moving the camp from Osire.

JRS Namibia coordinator
Onesimus Nekondo

JRS projects in Namibia

JRS decided to become involved with refugees in Namibia in September 1999, in collaboration with the Bishops' Conference and the Archdiocese, to support and increase the capacity of local structures.

urban project **WINDHOEK**

Achievements included:

- advice and advocacy for tertiary education;
- addressing emergency needs of food, clothing, shelter and health care;
- involving the local community in responding to the needs of refugees.

pastoral **OSIRE camp** JRS worked on improving pastoral presence in Osire by meeting priests and catechists there.

Almost everybody in Negage, Angola, is displaced... Our projects give short-term work to some people, trying to give them dignity and hope. The experience of working with teams of displaced people to build schools proved to be very positive. This was also the case when displaced people, local residents and the JRS team struggled together against time to finish 40 houses for people to resettle in Bengo neighbourhood, a goal which seemed impossible at first. It was a good opportunity to get to know each other better, and hopefully will facilitate future relations between displaced people and the local residents, and between all of them and JRS in Negage.

Hugo Villara, JRS project director in Negage

At the end of the year, Malawi was hosting around 3,700 recognised refugees and asylum seekers from a number of countries, including Burundi, DRC, Rwanda and Somalia. There were some 50 to 60 new arrivals a week. Many came directly from their home country, others left their first country of asylum following threats of repatriation. In November, UNHCR voiced concern at the increasing xenophobia among government officials and police. However, in general, Malawi welcomed refugees.



JRS projects in Malawi

LILONGWE JRS assisted refugees who arrived in urban Lilongwe, before they were interviewed and relocated to Dzaleka camp. New arrivals were often a matter of concern as they had no food and blankets.

urban project

DZALEKA camp In Dzaleka, 40km from Lilongwe, JRS went ahead with pastoral work, advocacy and informal education, together with the construction of a new primary school for local people and refugees.

pastoral, education, advocacy

Project director: Catherine Dwyer MMM

Beneficiaries/achievements:

- all levels of education were open to refugees this year;
- 769 children in the new school, half of whom were Malawian;
- primary school building: four school room blocks, two teacher houses;
- 200 people benefited from English language skills;
- 112 women learnt knitting skills.

A school in Dzaleka camp, Malawi. JRS lobbying led to the opening of all levels of education to refugees.





The scenario regarding refugees and asylum seekers changed throughout the year, especially with increased numbers of new arrivals at 10 or 20 per day, including unaccompanied minors. About 50% of the refugees in Zimbabwe came from DRC. The government and people of Zimbabwe maintained a welcoming attitude towards refugees, however means of support were limited as UNHCR reduced financial assistance to the government social welfare department. Tongogara refugee settlement, the only camp in Zimbabwe, was full this year and there was a shortage of accommodation. The bulk of the refugees however remained in Harare, either at a transit centre or living in the town, where they were not entitled to any food assistance.

JRS projects in Zimbabwe

JRS continued to operate a project offering services to refugees in Harare transit centre and to those in Tongogara settlement.

Project director: Stanislaus G. Rizik

health **TONGOGARA settlement & HARARE transit centre**

JRS ran community health, child and mother support programs in both camps.

emergency TONGOGARA JRS responded to the needs of refugees and members of the local community affected by Cyclone Eline in February by distributing food, blankets, medicine and seeds.

education **TONGOGARA**

Beneficiaries/achievements:

- a JRS centre and Pedro Arrupe library were officially opened on 17 November;
- 15 students were sponsored for vocational training.

agricultural TONGOGARA JRS assisted refugees with seed distribution.



Refugees in Zimbabwe

By June, according to statistics from the Department of Home Affairs, nearly 70,000 refugees had applied for refugee status. Many South Africans did not distinguish between undocumented migrants, migrants and refugees. Foreigners, especially those coming from other parts of Africa, were seen as competition for scarce resources such as employment and education. This led to inhumane and often life-threatening treatment of refugees by South Africans, especially the police. The implementation of the Refugee Bill in April this year discriminated against new arrivals, preventing them from working and studying while their status was being determined, a process which could take up to six months. This year was also characterised by increasing numbers of unaccompanied minors, especially Angolan children living without adult supervision.



JRS South Africa director
Tim Smith SJ

JRS projects in South Africa

JOHANNESBURG JRS lobbied against rampant xenophobia by raising awareness about refugees. An advocacy and information officer employed since April contributed regularly to media debate about the treatment of refugees.

lobbying

Ongoing service provision, in many cases as UNHCR implementing partner, aimed to enable asylum seekers and refugees to become self-supporting. A range of services included emergency assistance, vocational skills and working with unaccompanied minors.

urban project

JOHANNESBURG

Project director: Cathy Murugan HF

Beneficiaries:

- 6,400 asylum seekers and refugees in all, 43% female;
- advocacy: around 1,200 people, including 1,010 new arrivals;
- weekly clinic and counselling: 40 to 45 patients per day;
- scholarships: 187 children;
- small business loans: 139 applicants were assisted.

PRETORIA

Project director: Joan Pearton RSM

Beneficiaries:

- 5,674 asylum seekers and refugees in all;
- accommodation, food, blankets, clothes: 2,112 families or individuals;
- medical assistance: 1,280 people;
- advocacy: 834 people;
- education: 703 people;
- small business loans: 356 applicants, 126 assisted.

Mark Raper SJ/JRS



Refugees earning a living as hawkers in Johannesburg. JRS South Africa assists 265 refugees with small business loans.

We are in the middle of the camps, walking about and talking to the people, seeing the reality of their lives, worrying about their situation, not just the statistics... When we walk around the camp and people call us by our names, or they just approach us to say hello, to hug us or shake hands, to share their lives or their worries, in that moment we feel the JRS spirit: to serve, to accompany, to advocate.

Piero Gandini, JRS project director in Luena, Angola





Quentin Dingham/JRS

In the Asia Pacific region, there continued to be some move away from totalitarianism towards greater democracy but the cost was high, and progress could be painfully slow. In Indonesia, JRS worked with displaced people in the Moluccas until we evacuated our team at the end of June. In West Timor, our pastoral presence and assistance to refugees from East Timor continued. In East Timor itself we made a valuable contribution to the recovery of a number of communities and to refugee return and re-integration work. In Cambodia and Australia we assisted asylum seekers. In Thailand our programs with refugees from Burma continued as the military junta persisted in waging war against its own people. We also assisted asylum seekers and detainees from other countries in Bangkok.

JRS also followed events in small, impoverished Laos, where there was renewed unrest among students. In the Philippines, many thousands of people were displaced in Mindanao.

JRS is glad to have actively interested contacts in Jesuit Provinces and Regions where we do not have programs. Japan, Philippines, Malaysia/Singapore and Hong Kong/Macau/Taiwan continued to provide support for the work of JRS.

Andre Sugijoprano SJ (Indonesia) will take over as regional director from 1 January 2001. As I finish my term I feel immensely grateful: for the friendship and support of many refugees, for a wonderful team of dedicated workers, and for many generous friends and benefactors. Thank you and may God continue to bless us all in this privileged work.

Steve Curtin SJ, JRS Asia Pacific director 1997 - 2000



JRS Thailand director
Margaret Burchell IBVM

At the end of 2000, about 128,000 refugees, mostly from Burma's Karen and Karenni ethnic minorities, were living in refugee camps along the Thai-Burma border. Another estimated 100,000 people, mainly from Shan state, were also living as refugees in Thailand, although they were not recognised by the government as such. This year saw a growing reluctance on the part of the Thai authorities to accept more refugees into the camps. And a new policy, referred to as "harmonisation" was pursued in order to discourage Burmese refugees from living in or near Bangkok. Apart from the large numbers of Burmese who sought refuge in Thailand, asylum seekers also came from several countries in the Middle East, Africa, and Asia. A crackdown on illegal foreigners in Bangkok led to severe overcrowding at the Suan Phlu immigration detention centre. In the first six months of the year, 24,012 'illegals' were detained at the centre, and average numbers more than doubled from 1,100 to 2,500.

JRS projects in Thailand

urban project

BANGKOK JRS maintained casework, welfare services, financial and legal assistance to both Burmese and non-Burmese asylum seekers before, during and after their refugee status determination process. We were also involved in lobbying on protection.

Project director: Rufino Seva

Beneficiaries:

- 1,266 non-Burmese, including 357 new cases;
- 2,150 Burmese (including those benefiting from community services through self-help groups).

detainees, medical

SUAN PHLU immigration detention centre, Bangkok Daily medical service was provided to all inmates, as well as emergency medical care and supplementary feeding, and counselling of new detainees with HIV/Aids.

Project director: Dr Dominica Garcia

detainees, release

SUAN PHLU centre JRS worked for the release of detainees and return to their home countries or resettlement.

Project director: Olivier Morin SJ

Beneficiaries: around 385 cases

education

KARENNI camps, Mae Hong Son province JRS continued to operate a program in partnership with the Karenni education department, aimed at resourcing teachers in 13 schools at primary, middle and secondary level.

Project coordinator: Maureen Lohrey RSM

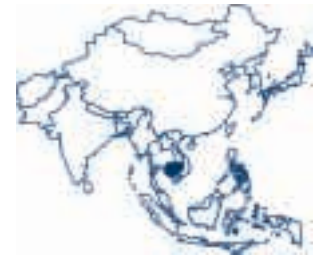
Beneficiaries:

- 243 teachers;
- 5,154 students.

border outreach

THAI-BURMA BORDER The JRS team reached nine Shan refugee communities. Services included: support of three orphanages, medical assistance, care for the elderly, widows and disabled, education support, and a pig rearing project as income generation for landmine victims.

