

Jesuit Refugee Service



2002 report



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 **2002 Report** is published in English, Spanish, Italian and French.

Cover photo:

Kike Figaredo SJ/JRS

A group of children in Cambodia

Publisher: Lluís Magriñà SJ

Editor: Hugh Delaney

Production: Stefano Maero

Extracts may be reproduced with acknowledgement.

Regular publications from the JRS International Office

Dispatches, a twice monthly news bulletin from the JRS International Office detailing refugee news briefings and updates on JRS projects and activities, available free-of-charge by e-mail in English, Spanish, French or Italian.

Servir magazine, published three times a year, is a 12-page magazine that examines the issues of concern to the work of JRS, telling the stories of the refugees and displaced people, and the projects that have been established to assist them. Also available in English, Spanish, French and Italian.

To receive *Dispatches* and *Servir*, free of charge, subscribe through the JRS web site
<http://www.jrs.net/lists/manage.php>



<http://www.jrs.net>

Contents

Message from the JRS International Director	3
Repatriation	4
JRS Publications in 2002	4
JRS Africa Education	5
Advocacy and Human Rights work	5
Eastern Africa	7
Grands Lacs	15
Southern Africa	21
West Africa	31
Asia Pacific	35
South Asia	45
Europe	51
Southeast Europe	57
Latin America & the Caribbean	63
USA & Canada	70
JRS finances 2002	71
Contacting JRS	72



Displaced children in a JRS school in Nimule, South Sudan



Francesco Cavalliere © Agenzia Siciliani



MESSAGE FROM THE INTERNATIONAL DIRECTOR



2002 was a year of new hopes for JRS and the refugees we work with, as well as a time to reflect upon the causes of violence and to re-double our efforts at finding peaceful solutions to conflict.

The Jesuit Refugee Service witnesses at first hand the consequences of violence. Conflict is by far the single biggest cause of displacement, uprooting millions of people from their homes every year and driving them into exile. Sometimes civilians are deliberately targeted in war, though often they are simply caught in the middle of fighting between warring factions who are oblivious to their suffering. It is estimated that there are currently as many as 50 million people who have been forcibly displaced by conflict world-wide.

It is the mission of JRS to accompany, serve and defend the rights of these

refugees, especially those who are forgotten about and who do not attract international attention. We do this through our projects in over 50 countries world-wide, providing assistance in the form of education, health care, pastoral work, skills training, income generating activities and many other services to the refugees. JRS accompanies the refugees in a very personal way, listening to their problems and helping them spiritually and psychologically, as well as materially.

We must not abandon the victims of conflict, who are always the most vulnerable in society, but instead we must continue to work on their behalf, accompanying them in whatever way we can, advocating for change and the pursuit of peaceful approaches to conflict.

We have been encouraged and heartened by events this year in a number of countries where we have a presence such as East Timor, Angola and Sri Lanka, three nations where violence has produced large numbers of displaced people in recent times. 2002 saw great changes in Angola and Sri Lanka with cease-fires and peace processes providing hope for an end to long-running civil wars in both countries and a return for the displaced populations. The news from East Timor is even more encouraging with the new nation celebrating its

independence in May 2002 after a long history of violence and oppression. The vast majority of people who fled East Timor amid scenes of violence and destruction in 1999 have since returned home and the new nation has embarked upon a process of reconciliation and re-building.

The key to a lasting peace is reconciliation between individuals and communities driven apart by conflict. It is hoped that from such endeavours true forgiveness and understanding can emerge. This year we have proof that long-running hatreds and conflicts can be overcome and replaced by peace efforts and reconciliation. To witness people overcoming their problems and beginning new lives with new meaning is, for me, to experience the presence of Jesus in our lives.

At the same time we will have to respond to new emergencies and challenges in 2003. We will do this as best we can with the continued commitment of over 500 JRS workers and countless numbers of refugee collaborators as well as through the financial support of many organisations and a core group of JRS supporters and friends. To all of you I would say: thank you from the bottom of my heart for all your efforts during the year, which have produced many positive results.

Lluís Magriñà SJ

REPATRIATION

The dream for every displaced person is to return home and to live in peace and dignity. During 2002 JRS continued to work with refugees, accompanying them and helping them to acquire the skills that they will need when conditions are right for their return.

JRS has also been very active and vocal in defending the rights of refugees, speaking out for example against forced return of **Congolese** refugees in **Rwanda**, as well as lobbying for and facilitating safe repatriation processes in many settings such as in **Nepal** for the **Bhutanese** refugees.

Return and Rehabilitation – the Challenge Facing Sri Lanka:

The two-decade-long war in **Sri Lanka** left 630,000 people internally displaced and another 330,000 refugees in Europe and India. Peace talks between the Sri Lankan government and the rebel Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) are currently on-going, and in the new climate of peace thousands of displaced people have already decided to return home.

With a strong focus on education, JRS initiated educational assistance in the relief camps, war-affected villages and resettlement areas. The programmes have identified families affected by war and assisted them with income-generating activities. Attempts to bring war-affected youths back into the mainstream of society are also being made.

East and West Timor:

The violence and destruction inflicted upon **East Timor** in the immediate aftermath of the vote for independence in August 1999 drove a quarter of the East Timor people to flee to West Timor and other parts of Indonesia. Though the majority of the refugees have since returned home, there are still around 30,000 exiles remaining in West Timor.

To encourage repatriation, JRS assisted in reconciliation programmes between the East Timor people living East and West of the border. These meetings played a large role in convincing the refugees that it was safe to return home and that they would be welcomed back into their communities. JRS also made many trips to East Timor and recorded information concerning the situation, took photographs, exchanged letters and messages, and relayed video messages for the refugees in West Timor upon return.

Angola's Miracle of peace:

In January 2002 the **Angolan** war was so intense, the suffering of many so severe, and the outflows of refugees into neighbouring countries so constant, that no one imagined the speed of the peace process, and subsequent developments during the year.

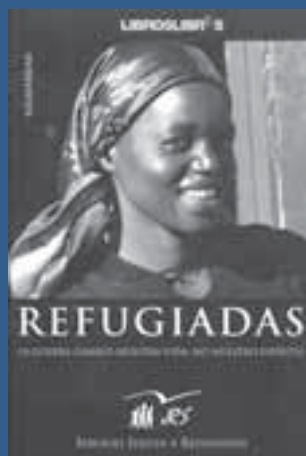
Reconciliation, professional skills training and literacy and Portuguese classes form part of JRS' strategy in Angola and in neighbouring Zambia and Namibia to help refugees and IDPs become independent in their future home, so they can participate in Angola's future.

Returning home has been a dream for many millions of Angolans – now it seems closer to realisation, and JRS will be accompanying those taking this journey.

World Refugee Day, 20 June 2002, saw the official launch of JRS Portugal book: *Starting Over – Step by Step with Refugee and Displaced People*. The new publication is a collection of stories detailing the experiences of 20 refugees and immigrants who have been helped by JRS in Portugal.



JRS PUBLICATIONS IN 2002



On 26 March 2002, JRS launched the Spanish language edition of *War has Changed our Life, not our Spirit*, a book documenting the experiences of forcibly displaced women. The book was originally published by JRS in English in February 2001. The book, available throughout the whole of Spain, is published by *Libros Libres* and sponsored by *Entreculturas*, an NGO linked to the Society of Jesus in Spain.

JRS AFRICA EDUCATION

Fluctuations in populations of the camps during 2002 had important repercussions on JRS teaching activities, as numbers changed unexpectedly and often dramatically. Significant events noted were spontaneous repatriations to Rwanda, Burundi, and Angola; the incursions of Rebel soldiers in districts of Northern Uganda, which displaced thousands of refugees; the attempt at *refoulement* from Rwanda of Congolese refugees, which resulted in the temporary closing of schools in the camps in Rwanda.

JRS has an Education Resource Person for Africa who regularly visits the various education programmes, assessing needs, conducting workshops and seminars, and providing guidelines and evaluations. Beneficiaries of JRS education programmes throughout Africa number more than 76,000.

Achievements in 2002 include:

- the Resource Person visited projects as requested by regional, country and project directors
- participated in the evaluations of education projects in Adjumani, Uganda, and Lukole, Tanzania
- teacher workshops on Strategies for Effective Teaching in Dzaleka (Malawi) and Osire (Namibia)
- the reopening of schools in the camps in Rwanda after the successful lobbying on the part of JRS

Africa Education maintains a web site <http://www.jrsafricaeducation.org> containing information on JRS education projects, as well as lists of books and useful documents on the JRS approach to education.

ADVOCACY AND HUMAN RIGHTS WORK

To ignore the deeper reasons behind the phenomenon of forced displacement is to limit our service to the refugees and our ability to address the vital questions of why a person has been driven from their home and what can be done to spare others a similar fate. Advocating for and defending the rights of refugees both nationally and internationally has been part of the JRS mission since its inception.

After the September 11 2001 attacks in the USA, JRS expressed deep concern about the repercussions felt by those most in need of international protection as attempts were made to create unwarranted links between refugees and terrorism resulting in even greater difficulties in gaining access to asylum procedures.

Protection of displaced people:

During 2001 and 2002, refugee protection standards have been eroded in many parts of the world. JRS in many countries such as **Australia, Germany and Zambia** have taken action against this alarming trend through lobbying, submission of policy papers, education, and collaboration with other organisations. From **Geneva**, the JRS representative continues to voice our concerns coming from the field regarding different aspects of violation of refugee protection. JRS has been very active in advocating for the rights of internally displaced people in places such as **Indonesia, Sudan and Colombia**. In the area of international level advocacy work, JRS also actively participated both in Geneva – as a member of the IDP reference group – and through giving advice to the Senior Interagency Network during its field visits to various countries.

Detention:

JRS monitors and voices concerns about the plight of asylum seekers in detention, and offers legal counsel whilst lobbying various international organisations, e.g. the UNHCR, to pay attention to the needs of very sensitive/urgent cases, in places like **Thailand, USA, UK, Sri Lanka, Zambia, Australia and Germany**.

International campaigns:

The **Coalition to Stop the Use of Child Soldiers**, a group formed in 1998 by six leading NGOs, including JRS, has been campaigning vigorously to draw attention to the estimated 300,000 child soldiers currently fighting in more than 35 countries. The Optional Protocol to the Convention of the Rights of the Child entered into force on 12 March 2002. By the end of 2002 it had been signed by 110 countries and ratified by 42.

JRS adopted the **Ban Landmines campaign** in 1994, to accompany those hurt by mines, help survivors tell their story, promote ethical reflections, and support national campaigns. JRS continues to lobby for the signing and ratification of the Landmine Ban Treaty by other countries while continuing to support landmine victims in countries such as **Bosnia, Angola, Cambodia and Kosovo**.

Racism and Xenophobia:

JRS has witnessed a tendency to link asylum seekers and refugees to crime and terrorism. In many parts of the world this and other factors have meant an increase in racism and xenophobia directed towards refugees. JRS **South Africa** and JRS **Dominican Republic** to name just two examples, have been very vocal in combating such tendencies.

Listen, Listen, Listen...

Surely the only way to learn about the hope of a refugee is to listen to her. Our biggest temptation on seeing the distress of the refugees in Karagwe or Fungnido Camp, or in a city like Johannesburg or Nairobi, is to begin projects, to give material things, to decide en masse what the refugees need. They often arrive in exile without shoes, with only one torn shirt, hungry, without a clear plan. But they did not undergo this experience in order to get a shirt or shoes.

Their human experience calls for respect. They are traumatised by violence, lonely, rejected, exhausted in body certainly, but also exhausted by losing their place in a stable society, and sometimes feeling guilty about what they did in order to survive. They want to be understood, to be heard. Their frequent question is, 'Why is God doing this to me?' They have a right to ask this question. But it cannot be asked unless someone listens. This is our primary role, to listen to the questions, to the longing and to the fundamental human need of the refugees.

Mark Raper SJ, former JRS International Director,
Pastoral accompaniment among refugees – the JRS experience,
September 1998



JRS Asia Pacific

Hugh Delaney/JRS

At the end of 2002, JRS in Eastern Africa was celebrating two peace initiatives that open up new pathways to peace. The Machakos agreement for the Sudan and the cease-fire agreement in Burundi are signs that war and conflict may finally end in these two countries. After nearly two decades of conflict in Sudan, with enormous levels of population displacement, 2002 saw a remarkable opportunity for peace with talks between the government and the SPLM/A rebel group.

In Northern Uganda the rebel Lord's Resistance Army continued to terrorise both locals and refugees, with violence against the civilian population continuing to drive people into exile during 2002.

Once famed for its hospitality, Tanzania's patience has been wearing thin for several years now. Tired of hosting over a half a million refugees from the Great Lakes area, Tanzania signalled that it was time for Burundians to go home, given the attempts at peace in Burundi, which culminated in the cease-fire agreement between the Burundian government and the largest rebel group in December. Those who did return were faced with a very volatile situation and some at least were subsequently forced back into exile, along with 'new' refugees from Burundi. Through Radio Kwizera, JRS did its best to ensure that refugees knew enough about the situation in Burundi to make an informed decision about whether to stay or return. Meanwhile, Uganda, Kenya and Tanzania received many new arrivals from DR Congo, where violence is continuing.

In April, an agreement was accepted by Ethiopia and Eritrea concerning a border dispute which had led to a bitter two-year war between the two countries. Ethiopia continued to experience ethnic tensions and by the end of 2002 the government was warning of catastrophic food shortages affecting almost 15 million people due to drought.

A JRS investigation on displacement calculated that up to 220,000 Kenyans are still living in makeshift conditions, after fleeing their homes due to violence or natural disasters. Conditions remain difficult in Kenyan refugee camps and also in urban centres, where refugees face police harassment and lack of assistance. At the end of this year a new dawn and a second liberation is being celebrated by the Kenyan people after the election of a new Government. They promise good governance, transparency and justice for all. If these promises are realised in 2003, IDPs can be resettled in their own country and refugees will feel more at home in their country of refuge.

John Guiney SJ, JRS Eastern Africa Director



JRS Kenya Director
Jane Munge

Though surrounded by countries which have been embroiled in conflicts for many decades, Kenya continued to enjoy relative peace in 2002. Thousands of refugees continue to find refuge in the country, either in the designated camps, or in the urban areas, particularly Nairobi. According to UNHCR statistics of December 2002, there were approximately 207,194 refugees living in Kakuma and Dadaab refugee camps. The statistics exclude refugees living in urban areas: of the 100,000 refugees estimated to be living in Nairobi and its environs, only 15,000 are UNHCR beneficiaries.

General elections in 2002 marked the end of the 24-year rule of former President Moi and his KANU party, and the joyous welcome of the new President Mwai Kibaki. Kenya still doesn't have a refugee law: the bill remains to date in draft form. However, early indications are favourable that the incoming government will show a positive interest in the plight of refugees and give attention to the refugee draft bill.

JRS projects in Kenya

parish outreach

NAIROBI Emergency assistance in the form of food, non-food items, medical, counselling and pastoral care was provided to asylum seekers through the parish structures. The project was also involved in promotion of peace and advocacy of human rights.

Achievements/Beneficiaries: approximately 600 families were assisted weekly

income-generating

NAIROBI The projects aim to provide necessary assistance in terms of finance, material, skills, working tools and equipment to refugees to start income generating activities as well as a sales outlet at the Mikono shop.

Achievements/Beneficiaries:

- the Mikono craft shop provided a sales outlet for 70 refugee families
- 60 refugees received loans to begin income-generating activities
- 38 refugees received skills training through workshops in colleges

education

NAIROBI Scholarships provide opportunities for refugees to increase their life chances and capacity to participate in the social, economic and political processes affecting them.

Achievements/Beneficiaries:

- scholarships for 23 higher vocational and 12 university students awarded
- five scholarships in special, primary, and secondary schools

KAKUMA camp JRS provides financial assistance to refugees to attend Kenyan schools.

Achievements/Beneficiaries:

- 15 girls enrolled in boarding primary schools
- 28 students enrolled in first Form at secondary level

distance learning

KAKUMA In collaboration with the University of South Africa, JRS supported 30 students to continue their tertiary education through a distance learning project.

social services

KAKUMA The JRS programme addresses the trauma, stress, and tensions that many of the refugees are suffering, through the provision of counselling and special care.

Achievements/Beneficiaries:

- as of January 2002, 40 counsellors were stationed in all zones of the camp
- 10,467 individuals received counselling, 900 home visits were conducted
- day care counselling and care to 111 traumatised and mentally ill refugees
- *Safe Haven* provided to 35 survivors of sexual and gender based violence
- over 10,000 individuals received alternative healing care

DADAAB camps In August, UNHCR invited JRS to extend the counselling services to Dadaab camps, and in November, a psychological needs assessment was conducted.

There are about 350,000 Burundian refugees in Western Tanzania. Burundi's transitional government and the main Hutu rebel group, Forces for the Defence of Democracy (FDD), signed a cease-fire agreement in December 2002 in an attempt to bring about an end to a conflict in Burundi that has claimed more than 300,000 lives, mostly civilian, since 1993. JRS undertook robust advocacy efforts to forestall the possibility of a forced repatriation of the refugees, but at the end of 2002 the risk remained, as the Tanzanian Government expressed its fatigue at the continued presence of so many refugees on its territory. Presently UNHCR facilitates the repatriation of those refugees who voluntarily registered for repatriation to areas in the north.

Meanwhile, the voluntary repatriation of Rwandan refugees from camps in northwestern Tanzania has been completed, with only about 150 remaining, according to UNHCR. The total number of refugees repatriated in 2002 was 23,474, of whom almost 19,000 went home in November and December.