During the first six months of the year, in Cambodia, there were 88 asylum seekers and 22 refugees from other Asian countries, Africa, and the Middle East. Although Cambodia is a signatory to the 1951 Geneva Convention related to the Status of Refugees, the government has not passed the necessary legislation to enact the convention in its domestic law. As a result, refugees in Cambodia did not receive the legal protection of the State and remained totally dependent on UNHCR to protect their rights. They were not allowed the rights enjoyed by Cambodian citizens, including a permit to work or travel documents.



JRS Cambodia director
Denise Coghlan RSM

JRS projects in Cambodia

PHNOM PENH JRS assisted refugees and asylum seekers in their application to UNHCR for refugee status. Social and financial support was provided. Where local resettlement was the durable solution available for refugees, JRS helped in the integration process.

Beneficiaries:

- 57 people benefited from legal assistance;
- 70 people, including the spouses and children of refugees and asylum seekers, received social assistance (financial, health, educational support);
- 72 families received individual family support;
- 53 refugees received foreign language or vocational skills training.

urban project

A U S T R A L I A

Immigration reforms limited refugee rights and prohibited the national Human Rights Commission from initiating contact with immigration detainees. Several thousand refugee applicants and 'boat people' were detained in centres, which were harshly criticised for miserable living conditions and the treatment of the detainees at the hands of the authorities. One notorious facility, the Woomera centre, was dubbed the "desert gulag" by the national press. The year was marked by riots at Woomera and the Port Hedland centre in western Australia.



JRS Australia director
Nguyen Van Cao SJ

JRS projects in Australia

JRS Australia was previously a desk of Uniya, the Jesuit Social Justice Centre. This year, JRS became a legally independent body, changing its status and mode of operation.

JRS Australia provided assistance to the JRS Asia Pacific office in recruiting and placing volunteers, especially for East Timor. Returned field workers were offered debriefing.

JRS Australia secured several donations of material and medicine for JRS East Timor.
Achievements included: four large consignments

JRS continued to operate an asylum seekers' centre, an organisation set up to assist applicants for refugee status resident in the community.

Project director: Sylvia Winton

Beneficiaries:

- 30 asylum seekers attended the centre daily;
- 25 new clients were interviewed per month.

volunteers

support for East Timor

asylum seekers



The rate of refugee returns in the last months of the year was disappointingly low. Meanwhile, the people of East Timor faced the tough challenge of rebuilding their nation. The UN established a Transitional Administration for East Timor (UNTAET) with the task of supporting the East Timorese through the transition period from Indonesian rule to full independence. Priorities this year continued to be shelter, food, education, health, agriculture and income-generation. Reconciliation linked with justice emerged as a key discussion. By the end of the year, several emergency response international NGOs had left or were leaving East Timor. Over 70 local NGOs were operating in the territory. Despite the slow process of reconstruction, the failings of UNTAET and other international organisations, the difficulties and complex issues to be faced by the East Timorese leadership, East Timor continued its process of reconstruction.

JRS East Timor director

Peter Hosking SJ (until August), Frank Brennan SJ

JRS projects in East Timor

JRS established three rural bases at the invitation of the communities and their parish priests to provide services and build up local capacity. Our teams developed a reputation for building bridges among people and working alongside them. The team in Dili co-ordinated work in a number of fields.

human rights, returnees

DILI Human rights work focused on encouraging refugee returns, supporting local human rights groups and facilitating reconciliation and reintegration.

MALIANA, Bobonaro district

Achievements:

- investigation of human rights violations and organisation of human rights education sessions together with UNTAET, UNHCR and local NGOs;
- monitoring and assisting returnees in Bobonaro district, providing for basic needs not met by UNHCR;
- collection of letters from the community to be sent to the camps in West Timor.

pastoral

LURO sub-district Extensive pastoral outreach formed part of the work of the JRS team in Luro, which reached out to some 24 villages with a total population of around 12,000 people.

Coordinator: Salvador Ferrao SJ

Achievements this year included:

- a reconciliation house was completed in October;
- running of workshops on faith and human rights;
- reconstruction of housing for women.

MALIANA Apart from provision of pastoral and sacramental ministry, widows of the 1999 violence were assisted and a youth centre supported by international NGOs was set up.

education

LURO, MALIANA, DILI Education work responded to needs of local teachers.

Beneficiaries/achievements:

- teaching methodology training presented via English language lessons;
- supply of school stationery to schools;
- desks and chairs supplied to refurbish Odofuro secondary school, Luro;
- 13 schools reached in Luro.

community self development

LURO JRS collaborated with another NGO to provide support to women's groups, setting up six cooperatives.



Rebuilding in Bobonaro district, East Timor

LURO Working with the Church and international NGOs, JRS helped communities meet their most immediate needs.

Achievements:

- insecticide usage training program in four villages;
- clean water supply project in seven villages;
- rice productivity improvement project.

MALIANA JRS concentrated on helping farmers start production activities anew. Donated seed was distributed and sprayers and technical support provided. The rehabilitation of an irrigation canal and water supply system was facilitated.

agriculture

LURO

Beneficiaries/achievements:

- a doctor working for two months in inaccessible areas reached 3,000 patients with a group of local health workers;
- a nurse supported health workers and worked with the community to promote education on the prevention of the spread of infection;
- distribution of donated mosquito nets.

health

MALIANA

Beneficiaries/achievements:

- assisting sick returnees, in coordination with UNHCR;
- involvement in training local health workers and volunteer health promoters;
- workshops with widows and survivors of gender-based violence in coordination with a local women's NGO.

AINARO district JRS ran a six-month program in collaboration with another NGO to meet some of the outstanding needs of the population of Ainaro. JRS placed a health care worker to train local health care animators.



JRS Indonesia director
Edi Mulyono SJ

Over 250,000 East Timorese refugees fled to or were deported to West Timor in the wake of the post-election violence in East Timor in September 1999. The miserable living conditions of the refugees and their intimidation at the hands of militias who virtually controlled the camps, drew much media attention throughout this year. Matters came to a head when three UNHCR expatriate personnel were killed by rampaging militia in Atambua on 6 September. UN and other international agencies withdrew from East Timor, leaving the refugees without protection and assistance. At the end of the year, between 65,000 and 100,000 refugees remained in West Timor. Some have no desire to return to East Timor unless it is once again part of Indonesia, others are militia leaders who committed crimes against humanity; many are not, and they are waiting to see how the situation unfolds in East Timor after the election and the withdrawal of UNTAET. Others want to return but are denied security or the conditions for a free and informed choice.

JRS projects in West Timor

JRS set up in West Timor in September 1999. A team of 20 Indonesian nationals worked in the camps, collaborating closely with the local church. JRS did not evacuate with other international agencies when the UNHCR personnel were killed, becoming one of the few international organisations to maintain a presence in the camps.

repatriation **KUPANG, BETUN, ATAMBUA** The JRS team encouraged and helped refugees to return to East Timor, assisting UNHCR with registration. Following the withdrawal of the UN agency, JRS registered refugees who wished to return, collaborating with the task force of the government of Indonesia charged with facilitating refugee returns. In Atambua, JRS provided materials for refugees who decided to return: soap and clothes.

education **KUPANG** JRS set up an informal elementary school, first in a stadium and later in Tuapukan camp, with volunteer teachers from a Kupang university. A kindergarten was set up in Noelbaki camp and a catechism program started in three camps.

Beneficiaries:

- 120 children in elementary school;
- 300 children in kindergarten.

BETUN JRS started to run four schools in September.

Beneficiaries: 460 students

mailing system **KUPANG** JRS in East and West Timor organised mail exchange between refugees in West Timor and their relatives at home. About 200 letters were sent weekly to East Timor.

health **KUPANG, ATAMBUA, BETUN** JRS nurses went regularly to the camps to treat refugees and provide medicine. Milk, clothes, and other materials were provided for children under three. Medicine was supplied to the diocesan medical team in Kupang.

self-sufficiency **ATAMBUA, BETUN** JRS distributed seeds and agricultural tools. In Atambua, refugees were assisted to procure land and in Betun, farmers' cooperatives were set up. Women were taught skills like cooking and weaving, and in some cases given capital.

pastoral **BETUN** A priest visited the camps daily, providing sacramental ministry.

INDONESIA / MOLUCCAS

Thousands have been killed since sectarian conflict was ignited in the Moluccas spice islands at the beginning of 1999. Violence intensified this year with the arrival of Laskar Jihad fighters from Java, who launched several attacks on Christian villages, slaughtering hundreds of people. The Indonesian government declared a state of civil emergency in June in an attempt to stem the violence. Although the situation was reportedly calmer at the end of the year, tension remained prevalent and attacks continued. Observers claim elements within Indonesia's political and military circles have at least tacitly fuelled the conflict. An estimated 700,000 people were displaced, according to the International Catholic Migration Commission (ICMC). Those who sought refuge in Ambon and elsewhere on the islands were in need of protection and material assistance.



JRS Indonesia director
Edi Mulyono SJ

JRS projects in the Moluccas

After following events in the Moluccas closely for several months, JRS set up a team in Ambon in March. Composed of Moslems and Christians, the team had access to camps of displaced people from both faiths in Ambon and other islands, and was able to offer emergency relief services. JRS evacuated its workers from Ambon as violence escalated in late June and a declared state of civil emergency made it impossible for the team to function. JRS returned to Ambon in December to resume work there.

AMBON, CERAM Before evacuation, JRS focused largely on health work as the public health care network in Ambon had collapsed. JRS organised mobile health care services in close collaboration with the local hospital, providing medicines and volunteers while the hospital supplied nurses and transport. JRS also worked in Piru district, West Ceram, making health care available to both Moslem and Christian villages in the area.

Project director: Yulius Setiarto

health

AMBON JRS started income-generating projects in the camps based on agriculture. However, plans came to an abrupt end because of the evacuation.

Project director: Yulius Setiarto

income generation

JRS workers with members of a Moslem NGO in Ambon. Yulius Setiarto wrote: "We visited both Christian and Moslem camps just to see how people lived, to hear their stories, and to understand their hope."





JRS education program, Thai-Burma border

Shan refugee, Thailand



UNHCR registration point, Thai-Burma border



East Timor

East Timor



SOUTH ASIA



Photos: Amaya Varcárcel/JRS

JRS South Asia experienced hope and despair this year. The protracted problem of 100,000 Bhutanese refugees in the eastern Nepal camps started to see the light of day when the governments of Nepal and Bhutan agreed in December to a joint process of verification of the refugees.

Peace moves were initiated by Norway to end the Sri Lanka conflict. For much of the year, the north of Sri Lanka was dominated by war, as the militant Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) and the Sri Lankan Army fought for control of the Jaffna peninsula. Aerial bombings and artillery guns displaced entire communities. In May, the Indian Navy imposed a naval blockade, preventing refugees fleeing Jaffna from reaching India. To avoid arrest, boatmen dumped refugees on isolated islands, where some died before being rescued. Sadly, protests were feeble, even from UNHCR. JRS documented several cases and called on the authorities to be more compassionate.

In Nepal, JRS pressed ahead with its lobbying efforts. The education team was strengthened with the arrival of two more experts. JRS in Sri Lanka extended its work to the border villages and greater involvement with detainees was initiated. In the rebel-held Vanni region, JRS work came to a standstill apart from the shelter program, as transfer of relief materials and money was heavily restricted. In Tamil Nadu, India, JRS expanded creative programs to further promote value education and skills. Last year, the government radically reduced the number of refugees in the transit camp, resulting in a downsizing of JRS programs there. However the JRS pastor continued to accompany new arrivals.

Caught up in chronic refugee and war situations, the challenge to JRS in the region has been to chart out innovative courses of action, to enable refugees to retain their human dignity despite lingering darkness.

C. Amalraj SJ, JRS South Asia director



JRS India director
Vinny Joseph SJ

New arrivals in India from the war in Sri Lanka were very few this year, although thousands were waiting for the opportunity to flee from Jaffna, the scene of fierce warfare throughout much of the year. The Indian Navy imposed a naval blockade, violating the principle of *non-refoulement* and customary international law by forcing refugees to go back to the war. Those who reached India were arrested. The authorities also arbitrarily arrested young people fleeing Sri Lanka on suspicion of rebel connections, detaining them in 'special' camps, where their treatment caused concern to human rights groups.

Meanwhile an estimated 150,000 Tamil refugees from Sri Lanka are scattered around 125 refugee camps in Tamil Nadu province in southern India. NGOs are banned in the camps. The refugees live in huts usually made of banana leaves, or in old warehouses divided into tiny living spaces by plastic sheeting or saris. The Indian government provides food rations, and children have access to government-run schools.

JRS projects in India

Human resources development underlined ongoing JRS work in the Tamil Nadu camps, based on a holistic approach including counselling, lifeskills, training and education.

education **TAMIL NADU province** JRS progressed in its value-based education program for refugee children in the camps, aiming to increase the 85% literacy rate of children benefiting from JRS programs to 100%. Services included pre-school, evening tuition, training seminars, a student magazine, and placing some children in boarding schools. Regular teacher training was also provided.

Beneficiaries/achievements:

- 6,378 children;
- 400 teachers;
- students' associations in all the camps;
- financial support for 60 refugee students in colleges and universities all over Tamil Nadu.

youth formation **TAMIL NADU** JRS worked with youths who dropped out of school, offering a residential non-formal technical course for boys, camp tailoring for girls and since this year, *Grihini*, a residential course in tailoring and life education for girls.

Beneficiaries: 422 boys and girls

emergency, medical **TAMIL NADU** This involved help to newly arrived refugees.

Beneficiaries: 347 refugees

income-generating **TAMIL NADU** This program assisted widows to earn a living through the provision of sewing machines and encouragement to set up small businesses.

Beneficiaries: 65 refugees

small savings **TAMIL NADU** Money lending is a flourishing business in the camps, so JRS set up a small savings scheme in 43 camps, where women came together to manage micro-credit societies.

pastoral **TAMIL NADU** A component of JRS work in all the camps, especially in the Mandapam transit camp, where new arrivals were sent.

At the end of the year, there was slight hope for peace in Sri Lanka, with Norway initiating moves to bring parties of the ongoing civil war to the negotiating table. The LTTE declared a cease-fire on 24 December, which was not reciprocated. Between 650,000 to 800,000 civilians are displaced in Sri Lanka's long-running war, many to live in government-run 'welfare centres', camps for internally displaced people, where freedom of movement is severely restricted. The (largely Tamil) population of the contested north and east is caught up in the conflict, and subjected to ethnic discrimination by the Sinhalese, who dominate the government and army. The Prevention of Terrorism Act (PTA) allows for arbitrary arrest, torture in detention, and prolonged detention without trial. In October, 29 Tamil detainees aged between 14 and 23 years were massacred by a Sinhalese mob, which broke into the Bandarawela detention centre.



JRS Sri Lanka director

Sebastian Anthony SJ (until December), Anthony Pillai SJ

JRS projects in Sri Lanka

VANNI Two Jesuits persevered in this rebel-held northern region, accompanying civilians who bore the brunt of stifling economic embargoes and aerial bombardments.

Project director: Joel Kulanayagam SJ

Beneficiaries: 120 people on the shelter program

shelter, nutrition,
skills training

VAVUNIYA district A survey carried out by JRS in 2000 among displaced people revealed that a high number of children had not attended school since they were displaced.

Project coordinator: Fr Navarathnam (until mid-year); Fr Jeyabalan Croos

SITHAMPARAPURAM camp, Vavuniya Children were admitted to schools near the camp. Courses were conducted for school leavers in English, Tamil and English typing, sewing and tailoring.

Beneficiaries: 50 students completed the courses this year

education

POONTHODDAM camp, Vavuniya After JRS approached the authorities, a principal was appointed and a building allocated to set up a school in the camp.

Beneficiaries/achievements:

- the school started operating in June;
- 10 volunteers were identified to teach 368 children.

SURIADY, Batticaloa district JRS worked with 75 displaced families

Project coordinator: Joseph Mary SJ

Beneficiaries:

- 40 children attended pre-school, 25 children attended tuition;
- 15 women attended sewing classes.

KOKKADICHOLAI, Batticaloa In this area under LTTE control, JRS continued to run two homes, one for boys, the other for girls, also providing education.

Project coordinator: Joseph Mary SJ

Beneficiaries: 40 children

orphans

MANNAR district A project enabling war widows to set up micro enterprises was started.

Beneficiaries: 391 widows

war widows

COLOMBO, BATTICALOA This year, JRS started to offer legal aid to Tamil detainees and educational and nutritional assistance for their families. A forum to conduct prison visits and to offer material aid was set up.

Project coordinator: Yogeshwaran SJ

Beneficiaries/achievements: 25 families, 75 children in all

detainees



JRS Nepal director
PS Amalraj SJ

The end of the year saw a breakthrough in developments concerning the future of 100,000 refugees who have lived in camps in Jhapa and Morang districts of eastern Nepal for over 10 years. In December, Nepal and Bhutan agreed to a joint verification of the Bhutanese refugees with a view to their repatriation. The move broke the stalemate which for years had stalled bilateral talks about the future of the refugees. The process will be conducted bilaterally, without third-party involvement, by a joint verification team (JVT), composed of five members each from Nepal and Bhutan. After verification, the Bhutanese are likely to be grouped according to four categories: genuine Bhutanese, Bhutanese who willingly emigrated from their country, Bhutanese with criminal background and non-Bhutanese. The refugees, who make up one sixth of Bhutan's population, were expelled from their country in 1990 by the Bhutanese security forces because they are of Nepalese origin.

JRS projects in Nepal

education JRS continued to implement a UNHCR-funded education program. UNHCR consultant on education, Tim Brown, evaluated the program this year and concluded that it is "one of the best refugee schools in the world". However, a cut in UNHCR funding posed a real threat to the continuation of the program.

Beneficiaries/achievements:

- 40,000 students;
- 50% increase in enrolment of girls;
- 100% refugee staff employed and trained;
- launching of a special needs support teachers program.

advocacy Throughout the year, JRS pressed ahead with lobbying efforts through the Bhutanese Refugees Return and Rehabilitation Committee (BRRRC).

The JRS project in Nepal has been evaluated by UNHCR as "one of the best refugee schools in the world".