JRS Tanzania Director
Romy Cagatin SVD

JRS projects in Tanzania

LUKOLE camp, Ngara At the end of November the Ngara district hosted just over 129,000 refugees, mainly Burundians. The JRS project in Lukole camp is concerned with the education of five and six year old children. Since 1998, five schools have been built, a core group of teachers trained and a curriculum has been written and implemented.

Achievements/Beneficiaries:

- approximately 1,500 children enrolled for the school year
- peace education and conflict transformation included in the curriculum
- committee of teachers followed health concerns of the children
- training of teachers to work with children with learning difficulties
- 7 sports animators were recruited and are following training courses
- UNHCR and UNICEF agreed to recognise JRS teacher training certificates
- 8 newly trained teachers began working in the schools

pre-school

NGARA, KIBONDO Radio Kwizera broadcasts a wide range of services to both refugees and the local population, providing accurate and unbiased information and news in Kirundi, Kiswahili, French and English. Priority was given this year to improving the quality of production through training, and the good use of new technical facilities.

Achievements/Beneficiaries:

- during 2002, the station did its best to ensure that refugees knew enough about the situation in Burundi to make an informed decision about whether to stay or return
- Radio Kwizera collaborated with the pre-schools in Lukole camp, helping to inform the community about the schools while also distributing free play radios
- a new booster station became operational in May, thereby increasing the range of transmission

Radio Kwizera

KIBONDO There are about 160,000 refugees in Kibondo district, spread throughout five different camps. In the constantly evolving context of 2002, the JRS socio-pastoral team sought to be a pillar of consistency and commitment, providing pastoral and humanitarian assistance to the refugees.

Achievements/Beneficiaries:

- courses and talks on leadership roles and responsibilities for 500 young people
- participated in AIDS awareness seminars, theatre, and video shows
- refugee rights promoted and defended
- 12 refugees trained as peace educators
- peace seminars conducted with 60 young people and 50 church leaders
- worked to strengthen Christian communities through seminars and visits
- established groups of trained refugee counsellors in Nduta and Mtendeli camps

socio-pastoral



JRS Uganda Director
Aden Raj

The situation in Northern Uganda and Southern Sudan deteriorated seriously during 2002. JRS contemplated evacuating its personnel, but in the end, all teams persevered, and fortunately remained physically unscathed. The year 2002 has been dominated by the military campaign code-named "Operation Iron Fist". Even though the intention of "Operation Iron Fist" was primarily to end the sixteen-year old rebellion by the Lord's Resistance Army (LRA) against the government of Uganda, it has instead led to the deterioration of security, to further massacres of innocent people, looting, torture and destruction of civilian/refugee property. So far, more than 600,000 people are displaced due to this war. For years, guerrilla warfare was restricted to Acholiland, but now the rebels are roaming as far as Lira, Apac, Pader, Kotido and Adjumani districts, performing their barbaric acts. These are the districts where most of the refugees are hosted.

JRS projects in Uganda

pastoral

ADJUMANI district JRS is part of a local team serving the Catholic Community in the settlements. There are 32 chapels in Adjumani, and the pastoral team visits the communities on Sundays. A JRS pastoral worker also ministers to the refugees in Palorinta in Moyo district.

Achievements/Beneficiaries:

- sacraments of Baptisms, Holy Communion and Matrimony administered
- regular visits to the hospital to be with and care for the patients
- several women's groups involved in income generating activities
- continued training for catechists, including those from the local church

RHINO camp JRS provides pastoral care to the refugees from Sudan and DRC. There are 18 chapels in the settlements where weekly Eucharist is held on a rotating basis.

Achievements/Beneficiaries:

- catechists are trained and workshops for Christian leaders conducted
- there are 20 Income generating groups

education

ADJUMANI, MOYO As UNHCR implementing partner, JRS assists in providing education to the refugees through incentives to teachers, provision of materials, training and school-feeding programmes.

Achievements/Beneficiaries:

- JRS assists 51 nursery schools, 31 primary and 4 secondary schools
- JRS sponsored the training and upgrading of 134 teachers
- 8,555 nursery 22,475 primary and 2,704 secondary students enrolled in 2002
- 427 secondary level girls assisted with their school fees

RHINO 22 learning centres with 900 people benefited from adult literacy classes.

peace education

KAMPALA JRS is involved in community peace building initiatives through skills training, conflict prevention, leadership activities and youth groups.

Achievements/Beneficiaries:

- over 4,000 people benefited from workshops on peace
- 59 peace centres established with 2,314 members
- peace education in 47 schools for 2,630 students

urban project

KAMPALA There are 3,000 asylum seekers living in Kampala, many destitute and in need of emergency assistance. The project offers assistance to vulnerable people.

Achievements/Beneficiaries:

- monthly provision of food and rent assistance to an average of 283 families
- basic legal aid and counselling to 751 individuals
- home visits to 149 families and medical care to 63 individuals

The on-going civil war in southern Sudan has displaced millions of people within the country. The first half of the year witnessed a continuation of military activity, as well as aerial bombardment by the government of Sudan. The capture of the town of Torit by SPLA rebels and its subsequent recapture by government forces has increased general insecurity in the region. Humanitarian groups providing assistance in the various displaced camps and refugee settlements are now facing great danger and insecurity, and are forced to curtail their activities.

The signing of the memorandum of understanding to cease hostilities by the government of Sudan and the Sudan People's Liberation Movement in October 2002 in Machakos and the resumption of peace talks is a step towards the realisation of a just and lasting peace in Sudan. In addition to the internal problems of Sudan, the areas bordering Uganda have been under attack by Lord's Resistance Army (LRA) rebels who are on the run and seeking new hideouts in southern Sudan.



JRS projects in Sudan

NIMULE, south Sudan JRS supports pastoral work for IDPs, the indigenous population and returnees in locations within and around Nimule, including peace education work.

pastoral

Achievements/Beneficiaries:

- sponsored a number of catechists and parish activities
- 14 Community Facilitators were recruited
- 36 women leaders attended a peace management workshop

LOBONE, south Sudan JRS programmes in South Sudan have managed to take advantage of small pockets of peace to support the efforts of IDPs and local people to educate their children. In Lobone, JRS is currently assisting 9 nursery, 5 primary and 1 secondary school as well as 9 adult learning centres, with school and building materials, incentives to teachers, regular visits and a school feeding programme. The project also assists community workshops on topics of justice and peace, gender issues, agriculture and HIV/AIDS. During 2002 JRS constructed the first permanent building in Lobone, conducted a number of teacher training workshops and participated in small-scale emergency assistance.

education

NIMULE The programme started in 1997 with the goal of supporting education of the IDPs, providing textbooks and stationary, teacher training, incentives for teachers and support for maintenance and construction of school buildings.

Achievements/Beneficiaries:

- 14 primary schools received scholastic material
- 4,213 primary and 719 secondary students attended school
- 25 O-level teachers recruited and incentives provided to 126 teachers
- 3 classrooms and 2 latrines were constructed
- workshops conducted on girl child education, skills and teacher training

KAJOKEJI county, south Sudan In an area where most of the social and economic infrastructure has suffered disruption due to neglect, decay and massive aerial bombardment, JRS is helping to rebuild the education services. In 2002, the programme involved teacher-training workshops, incentives to 99 teachers and direct technical support to 10 primary schools with 3,057 students. The beneficiaries are the teachers and children of both the IDPs and the indigenous people of Kajokeji County.



JRS Ethiopia Director
Stephen Power SJ

The 1998-2000 war with Eritrea caused the internal displacement of well over 300,000 people. The permanent cease-fire agreement of June 2000 facilitated the return of the majority of the internally displaced people (IDPs) and also triggered the return of some 60,000 Ethiopian refugees from Eritrean territory. However, recovery assistance for IDPs has been slow, due to the delay of mine clearing activities. At the end of 2002, alarming numbers of Ethiopians, up to 15 million, were affected by hunger. JRS is most concerned for those who may be displaced by the situation. The country is also host to around 120,000 Sudanese and Somali refugees. The situation has remained static for the refugees from Sudan, with war continuing there despite the Machakos peace agreement. More Somali camps have been closed, as those who can travel back to Somaliland have done so. JRS projects in Ethiopia provide various forms of assistance to urban displaced, asylum seekers and refugees.

JRS projects in Ethiopia

rehabilitation

ADDIS ABABA The project works with a group of families of Ethiopian origin displaced from Eritrea, providing support, practical skills and assistance to help them relocate from Kaliti camp. This year, families who were living outside the camp were included in the project.

Achievements/Beneficiaries:

- services provided to 273 families registered in the camp
- 89 families received assistance through income generating activities
- 2 individuals provided with driving skills and re-location assistance
- 25 individuals received medical and emergency assistance

community centre

ADDIS ABABA Due to a number of factors including resettlement and repatriation, the number of registered urban refugees in Addis fell from 450 to 410 by August 2002. The JRS community centre is a place where refugees can avail of a number of services such as counselling, sports, videos, language classes and computer lessons.

Achievements/Beneficiaries:

- 287 individuals provided with counselling and information services
- 37 people given financial and material assistance
- home visits to 33 refugees conducted to assess living conditions
- workshop on HIV/AIDS held to raise awareness amongst refugees
- 60 children provided with language and computer courses
- 30 refugees per day used the library services
- 40 refugees per day used recreational facilities
- 8 refugees provided with loans for income generating projects

parish outreach

ADDIS ABABA The main focus of the project is to aid urban refugees who are in a very desperate situation, without any means for survival. In close co-operation with parishes in Addis, the project has provided medical, financial, educational and counselling support to 8,187 refugees since its inception in 1997.

Achievements/Beneficiaries:

- 2,640 refugees provided with various forms of assistance in 2002



World Refugee Day 2002,
Ethiopia

JRS Workshop
in Lobone,
South Sudan

Stephen Power SJ/JRS



Hugh Delaney/JRS



The Mikono shop,
Nairobi, Kenya



JRS Day Care Centre,
Kakuma Camp, Kenya

The playground at the
JRS Day Care Centre,
Addis Ababa, Ethiopia



Lolín Menéndez RSCJ/JRS

Refugees in Nairobi,
Kenya, assisted by
the JRS Parish
Outreach Project





Jenny Cafiso/JRS

Brief winds of peace and justice for millions of refugees and internally displaced people blew through the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) and Burundi in the year 2002. The signing of a peace deal between the factions involved in the war in DRC opened up a window of opportunity, which will need to be grasped by all the actors involved, if it is to stand any real chance of success. The resumption of violence in Uvira and the Northeast of Congo are just two of the many obstacles to the long-awaited peace. Currently, more than 2 million people are internally displaced within the DRC as a result of five years of war. The most recent project for JRS in DRC is in Baringa in the north of the country, an area that had been caught up in the front line of fighting and suffered a total destruction of all physical infrastructure. The new project aims to meet the basic health needs of the local population.

2002 began with the eruption of the Nyiragongo Volcano in Goma, a natural tragedy to which JRS reacted with a project of school rebuilding and education assistance for more than 3,500 children in the city.

In Burundi, the cloudy future of the cease-fire agreement signed in December 2002 seems to reflect the lack of regard on the part of the belligerents towards the civilian population of this country – the main victims of nine years of war.

In Rwanda, Congolese refugees in Gihembe and Kiziba camps suffered an attempted forced repatriation by Rwandan authorities in September. After long negotiations, the government of Rwanda allowed JRS to reopen the primary and secondary schools that had been closed in both camps during the repatriation.

The voices of millions of suffering men and women in the region remain unheard. Serving them will continue to be our mission.

Joaquín Ciervide SJ, JRS Grands Lacs Director



JRS Burundi Director
Vincent de Marcillac SJ

A major breakthrough in the cease-fire negotiations resulted in an agreement being signed on December 3, 2002, between the CNDD-FDD, the largest faction of the armed opposition, and the Burundian government. This added to the prior signature of a cease-fire agreement between the government and two smaller groups, FDD and FNL. The signing of the cease-fire agreements by the various armed opposition parties and the government has been accepted with guarded optimism by Burundians. There is a wait and see attitude as to whether the signings are the harbinger of a cessation of the on-going violence and eventually of peace. The humanitarian situation was characterised by an almost permanent displacement of people due to plunder, destruction of property, rape and killings, frequently unreported and almost always unpunished. In November, 387,469 internally displaced people lived in 226 sites.

JRS projects in Burundi

income-generating

KIYANGE, BUTERERE People displaced by war were assisted through involvement in enterprises such as bakeries, market gardening, embroidery, carpentry, mills, soap making, sowing, basket weaving, and restaurants.

Achievements/Beneficiaries: 197 people were direct beneficiaries, among them:

- 22 women benefited from a sewing business
- 131 women involved in animation, basket weaving, and food cultivation

agricultural assistance

BUTERERE 125 families were provided with small amounts of land for cultivation.

Beneficiaries: 1,200

assistance to vulnerables

KIYANGE Assistance provided to 213 people, including the elderly and sick, those with HIV/AIDS, and those incapable of providing for themselves. Individuals are helped with cultivation of food, house repairs, medical assistance, library services as well as through an orphanage.

Achievements/Beneficiaries:

- 87 houses were repaired
- 21 latrines constructed

education

BUTERERE 2002 was a difficult year in Buterere, badly affected by the nation's economic crisis and currency devaluation in September, as well as periodic assaults and looting by armed groups. The problems of HIV, TB, and severe malnutrition persist. On 12 December, JRS unveiled a plaque identifying the Brother Antoine Centre, in memory of the man who lived and worked with JRS in Buterere before he was brutally murdered in October 2000. 116 primary students were enrolled in the programme, which also involved extra-curricular activities in the afternoon such as vegetable cultivation and provision of skills.

KIYANGE A primary school provides education for 200 children between the ages of 3 and 6. Each child received 20 hours of classes a week.

prisoners

BUJUMBURA JRS works with prisoners held in Mpimba prison in Bujumbura and Rumonge, about 100km from the capital, accompanying them and offering them assistance.

HIV/health

BUTERERE The AIDS programme offers sufferers in the terminal phase two hot meals a day in the Buterere restaurant which also benefits the displaced people who work there.

KIYANGE 2 seminars were conducted to raise awareness among young people about HIV/AIDS.

2002 in the DRC was a year of optimism overshadowed by the continuation of fighting in the eastern regions of the country. A comprehensive peace deal was finally agreed to by all parties to the inter-Congolese dialogue in December, preparing the way for the creation of a transitional government and a new constitution which will lead to national elections. Separate agreements were also reached throughout the year with neighbouring countries Rwanda and Uganda, with troops from those countries withdrawing as part of the accord. However, peace did not reach the provinces of Equateur and the Kivus (eastern DRC) where fighting and human rights abuses continued. As a result of the conflict, the country has been devastated and its people reduced to extreme poverty. The war has led to a massive displacement of the population, with hundreds of thousands of refugees fleeing to neighbouring countries and over two million people becoming displaced within Congo itself.



JRS DR Congo Director
Victor Wilondja

JRS projects in DRC

BARINGA In November, JRS initiated a health project in Baringa in the north of the country. It involves refurbishing the local hospital, recruiting local staff, providing medical training, conducting a vaccination programme, and re-establishing a number of health clinics.

Achievements/Beneficiaries:

- over 14,000 medical consultations and examinations conducted
- 7 toilets, 3 showers, 2 kitchens and 74 beds constructed

LUBUMBASHI The health of the displaced people is precarious, with widespread malaria, TB and bronchial problems. JRS established a health clinic in one of the camps in 2002.

Achievements/Beneficiaries:

- 310 consultations in six weeks
- 3 seminars on the prevention of HIV/AIDS with 325 participants

BRALIMA This site houses 146 families. JRS provided health and hygiene education, nutrition support and medical care with a total of 2,975 consultations during the year.

health

LUBUMBASHI Pre-school, primary and secondary level and adult literacy classes provided.

Achievements/Beneficiaries: fees paid for 453 primary and 154 secondary students

SICOTRA Classes offered in formal schooling, languages, secretarial skills, sewing, knitting.

Achievements/Beneficiaries:

- 36 pupils enrolled for school in September and provided with school materials
- 96 people enrolled for various skills classes

BUKAVU The project assisted 2,000 displaced children to attend school. 180 teachers attended a JRS teacher-training seminar, 120 new desks were provided and new windows and doors and a reading room for each school.

NGANDA-MOSOLO The camp houses 390 families or 1,427 individuals. JRS assists in pre-school and primary education for 109 children, including a school feeding programme.

BRALIMA Schooling provided to 34 pre-school and 129 primary and secondary students.

GOMA JRS reacted to the eruption of the Nyiragongo Volcano with a project of school rebuilding and education assistance for more than 3,500 primary school children in Goma. The project also provided training and school materials to 281 teachers.

education

LUBUMBASHI, SICOTRA, BRALIMA In Lubumbashi 215 families were provided with land, tools, seed and transport allowance. Other projects include bread baking and knitting. In Sicotra JRS organised agricultural activities, where people grew their own food in a "food for work" programme. Other activities included a bakery and sewing classes. In Bramila sewing classes were provided, as well as loans to begin income-generating activities.

self sufficiency



In late March, fighting erupted in the Pool region between government forces and rebels led by the Rev Frederic Bitsangou. Tens of thousands of people were forced to leave the area, facing what the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights Mary Robinson called “blatant disregard” by both parties for the safety of civilians trapped by armed conflict. Also in this area, a train connecting Pointe-Noire to Brazzaville was attacked between Loulombo and Kingoyi on March 31st. Subsequent bombings by Public Forces in the area resulted in plundering and massive displacements of the population. The UN Office for the Co-ordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) said in January 2003 that at least 84,000 people had fled fighting within the Pool region since late March 2002.