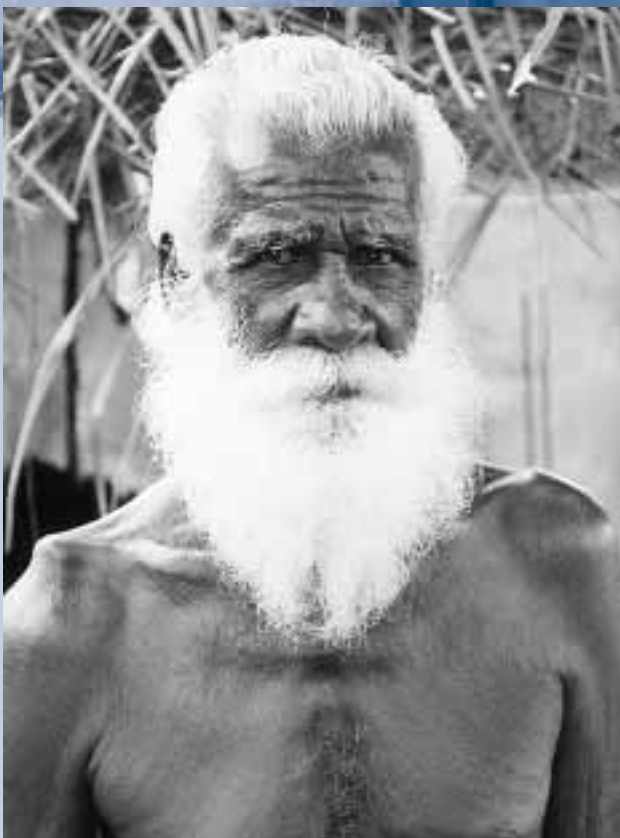




Sri Lankan refugee in Tamil Nadu



a refugee camp in Tamil Nadu



Sri Lankan refugee in Tamil Nadu



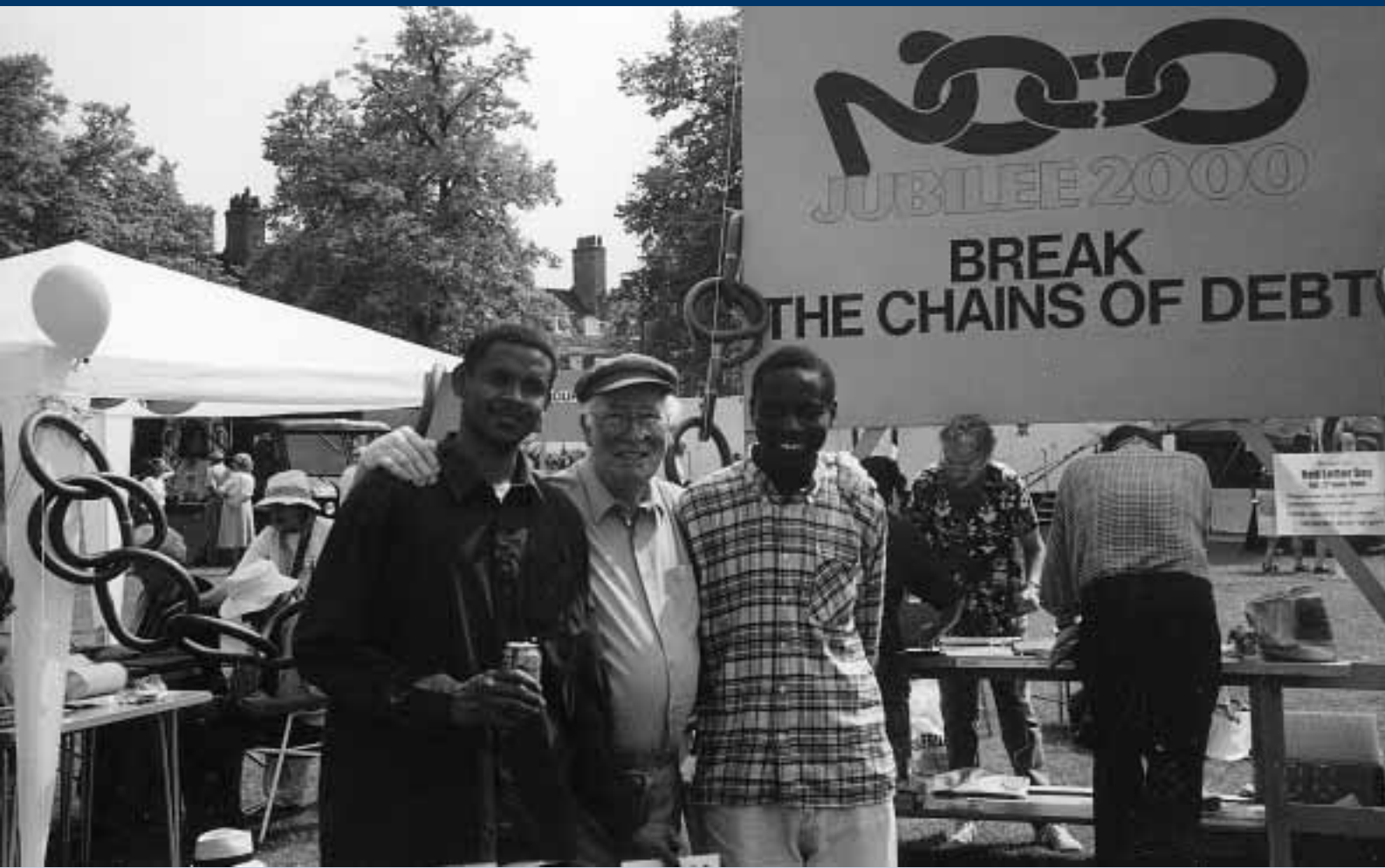
internally displaced children in Vavuniya, Sri Lanka



a 'welfare centre' for internally displaced people, Mannar, Sri Lanka



the rebel-held zone of Batticaloa, Sri Lanka



The year was characterised by much debate in Europe on the issue of access to territory. European countries imposed restrictive policies limiting the arrival of new refugees and other migrants, on the pretext that such vast numbers of people were impossible to assimilate. The governments knew they were supported by public opinion, and claimed their measures were needed to mitigate the xenophobic tendencies of the Far Right.

However, there have been some positive advances by the EU. Article 18 of the new EU Charter of Fundamental Rights reaffirmed that “The right to asylum shall be guaranteed with due respect for” the 1951 Convention and 1967 Protocol “and in accordance with the Treaty establishing the European Community”.

On the other hand, it cannot be said that the recent proposals of the EU will lead to concrete measures respecting the dignity of refugees and permitting real access to the EU for those in need of international protection. Work to date has focused more on fighting human trafficking. While action should be taken against traffickers who exploit vulnerable people, in reality these networks are often the only means for genuine refugees to gain access to territory in order to claim asylum.

Throughout the year, JRS became increasingly involved in defending asylum seekers, including those who had been rejected, and even irregular migrants in need of protection. Policy officers worked to respond to an enduring concern of JRS: giving a voice to the voiceless. JRS also concluded a study on irregular migrants, based on research in Germany, Spain and the UK, in co-operation with research institutions.

Eddy Jadot SJ, JRS Europe director

John Dardis SJ took over as JRS Europe director from January 2001



Allegations of ill treatment of detainees and racial taunts were levelled at the police force in **AUSTRIA**. Amnesty International said investigations into allegations of police ill treatment were not always prompt or impartial, resulting in very few cases coming to trial.

In **BELGIUM**, the registration of undocumented migrants took place in January. Nearly 33,000 people applied. However, the process of regularisation turned out to be extremely slow and in December, some 5,000 people took to the streets to protest against the delays. Belgium received over 42,000 asylum applications this year.

FRANCE received a total of 38,590 asylum applications.

GERMANY received 78,760 asylum applications. In July, a public hearing on the problem of illegal migrants, which underlined the humanitarian dimension, was organised by the Green Party, junior partner of the ruling coalition.

JRS projects in Europe

AUSTRIA JRS contact person in Austria Erich Drögsler SJ

Achievements included:

- direct assistance to refugees with accompaniment and material help;
- fund-raising, supporting projects mainly in JRS Southeast Europe.

TRAISKIRCHEN refugee detention centre

- a program for children, youth and families;
- pastoral and ecumenical services.

BELGIUM JRS Belgium coordinator Eddy Jadot SJ

Achievements included:

- support for people reporting to local administration offices and centres of public assistance;
- provision of material help to undocumented migrants;
- English classes to people in the *Petit-Chateau* reception centre;
- counselling to individual asylum seekers.

FRANCE JRS contact person in France Bernard Chandon-Moët SJ

Achievements included:

- dissemination of information;
- recruitment;
- financial support for and contact with individual refugees.

GERMANY JRS provided pastoral care, legal advice, and social assistance inside and outside the detention centres. JRS served in two detention centres in Berlin-Brandenburg and one in Munich, where there were some 500 detainees in all.

JRS Germany director Dieter Müller SJ

Beneficiaries/achievements:

- weekly religious service in the centres, attended by 15 to 20% of the detainees;
- bible-sharing for a Vietnamese group (40 people attended regularly);
- a weekly average of 20 asylum seekers went to the JRS office for assistance;
- drawing public attention to the plight of undocumented migrants, following the publication of JRS research *Illegal in Germany*. A major achievement this year was the launching of a petition in the federal parliament in November, asking for support for undocumented migrants and those who assist them.

The asylum law in **GREECE** has been described as the “most progressive in Europe”. However, in December, a Human Rights Watch (HRW) report denounced “appalling detention conditions” facing undocumented migrants.

In **MALTA**, 281 people were receiving protection, including 132 UNHCR refugees, as at January 2001. In 2000, parliament passed the Refugees Act to regulate the recognition and protection of refugees.

In February, the government of **LUXEMBOURG** approved a law regarding the reception of refugees. Encouraged by campaigns in other EU countries to regularise undocumented migrants, NGOs called on the government to undertake a similar step. However this did not happen.

Refugees and asylum seekers in **PORTUGAL** faced problems as they were often forced to work illegally and were thus vulnerable to exploitation. They also experienced difficulties in finding lodging and were frequently isolated.



JRS projects in Europe

JRS was recently set up in Greece. A lawyer and a social worker worked with refugees and asylum seekers.

GREECE

JRS Greece contact person Michel Roussos SJ

JRS Malta co-ordinator Pierre Grech Marguerat SJ

MALTA

Achievements included:

- promoting the adoption of just legislation for the treatment of refugees and asylum seekers;
- seeking to create public awareness of the needs and rights of refugees;
- legal assistance, language training, psychological and material support to refugees and asylum seekers.

In Luxembourg, JRS worked as part of a NGO coalition to raise public awareness and lobby the government for just and humane treatment of asylum seekers.

LUXEMBOURG

JRS Luxembourg coordinator Pierre Meyers SJ

Achievements included:

- The launch of an awareness-raising campaign by the coalition *Refugees today. What future tomorrow?*

JRS worked within a network of organisations that reach out to refugees.

PORTUGAL

JRS Portugal coordinator Afonso Herédia SJ

Achievements included:

- finding housing and employment for refugees;
- provision of Portuguese classes;
- accompanying 40 families;
- provision of support to JRS in Angola.



A new law concerning refugees was adopted in **ROMANIA** on 3 November. The law, which replaced former legislation, respects international legislation, particularly the 1951 Geneva Convention. This year, a total of 7,040 asylum seekers filed applications in **SPAIN**. There was much national debate on immigration and the link between immigration and labour exploitation. In the **UK**, asylum applications this year reached 97,860, added to a backlog of over 100,000 asylum applications at the end of 1999. The new Asylum Act, which came into force in April, was severely criticised for stigmatising asylum seekers and for creating hardship. UNHCR accused all three main political parties in the UK of seizing the "low moral ground", of exploiting the issue of asylum seekers and of playing on public fears and misconceptions.

JRS projects in Europe

ROMANIA **JRS Romania coordinator** Luc Duquenne SJ

Achievements included:

- counselling, material aid and shelter for 286 people monthly;
- pastoral and social care in a detention centre near Bucharest;
- advocacy activities.

SPAIN **JRS Spain coordinator** Josep Ricart SJ

Achievements included:

- public education and information;
- collaboration with Comillas University, a Jesuit institution in Madrid. In April, JRS workers contributed significantly to a seminar on humanitarian aid.

UK Support to detainees and advocacy form the main part of JRS work in the UK.

JRS UK director Bernard Elliot SJ

Achievements included:

- ongoing visits to four detention centres and provision of liturgy;
- regular contact with almost 100 detainees by letter and phone: more or less 10% of all immigration detainees in the UK at any given time;
- support for refugees recently released from detention;
- involvement in committees, including the Asylum Rights Campaign, the Interfaith Refugee Network, the UK Child Soldiers Campaign and the National Peace and Justice Network;
- lobbying for asylum rights, particularly for a review of the system of giving vouchers to asylum seekers (a provision of the new law);
- setting up of a nation-wide Catholic Refugee Forum, re-launched in December.

Let me tell you that I am happy with all that you are doing for me, and I don't know how I would cope in this hard situation without people like you supporting me. God bless you!

A detainee in the UK to the JRS staff

This year saw a considerable increase in the number of people seeking asylum in Italy, 34,000 compared to 20,000 in 1999. The main countries of origin of asylum seekers and refugees were Iraq, Iran, Afghanistan, Turkey, Africa, eastern Europe and Ethiopia.

Parliamentary discussion and approval of a long-overdue national Asylum Bill were blocked in November due to lack, in the structure of the bill itself, of necessary funding. The bill was sent back to the drafting committee. Italy has never had an asylum law and NGOs hoped the bill would result in a legal framework, which would provide a measure of protection of the rights of asylum seekers and refugees.



JRS Italy director
Francesco de Luccia SJ

JRS projects in Italy

Staffed by 18 workers and more than 150 volunteers, JRS Italy services continued to assist asylum seekers and refugees, and, to some extent, other immigrants facing difficulties. This year's increase in asylum seekers stretched our reception services for new arrivals. Meanwhile, the *Centro Astalli* Foundation was set up in April to link local Jesuit initiatives for migrants and refugees to a national network, to raise awareness, and to develop projects to be realised by the network.

ROME	<i>Director:</i> Stefano Santoro <i>Beneficiaries:</i> over 50,000 meals distributed to over 6,782 people	soup kitchen
ROME	<i>Co-ordinator:</i> Maria Fausta Gallamini <i>Beneficiaries:</i> 4,417 patients	medical clinic
ROME	JRS sustained operation of three night shelters for new arrivals: two for men, one for women, children and unaccompanied minors. <i>Co-ordinators:</i> Rosy Cassidy RSHM, Pauline Tesselaar CMP, Stefano Santoro <i>Beneficiaries:</i> around 500 people	shelter
ROME	<i>Co-ordinator:</i> Maria Teresa Piras RSHM <i>Beneficiaries:</i> a monthly average of 170 people sought assistance	counselling, casework
ROME	JRS volunteers taught Italian to refugees and asylum seekers. <i>Co-ordinator:</i> Enrico Brancadoro SJ <i>Beneficiaries:</i> more than 100 students regularly attended courses	Italian lessons
ROME	<i>Co-ordinator:</i> Francesca Campolongo	information
ROME	A co-operative laundry service called <i>Il Tassello</i> , continued to operate this year. <i>Co-ordinator:</i> Mario Ferraro	income-generating
VICENZA	This year, JRS set up in Vicenza in north-east Italy. Refugees sent there by JRS in Rome were helped with accommodation while they searched for jobs. <i>Co-ordinator:</i> Giovanni Fantola SJ	accommodation
CATANIA	A JRS team in this city in south Italy provided a range of services, including weekly distribution of food packets; an information centre; Italian lessons and a clinic. <i>Project director:</i> Giovanni Ladiana SJ <i>Beneficiaries:</i> 285 people	social, legal, health assistance

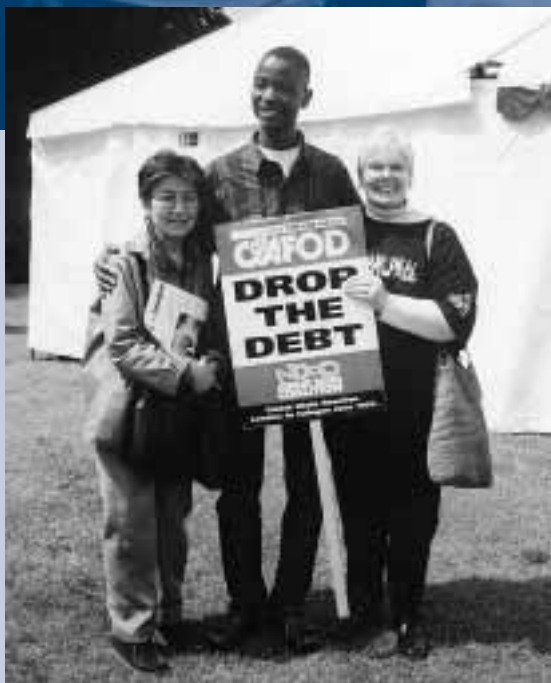
JRS Centro Astalli, Rome, Italy



JRS Centro Astalli, Rome, Italy



Soo Youn Kum/JRS



participation in debt cancellation campaign, UK

JRS dormitory for women and children, Rome, Italy





Mark Raper SJ/JRS

Southeast Europe has been a turbulent region for many years. Although efforts have been made, both locally and internationally, to identify solutions to the problems of the region, no-one is certain the right answers have been found, especially for Bosnia and Kosovo, where hostility has remained palpable. The presence of foreign peace-keeping troops, who most observers agree are there long-term, is proof of this.

Lack of political and economic stability in the region does not allow for an objective analysis of emerging challenges in these spheres. Meanwhile, reconciliation has become more and more of a problem for politicians, expected to make the first move although they lacked the support of their voters to do so. Political changes since the removal from power of notorious Serb president, Slobodan Milosevic, were greeted with enthusiasm. The international community pledged massive support to encourage democracy in Serbia, simultaneously cutting financial support to Kosovo by 50%. Meanwhile, the unresolved status of Kosovo and Montenegro remained potential triggers of instability in the region.

During this year, JRS emphasised the predicament of forgotten refugees, in a bid to balance support by aid agencies to alleviate the highly publicised plight of the Kosovars. However, our efforts were not always heeded and the quality and quantity of our services suffered.

Two long-term development projects were launched to help people toward economic independence: a sewing school for handicapped women in Kosovo, and a computer school in Macedonia. Assistance to refugees and displaced people in camps throughout Serbia was intensified. Thanks to this activity, JRS was able to establish good ecumenical contacts and collaboration with Serb-Orthodox organisations in the region.

Stjepan Kusan SJ, JRS Southeast Europe director



JRS Bosnia director
Marijan Sef SJ

This year, for the first time since the end of the war in 1995, refugees and displaced people returned in relatively large numbers to areas in Bosnia where they would be part of an ethnic minority. However, five years after the official end of war in Bosnia, 857,000 people out of a population of four million were still displaced, according to the Ministry for Human Rights and Refugees. One of the greatest obstacles to the return of refugees was often that they had no home to return to; around 200,000 properties were destroyed in the war. Meanwhile, Bosnia continued its slow and painstaking journey towards social, economic and physical recovery. There were many obstacles: unemployment was almost at 50 per cent and at least 100,000 people left since the end of the war, because they had little hope of finding work in Bosnia. The country remained largely dependent on a strong international presence, both military and humanitarian, however NGO funding began to diminish.

JRS projects in Bosnia & Herzegovina

reconstruction **BOROVICA, GORNJA TRAMOSNICA, CAPLJINA** Houses in these villages were rebuilt through a JRS reconstruction project, encouraging people to return.

SARAJEVO The JRS team also undertook reconstruction work on homes in Sarajevo, such as repair of roofs and masonry, water and electricity installations, painting, carpentry.

Project director: Ivica Sego

Achievements included:

- 2,228 repairs to houses in Sarajevo and its suburbs;
- apartments for 32 families.

child mine victims **SARAJEVO** JRS continued to run the mine victims assistance program (MVAP), working to reduce the dependency of mine victims and to reintegrate them into society. This was achieved through medical, material, legal and psychosocial assistance.

Project manager: Eugene Quinn (until July); Miozgra Przemek

Beneficiaries/achievements:

- 420 mine victims, including 11 new ones in 2000;
- 750 field visits.

elderly mine victims **SARAJEVO** Rehabilitation, prostheses, medical and material assistance were provided to elderly mine victims in this ongoing project.

Project director: Marinko Milicevic SJ

Beneficiaries: 33 new cases in 2000; 21 were given prostheses.

soup kitchen **SARAJEVO** The soup kitchen continued to operate, based in the Jesuit parish in Grbavica, a district where returnees and refugees from eastern Bosnia live.

Project manager: Ferko Josipa

Beneficiaries: daily food distribution for 250 people.

home care **SARAJEVO** Material assistance for elderly returnees was sustained: food, medical aid, wood, reconstruction or repairs. Another aspect of the project was companionship offered to the elderly through home visits.