JRS projects in Congo

health **NKAYI** The project consisted of a mobile clinic providing first aid care to villages in an area where there are no health structures. In June 2002, JRS handed over the running of the project to the Franciscan Sisters.

Achievements/Beneficiaries:

- 4,126 individual consultations in first semester of the year
- 30 villages were served with between 40 and 200 patients daily

reconstruction **KIBOUENDE** All humanitarian organisations have been banned from operating in the Pool region since August 2002, restricting the services of JRS in a number of activities. The aim of this project was to help people to rebuild their communities and villages.

Achievements/Beneficiaries:

- 800,000 bricks were manufactured and 120 houses constructed
- a number of roads were re-surfaced
- food distribution (food for work) to 912 people in February 2002

The mobile clinic in Nkayi, Congo



In October, a report by the United Nations Panel of Experts on the Illegal Exploitation of Natural Resources in the DRC accused Rwanda of maintaining soldiers in Eastern DRC, and of using security concerns as a pretext to exploit the country's wealth. JRS' work in Rwanda was severely threatened in September 2002 as the Government of Rwanda tried to unilaterally repatriate 32,000 Congolese Tutsi refugees residing in Gihembe (Byumba) and Kiziba (Kibuye) refugee camps. The pace of repatriation was particularly swift in Gihembe where an average of 450 refugees per day had to abandon the camp. A month later the forced repatriation ceased due to international pressure. After a period of negotiations, JRS secured permission from the Rwandan Government to re-open the primary and secondary schools, which had been closed during the repatriations, thus ensuring that more than 8,000 students could continue their education in both camps. Today the total number of refugees in both camps is estimated at 24,000.



JRS Rwanda Director
Abbé Désiré Seruhungu

JRS projects in Rwanda

KIZIBA camp

Achievements/Beneficiaries:

- 3,702 primary students and 795 secondary students
- 612 pre-school students enrolled
- 175 people enrolled in adult literacy classes

GIHEMBE camp

Achievements/Beneficiaries:

- 2,665 primary students and 641 secondary students
- 560 pre-school students enrolled
- 45 people enrolled in adult literacy classes

JRS sponsored 18 students through education grants. 9 are from Gihembe, 6 from Kiziba, and 3 are urban refugees. Seven of the students attend the Rwanda National University and 11 attend the Kigali Free University.

KIZIBA

Achievements/Beneficiaries:

- 84 beneficiaries trained in sewing/needlework, knitting and crochet
- 30 beneficiaries trained in building, carpentry, and shoemaking

GIHEMBE 145 beneficiaries received training in carpentry, bakery, sewing, and hair-dressing.

GIHEMBE Despite suffering much from the forced repatriation, the small co-operatives of sewing, carpentry and the restaurant remain open. 388 beneficiaries were trained throughout the year.

KIZIBA, GIHEMBE The programme provides medical and other assistance to vulnerable people including the elderly, sick, disabled and orphans.

Achievements/Beneficiaries:

- 4,671 people were assisted in Kiziba and 1,184 in Gihembe

JRS continued to provide pastoral care to Christian communities in both camps.

GIHEMBE JRS developed theatre, music, and cinema activities for the youth of the camp.

education

scholarships

skills training

income-generating

assistance to vulnerables

pastoral

cultural animation

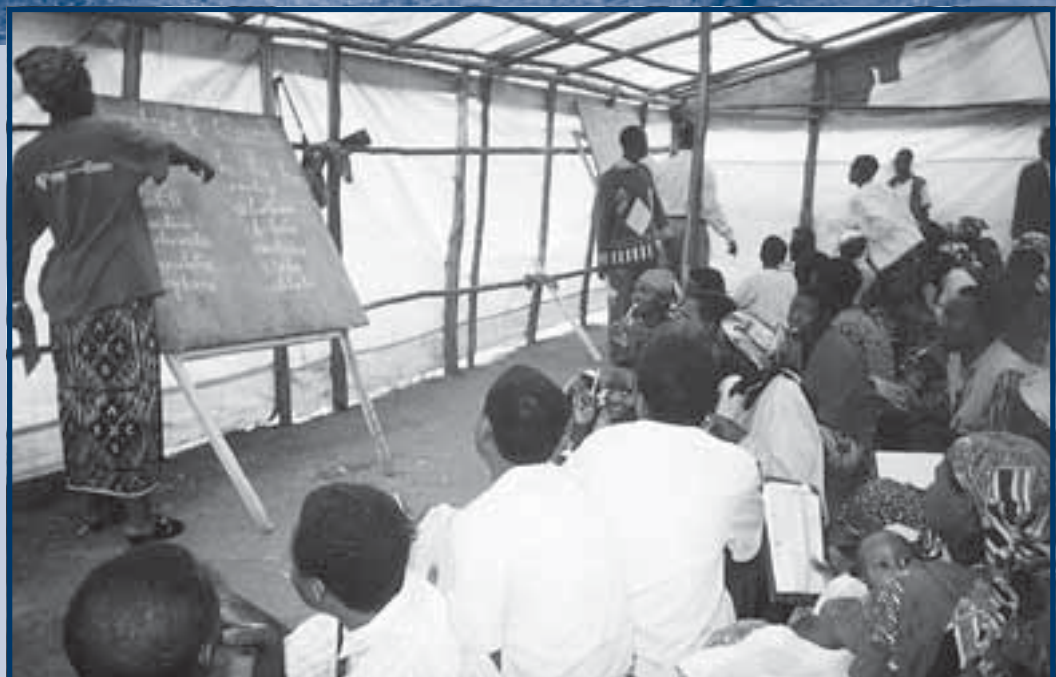


Displaced children at school
in Bukavu, DR Congo

JRS Grands Lacs

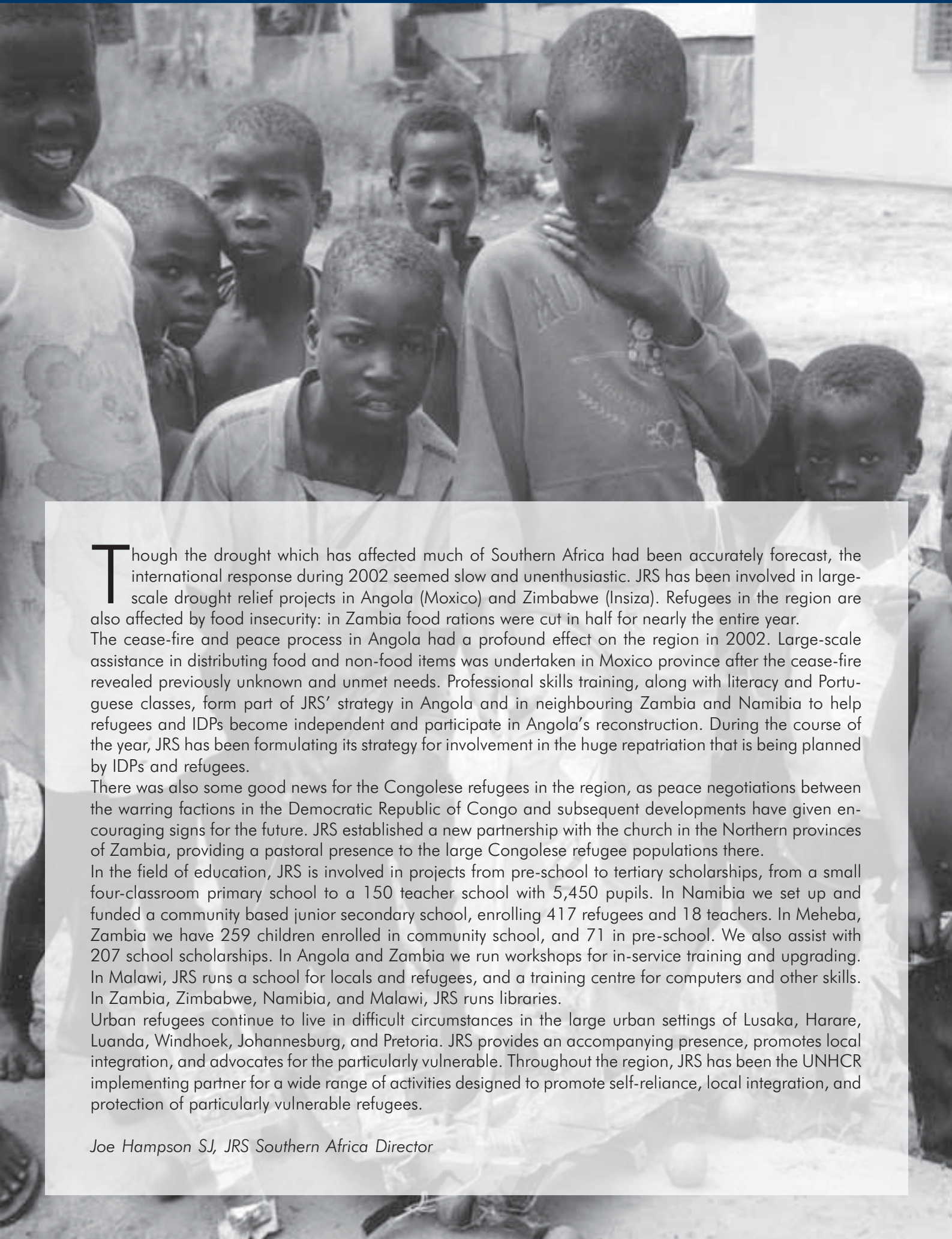


Gihembe
Camp,
Rwanda



Students in Gihembe Camp,
Rwanda

SOUTHERN AFRICA



Though the drought which has affected much of Southern Africa had been accurately forecast, the international response during 2002 seemed slow and unenthusiastic. JRS has been involved in large-scale drought relief projects in Angola (Moxico) and Zimbabwe (Insiza). Refugees in the region are also affected by food insecurity: in Zambia food rations were cut in half for nearly the entire year.

The cease-fire and peace process in Angola had a profound effect on the region in 2002. Large-scale assistance in distributing food and non-food items was undertaken in Moxico province after the cease-fire revealed previously unknown and unmet needs. Professional skills training, along with literacy and Portuguese classes, form part of JRS' strategy in Angola and in neighbouring Zambia and Namibia to help refugees and IDPs become independent and participate in Angola's reconstruction. During the course of the year, JRS has been formulating its strategy for involvement in the huge repatriation that is being planned by IDPs and refugees.

There was also some good news for the Congolese refugees in the region, as peace negotiations between the warring factions in the Democratic Republic of Congo and subsequent developments have given encouraging signs for the future. JRS established a new partnership with the church in the Northern provinces of Zambia, providing a pastoral presence to the large Congolese refugee populations there.

In the field of education, JRS is involved in projects from pre-school to tertiary scholarships, from a small four-classroom primary school to a 150 teacher school with 5,450 pupils. In Namibia we set up and funded a community based junior secondary school, enrolling 417 refugees and 18 teachers. In Meheba, Zambia we have 259 children enrolled in community school, and 71 in pre-school. We also assist with 207 school scholarships. In Angola and Zambia we run workshops for in-service training and upgrading. In Malawi, JRS runs a school for locals and refugees, and a training centre for computers and other skills. In Zambia, Zimbabwe, Namibia, and Malawi, JRS runs libraries.

Urban refugees continue to live in difficult circumstances in the large urban settings of Lusaka, Harare, Luanda, Windhoek, Johannesburg, and Pretoria. JRS provides an accompanying presence, promotes local integration, and advocates for the particularly vulnerable. Throughout the region, JRS has been the UNHCR implementing partner for a wide range of activities designed to promote self-reliance, local integration, and protection of particularly vulnerable refugees.

Joe Hampson SJ, JRS Southern Africa Director



JRS Angola Director
Luciana Pitol MSCS

The death of rebel leader Jonas Savimbi, at the hands of the Angolan army in February 2002, has had a profound effect upon the political landscape of Angola. A society torn apart by decades of continuous civil war moved quickly to peace process mode after the UNITA rebel group called a cease-fire in the wake of their leaders' death. The opening up of areas previously controlled by the rebels revealed a massive humanitarian crisis affecting hundreds of thousands of people. The civil war has also destroyed much of the country's social and physical infrastructure – schools, clinics, roads, bridges and communications and has also led to huge movements of people internally and externally. When the cease-fire was called there was an estimated 4 million IDPs in Angola and a further 400,000 Angolan refugees in neighbouring countries. A repatriation process is being prepared and already throughout 2002, 70,000 refugees returned on their own initiatives.

JRS projects in Angola

education **LUENA** As a result of the changes taking place in Angola, JRS was able to reach out to previously inaccessible rural areas around Luena. This project aims to guarantee education for IDPs and landmine survivors.

Achievements/Beneficiaries:

- 3 schools were built in three IDP camps, Cautepue, Mauchimbo, and Katocola
- 2 schools renovated in Sangondo 1 and Luau camps and 45 school benches and tables purchased
- 1,190 students enrolled in 6 JRS schools, 5 of which are specifically for IDPs
- 786 pupils completed the final year and sat final exams – 505 passed
- 80 women enrolled in adult literacy classes – 42 completed the course

VIANA camp, Luanda JRS is involved in the primary education of children from displaced families living in Viana camp. This year, existing programmes were consolidated and expanded upon with the construction and renovation of buildings and an improvement in teaching materials and training of staff.

Achievements/Beneficiaries:

- 2,032 pupils enrolled in the primary schools, 23 teaching staff
- provision of school equipment including desks, books, pens and shelves
- the JRS schools were recognised by the Ministry of Education

NEGAGE During the first 3 months of 2002, Uige province was very tense and the scene of frequent clashes. Negage, one of the most secure districts in the province, attracted many displaced people. After the cease-fire the situation improved in the area and many displaced people began to return home.

Achievements/Beneficiaries:

- 2,300 students benefited from the provision of school materials
- over 160 new school desks and 7 blackboards provided to schools
- seminars for 23 directors on school management, and for 60 teachers on methodology
- 54 teachers benefited from 138 loans from a school teachers fund
- 50 women took part in literacy classes

health assistance **LUENA** This project helps improve the nutritional status and hygiene awareness of the children attending JRS schools. JRS also operated a health post in Katocola from January to May, employing 2 nurses.

Achievements/Beneficiaries:

- 3 school kitchens were opened in three camps in partnership with WFP
- 557 pupils received breakfast and lunch daily, plus weekly lessons on hygiene
- an average of 500 consultations made at the health post each month, and free medicines provided



Lolín Menéndez RSC/JRS

Angola

NEGAGE

Achievements/Beneficiaries:

- 12 latrines were re-built and 20 dwellings re-constructed
- essential items such as food and blankets provided to new arrivals

LUENA

Achievements/Beneficiaries:

- 19 land mine survivors enrolled in carpentry courses in February
- 25 survivors helped to secure farming land and provided with tools and seed
- income generating activities helped support 22 survivors
- literacy classes for 25 survivors & material support for 100 vulnerable survivors

LUENA 3 groups were formed for men, women and youth and weekly meetings to discuss peace education and conflict prevention and resolution were held. 8 drama performances were staged and 2 human rights lessons per week were also held in the 6 JRS schools.

LUANDA JRS involved the community in the activities of the schools, creating a committee of parents and educators. JRS also worked with local leaders of IDP communities to develop capacity in leadership, advocacy and conflict resolution. Education for peace continued in the schools and a number of seminars on peace and reconciliation were conducted.

NEGAGE

Achievements/Beneficiaries:

- 2 male football teams and 1 female team formed in each school
- 7 animators benefited from seminars on animation and children's rights
- 2,244 children attended animations focusing on learning and hygiene

LUANDA The National Team of Advocacy and Training, consisting of 2 people, conduct evaluation visits to the various JRS projects throughout Angola. JRS also works with the Justice and Peace Commission, in training activities, raising awareness about human rights, as well as reconciliation and peace work.

NEGAGE The principle that return should be voluntary was promoted by JRS. Awareness raising about the rights of displaced people was also pursued and the transportation of returning families was monitored. Furthermore, JRS worked to ensure that the authorities and police were aware of their own obligation and of the rights of the displaced people.

NEGAGE

Achievements/Beneficiaries:

- 60 families given access to farm-land and provided with seeds and tools
- 80 women benefited from micro credit schemes, which allowed them to provide food for their families
- 10 women set up sewing activities after receiving training

landmine survivors

peace education

community development

advocacy

income-generating



The unsettled events in DR Congo produced steady numbers of refugees in the northern provinces of Zambia, even after a cease-fire had been brokered. JRS began work with dioceses in that area to support the work of pastoral care, advocacy, and information sharing.

The two camps where JRS is present in western Zambia reacted very differently to the Angolan cease-fire. In Nangweshi, most refugees have been completely cut off for decades from families who are scattered all over southern and central Angola. Hence the Nangweshi refugees have a much more cautious approach to repatriation plans. In Meheba, the refugees have kept strong ties to families not far across the border and there seems to be higher numbers of spontaneous returnees from this camp. JRS has also been working with urban refugees in Lusaka, and prison visits there and in other cities are part of an important advocacy programme.

JRS Zambia Director

Christina Northey and Michael Gallagher SJ (from August)

JRS projects in Zambia

advocacy

LUSAKA JRS works to influence government policy and practice towards refugees, while offering refugees accurate information about their rights. Mobilising the local church against xenophobia and for the promotion of hospitality to refugees is also part of JRS's advocacy work.