Project coordinator: Marinko Milicevic SJ

Beneficiaries/achievements:

- 90 people;
- 100 examinations by doctors/specialists.

Eight years after Croatia gained its independence from the former Republic of Yugoslavia, the country still faced challenges to deal with the return and reintegration of refugees and internally displaced people. During the war, around 30,000 Serb soldiers and 80,000 Serb civilians left Croatia, while an estimated 70,000 Croats fled Serb-occupied territories within Croatia, becoming internally displaced. The attention of the Croatian government has focused largely on rebuilding the homes of internally displaced Croats, while Serb returnees were not given priority. However, under pressure from the international community, the new Croatian government devoted more attention to returnees from Yugoslavia and Bosnia. According to official data, 24,000 refugees decided to return to Croatia this year; by July, 10,700 had done so. Meanwhile, Croatia continued to face problems of political and economic transition, with a high unemployment rate of 23%.



JRS projects in Croatia

SISAK transition camp Most of the Serb returnees in this camp – located 60km south of Zagreb – are elderly or ill and are unable to survive alone without support; others cannot return to their homes as they have been destroyed or occupied. JRS provided support to the returnees with the local Serb-Orthodox pastor. Services included provision of food, medicine and hygienic items; knitting groups; recreational material for children and adults.

Project director: Marijan Pavlovic

Beneficiaries: 132 people (all the camp residents)

KNIN A project launched in March this year assisted in the peaceful reintegration of returnees to Croatia's north Dalmatia region. An office was set up in Knin and field workers collaborated with other organisations to ensure aid reached those who are most vulnerable. The focus of the project, which will continue until June 2001, is income-generating and peace-building initiatives.

Project coordinator: Cupkovic Dragoljub

support to returnees

A JRS project continued to train lay people in Bosnia and Croatia who work with groups. Training took place through a series of seminars and certificates were awarded to participants who underwent training in social analysis, communication, trust building, and planning.

Achievements included:

- 69 people attended seminars in Osijek and Zagreb this year and 44 were awarded a certificate. Another 77 participants started the course in November.

training

Borovica: JRS Southeast Europe director, Stjepan Kusan SJ, with a returnee to this village in Bosnia where JRS supported reconstruction.

Mark Raper SJ/JRS





JRS Macedonia director
Fr Mato Jakovic

The number of refugees in Macedonia had dropped to around 9,500 by the end of June, in contrast to 1999, when 344,500 refugees from Kosovo sought refuge in Macedonia. Most of these returned in the second half of 1999, and less than 1000 of the refugees in Macedonia this year were Kosovo Albanians. Ethnic Roma accounted for well over half of all the refugees this year; others included ethnic Albanians from southern Serbia as well as ethnic Serbs and other non-Albanian minority groups from Kosovo. Around 2,300 of the refugees were housed in collective centres, while the rest remained in private accommodation. Although Macedonia has been viewed as a model of stability and democracy in the region, its human rights record drew attention in 2000, and police brutality and the treatment of minorities were noted as areas of concern.

In Kosovo, Serbs faced a precarious situation, subject to harassment and discrimination. Their enclaves were guarded by KFOR peace-keeping troops and they lived in near isolation.

JRS projects in Macedonia & Kosovo

JRS set up an office in Skopje in 1999 to respond to the large numbers of refugees coming to Macedonia from Kosovo that year. When the ethnic Albanians returned to Kosovo, JRS began to assist Serbs, Roma and other ethnic groups who fled from that province. The JRS team in Macedonia also provided logistical support for JRS projects in Kosovo.

urban project

SKOPJE JRS assisted refugees and the families hosting them. JRS also provided for families who hosted refugees in 1999, when large numbers of refugees from Kosovo entered Macedonia. Many host families were poor and were left worse off when the refugees repatriated.

Beneficiaries:

- JRS assisted 200 families until July, and 93 families from August onwards

education

MACEDONIA, KOSOVO Scholarships and computer courses for students from low-income families were provided through projects in several centres set up by JRS.

Project supervisor: Miodrag Kolic

Beneficiaries/achievements:

- six computer centres were set up: one in Skopje; five in eastern Macedonia;
- 50 youths completed the computer course;
- 97 computer trainees;
- 71 university students;
- 85 children.

material assistance

KOSOVO JRS assisted Serbs in Kosovo living in isolated enclaves through regular deliveries of food, medicine, firewood and school items.

Project manager: Miodrag Kolic

Beneficiaries/achievements:

- deliveries and regular visits to three enclaves, reaching 1,300 people

training

KOSOVO JRS undertook a project, starting from November this year, to help disabled women returnees earn a living for themselves and their families. A workshop has been opened and women on the project will learn sewing.

Project supervisor: Mr Toni Mirdita

Beneficiaries:

- the objective is to train eight groups of ten women over one year

SERBIA – MONTENEGRO

The turbulent 13-year rule of Slobodan Milosevic was brought to an end by a mass uprising in October. The democratic government taking over the reins of power faced an economy destroyed by war, mismanagement and sanctions. Yugoslavia ranked as one of Europe's poorest countries, with 40% of the population forced to survive on a monthly income of less than 15 US dollars. Around 700,000 people were living as refugees or as internally displaced, many in 650 so-called collective centres (camps). A drastic cut in UNHCR funding for Serbia and Montenegro announced in October, left funds for only "life-saving aid" like food and heating, and NGOs expressed concern at the dismal living conditions in the collective centres. An estimated 220,000 displaced people from Kosovo were among the hardest hit, according to UNHCR.



JRS Serbia director
Viktor Glavina

JRS projects in Serbia & Montenegro

SERBIA, MONTENEGRO JRS worked to improve the living conditions of displaced people from Kosovo living in camps. JRS identified 70 camps in need of assistance, and provided services, including small repairs to the camps, food packages, hygienic items, and school items for children.

Project director: Vladimir Glavina (Serbia), Markolovic Anto (Montenegro)

Beneficiaries:

- JRS provided assistance in 52 camps (37 in Serbia and 15 in Montenegro) and helped 5,299 people

food, health, repairs

BELGRADE JRS provided material and psychosocial help to refugees living with host families.

Beneficiaries: 1,360 people

urban project

Serbia: JRS assisted over 5,200 displaced people and refugees living in camps in Serbia and Montenegro.

Mark Raper SJ/JRS



Sarajevo, Bosnia



Mark Raper SJ/JRS

Sarajevo, Bosnia



Mark Raper SJ/JRS

Serbia



Mark Raper SJ/JRS

Sisak transit camp, Croatia

LATIN AMERICA & THE CARIBBEAN



Mark Raper SJ/JRS

The conflict in Colombia provoked the flight of thousands of people this year. Some sought refuge within Colombia while others went as refugees to neighbouring countries. Internally displaced people located in Colombia's conflict zones were often attacked indiscriminately.

In response to increased needs, JRS set up new projects: two in Colombia (Tierralta, Buga), one in Venezuela (Táchira), one in Ecuador (Quito), and one in Panama (Darién).

In Venezuela, the government refused to recognise people fleeing Colombia's civil war as refugees, calling them instead 'displaced people in transit', a status that afforded them no protection, so they could be arbitrarily deported like other irregular migrants.

In Panama, JRS responded to refugees' needs via the organisation, *Fe y Alegría*. In Ecuador, a JRS coordinator has been appointed to formulate a strategy and to set up a team.

In Haiti, insecurity and tension increased, particularly following the general election in November. No fewer than 128 people died in unsolved crimes. As a result, more Haitians sought refuge in the Dominican Republic. JRS accompanied asylum seekers from Haiti throughout the process of application for refugee status, providing social and legal assistance.

José Nuñez SJ, JRS Latin America regional director



A civil war involving the country's armed forces, paramilitary groups and rebel guerrillas, displaced an estimated two million civilians in recent years. Colombia's civilians continued to be subject to massacres, kidnappings and other human rights violations perpetrated by parties to the conflict. Thousands fled to other countries, but often found they were not welcome. *Plan Colombia*, a US aid package worth 1.3 billion US dollars, was passed in July, ostensibly as part of the war on drugs. The aid package is almost exactly three-quarters military and police aid. The aid is expected to increase violence, and refugee crises are expected in neighbouring countries. Strong human rights conditions included in the law were waived by US President Bill Clinton, despite overwhelming evidence that Colombia did not and could not meet the requirements.

JRS Colombia director
Jorge Serrano SJ

JRS projects in Colombia

JRS carried on its projects in Colombia this year, walking with displaced people as they rebuilt their lives, accompanying them in the emergency and transition phases following their flight, and undertaking initiatives to prevent further conflict and displacement. One of the key aims of JRS Colombia is empowerment of displaced people to demand their human and legal rights. The number of beneficiaries of JRS projects this year was 3,317 people.

visits **BARRANCABERMEJA, RIO VIEJO, YONDÓ districts** Accompaniment and support to displaced people through visits formed a significant part of JRS work.

alliances with other NGOs **BARRANCABERMEJA, RIO VIEJO, YONDÓ** JRS worked with other NGOs to co-ordinate services to displaced people and in some cases to provide joint projects.

emergency assistance **BARRANCABERMEJA, RIO VIEJO, YONDÓ** Control of these areas is highly disputed among parties in Colombia's war, so mass displacement is fairly common. JRS assisted people recently displaced, providing food, health care, transportation and security.

education **BARRANCABERMEJA, RIO VIEJO, YONDÓ** JRS provided alphabetisation courses, scholarships, education in emergency shelters.

housing projects, reconstruction **BARRANCABERMEJA, RIO VIEJO, YONDÓ** JRS sought to identify permanent solutions to the housing problem of displaced people, either in their communities of origin, or wherever they resettled.

workshops **BARRANCABERMEJA, RIO VIEJO, YONDÓ** JRS ran workshops for displaced people and humanitarian aid workers on a varied range of topics, including:

- skills training for displaced people;
- agricultural techniques;
- teacher training;
- trauma counselling and psychological support;
- spirituality;
- national legislation and human rights;
- income-generating projects;
- training for humanitarian workers.

The Haitian minority in the Dominican Republic continued to be extremely vulnerable. In addition to their ill-defined legal status, Haitian migrants are exploited economically and discriminated against socially. Although the Dominican Republic accepts cheap Haitian labour, it has not made moves to guarantee basic rights to the migrants. A large part of the Haitian minority in the Dominican Republic lives in miserable conditions: whole families share small windowless barracks in *bateys*, which lack electricity, safe drinking water and latrines. The police and army carry out round-ups in the *bateys*, usually during the night, arresting people without making a distinction as to whether or not they carry identification documents. Haitians living in the Dominican Republic are often forcibly deported to Haiti, even if they possess legal documentation ascertaining their Dominican citizenship.



JRS Dominican Republic director
José Nuñez SJ

JRS projects in the Dominican Republic

JRS pressed ahead with lobbying for the rights of Haitian migrants and Dominico-Haitians, and with promoting integration. Around 1,700 people are direct beneficiaries.

LA CIÉNEGA neighbourhood, Santo Domingo & DAJABÓN border town JRS worked to bring Dominicans and Haitians together to understand each other better. Among other initiatives, JRS continued to run an integrated primary school and promoted enrolment of Haitian children in public schools. JRS also conducted workshops for different groups to boost integration and awareness of human rights.

Beneficiaries/achievements:

- 131 pastoral workers attended workshops;
- several NGO representatives from both sides of the Dominican-Haitian border attended workshops on human rights, advocacy, health, planning, and other topics. The estimated number of beneficiaries is 562 people;
- integration workshops with Haitian parents reached out to 539 people;
- monthly meetings with 25 representatives of networks in the border zone.

integration,
human rights

LA CIÉNEGA, DAJABÓN Ongoing aid was given to people without legal documentation.
Beneficiaries: 188 people

legal aid

DAJABÓN JRS provided protection to Haitian migrants who were abused or threatened, trying to ensure those who were detained or deported were treated with dignity.

protection

LA CIÉNEGA, DAJABÓN JRS continued lobbying for and raising awareness about the rights of Haitians and Dominicans of Haitian origin through the NGO network REDH.

Beneficiaries/achievements:

- daily news summaries and monthly bulletins to 125 people/agencies;
- placing articles in the national media;
- five workshops on human rights and migration;
- launching of a campaign *The Right to a Nationality*;
- lobbying against a draft migration law, which discriminated against Haitians and Dominicans of Haitian origin;
- working on a new draft for the law.

information,
advocacy

JRS assisted refugees with food, health, urgent documentation, and accommodation.
Beneficiaries: 153 refugees

emergency

VENEZUELA



JRS Venezuela director
Alfredo Infante SJ

Many Colombian refugees crossed over to Venezuela this year to escape the civil war. The absence of national refugee legislation meant the Venezuelan government did not recognise the presence of the refugees on its territory, calling them 'displaced in transit', a category that does not exist in international law and which therefore offered no protection from deportation. Since no formal asylum process exists, government officials took ad hoc decisions on cases, based on personal interpretation. Meanwhile, applicants lived practically in hiding, with much fear of deportation.

JRS projects in Venezuela

assessment, planning	<p>COLOMBIA-VENEZUELA border</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In July, JRS and several human rights organisations undertook a mission to the border to set up mechanisms of early alert and prevention of human rights violations, in case of mass displacement. • JRS helped to organise a meeting in November, to discuss pastoral responses to Colombian refugees arriving to the Venezuelan border. About 20 people attended.
accompaniment	JRS accompanied people who entered the country as asylum seekers.
alliances with other NGOs	<p>CARACAS JRS continued to form part of the NGO network <i>Initiative of Solidarity with Colombia</i>, concerned with human rights violations in Colombia.</p> <p><i>Achievements:</i> A seminar in October about repercussions of the US <i>Plan Colombia</i></p>
advocacy	<p>CARACAS JRS contributed to the drawing up of a first draft of refugee and asylum law.</p>
reintegration	<p>CARACAS At the request of UNHCR, JRS undertook a refugee reintegration project.</p>

MEXICO



JRS Mexico director
Pedro Arriaga SJ

After more than 70 years in power, the *Partido Revolucionario Institucional* (PRI) lost presidential elections in July. The victor, Vicente Fox of the *Partido Acción Nacional* (PAN) showed willingness to take human rights seriously. Voting in the southern state of Chiapas in August resulted in the election of an opposition candidate, Pablo Salazar, as state governor, raising hopes that long-standing problems might be resolved. Meanwhile, violence in Chiapas continued, arising from injustice suffered by indigenous people at the hands of landowners and governmental authorities. Around 21,000 people have been internally displaced in the violence, perpetrated also by insurgent and paramilitary groups. The paramilitaries continued to harass those linked to demands for justice, and the displaced people persevered in demanding justice in order to return to their communities.

JRS projects in Mexico

pastoral, emergency	<p>CHIAPAS JRS continued to attend to the needs of civilians displaced by the Chiapas conflict.</p>
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Saché, near Dajabon, Dominican Republic



Saché, near Dajabon, Dominican Republic



The US Immigration and Naturalisation Service (INS) continues to detain more than 18,000 people each year, pursuant to a 1996 change in the law by Congress. The turnover of people in detention is high, as an estimated 200,000 are deported annually. Harsh asylum policies in place include mandatory detention of asylum seekers and expedited deportation processes. Many of the provisions of the 1996 law were challenged in court, but no major reversal to the trend is anticipated before it gets worse. The people held in INS facilities are held under civil detention authority and not under criminal incarceration. There are no criminal charges against them; they are awaiting civil action on their immigration status. Some are held in these facilities for up to three years. The INS also uses local jails to house its detainees.

JRS USA director
Rick Ryscavage SJ

JRS projects in USA & Canada

detainees, pastoral

LOS ANGELES JRS service went ahead in four facilities with a staff of three Jesuits and a laywoman. The ministry was prison chaplaincy: sacraments, bible studies, pastoral counselling and so forth. JRS tried to insure at least weekly access to mass/communion service in each unit.

Project director: Rob McChesney SJ

EL PASO, Texas A Jesuit is the chaplain at the INS facility, ministering to both detainees and staff.

Project director: Richard Sotelo SJ

detainees, children

LOS ANGELES Two of the facilities JRS served are for minors: Los Padrinos and Central Juvenile Hall. JRS was also involved in creating alternatives to detention for minors and to bring this need to the attention of Catholic agencies, organisations and congregations in the Los Angeles area.

Coordinator: Alice Linsmeier

BERKS COUNTY, Pennsylvania At the end of the year, a JRS program was launched at a centre to focus on unaccompanied minors in detention.

detainees, legal

JRS continued to work closely with three attorneys of the Catholic Legal Immigration Network (CLINIC), the legal services arm of the US Bishops Conference in Washington.

post-release

NEW YORK/NEW JERSEY JRS has been working in the area of post-release services for those who are released from detention after being granted asylum.

Project director: Will Coley

advocacy

Apart from fighting to undo harsh asylum policies put in place in 1996, one primary advocacy goal of JRS concerned the establishment of paid chaplaincies in INS facilities. JRS was involved in writing the standards for religious access to INS detention centres, incorporated in INS national standards for treatment, announced at the beginning of 2001. The INS said it would soon establish paid chaplaincies in the nine service processing centres they operate directly.

In addition, JRS coordinated extensive advocacy efforts related to US policy in Colombia, the US Campaign to Ban Landmines, and the global issue of internally displaced people.

TORONTO, Canada JRS is represented in agencies working in advocacy for refugee rights.

JRS Canada contact person: Jack Costello SJ

JRS FINANCES 2000

Some brief notes of explanation

Sources of funding:

- Information extracted from financial reports (income & expenditure) received from the country and/or regional offices;
- Catholic agencies include donations received from religious congregations and Bishops' conferences;
- In-kind support received from Jesuit provinces includes office space, equipment, personnel, scholarships in Jesuit schools awarded to refugees;
- Included under other agencies are funds received from government agencies.

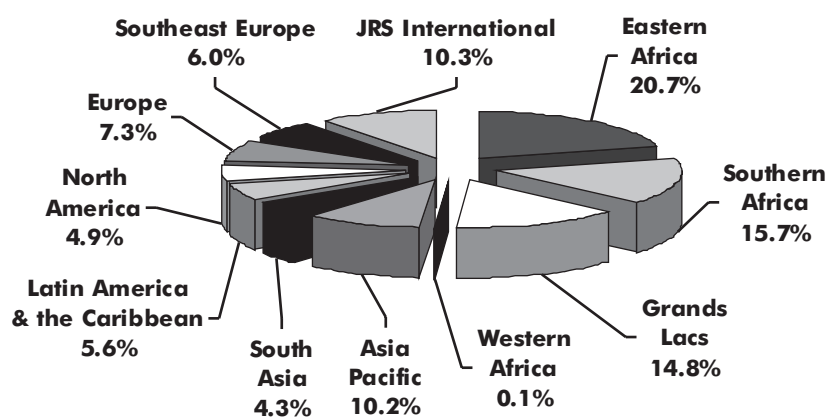
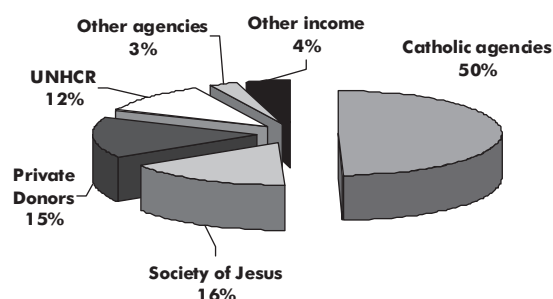
Project Activities:

- Education refers to both formal and informal education, scholarships, teacher training;
- Emergency assistance includes services provided in the initial emergency phase of displacement as well as material assistance such as food, clothing, shelter;
- Social services include reconciliation programmes, community development activities, pastoral activities, dispensaries or clinics;
- In addition to co-ordination and logistic support to projects, many country and/or regional offices do activities such as information and legal assistance, campaigns and advocacy work. Of the total expenses of the International office, about 50% were sent as seed funding to JRS projects world-wide and for support of long-term personnel in the regions.