Achievements/Beneficiaries:

- 11 workshops held in refugee affected areas with 350 attendees
- produced 15 radio broadcasts on unjust detention of refugees
- researched and produced a number of position papers on refugee issues
- 8 meetings with high government officials

income-generating

MEHEBA

Achievements/Beneficiaries:

- 21 rice projects for 406 families – 635 bags of rice harvested
- 8.5 hectares of kitchen gardens for 280 families
- 14 fishponds stocked with 6,250 fingerlings, for 52 families
- 6 workshops on garden management and 6 on co-op management

pastoral care/ counselling

MEHEBA The programme assisted approximately 4,000 people.

Achievements/Beneficiaries:

- 5 seminars organised for 50 Sunday school teachers
- 15 seminars held for 32 choir groups, involving 25 choirmasters
- 3 churches were built and a further 5 renovated

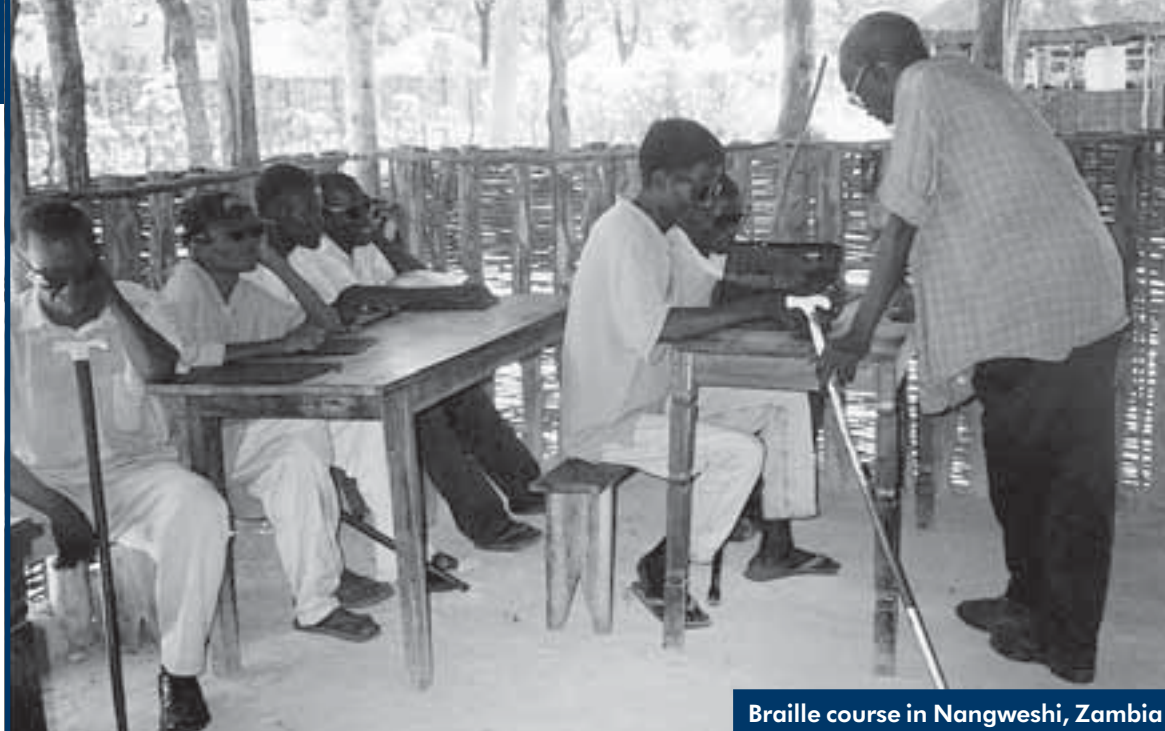
MWANGE camp JRS offers pastoral services such as catechism for different sacraments, religious instruction and bible studies as well as mass in the church and in the Christian communities.

education

MEHEBA The project aims to provide basic education to communities unable to access government or other NGO programmes.

Achievements/Beneficiaries:

- 330 pupils enrolled and 7 teachers involved
- 207 refugees received scholarships (primary, special education and Tertiary)
- 4 workshops and weekly meetings for preparation of teaching material were organised for 7 teachers



Lolín Menéndez RSC/JRS

Braille course in Nangweshi, Zambia

MEHEBA To answer health emergencies through the provision of health education.

Achievements/Beneficiaries:

- 12,876 people benefited from health education classes
- 60 people were trained and then formed Health Committees attached to clinics
- 67 children recovered totally from malnutrition
- over 1,000 people treated for tropical diseases, scabies, ringworm or jiggers

health education

LUSAKA peace centre Through information, training and pastoral counselling, the project seeks to empower urban refugees and asylum seekers to be able to meet their essential needs.

Achievements/Beneficiaries:

- 165 people took part in English and French language training programmes
- 136 people participated in vocational training (craft-work, tailoring, cookery, business)
- the scholarship programme assists 106 primary and 24 secondary school students

urban project

NANGWESHI camp JRS built a new library, conducted a number of seminars and reflection sessions and disseminated information on human rights in order to promote awareness of basic refugee rights.

community development

NANGWESHI JRS works mainly with people with disabilities in the camp. This programme aims to develop mechanisms to improve their quality of life through health, education and income generating activities.

Achievements/Beneficiaries:

- prosthesis workshop employed 5 technicians and 1 workshop director
- physiotherapy centre employed 2 physiotherapists, and 121 clients received treatment

social services

NANGWESHI

Achievements/Beneficiaries:

- 160 people received emergency food in the form of maize and kapenta
- 90 families received items of clothing and 304 people received kitchen utensils
- 48 shelters were built for disabled refugees and 15 new wheelchairs were distributed

**emergency/
material assistance**



JRS Namibia Director
Joanne Whitaker RSM

The vast majority of refugees in Namibia are located at the Osire Refugee Camp, about 250km north-east of the capital Windhoek, which has a population of about 23,000. Ninety percent are Angolan, with the remainder from countries such as DR Congo, Burundi, Rwanda, Uganda and Liberia. A further 350 Angolan refugees are accommodated at Kassava camp, near the Angolan border. The UNHCR and the governments of Namibia and Angola signed a tripartite agreement in late November, which hastens planning for repatriation. However, many Angolans continue to seek refuge in Namibia, citing hunger and the lack of basic needs as their reasons for leaving their country. Between August and November 2002, a total of 748 new arrivals came from Angola to Osire. In Namibia, the drought was much less severe than other countries in the region, and the country's relative prosperity and stability make for a much higher level of macro-economic activity.

JRS projects in Namibia

education **OSIRE camp** In 2002, JRS began collaborating with UNHCR as the implementing partner for primary and secondary education in Namibia, and a new Junior Secondary school began operation at Osire with 417 refugees enrolled in grade 8 and 16 full-time teachers. Documents were provided to register the school with the Ministry of Education.

Achievements/Beneficiaries:

- established a community-based junior secondary school in Osire
- an additional 50 units of classroom space were made available
- a library was built at Osire, and furnished with books
- 20 classrooms electrified allowing for use until 20h00
- texts, school supplies, teaching material and uniforms purchased
- 5,450 primary school students, 147 teachers. 605 students attended secondary school outside the camp

KASSAVA camp JRS is also responsible for education at the much smaller Kassava camp, near the Angolan border.

Achievements/Beneficiaries:

- 4 classrooms built, which are used in two shifts – for lower primary education in the mornings and for adult education in the afternoons

WINDHOEK Obtained funds to support primary education for three children in the capital, Windhoek. Provided school fees, books and school supplies, as well as daily needs for food, accommodation and transport for three tertiary students. Also assisted another three university students whose bursaries did not cover all their needs.

material assistance **OSIRE** JRS assisted the church in the camp to obtain and distribute clothing and food for the most vulnerable refugees.

Achievements/Beneficiaries:

- emergency assistance provided to about 145 refugees

pastoral **OSIRE** JRS assists the Catholic Church in Namibia through pastoral work among the refugees including providing bibles and rosaries for prayer and study groups.

Malawi had a relatively small number of refugees in previous years, but 2002 saw the camp in Dzaleka, in the Central region, grow to over 10,000 people, mainly from Rwanda, DR Congo and Burundi. The increase in numbers is largely due to the continuing insecurity in the Great Lakes region, and to the fact that Tanzania is no longer welcoming refugees. Since January 2002, JRS has been an implementing partner of UNHCR in the camp, responsible for the education of the refugees. Over 1,000 primary school pupils (refugees as well as Malawians) attend the camp school. Malawi has been going through a severe year in terms of drought, whose effects were compounded by the HIV/AIDS pandemic, which is a very serious problem in the country.



JRS Malawi Director
Anne Elizabeth de Vuyst SSMN

JRS projects in Malawi

DZALEKA camp JRS is the implementing partner of UNHCR in the camp, responsible for the education of the refugees. Plans are afoot to hire more teachers and to construct a new school block consisting of two classrooms and two pit latrines.

education

Achievements/Beneficiaries:

- 989 elementary level school pupils enrolled
- 20 teachers involved (16 full-time and 4 part-time)
- three formation sessions were organised for the teachers
- a French language teacher was recruited for the Junior and Senior classes
- two temporary classes were erected to ease overcrowding concerns
- 24 students assisted to attend private secondary schools outside the camp
- nutrition and health classes offered to women and girls

Home-made rain gauges, 7th grade students in Osire Camp, Namibia





JRS Zimbabwe Director
Stabile Pswarayi

In 2002 Zimbabwe faced many economic, social and political challenges due to its current land reform policies, a presidential election marred by heavy violence, and the severe regional drought. Against this backdrop is the looming famine. Refugees are caught up in this situation though they now receive a full food basket from UNHCR and hence to some extent are better off than the local people who have to contend with a rising cost of living due to hyper inflation, lack of basic commodities and rising unemployment. The food basket is only for the refugees residing in Tongogara Camp – asylum seekers and those residing in urban areas are not catered for in this arrangement and therefore suffer the same fate as locals. However with this policy, the Government hopes to push most refugees from the town to Tongogara camp, as statistics show that up to 90% of the refugees in Zimbabwe reside in urban areas.

JRS projects in Zimbabwe

counselling **TONGOGARA camp** Following allegations of sexual exploitation of refugees by officers from one agency, JRS was asked by UNHCR to design and implement an appropriate counselling programme for the refugees affected. JRS also provided accommodation, which acted as a shelter for those undergoing counselling.

material/food assistance **TONGOGARA** Projects involved supplementary feeding and the provision of second hand and baby clothing.

HARARE Transit Centre Due to the insufficient amount of food vouchers, JRS provided beans, dried fish and mahewu (a local nutritional drink) to supplement the refugees' diet. Mealie-meal was also bought for urban refugees.

health **HARARE, TONGOGARA** Assistance was given to refugees both in the camps and those living in urban areas. Prescription medicines, baby clothes and reading glasses were provided, and hospital visits were facilitated.

Achievements/Beneficiaries: 84 people assisted

education **HARARE, TONGOGARA** Assistance given in vocational training and English language classes.

Achievements/Beneficiaries: 31 students followed courses

income-generating **TONGOGARA**

Achievements/Beneficiaries:

- the project sponsored two bakeries and two women with sewing machines

skills training **TONGOGARA** The JRS Arrupe Centre has a training room, which is used by different organisations which are working with and training refugees in the camp. A skills training workshop focused on sewing in 2002.

South Africa draws from surrounding countries many migrant workers into its advanced economy. However the vagaries of the world economy affected South Africa severely during 2002, and the rate of unemployment is unacceptably high. Combined with a widespread xenophobia, it has meant that foreigners are seen as displacing locals in employment. JRS is thus involved in a very difficult exercise when it attempts to assist refugees with training and livelihood support in what is a relatively hostile environment. Since April 2000, when the relatively progressive Refugee Act was published, administrative procedures and financial constraints have meant that the central and provincial government structures have not coped well with reception of and assistance for refugees. However there have been some positive developments, such as the willingness of hospitals to deal with refugees referred by JRS.



JRS South Africa Director
Joan Pearton RSM

JRS projects in South Africa

PRETORIA, JOHANNESBURG Raising awareness of refugee rights and realities within government departments and among the refugees and general public.

advocacy

Achievements/Beneficiaries:

- presentations were given at government offices in Pretoria
- involvement in radio and television broadcasts
- vulnerable groups in need of medical care assisted to obtain documentation

PRETORIA, JOHANNESBURG JRS assists refugees to gain access to local health resources and through financial assistance.

health

Achievements/Beneficiaries:

- 2,000 people assisted with medical care and 50 provided with reading glasses in first six months of 2002
- 33 clients with HIV/AIDS were assisted, seven of whom have died

PRETORIA, JOHANNESBURG JRS assists with school fees, vocational training and distance learning.

education

Achievements/Beneficiaries:

- 53 children assisted for pre-school, 207 for primary and 79 for secondary
- 179 children and adults assisted with English classes and 35 with vocational skills

PRETORIA, JOHANNESBURG The project provides care and support for unaccompanied minors and vulnerable young people.

social services

Achievements/Beneficiaries:

- 61 unaccompanied minors and 20 foster parents are in the programme in Pretoria
- 46 unaccompanied minors assisted with school expenses in Johannesburg
- 18 vulnerable youth were assisted to complete their secondary education

PRETORIA, JOHANNESBURG

emergency assistance

Achievements/Beneficiaries:

- 547 new-arrivals and refugees were assisted with accommodation

PRETORIA, JOHANNESBURG This programme helps refugees with small business loans and employment opportunities.

income-generating

Achievements/Beneficiaries:

- 48 refugees were assisted with business loans
- 96 students in vocational skills training

Somali refugees taking
adult literacy classes
in South Africa



Lolín Menéndez RSC/JRS

School in Nangweshi, Zambia



Lolín Menéndez RSC/JRS



Lolín Menéndez RSC/JRS

Skills Workshop in Nangweshi, Zambia

Junior Secondary school in Osire Camp, Namibia



JRS Namibia



Josep Sugrañes SJ/JRS

Western Africa is a region not unfamiliar with mass displacements of people, evoking images of suffering refugees from Liberia and Sierra Leone. Sierra Leone has recently managed to re-establish peace, consolidated by democratic elections that were sanctioned by international observers. Liberia, however, is once again the scene of conflict between government forces and the LURD rebel group in the regions of Bofa, Bong and Nimba, and continues to produce tens of thousands of refugees, who flee to neighbouring Guinea, Ivory Coast and Sierra Leone. As well as the refugees who do manage to leave the country there are another estimated 200,000 internally displaced people within Liberia itself, mainly in Monserrado, close to the capital Monrovia. The country is looking forward to Presidential elections with a large amount of trepidation and anxiety, long used to the notion that Liberia is governed not according to respect for rights but rather by the logic of military might.

Since September 2002, JRS has been examining the grounds for a new project in the region, this time in Ivory Coast. In a country that has known relative peace and stability, a civil conflict has recently broken out, destroying the nation's image and economy as well as imposing a great deal of suffering on its people.

Guinea is presently playing host to many refugees from conflict countries in the region. The country is preparing for new elections that will take place in December 2003 and which will hopefully lay the ground for long-lasting peace and democracy in Guinea.

In November 2002 a small JRS team visited the Liberian capital, Monrovia, to make concrete plans for a JRS response to the increasing number of displaced people in the country. This followed an initial evaluation visit to Liberia in August 2002, which helped to establish contact with the local Church and the humanitarian organisations working there.

Mateo Aguirre SJ, JRS West Africa Director



JRS Guinea Director
Gonzalo Sánchez-Terán

At the end of May 2002 two great offensives were launched by rebel groups in Liberia, provoking a large increase in the number of Liberian refugees crossing the borders into Ivory Coast and Guinea. Even before the recent confrontations, there were almost 100,000 Liberian refugees in Guinea alone, sheltered in two big camps, Kola and Kouankan. JRS' work in Guinea began in 2001 with projects of food distribution in Macenta region. In 2002 JRS became involved in a new project with Liberian refugees in Lainé camp, with construction work taking place in the last few months of the year, preparing the project for an official launch in 2003. With the new project and the presence of Liberian refugees in N'zérékoré region, as well as the developing problems in Ivory Coast, the JRS regional office moved to the more central and convenient location of N'zérékoré.

JRS projects in Guinea

food distribution, shelter

MACENTA, GUÉCKÉDOU The project began in September 2001, aiming to provide much needed food as a first step to rebuilding communities that had been devastated by conflict. Rice and palm oil were purchased and distributed in the city of Guéckédou and twenty villages bordering Liberia. In April, plastic shelters were distributed around the villages as a provisional measure, and in May JRS began a reconstruction project.

Achievements/Beneficiaries:

- 28,000 people benefited from the distribution of oil and rice
- 2,227 people benefited from the provision of shelters
- in total 157.277 kg of rice and 19.171 kg of oil distributed

reconstruction

MACENTA, GUÉCKÉDOU In areas that had suffered much physical destruction during rebel attacks in 2000 and 2001, JRS's reconstruction programme was launched in May 2002, providing support to the local communities to rebuild their houses and villages.

Achievements/Beneficiaries:

- in consultation with the communities, 43 houses were identified for the projects in Guéckédou
- 12 carpenters and workmen were chosen from the local population in Guéckédou
- 61 houses were reconstructed in the villages of Macenta

social service

MACENTA, DARO, KOLOUMA The project of solidarity involves assisting with the education of the most needy and providing aid to the most vulnerable people in the 21 villages where JRS is involved.

Achievements/Beneficiaries:

- 122 children benefited from the project
- plans put in place to aid the most vulnerable, in need of food, clothing and medical care

LAINÉ refugee camp In partnership with UNHCR, the project will involve education programmes, income generating projects, cultural activities as well as programmes aimed specifically at the young refugees in the camp.

Living conditions in Guinea



Mateo Aguirre SJ/JRS

Destroyed building in Guinea



Lolín Menéndez RSCJ/JRS

Liberia



Lolín Menéndez RSCJ/JRS

Beneficiaries of JRS projects in Guinea

Displacement in Liberia





Kike Figaredo SJ/JRS

Every time I visit the projects in Asia-Pacific, I am always struck by the immense need of refugees and internally displaced persons, and also by the importance of the JRS service. When I visited a Chinese refugee family in Phnom Penh, Cambodia, with JRS personnel, a woman told me, "Sony (JRS worker) is the only friend of mine in Phnom Penh. Nobody ever visits our house. She is really my sister!"

The situation for refugees and displaced people in Asia-Pacific did not improve much in 2002. In Myanmar, a brutal military regime has been ruling the country for more than 40 years and has created a disaster of the economic and social life of the country. People from Myanmar continue to flee to Thailand because of the human rights abuses they face, such as killings, rape, burning, and forced labour. To respond to the Burmese people who come to Thailand for survival, JRS opened a new project in Ranong, Thailand.

In Aceh-Indonesia, according to Aceh Commission for disappearances and victims of violence (Kontras Aceh) 1,307 people were killed in 2002. Furthermore 1,860 people were tortured, 1,186 arrested or placed in detention, and 377 people disappeared. Though in general the security climate in Indonesia was not overly tense during 2002, the number of internally displaced people still remained at 1.4 million.

In the Philippines, the conflict between the Abu Sayyaf group and the government has led to many people being displaced. JRS monitors the situation closely.

With the new climate of peace, JRS' presence in newly independent East Timor came to a close in June 2002. According to UNHCR 212,698 East Timorese refugees have returned home, having originally fled to West Timor and other parts of Indonesia in 1999.

Andre Sugijopranoto SJ, JRS Asia Pacific Director



JRS Thailand Director
Andre Sugijopranoto SJ

People from Burma continue to flee the harsh military regime and to enter Thailand. Some of the refugees were placed in holding centres while they awaited screening, while others went into hiding. The official figure for the number of Burmese refugees in Thailand is 111,000. In reality, there are up to one million Burmese people living in Thailand. In September, the refugee camps were flooded as a result of heavy rains and a camp in Mae Hong Son was moved closer to the border by the Thai government. Between May and October the Thai-Burma border was closed by the Burmese authorities in retaliation for alleged Thai support of the Shan resistance movement against the Burmese regime. Many other nationals also came to Bangkok to apply for refugee status or for other reasons, mostly from Africa and the Middle East. Landmines along the border continued to injure both civilians and soldiers and the Thai army regularly destroyed its stockpiles of mines.

JRS projects in Thailand

education **KARENNI camps, Mae Hong Son province** JRS resources the Karenni Education Department's teachers in the schools of the Karenni camps, trains teachers, produces text books, develops a curriculum, and assists all the teachers with salaries.
Beneficiaries: 7,000 students, 400 teachers

RANONG Material Assistance was provided for the maintenance of existing school buildings, and textbooks and uniforms were purchased. Teachers' salaries were paid and scholarships were awarded to the children of poorer families. Supplementary feeding of the school children was provided in the form of milk once a week at each school.
Beneficiaries: 300 students and 100 adults

pastoral **MAE HONG SON, MAE SOD** JRS offered pastoral services to the asylum seekers in the camps by maintaining the church buildings, training and supporting catechists, and administering Sacraments. Other services included emergency assistance to flood victims, social services to the sick, elderly and orphans or children of single parent families living in camps as well as special care for children with disabilities, including scholarships.
Beneficiaries: 7,000 people

THAI-BURMA BORDER JRS worked with Shan refugees supporting orphanages, assisting young students with scholarships and providing refugees with clothes and medical care.
Beneficiaries: 300 students and 300 adults

urban project **BANGKOK** Asylum seekers and refugees in Bangkok were assisted with legal advice and social services. This involved establishing community support and self-help groups, the provision of tertiary scholarships for refugees through a partnership with World University of Canada Service (WUSC) as well as the distribution of second hand clothes.
Beneficiaries: 7,000 people

landmines JRS monitored the situation of Landmines, visited landmine survivors, participated in various ban landmines campaign meetings and monitored the destruction of mine stockpiles.
Beneficiaries: 50 landmine survivors visited

detention, medical **SUAN PHLU, KANCHANABURI detention centres** JRS continued to provide medical assistance to sick detainees, referring the serious cases to local hospitals, as well as distributing bread. JRS obtained travel documents from the embassies, either in Bangkok or in other countries, and bought tickets for the detainees who did not have money for their own tickets. JRS also helped detainees to obtain proper documents from the relevant authorities.
Beneficiaries: 15,000 benefited from medical care

Life is becoming progressively more difficult for refugees and asylum seekers in Australia. The Australian government has been attempting to dissuade, divert, and prevent the flow of asylum seekers and has made it very hard for those who do enter the country to obtain refugee status. To reinforce its mandatory detention and deterrence policy, the government created the "Pacific Solution", which sent asylum seekers to Pacific Islands while their applications were being processed. Moreover, the government "excised" Ashmore Reef and Carter, Cocos and Christmas islands from Australia's immigration boundaries. This means that those who arrive "illegally" can be held in overseas detention camps rather than sent to the Australian mainland.



JRS Australia Director
 Nguyen Van Cao SJ

JRS projects in Australia

SYDNEY JRS Australia plays an important role in recruiting, training, placing, and assisting Australian Volunteers in overseas refugee camps. In 2002, 30 volunteers were prepared and 16 sent to work in other countries.

volunteers

VILLAWOOD DETENTION CENTRE, Sydney Pastoral Care to people in Villawood Immigration Detention Centre included visiting asylum seekers, and offering them attention and various forms of support.

pastoral care

SYDNEY Raising awareness among the Australian public has been a major concern of JRS this year. The process involved gathering information, communicating the facts to a wide audience through the publishing of newsletters, and the presentation of talks and workshops.

information

Activities this year included organising the Melbourne Cup Luncheon, and participating in a concert to highlight the work of JRS.

fund raising

With the participation of other organisations, attention was given to developing and implementing projects in other countries such as Burmese refugee education at the Thai-Burma border.

**support for projects
 outside Australia**



Teacher-training, Thailand

Maureen Lohrey/RSM/JRS



The conflict between GAM (Free Aceh Movement) and the Indonesian army continued to flare throughout 2002. This is a separatist conflict that has been on-going for a number of years, and which escalated following the fall from power of President Soeharto in 1998. The war has claimed thousands of lives and led to the displacement of many thousands more people. Though a cease fire agreement was signed on 9 December 2002, it does not automatically mean that the insecurity of the people has been eased. A month after the signing of the peace agreement, there was a new wave of displaced people in North Aceh. JRS works with the displaced people in Medan (the provincial capital of North Sumatra) and Banda Aceh (the provincial capital of Aceh).

JRS Indonesia Director
Edi Mulyono SJ

JRS projects in Aceh & Sumatra

emergency and health assistance

MEDAN, BANDA ACEH JRS provided medical supplies and food for IDPs referring patients to hospitals and assisting with hospital expenses for some of the poorer displaced people. During the year, a community health centre was built and local nurses were recruited.

Beneficiaries:

- 300 people provided with health assistance in Medan
- 8,000 people provided with emergency assistance

education

MEDAN JRS set up alternative schools, constructed school buildings, recruited displaced people as teachers and assisted teachers with salaries. The projects also provided tuition fees, textbooks, stationary, and school equipment.

Beneficiaries: 200

income-generating

MEDAN, BANDA ACEH JRS provided capital and loans to some families to help them begin income generating activities and businesses. Other people were provided with farm machinery and sewing machines.

Beneficiaries: 386 families

advocacy

MEDAN, BANDA ACEH JRS accompanied displaced people and assisted them in raising their cases before the Legal Aid Association, while also investigating the availability and reliability of a termination fund through inquiries to the Social Welfare Office and the Government of North Sumatra. Information sharing and distribution was also a vital part of JRS advocacy work.

relocation

MEDAN JRS purchased land to house 200 displaced families and built houses on the relocation site.

pastoral care and counselling

MEDAN, BANDA ACEH Displaced people visited and also welcomed to the JRS office.

There were about 1,423,064 internally displaced people in Indonesia at the end of 2002. Most of them were from the Moluccas, a region that has experienced three years of sectarian fighting which has claimed the lives of some 6,000 people. The violence between Christians and Moslems erupted in 1999 and has led to the displacement of hundreds of thousands of people. During 2002 the security situation in Moluccas province, notably in Ambon, improved along with the general national security situation. The improved conditions in Moluccas province were strongly enhanced by the Second Malino Peace Agreement, the assignment of the new Pangkoopslihkan (Commander of operations for security recovery) and the withdrawal of Jihad troops.



JRS Indonesia Director
Edi Mulyono SJ

JRS projects in the Moluccas

AMBON, BURU, CERAM JRS supports families to set up home-industries, raise animals, farm and fish. The programme monitored money expenditure and informed the beneficiaries of good management practices.

Beneficiaries: 200 families

income-generating

AMBON, BURU, CERAM The Projects included providing rice, instant noodles and other food items, the building of shelters for displaced people and the provision of kitchen utensils.

Beneficiaries: 10,000

emergency and material assistance

AMBON, BURU, CERAM JRS gave medicines, paid hospital bills for displaced people and referred the sick to public hospitals. Other activities include a nutrition programme and the construction of latrines and wells.

Beneficiaries: 8,000

health

AMBON, BURU, CERAM JRS visited displaced people with a local priest and provided sacramental services to catholic communities in coordination with the Bishop of Ambon. A chapel and a church were also restored during the year and the Koran was provided to displaced Moslems.

pastoral ministry

AMBON, BURU, CERAM JRS strengthened its network with other NGOs and UN Bodies, and continued to write regular reports on the situation of displaced people. Young Christians and Moslems were regularly invited to JRS offices to enjoy common activities and sport. Other activities included campaigning for the peace movement through television, preparing an analysis of the conflict, approaching local leaders to promote reconciliation in their own communities, and arranging for displaced people to return to their places of origin.

Beneficiaries: 10,000

advocacy and reconciliation

AMBON, BURU, CERAM JRS provided scholarships, transportation fees, books, shoes, uniforms, and stationary to school students, and also supported teachers with salaries. During the year JRS renovated school buildings and built a reading centre for use by both communities.

Beneficiaries: 2,000

education



JRS Indonesia Director
Edi Mulyono SJ

East Timorese who fled to West Timor amid the violence that followed the 1999 vote for Independence have, since 31 December 2002, ceased to be regarded as refugees by UNHCR and the Indonesian government. The decision applies to some 30,000 East Timorese who still remain in West Timor: 220,000 of the 250,000 people who took refuge in West Timor in 1999 have since returned home. During 2002, the numbers of refugees returning to newly independent East Timor increased, many convinced to return home thanks to a reconciliation process and the new climate of peace in East Timor. Some of those who have not yet returned are former militia members or attached in some way to the former Indonesian regime in East Timor, and fear for their safety should they return home. Others are civil servants who are waiting to receive their state pensions, while more again are uncertain about reclaiming their properties on return, or simply finding a job in newly independent East Timor.

JRS projects in West Timor

repatriation, reconciliation

To encourage repatriation, JRS has been assisting in reconciliation programmes between the East Timor people living East and West of the border. These meetings have played a large role in convincing the refugees that it is safe to return home and that they would be welcomed back into their communities. JRS made many trips to East Timor and recorded information concerning the situation, took photographs, exchanged letters and messages, and relayed video messages for the refugees in West Timor.

Beneficiaries: 22,000

media, information

This involved networking with other NGOs, UN bodies, local government, and the Church, distributing information on the situation in East Timor, such as: photos, newspapers, magazines, brochures and comics. JRS created two News Boards in two Camps in Kupang and two in Betun, and updated them once every two weeks with various news and announcements. Information work also involved collecting stories of refugees and updating the JRS Indonesia website (<http://www.jrs.or.id>) on a regular basis.

Estimated beneficiaries: 10,000

education

JRS recruited refugees as teachers in our informal schools in the camps, ran alternative education programmes for pre-school and elementary school, and provided school equipment and some scholarships.

Beneficiaries: 600

health

The project supplied medicines for the sick people in the camps and referred patients to the hospitals. Additional activities included the provision of supplementary food and a dental hygiene programme.

Beneficiaries: 3,500

pastoral care and counselling

JRS assisted refugees in celebrating Sunday Eucharist in some of the camps and organised a three- day retreat in co-operation with a local priest.

East Timor officially became an independent nation on 20 May 2002, bringing to a close a long and painful struggle for freedom. It has been over three years since around 250,000 people fled East Timor to escape the violence that followed the 1999 vote for independence, and while the majority of the refugees have since returned home, there are still around 30,000 exiles remaining in Indonesia. East Timor has embarked on a process of nation building, which will require a reconciliation process as well as physical reconstruction. The Commission for Reception, Truth, and Reconciliation began its work during 2002, with Isabel Guterres, formerly of JRS, appointed as one of its seven Commissioners. In the new climate of hope and peace, JRS wound down its operations in East Timor during 2002. However, some tensions remain, mainly because of disappointments over government policy, and there have been some isolated cases of trouble.



JRS East Timor Director
Denis Kim SJ

JRS projects in East Timor

JRS East Timor provided information to the JRS team in West Timor regarding the situation of returnees and the general political, social, and economic situation of the country. The team also delivered letters from East Timorese in West Timor to their families in East Timor, and attended NGO-UN coordination meetings. Other activities included visiting returnees in their villages and reporting to JRS in West Timor, local NGOs in East Timor, and UN bodies.

Beneficiaries: 200 families

information

One staff member (a midwife) worked with other NGOs and the local hospital.

Beneficiaries: 300

health

JRS received the returnees at the transit centres, accompanied them to their villages, and continued to monitor and report on the situation.

Beneficiaries: 5,000, including 200 families visited

returnees

JRS encouraged the receiving communities to accept and welcome the returnees, and worked with UNHCR at the border for *go and visit* programmes and *reconciliation meetings*. Other activities included inviting priests and religious to visit refugees in the West Timor camps.

reconciliation

Refugees returning from West Timor



JRS Asia Pacific



Cambodia signed the UN convention relating to refugees ten years ago. However, the impoverished nature of the country that is now embarking on a process of nation building has made it very difficult for the government to maintain its international obligations toward the refugees. The USA and Norway accepted a number of refugees for resettlement from Cambodia during 2002, most of whom were Vietnamese Montagnards. Cambodia is one of the most heavily mined and UXO contaminated countries in the world. The large number of mines and UXOs in Cambodia directly contributes to the problems of poverty, and is a major hurdle to food security and the economic reintegration of returning and landless populations.

JRS Cambodia Director
Denise Coghlan RSM

JRS projects in Cambodia

legal assistance

PHNOM PENH A JRS legal officer assisted asylum seekers in writing their primary applications for refugee status as well as with their appeals against refusal of refugee status. The legal officer also assisted refugees with different claims such as resettlement, questions regarding the meaning of refugee status, and the legal status of refugees in Cambodia. JRS staff discussed alternative solutions with the individuals concerned, taking into consideration even the possibility of a voluntary return to the applicant's country of origin.

Beneficiaries: 54 families

social assistance

PHNOM PENH A monthly allowance was given to refugees in the form of material assistance or medical help. Refugees were also given the opportunity to learn languages and vocational skills, and were provided with a place of welcome where they felt accepted and where they could ask for help. This helped build up a trust and friendship and allowed the refugees to re-establish social networks and a sense of community.

Beneficiaries:

- various forms of social assistance for 603 people
- language and vocational training for 52 people

landmines

The Country Director was actively involved in the Ban Landmines Campaign, both in Cambodia and at the international level. JRS was also involved in awareness raising activities and contributed to the 2002 Landmine Monitor.

Cambodia





Ambon, Moluccas, Indonesia

Aceh, Indonesia



Landmine survivor, Thailand





Distribution of rice,
Aceh, Indonesia

Food cultivation, Ambon,
Moluccas, Indonesia



Karenni woman,
Thailand



Karenni refugees,
Thailand



JRS Nepal

JRS is present in three countries in South Asia, working with internally displaced people in Sri Lanka, with Sri Lankan refugees in India and with Bhutanese refugees in Nepal. The peace process in Sri Lanka was the big talking point of the year, offering hope to hundreds of thousands of refugees and Internally Displaced People (IDPs) that peace may return and that they may be able to see an end to many years of exile. Peace negotiations are continuing between the government and the rebel Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE). The conflict has left behind a horrifying death toll: 65,000 civilians killed, 17,000 people missing and 20,000 rebel fighters killed in the war. The Sri Lanka army has not disclosed the number of casualties it has suffered, though it is known to run into thousands.

Approximately 70,000 Sri Lankan Tamil Refugees continued to live in exile in Tamil Nadu, India, watching developments closely in their native land, waiting for peace to emerge so that they will be given the opportunity to return home. It was a difficult year for many of the refugee students as some of the camps were re-located away from areas near to local schools that the refugees had been attending.

Negotiations as to the future status of approximately 100,000 Bhutanese refugees living in Nepal made very little progress during the year. A verification process, to verify the legitimacy of the refugee claims, as well as bilateral talks between Nepal and Bhutan to determine the future status of the refugees have been at a virtual standstill. Nepal suffered much insecurity during the year with the intensification of a Maoist armed rebellion, aiming to overthrow the Nepalese monarchy. JRS continued to implement education programmes in the camps, assisting nearly 40,000 students with schooling.