SOURCES OF FUNDING JRS WORLD-WIDE (in US dollars)

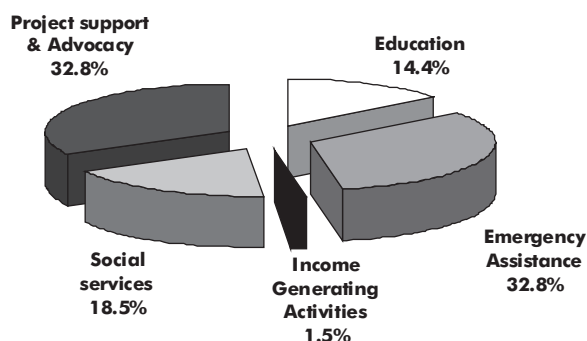
Sources of funding	Amount
Catholic development agencies	5,564,853
Society of Jesus	1,837,195
Private Donors	1,709,397
UNHCR	1,325,298
Other agencies	315,493
Other income	487,603
Grand Total	11,239,839

SOURCES OF FUNDING BY PERCENTAGE



PERCENTAGE DISTRIBUTION OF EXPENDITURE BY REGION

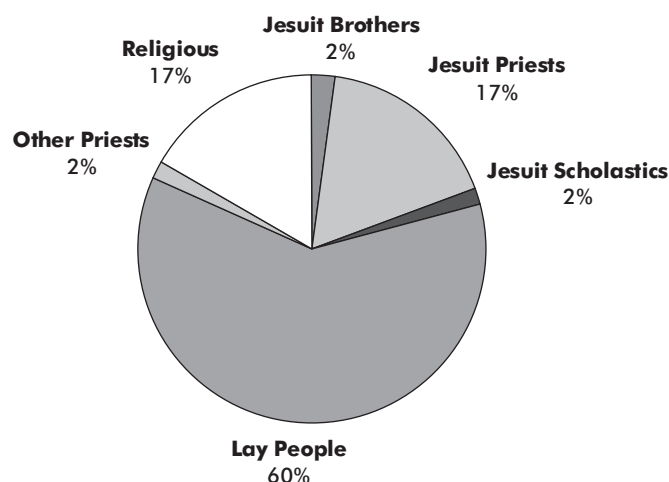
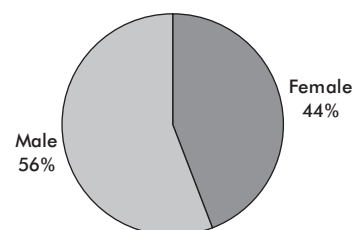
PERCENTAGE DISTRIBUTION OF AMOUNT SPENT BY PROJECT ACTIVITIES



PERSONNEL AUDIT

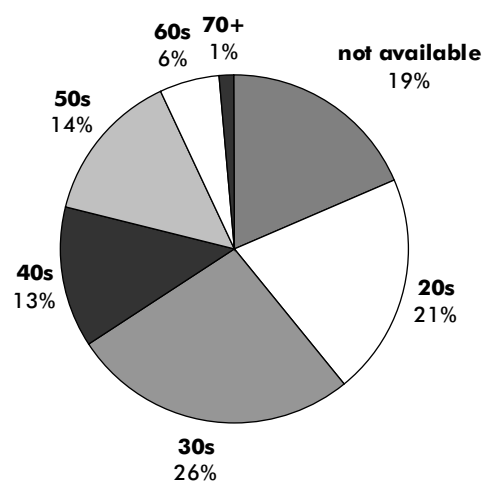
A total of 512 people (286 men and 226 women) from 59 countries worked with JRS in 2000, according to the annual personnel audit. This is an increase over last year, when 468 workers were employed with JRS. This does not include thousands of local collaborators in individual projects, most of whom are refugees.

GENDER DISTRIBUTION



STATUS OF STAFF

Jesuit Brothers	11
Jesuit Priests	88
Jesuit Scholastics	8
Lay People	311
Other Priests	9
Religious	85
Total:	512

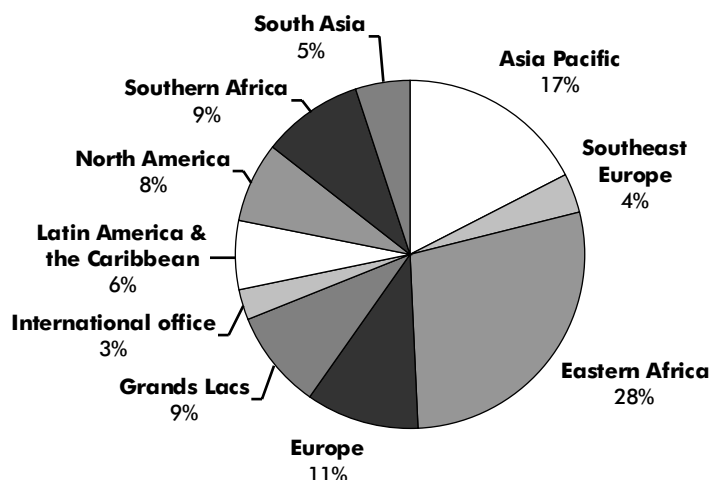


AGE DISTRIBUTION

not available	95
20s	105
30s	137
40s	67
50s	72
60s	29
70+	7
Total:	512

STAFF BY REGION

Asia Pacific	89
Southeast Europe	19
Eastern Africa	143
Europe	54
Grands Lacs	46
International office	15
Latin America	32
North America	39
Southern Africa	48
South Asia	25
Total:	510



JRS PUBLICATIONS

JRS marked 20 years of service to forcibly displaced people on 14 November, the date former Jesuit Father General, Pedro Arrupe, officially announced the launching of the organisation in 1980.

To commemorate the anniversary of JRS, the following were published:

- **JRS: 20 years of Service to the Refugees** (November 2000), a book by JRS South Asia with contributions from pioneers in JRS and current personnel, capturing the inspiration that has guided, and continues to guide, JRS.
- **Everybody's Challenge – Essential Documents of JRS 1980-2000** (October 2000), a book gathering documents and writings, which trace the growth of JRS over the past 20 years.
- **Jesuit Refugee Service, 20 years of photographs and text**, a CD-ROM containing all the photos used in an exhibition to mark the JRS anniversary, held in Rome in November 2000. Stories of forcibly displaced people, reflections by JRS workers, *Everybody's Challenge*, are also included.

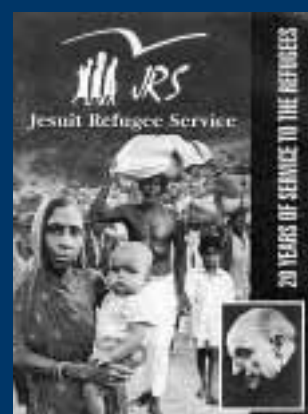
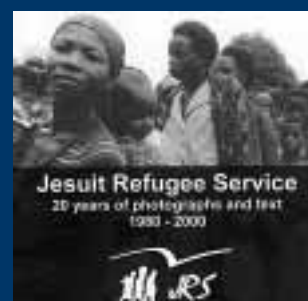
Other publications in 2000:

- **Outside the Protection of the Law: The Situation of Irregular Migrants in Europe**, the results of field research about irregular migrants undertaken by JRS in Germany, UK and Spain were summarised in a booklet published by the Refugee Studies Centre at Oxford University.
- **Refugees and Displaced People**, by Mark Raper SJ and Amaya Valcárcel was published by Trocaire in a series called *Christian Perspectives*. The book gives an overview of forced displacement in the world today.

Regular publications by JRS International:

Ongoing information published by JRS came from field personnel working directly with refugees, and from refugees themselves. JRS attempted to bring the experience of refugees, particularly those who are victims of forgotten conflicts, to the attention of relevant decision-making bodies and of the public, in a manner that focused on the refugees.

- **Dispatches**: a fortnightly email publication featuring refugee news briefings and updates about our projects in the field.
- **Servir**, a quarterly bulletin with contributions by JRS workers and the refugees we work with. It features refugee experiences, reflections by JRS workers, and analysis of countries we are working in.
- **Regular alerts** on the JRS web site (www.jesref.org) on certain countries where we are at work, namely Burundi, Tanzania, Sudan, Sri Lanka, East and West Timor, and others as appropriate.



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**Your continued support makes it possible for us to help refugees and asylum seekers in over 50 countries. If you wish to make a donation, please fill in this coupon and forward it in the post-age-paid, self-addressed envelope to the JRS International office. Thank you.
(Please make cheques payable to Jesuit Refugee Service)**

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For bank transfers to JRS International in Rome:

Bank Istituto per le Opere di
Religione (IOR),
Città del Vaticano

Account name GISA

Beneficiary

Jesuit Refugee Service

Account numbers

for US dollars:
27212-007

for European currencies:
EURO-27212-035

for any other currency:
27212-001 (LIT)

Don Doll SJ/JRS



A broad family of religious, lay and displaced people working together, JRS holds up the courage and suffering of refugees like a mirror to the world, challenging us to ponder how our lives should intersect with theirs. In so doing, it makes an invaluable contribution to the emergence of a global culture of solidarity and a spirituality of accompaniment.

Peter O'Driscoll, former JRS Central America director

Kike Figaredo SJ/JRS