With the collaboration of the international office, South Asia was also involved in the exploratory trip to Afghanistan in February 2002.

C. Amalraj SJ, JRS South Asia Director



JRS India Director
Francis Sales SJ

Over 60,000 Sri Lankan refugees have been living in 108 camps in the southern province of Tamil Nadu for the past 12 years. In general, the living conditions in the camps are appalling with cramped quarters, makeshift roofs and collapsing walls. The houses they live in were mostly intended as temporary dwellings, and many are literally falling apart. Food rations are also inadequate, water sources scarce, sanitary conditions unhygienic, and health care and welfare neglected. With such awful conditions it is hardly surprising that disease, psychological problems and suicide are on the increase. After thirteen long years in the camps, the refugees are losing their identity and culture. With the peace process in Sri Lanka, the refugees are eager and willing to return home, and some have already returned by air. Though with continuing fears over property, the education of their children and security, many of the refugees prefer to wait until normalcy and peace are fully restored before returning.

JRS projects in India

education The majority of refugees receive basic education; attending school provides continuity for children, contributing enormously to their well being. JRS has recently handed over the running of the nursery schools, continuing to be involved in teacher training. JRS also runs evening study centres and regular schools in 7 camps.

Achievements/Beneficiaries:

- 28 nursery school centres with 979 children and 38 teachers
- 64 evening study centres with 215 teachers used by 7,096 students
- schools in 7 camps support 29 teachers and 833 students
- 400 secondary and 108 college students supported with fees for study centres
- 600 teachers benefited from training and 300 took part in seminars
- 1,000 students involved in summer study camps

skills training *Grihini* centres, or life centres for girls who have dropped out of school, offering help in re-building self confidence as well as practical skills, continued throughout the year, as did community skills colleges for boys and girls.

Achievements/Beneficiaries:

- 70 girls enrolled in the *Grihini* centres
- 37 students in computer courses and nursing
- 500 people provided with education in values and media training

emergency assistance Granting emergency assistance to the refugees is of vital importance because the government does not provide any medical help. JRS supported 300 of the most needy patients.

pastoral JRS personnel conduct sacramental services for the local people whenever possible.

media A monthly magazine is prepared by the refugee students, with the JRS Director and staff involved in editing. There has been an increase in awareness and knowledge among the refugees as a result of the publication, which is read and discussed widely.

community development District co-ordination committees have been formed in 10 districts, with the aim of training new camp leaders. The committees meet once a month to discuss the problems of the camps with the support of the NGOs. Leadership and motivation sessions are conducted for these groups. 830 college students are also involved in regular community discussions.

income-generating The programmes helped 50 of the most vulnerable people in the camps, widows and orphans, by encouraging them to start small businesses.

The two-decade-long war in Sri Lanka has left 630,000 people internally displaced, mostly in the war-affected North East of the country as well as another 330,000 refugees in Europe and India. Peace talks between the Sri Lankan government and the rebel Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) have been on-going throughout 2002 and thousands of displaced people who have languished in miserable camps for the last decades have already decided to return home in the new climate of peace. The lifting of the economic embargo, the opening of the A9 Kandy Jaffna high way, and the abolition of the pass system have all brought about a positive difference to people's lives. However, most of the agricultural lands are mined and most of the small towns lie in ruins, many without any electricity. Village crafts have collapsed in an area where the only industry was war and most of the schools were destroyed owing to neglect or bombing.



JRS Sri Lanka Director
Vinnay Joseph SJ

JRS projects in Sri Lanka

JRS has taken education as its top priority in accompanying the refugee children, organising pre-schools for the children aged 3 to 5 and encouraging school attendance by providing nutritious meals in the afternoon. JRS also organised supervised study centres in the evening hours, appointed teaching staff and provided school uniforms, textbooks, pens, and other materials to schoolchildren. Families were also helped, especially the children of detainees, through scholarships. JRS also organised regular training for young girls who have dropped out of school with vocational classes in tailoring, embroidery, basket-making, craft works and counselling. Education projects were carried out at Vanni, Vavunyia district, Mannar district, Jaffna, Batticaloa district, Trincomalee, and Colombo. *Total students* – Pre School: 757. Evening Tuition Centres: 5,183. Regular Schools: 2,324. Provision of educational aids and materials: 1,570 beneficiaries. Scholarships: 49 beneficiaries. Student seminars: 65 participants. 312 teachers trained. 193 benefited through the Life Skill Education Centre.

education

COLOMBO

Achievements/Beneficiaries:

- 300 prisoners provided with food, clothing and toilet items
- represented 50 victims of unlawful arrest and detention

human rights, legal aid

VANNI, JAFFNA, and VAVUNYIA district

Achievements/Beneficiaries:

- 110 widows provided with funds for small businesses and cash crop farming
- 213 people provided with food, shelter materials, medicine and travelling and resettlement allowance
- 135 returnees provided with temporary sheds

social services/ income-generating

VALVOTHAYA VILLAGE, Mannar District 931 families were provided with loans to help them with farming. The loan is repaid with 2% interest. Participants pay a registration fee and a set sum every month. The initial money provided by JRS is used as a revolving fund for the project. Participants are also provided with a savings book.

development

GOKARELLA JRS ran 15 peace programme seminars. The participants included Buddhist monks, government officials, teachers, rural people and school children. JRS collaborates with a group of monks to deliver aid to the displaced in the border villages. A campaign on inter-community living and peace making was conducted by the monks with the help of JRS.

Beneficiaries: 3,545

BATTICALOA JRS opened 2 orphanages with 40 beneficiaries.

orphans



Nepal has been hosting around 100,000 Bhutanese refugees for over a decade, after the Bhutanese government began a process of expelling people of Nepalese origin back in 1990. They have been languishing in camps inside Nepal ever since, unsure of their future, and denied the opportunity of returning home. The pace of bilateral meetings between Nepal and Bhutan, aimed at establishing future possible solutions for the refugees, has been very disappointing. The situation of the refugees continues to drag on without a clear end in sight, with donor fatigue setting in, which is affecting the education programme for the refugees. The Maoist rebellion within Nepal further complicated the situation, and distracted much of the government's attention.

JRS Nepal Director
PS Amalraj SJ

JRS projects in Nepal

education JRS continued to assist Caritas Nepal, the implementing partner of UNHCR, in providing formal education to the refugees in the camps.

Achievements/Beneficiaries:

- 39,870 primary and secondary level students attended the camp schools
- 1,075 teachers and 142 non-teaching staff in the schools
- dropout rate of 2% in primary and 1.5% in secondary schools
- 1,370 students were assisted to attend classes XI and XII
- 28 teacher training workshops including rights and protection of refugees for all the teachers in the camps

special needs education Special needs resource teachers assist 946 special needs students in the camp schools. All teachers in the schools are trained to provide the best service possible to these students.

skills training Two centres offered vocational training in carpentry, electrical wiring, electronic goods servicing, pattern making, auto mechanics and cosmetics.

Achievements/Beneficiaries: 107 students completed training courses

disability The programme focuses on all people with disabilities, regardless of age, sex, caste or creed. There are 2,807 disabled people in the camps.

Achievements/Beneficiaries:

- 108 disabled children are visited regularly in their homes
- 70 mentally disabled people provided with personal hygiene kits
- 328 people attend sign language training in the camp
- 47 people were referred to hospitals outside the camp
- 35 disabled people benefited from loans to help them become self-reliant

child play centres The programme runs 8 child play centres, with 32 facilitators providing attention to 4,402 children during the year. The children play together and learn songs and nursery rhymes.

assistance to government schools A new programme to improve the physical infrastructure of schools was launched in 2002. 9 colleges, 31 secondary and 20 primary schools were assisted.

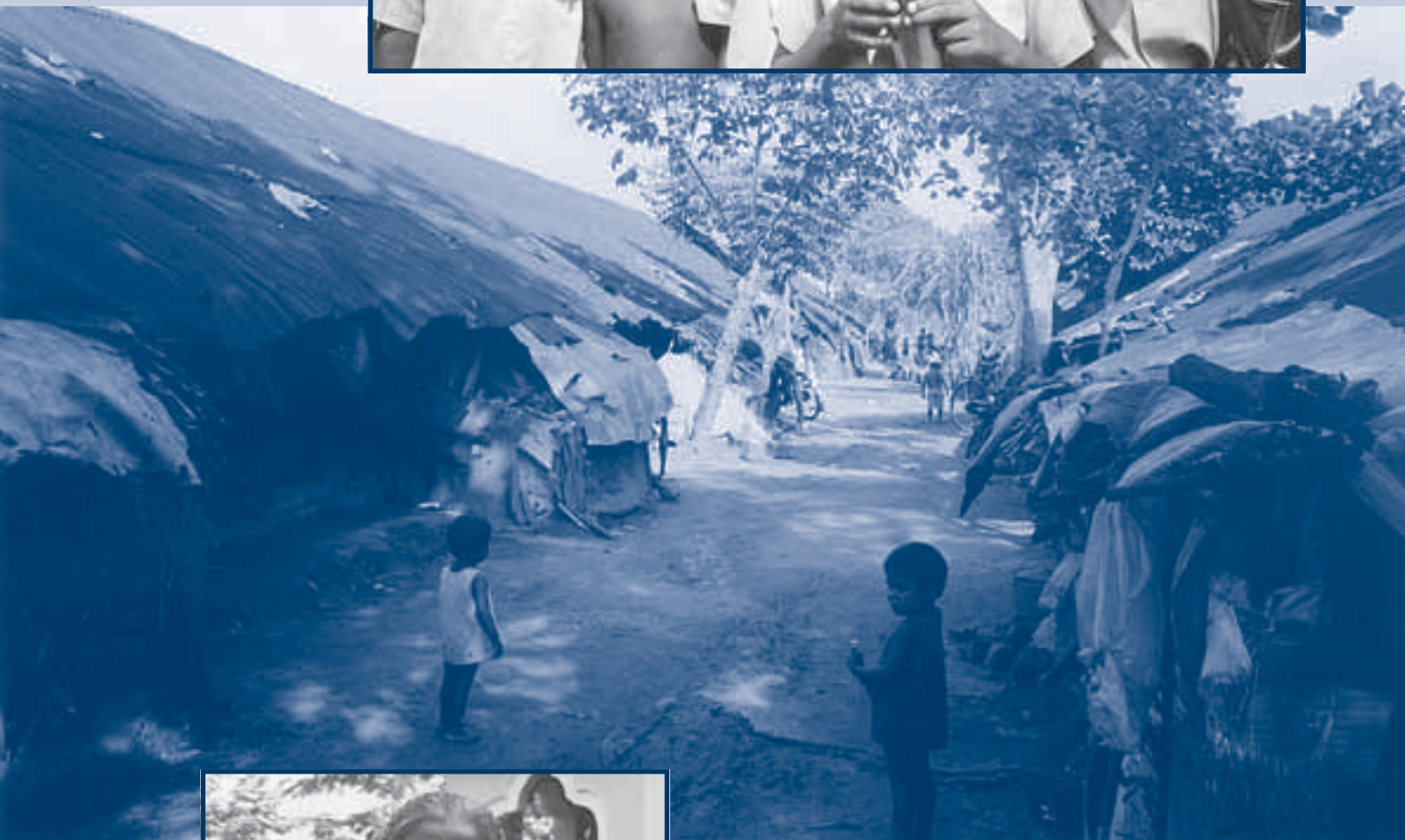
advocacy JRS continued to lobby for bilateral talks between Bhutan and Nepal and worked to ensure that the plight of the refugees is maintained as a live issue. JRS works with other agencies in the camp, human rights groups, as well as credible Bhutanese refugee organisations and continues to push the issue with UNHCR and the Nepalese government.

School children in
Batticaloa, Sri Lanka



Lluís Magriñà SJ/JRS

Lluís Magriñà SJ/JRS



Sri Lanka

Amaya Válcárcel/JRS



Sri Lanka



Sri Lanka

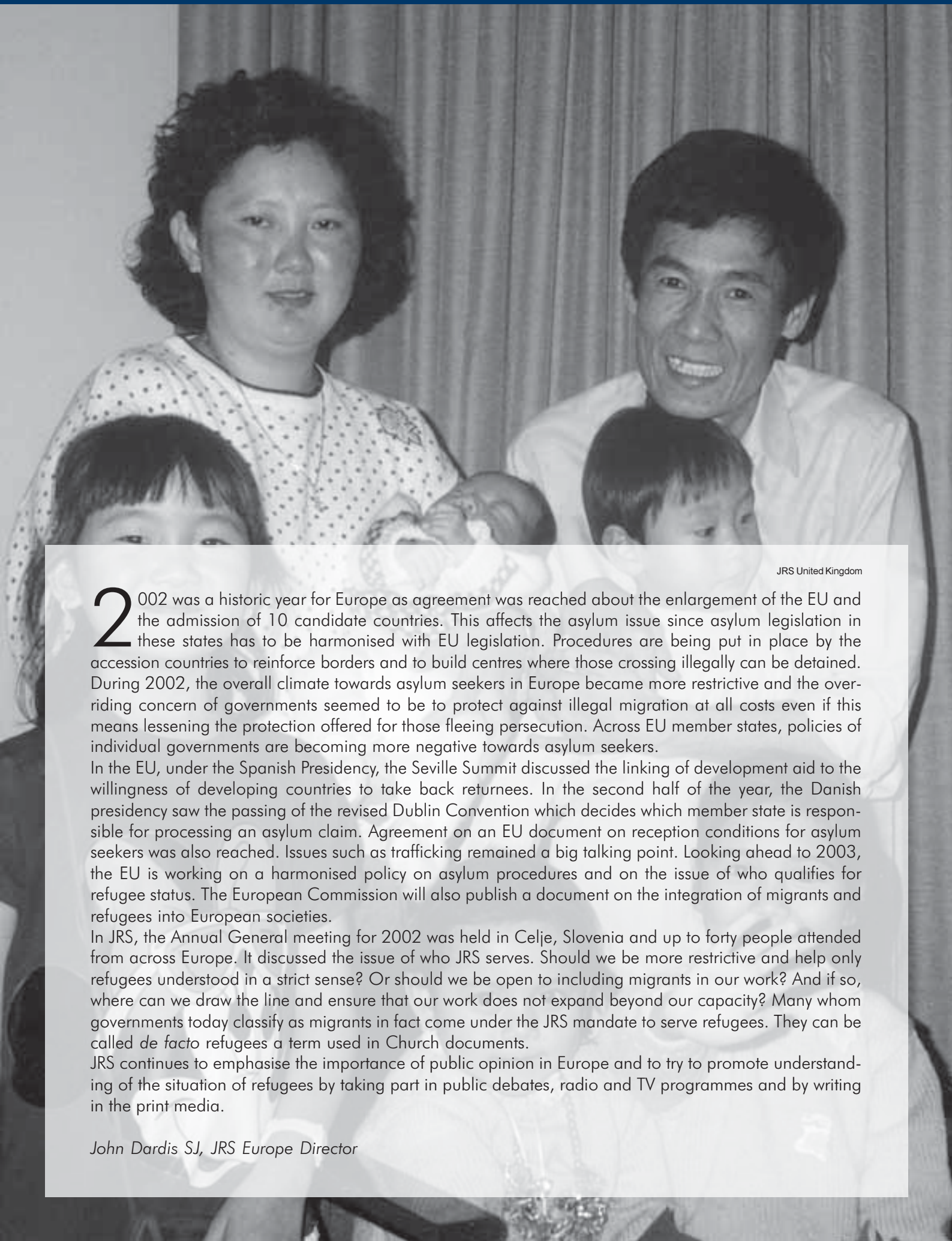
Tamil Nadu, India



Amaya Valcárcel/JRS



Sri Lanka



JRS United Kingdom

2002 was a historic year for Europe as agreement was reached about the enlargement of the EU and the admission of 10 candidate countries. This affects the asylum issue since asylum legislation in these states has to be harmonised with EU legislation. Procedures are being put in place by the accession countries to reinforce borders and to build centres where those crossing illegally can be detained. During 2002, the overall climate towards asylum seekers in Europe became more restrictive and the overriding concern of governments seemed to be to protect against illegal migration at all costs even if this means lessening the protection offered for those fleeing persecution. Across EU member states, policies of individual governments are becoming more negative towards asylum seekers.

In the EU, under the Spanish Presidency, the Seville Summit discussed the linking of development aid to the willingness of developing countries to take back returnees. In the second half of the year, the Danish presidency saw the passing of the revised Dublin Convention which decides which member state is responsible for processing an asylum claim. Agreement on an EU document on reception conditions for asylum seekers was also reached. Issues such as trafficking remained a big talking point. Looking ahead to 2003, the EU is working on a harmonised policy on asylum procedures and on the issue of who qualifies for refugee status. The European Commission will also publish a document on the integration of migrants and refugees into European societies.

In JRS, the Annual General meeting for 2002 was held in Celje, Slovenia and up to forty people attended from across Europe. It discussed the issue of who JRS serves. Should we be more restrictive and help only refugees understood in a strict sense? Or should we be open to including migrants in our work? And if so, where can we draw the line and ensure that our work does not expand beyond our capacity? Many whom governments today classify as migrants in fact come under the JRS mandate to serve refugees. They can be called *de facto* refugees a term used in Church documents.

JRS continues to emphasise the importance of public opinion in Europe and to try to promote understanding of the situation of refugees by taking part in public debates, radio and TV programmes and by writing in the print media.

John Dardis SJ, JRS Europe Director



In **AUSTRIA** only one third of asylum seekers can be accommodated at government centres. Another third is catered for by NGOs while the last group receives no special assistance. There are also centres where those who have been granted status can go while making the transition to Austrian society. In **BELGIUM**, the number of asylum seekers was 18,800 in 2002. This contrasts with more than 42,000 in 2000 and 24,000 in 2001. Many people, in spite of having solid claims for asylum, are aware of the harsher measures against those who are considered as "illegal immigrants" and opt not to apply for asylum. The **CZECH REPUBLIC** used to be a refugee producing country. It then moved to become a transit country and now itself receives a significant number of asylum seekers. 71,127 persons applied for asylum in **GERMANY** in 2002 according to official statistics. Concerning net immigration in 2002 into Germany, experts estimate a number of approximately 235,000 people.

JRS projects in Europe

- AUSTRIA** At Traiskirchen reception centre, a Jesuit organises pastoral care and also provides classes in German. Other activities include activities for children (sport, art, etc). In addition, the Jesuits in Austria provide financial support for the JRS policy project in Berlin.
JRS Austria contact person Erich Drögsler SJ
- BELGIUM** **JRS Belgium Director** Eddy Jadot SJ
The main projects of JRS Belgium are:
- analysis of developments in asylum legislation and procedures
 - cooperating with other NGOs in advocacy work
 - offering pastoral care to refugees in closed detention centres
 - assisting unaccompanied refugee minors with a variety of services
- CZECH REPUBLIC** The JRS contact person raises awareness of the issue of refugees and asylum seekers among Czech Jesuits, their colleagues and associates.
JRS Czech Republic contact person Pavel Hruda SJ
- FRANCE** JRS France continues to help JRS worldwide especially in Burundi, Guinea, Sierra Leone, Congo Brazzaville and Bangkok. In France, it sends information through the *Page des réfugiés* in the newsletter *Jésuites en mission*. JRS in France also links with *Délégation Catholique à la Coopération*, an organisation which sends volunteers.
JRS France contact person Bernard Chandon-Moët SJ
- GERMANY** JRS offered services to detainees and undocumented migrants while undertaking research, media work and lobbying.
JRS Germany Director Dieter Müller SJ
Achievements:
- pastoral care in three detention centres (Berlin, Brandenburg, Munich), visiting the detainees regularly, offering pastoral, legal and material assistance. Intensive lobby work was also done on the issue of detention on local level.
 - legal and social counselling and assistance as well as a language course was offered to former detainees who have been released
 - continued intensive research into undocumented migration and legal issues

In January 2003, **GREECE** assumes the presidency of the EU. Concerns of the Greek presidency include trafficking of migrants and refugees.

From being a refugee producing country, **HUNGARY** is now a transit country and to some extent a destination country for refugees.

With the numbers of refugees and migrants increasing over the past 10 years, **IRELAND** has changed from being a country which produced migrants to one which receives them. The climate of public opinion has moved from one of openness to one of more hostility.

There are currently 23,000 refugees in **ITALY**. The main countries of origin of asylum seekers are ex-Yugoslavia, Iraq, Turkey, Iran, Afghanistan and the horn of Africa. A new immigration and asylum law was passed in September 2002. The law focuses on immigrants as workers and its provisions constitute a 'tightening up' of existing legislation.



JRS projects in Europe

JRS Greece provided shelter for refugees, including help with expenses for medical examinations or to cover the tickets to return home. An education programme, especially the teaching of English and Greek, is offered to immigrants and refugees, to help them integrate into society. Legal advice is given by a volunteer lawyer and psychological support by a social worker/psychologist. Refugees are informed of the programmes that they can benefit from after their needs for housing, nutrition, clothing and employment have been assessed.

JRS Greece contact person Michel Roussos SJ

GREECE

JRS does not currently have active projects in Hungary. The contact person raises awareness of the issue of refugees and asylum seekers and liaises with JRS Europe in Brussels.

JRS Hungary contact person Erno Nagy SJ

HUNGARY

In Ireland, with help from the European Refugee Fund, JRS started a project on integration working to integrate recently arrived migrants and refugees into the local population by providing services which are needed by both communities. A report on best practice in integrating refugees will be drawn up and recommendations for future action will be made.

JRS Ireland contact person John Dardis SJ

IRELAND

JRS Italy/Centro Astalli continued to work with refugees and asylum seekers in Rome, Catania, Trento and Vicenza with a total number of approximately 10,000 beneficiaries in 2002. Activities include a soup kitchen (50,000 meals served in 2002), night shelters for men (40 places) and for women and children (40 places), medical clinic (over 2,000 visits during 2002), a language school (100 students enrolled at any given time), legal advice clinic (serving 250 people a month), dormitory (100 places, in cooperation with the City of Rome and Italian Railways), and information and awareness activities.

The Centro Astalli Foundation continued to implement *Finestre – Storie di Rifugiati*, a programme to raise awareness about issues related to asylum seekers and refugees in secondary schools. By December 1,600 students throughout Italy had participated in the project.

In April 2002 a new project began in collaboration with 4 other local volunteer organisations working with refugees and asylum seekers. This project called *Diritti umani e volontariato* (Human Rights and volunteer associations) includes: a basic and a specialised formation course on human rights, with particular reference to the right to asylum; a research project on legal aspects of the right to asylum in Italy; a monitoring project to look at the current asylum procedure in Italy; an awareness campaign throughout the province of Lazio to coincide with Refugee Day 2002 and 2003.

JRS Italy Director Francesco de Luccia SJ

ITALY



In 2002, **MALTA** experienced a dramatic increase in the number of asylum seekers, who, if they arrive without valid documents are detained. Since March, between 900 and 1,000 people have been detained at any given time. In 2002, 474 people applied for asylum. In the **NETHERLANDS** the populist party Lijst Pim Fortuyn became the second largest political party with a very strong anti-foreigner ticket. However, the centre-right coalition government fell within six months. The squeeze on illegal immigrants became stronger, because of new legislation already passed in 2001. In 2002, just over 200 people sought asylum in **PORTUGAL**. However many people arrived during 2000 and 2001 as irregular migrants, often the victims of trafficking. **ROMANIA** received 1,308 asylum applications in 2002, a decrease of 55% from 2001. Iraq was the main country of origin. The Romanian authorities have two camps for asylum seekers with a capacity of 560. Refugees are often exposed to hunger, illness and homelessness.

JRS projects in Europe

LUXEMBOURG

JRS plays an active part in the *Collectif Refugiés*, a group of concerned NGOs. Together they analyse government asylum policy and make recommendations.

JRS Luxembourg Co-ordinator Pierre Meyers SJ

MALTA

JRS Malta Director

Pierre Grech Marguerat SJ

Activities include:

- work with asylum seekers in detention and with refugees
- public awareness and education and analysis of asylum legislation

NETHERLANDS

The contact person assists JRS international with contacts with partners in The Netherlands and is also chairman of the working group for Refugees of the Amsterdam Council of Churches. A parish in Amsterdam has established a partnership with JRS in Macedonia.

JRS Netherlands contact person Jan Stuyt SJ

PORTUGAL

Since 2001, JRS has worked in helping to find jobs for arriving refugees and migrants, and is also involved in lobbying and in networking with other NGOs. Courses in Portuguese are offered regularly.

JRS Portugal Director

Afonso Herédia SJ

Other activities include:

- medical and legal support, including a pharmacy service
- help with finding accommodation
- clothes and food distribution, as well as an information service

ROMANIA

A major development in 2002 was the opening of a house in Bucharest for refugees and those with humanitarian status. This was possible thanks to generous help from *Renovabis*. A grant from the Michiko Foundation allowed us begin classes in computers. Language courses also began. JRS personnel continued to visit asylum seekers in the reception centres.

JRS Romania Co-ordinator

Luc Duquenne SJ

Beneficiaries: 2,500 people

SLOVAKIA will accede to the EU in 2004 and its asylum legislation is being harmonised with EU asylum policies. The issue of the Roma minority in Slovakia is being monitored by the EU which supports projects for them. 160,000 of them suffer poor social integration and are a potentially large source of migration. A challenge for **SLOVENIA** in 2002 was the integration of 2,300 Bosnian Refugees who received formal legal status in summer 2002 and permission to remain. However, there is little understanding about how they will be settled permanently in Slovenia.

SPAIN received just over 6,000 asylum applications in 2002, a decrease in numbers from the previous year. Compared to other EU countries of similar size, that figure is relatively low.

The **UNITED KINGDOM** government pushed a new law through Parliament: The Nationality, Immigration and Asylum Bill 2002. JRS criticised the Bill as representing an erosion of the rights of people seeking asylum in the UK.



JRS projects in Europe

The JRS contact person for Slovakia currently works in Brussels at the Regional office. He gives occasional interviews on radio and writes articles to promote understanding of the refugee issue.

JRS Slovakia contact person Dušan Bezák SJ

SLOVAKIA

JRS visits the detention centre at Postojna, offers pastoral counselling and also aims to provide training for members of the Slovenian Police Service (SPS) who work with migrants and refugees in the Slovenian Police Centres for Foreigners. JRS also conducted an education and awareness-raising project concerning the refugees from Bosnia. This project aims to encourage Slovenian society to be more tolerant and supportive of the Bosnian refugees. Other activities include training of volunteers who visit the detention centre.

JRS Slovenia Director Marijan Šef SJ

SLOVENIA

One of the major issues in Spain is the number of people who lose their lives trying to enter from North Africa. The JRS office promotes awareness of the refugee issue through a regular newsletter and by work through the internet. The Institute of Migration at Comillas University and the Pedro Arrupe Tutor at Deusto University in Bilbao are important research institutes for the issues of migration and refugees.

JRS Spain Co-ordinator Josep Ricart SJ

SPAIN

JRS UK accompanies, serves and advocates on behalf of all asylum seekers from their first arrival until they are satisfactorily settled. This work is carried out in collaboration with other JRS offices around the world, and Church and secular organisations, voluntary and governmental, which are active in the same field. JRS UK has continued lobbying for asylum rights, including producing with the Bishops' Conference secretariat a briefing on the Nationality, Immigration and Asylum Bill which was enacted in November 2002. In addition JRS UK is involved in the local campaigns against landmines and against the use of child soldiers.

JRS United Kingdom Director Louise Zanre

UK

Pasquale Capone



Refugees await assistance in Rome, Italy

The hostility faced by refugees in Europe



JRS United Kingdom

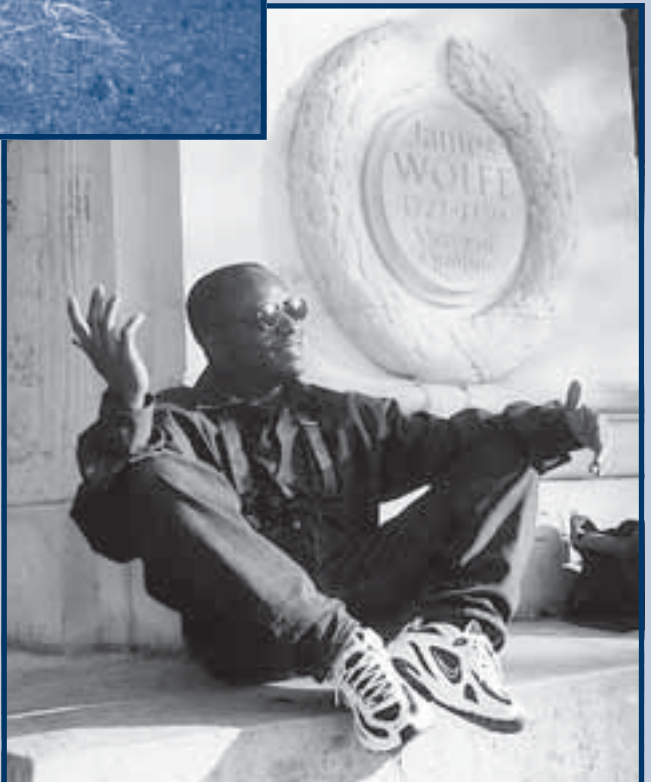
United Kingdom

Studying Italian in Rome, Italy

JRS Italy



JRS United Kingdom





Alberto Saccavini/JRS

JRS has been serving refugees and forcibly displaced people in Southeast Europe for ten years now, helping people to heal the wounds inflicted by successive wars in the Balkans. The impartial nature of JRS has added strength to our work and enabled us to cross ethnic and cultural boundaries as we reach out to those who are most in need of support.

Some JRS projects have been shaped to answer immediate needs, while others are more long lasting in nature: the landmine child-victim programme, assistance to the elderly, and small scale reconstruction and reconciliation efforts are just some of the projects that will continue into the future.

In Bosnia & Herzegovina, the country continues to be divided along ethnic lines, and hundred of thousands of refugees and Internally Displaced People (IDPs) have still not returned to their homes, a right laid out in the Dayton Peace Agreement of 1995. Although not exposed to any physical violence, persons still displaced by the war continue to live in precarious conditions. Many returnees live in tents or makeshift shelters next to their destroyed houses while they wait for reconstruction assistance. Despite the great need, many humanitarian organisations have pulled out of the country or gradually reduced their activities over the last few years and there is a general lack of international financial support.

In Croatia, JRS continued to develop projects aimed at promoting reconciliation and trust between different ethnic groups, facilitating contacts and encouraging people to act together to overcome hostilities and mistrust. Providing services to and advocating the cause of refugees and returnees continues to be the main focus of JRS Croatia.

The general situation in Kosovo is rather static despite the fact that many problems remain unsolved. The 'Final Status' of the region has yet to be decided or agreed upon, though a number of different possibilities have been formulated. The resulting uncertainty has hampered the economic and social development of the region. The United Nations Mission in Kosovo (UNMIK) for this year focused a lot on multi-ethnic issues and the return of all minorities. However, only some hundreds have returned home, out of a total of more than 200,000 displaced people.

In the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (FRY) JRS works with about 20,000 refugees, or about 5% of the refugee population accommodated in collective centres. The target group is the most vulnerable, mainly the unemployed, elderly, children without parents and those that are ill, all living in very poor conditions.

Stjepan Kušan SJ, JRS Southeast Europe Director



JRS Bosnia Director
Stjepan Kušan SJ

Six years after the end of the conflict in Bosnia and Herzegovina the divisions between the main ethnic groups continue to plague the country, creating an obstacle to the return home of refugees and displaced people. Available figures for the first half of 2002 show a continuation in the progress made in 2000 and 2001 regarding 'minority returns', thanks mainly to better implementation of property rights. However, security is still a concern for minorities returning to their homes: the return of the remaining 414,000 internally displaced people (UNHCR April 2002) will continue to require international encouragement and support. The conflict has left a tragic legacy of thousands of landmines and UXO (unexploded ordinances) throughout the country. Since the end of the war, over 1,300 people have become victims of mines, with 20% of that number dying from their injuries. Mine survivors face tremendous difficulties in a country that has a very weak social security system and high unemployment.

JRS projects in Bosnia & Herzegovina

- children mine victims** **SARAJEVO** The JRS Mine Victims Assistance Programme (MVAP), established in 1998, continued to provide medical, material, educational, legal and psychological assistance to children throughout the country.
Achievements/Beneficiaries:
- to date, over 300 children have benefited from the programme
 - rehabilitation camp for 29 children in January 2002
 - 931 educational, medical and material field visits throughout 2002
- elderly mine victims** **SARAJEVO** This project provides medical assistance and rehabilitation support to elderly mine victims. It will be extended to the central and eastern parts of the country over the next two years.
Achievements/Beneficiaries: 87 people assisted in 2002
- return and reconstruction** **SARAJEVO** The project helps people to rebuild their houses and return home through financial assistance that is used to purchase materials and pay for construction.
Achievements/Beneficiaries: 30 families benefited from the project in 2002
- elderly home care** **SARAJEVO** A project to accompany and support elderly returnees by providing them with financial support, medical assistance and care, and visiting them on a regular basis.
Achievements/Beneficiaries: 57 people were helped by the project in 2002
- education** **SARAJEVO** A computer school, which is especially geared to help young people master the basics in computer knowledge, was initiated in 2002.
Achievements/Beneficiaries:
- rooms located, equipment purchased, and teachers identified
 - 35 students began courses (25 beginners and 10 advanced students)

Croatia is still a country living with the effects of the recent conflict, with considerable material damage, inter-ethnic tension, and psychological trauma, particularly among children. The war deepened mistrust between ethnic Croats and Serbs, to the point of hostility and hatred, and resulted in a massive exodus of Serbs. The Serb population is gradually returning to their homes, which they often find to be damaged or even occupied by ethnic Croats who fled Bosnia during the recent war. In some cases, the return of Serbs has created a feeling of insecurity among Bosnian Croats and there is a great need to promote reconciliation and build trust between the different ethnic groups.



JRS Croatia Director
Stjepan Kušan SJ

JRS projects in Croatia

KNIN The project involves the integrating of children from different ethnic background through the provision of schooling for 3-7 year olds. It promotes peace, better inter-ethnic relationships as well as providing children with pre-school education.

Achievements/Beneficiaries:

- 64 children were enrolled in 2002
- involvement of parents from different ethnic backgrounds

ZAGREB The project invests in the future of young refugees and displaced people who have had their education interrupted by conflict. This is achieved through sponsorship and education scholarships. Over the last nine years the project has helped over 1,000 students to complete their studies.

Achievements/Beneficiaries:

- 60 students were supported during the 2001/2002 school year

KNIN The project aims to promote reconciliation and build trust through facilitating contacts between Serbian and Bosnian Croats, and encouraging them to act and work together through seminars, group work, and formation of group leaders. The project will be expanded to more localities during 2003.

Achievements/Beneficiaries:

- three seminars organised in 2002, and a number of groups formed
- 10 people began first year training

PAZIN, ZAGREB, RIJEKA Seminars organised in order to train lay people who work or intend to get involved in social or community work and the work of the Church. The seminars focus on communication, social analysis, theological reflection, and action planning. The skills of the team are then used in other projects aimed at reconciliation and peace-building. Two more seminars are planned for 2003.

Achievements/Beneficiaries:

- 53 people completed seminars and another 74 started new seminars in 2002

education

reconciliation

pastoral

MACEDONIA



JRS Macedonia Director
Fr Mato Jakovic

Civil conflict between the Macedonian army and rebel ethnic Albanians during 2001 resulted in the displacement of around 100,000 people. In January 2002 Parliament ceded more power to local government to improve the status of ethnic Albanians, and in June passed new laws making Albanian an official language. Peace was restored to the country and NATO maintained a peacekeeping presence throughout 2002. In August, 7,424 people remained internally displaced within Macedonia, with the most urgent problem among displaced families being access to food, as well as hygiene and health concerns. JRS in Macedonia assists people in emergency situations and provides logistical support for JRS projects in Kosovo. JRS works mainly with people who do not feel able to return to their homes but who are not on the priority list for shelter reconstruction.

JRS projects in Macedonia

emergency assistance

SKOPIE The project assists displaced people with food, medicines and special assistance to the most vulnerable individuals, in particular children and the elderly.

Achievements/Beneficiaries:

- 1,974 people in collective centres assisted with medicine and baby food
- 2 houses rebuilt

education

6 locations throughout the country A computer school, which is especially geared to help young people master the basics in computer knowledge, continued throughout 2002.

Achievements/Beneficiaries: 120 students completed courses in 2002

KOSOVO



JRS Kosovo Director
Fr Mato Jakovic

Efforts made to encourage return have not been very effective, with only some hundreds returning home, out of a total of more than 200,000 displaced people. The tension between the different ethnic groups is still high but in certain areas a lot of work was done during 2002 to begin a real process of integration, though the goal of a truly multi-ethnic Kosovo is still far from being achieved. The Serbian community again boycotted the local municipal elections held in October and the ethnic Albanian majority chose a moderate party to lead Kosovo. JRS works with mine and war victims, accompanying them, providing medical, material, psychological and legal assistance.

JRS projects in Kosovo

mine victims

PRISTINA A programme to assist young mine victims was set up in 2001, accompanying the survivors as well as providing medical, material psycho-social and legal assistance, helping to restore their self-confidence and promote re-integration into society. Based in Pristina, the programme operates throughout Kosovo. To date, almost 150 people have benefited directly from the project.

Achievements/Beneficiaries:

- assistance also began in the Northwest of Kosovo following an assessment
- beneficiaries have been informed of their pension and medical care entitlements
- 175 visits to 148 mine survivors in 2002
- summer camp for 26 children in partnership with Caritas Kosovo in June

FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF YUGOSLAVIA

Recent conflicts in Croatia, Bosnia & Herzegovina and Kosovo led to huge migrations, particularly of the Serbian populations who found refuge in the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (FRY), which comprises Serbia and Montenegro. Depending on the source of data, estimates of the total number of refugees and internally displaced people (IDPs) have varied from 350,000 to 800,000. A very successful programme of constructing houses for refugees has been on-going for several years and Serbian municipalities have been prepared to provide residential buildings and arable land, as well as employment for members of refugee families. The limited funds have been the single biggest obstacle slowing the construction process. Other refugees have opted to take part in emigration programmes to third countries, mainly Canada, Australia and the USA.



JRS FRY Director
Viktor Glavina

JRS projects in FRY

Throughout FRY JRS works with about 20,000 refugees, or about 5% of the refugee population accommodated in collective centres. The target group is the most vulnerable.

Achievements/Beneficiaries:

- 20 young adults took part in a summer camp
- 360 family food parcels distributed
- nearly 4,000kg of food distributed
- over 1,000 personal hygiene kits distributed

material assistance

BELGRADE A computer school, which is especially geared to help young people master the basics in computer knowledge, continued throughout 2002.

Achievements/Beneficiaries:

- new facilities rooms refurbished and equipment purchased
- 473 students completed training in 2002

education

Children attending the JRS Summer Camp in Kosovo



Alberto Saccaconi/JRS

School children
in Knin, Croatia



Don Doll SJ/JRS

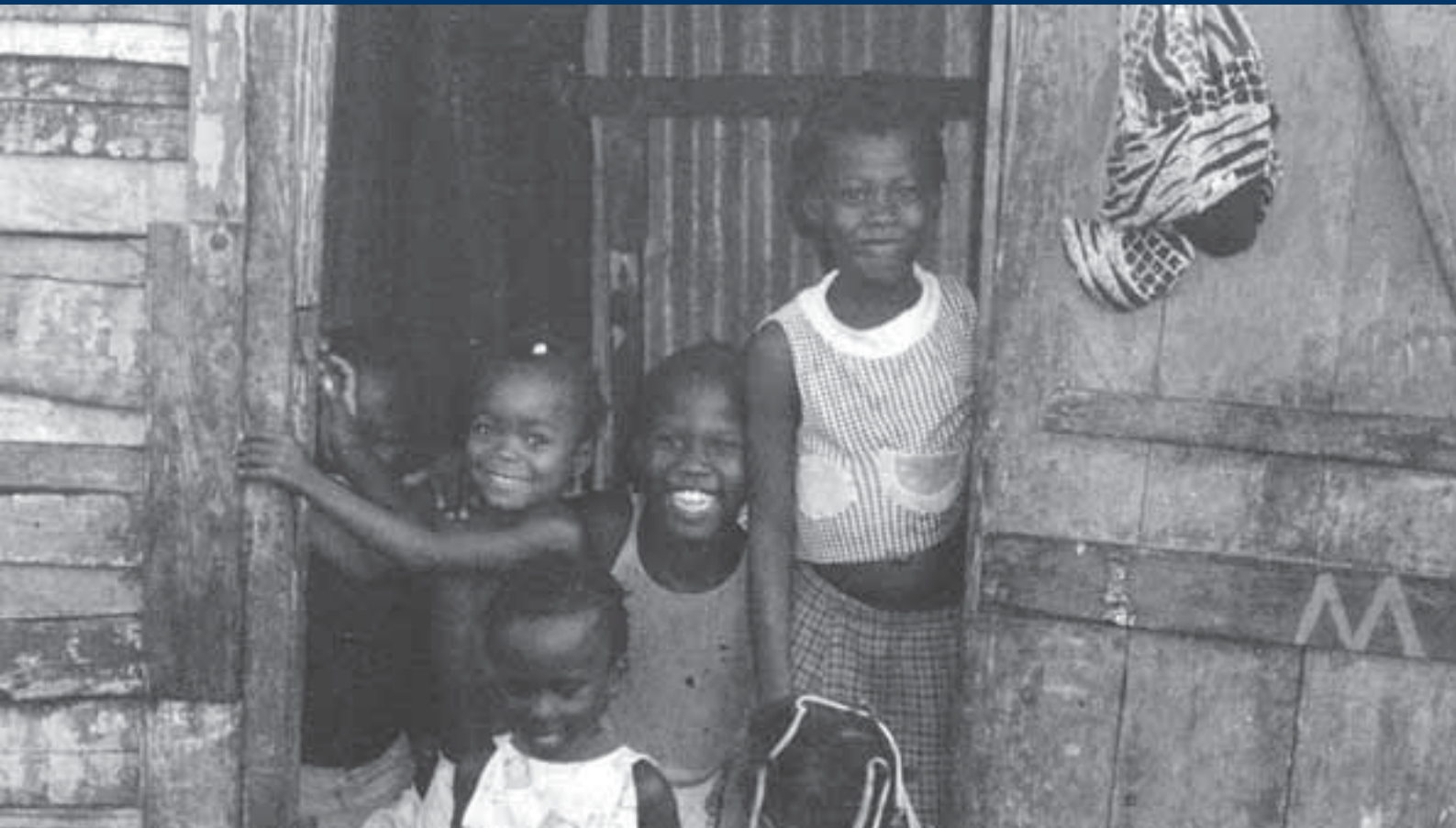


Landmine survivor,
Bosnia & Herzegovina



Computer school, Sarajevo,
Bosnia & Herzegovina

LATIN AMERICA & THE CARIBBEAN



Mark Raper SJ/JRS

The fierce conflict in Colombia intensified during the year, which combined with a number of recently introduced security measures, continued to place the civilian population in great danger. The conflict has had heavy repercussions on neighbouring countries, such as Brazil, Ecuador, Panama, Peru, and Venezuela as an increasing number of refugees have fled Colombia to seek refuge abroad, sometimes followed by armed groups who have pursued them over the border.

As well as the problems of displacement caused by the war and the fight against drug smuggling, is the serious crisis of extreme poverty. The result of missed opportunities, natural disasters and the failure of the education system, chronic regional problems have been exacerbated by globalisation, and have resulted in a polarisation of society and an acutely unjust distribution of the region's wealth.

The terrorist attacks on the USA on 11 September 2001 have had serious ramifications for international drug smuggling and for the conflict in Colombia. The governments of the region have been placed under intense international pressure to introduce measures that will respond to these serious challenges to the region's security. This has led to a concern that such measures may well have a detrimental effect on human rights and migration policies, with the fundamental rights of the individual being sacrificed using the pretext of collective security.

Despite international obligations and agreements entered into by the countries of the region, certain governments have shown a disregard for such commitments, repeatedly violating the human rights of migrants and refugees. Certain governments are intent on criminalising people without proper documentation, subjecting them to arbitrary detention and maltreatment. Xenophobia and racism have been on the increase and JRS has been very active in an awareness raising campaign which seeks to inform people about the various governments' international obligations regarding the rights of immigrants and refugees. Along with denouncing violations of human rights, the campaign aims to prevent further abuse and establish respect for refugee and migrant rights.

A worrying deterioration in living conditions in a number of specific areas in the region has created the conditions which could lead to an increase in the number of displaced people and refugees.

José Núñez SJ, JRS Latin America & the Caribbean Director



JRS Colombia Director
Jorge Serrano SJ

Following the failure of a peace deal between the Colombian government and the main opposition armed group, FARC, violence has intensified throughout the country and the population has been left open to increasingly serious abuses at the hands of the various armed groups. A daily average of 1,623 people have had to flee the violence imposed by the armed groups and the government's military logic. Forced displacement in the Colombian border areas is increasingly alarming: neighbouring countries such as Brazil, Venezuela, Peru and Ecuador have reinforced their military presence in the border areas and tightened up their policies towards people entering from Colombia. According to the statistical Report of the Information System on Forced Displacement and Human Rights, some 353,120 people were forced to flee their homes during the first nine months of the year, adding to an estimated 2.45 million who were already displaced at the beginning of 2002.

JRS projects in Colombia

education

BARRANCABERMEJA JRS assists the local displaced population with training and awareness raising programmes.

Beneficiaries included: 25 young people helped to acquire skills to find work

human rights/ legal assistance

BARRANCABERMEJA JRS works with groups of leaders and young people who are vulnerable because of the conflict, by informing them of their rights and assisting them to secure their entitlements. The team also works with another organisation, *Acción Humanitaria*, to promote human rights work for young men and women.

CENTRO DEL VALLE In Buga legal assistance was provided to 35 families who have been acquiring property since October 2000 in order to complete a project of rural re-location.

reception, orientation

BARRANCABERMEJA The team receives and provides orientation and directions to displaced people.

Beneficiaries included:

- 68 families in the camps and 47 displaced families outside the camps that are in the process of returning home or re-locating and 250 families that have completed the return

TIERRALTA JRS accompanies displaced families, offering advice and providing orientation. Through eight shelter and assistance teams the projects provided assistance to 309 families or 1,233 individuals in Tierralta.

general assistance

SAN PABLO BOLÍVAR JRS offers workshops to the displaced families and runs accommodation and income generating projects. The project also involves informing the displaced people of their rights as regards access to health care and education as well as documents, including assisting in acquiring those rights.

CENTRO DEL VALLE The projects cover the municipalities of Buga, Tuluá and San Pedro. Projects include counselling and advice to the displaced people in relation to re-location from the camps at Tuluá and Buga, technical advice on market gardening, which involved 18 families from Tuluá camp who produce food for consumption and for sale. JRS also accompanied 60 families who are returning to San Pedro municipality. In San Pedro JRS is involved in a project with the *Instituto Mayor Campesino* (IMCA) to assist and accompany returning families with 46 families being assisted by JRS.

Cordial relations between the Dominican Republic and Haiti continued throughout the year, despite many difficulties. Haiti's political crisis worsened after the legislative and municipal elections of May 2000, provoking an increase in displacement towards the Dominican Republic. A large number of Haitians also continue to cross the border in search of work, mainly in the construction and agricultural industries. This has caused a gradual increase in the number of Haitian refugees. The Dominican security forces continued to conduct large scale forced repatriations of Haitians throughout the year in some border areas, violating Dominican laws, bilateral treaties and international conventions. The problem has been aggravated by pressure that the US began to apply after September 11, demanding the closure of the Haitian-Dominican border in order to combat terrorism. It is estimated that about 100 people, mostly Haitians, applied for asylum in the Dominican Republic during the year, whereas the accumulated number of refugees is seven times that figure.



JRS Dominican Republic Director
José Núñez SJ

JRS projects in the Dominican Republic

DAJABÓN, Dominican Republic; WANAMENT, Haiti

On both sides of the Haiti – Dominican Republic border, JRS assists displaced people from Haiti as well as Dominicans working in the Dajabón Province. Working together with other organisations, JRS witnesses the abuses suffered by the Haitian people and tries to support them by acting as a mediator with the authorities. JRS also assists with emergency measures for those crossing back over the border. JRS supports a pre-school centre in Wanament, North-East Haiti, providing support for the most vulnerable children through religion classes, integral education, and with food and vitamins.

Beneficiaries: 50 children in the school

border solidarity

SANTO DOMINGO JRS is creating links with military and civil authorities, organising meetings to expose concerns regarding the Human Rights situation in the area close to the Haitian border. JRS, concerned about thousands of victims of indiscriminate and violent repatriation, collects precise data about the refugees and monitors the process. JRS participated in the education of new Human Rights observers by organising seminars, as well as by producing reports on Repatriation and People-trafficking in the Dominican Republic. JRS also provided legal assistance, Spanish courses, and debates.

Direct Beneficiaries: 325 refugees

human rights/ legal assistance

SANTO DOMINGO Serious efforts were made to bring the refugee and humanitarian issues onto the national agenda. JRS lobbied UNHCR through an Advocacy Team, sending a person to monitor the situation of the asylum seekers within the country, and warning about the dangerous social and political situation in Haiti. JRS also kept in contact with the mass media, informing it about the activities or inaction of the National Refugee Commission (CNARE).

media

SANTO DOMINGO JRS is part of a number of Human Rights Networks that publicise Human Rights violations and work towards finding solutions to the problems faced by migrants and refugees in the Dominican Republic and indeed across Latin America. With these organisations, JRS helps to produce reports whenever violations, deportation, human trafficking and other Human Right abuses occur, as well as to elaborate and disseminate documents pinpointing these abuses and proposing alternative solutions to various authorities and to the press. Other networks fight against anti-Haitian prejudices and racism in the Dominican Republic, fostering solidarity between the two nations. Work is also conducted which studies immigration laws and follows up cases of forced repatriation and other abuses.

networks



JRS Venezuela Director
Alfredo Infante SJ

Venezuelan law established the right to seek asylum in 2001. Since then, the state apparatus has experienced a processing backlog of 1,000 asylum seekers. It is estimated that a minimum of 75,000 Colombians reside in Venezuela, in conditions similar to those of refugees. A large number of Colombians cross the border on account of conflict and prefer to stay as undocumented immigrants, not applying for asylum for security reasons or simply because they do not know their rights. This has led to thousands of refugees living in “invisible” conditions. The government’s policy is one of “excluding tolerance”, with no will to process cases and grant refugee status to hundreds of applicants: the asylum seekers are tolerated but denied the most elementary rights. Last July the town of Guasdualito suffered a serious flood due to heavy rains in the Andes region, resulting in the displacement of 30,000 people.

JRS projects in Venezuela

pastoral **ALTO APURE** JRS accompanied and offered pastoral services to asylum seekers and refugees in Alto Apure, an area that borders Colombia.
Beneficiaries: 444 asylum seekers

humanitarian assistance **ALTO APURE** With the support of UNHCR, JRS assisted Colombian refugees with essential items and also helped them to integrate into the local way of life.
Beneficiaries: 246 people were assisted

GUASDUALITO JRS supported the creation of a rescue and solidarity network, established to help the 30,000 people who were displaced by flooding in the Andes region in July.

health **ALTO APURE** JRS supported a health centre, which directly benefits the asylum seekers and raised awareness among the local communities. With the support of Justice and Peace, JRS also provided medical care to young refugees.
Beneficiaries:

- 170 asylum seekers received medical attention
- 45 women received gynaecological attention

education **ALTO APURE** JRS established a project, which aims to improve the quality and capacity of education centres that receive the children of asylum seekers.

income-generating **ALTO APURE** During the year, JRS supported projects, which aim to give financial autonomy to the refugees, such as fishing and market gardening as well as helping refugees search for employment.

psychological accompaniment **ALTO APURE** With the support of UNHCR, JRS offers psychological accompaniment to the receiving communities, in particular children and adolescents, which includes a process of reconciliation.

raising awareness/legal protection **ALTO APURE** JRS participates in the programmes of *Radio Fe y Alegría*, with a weekly broadcast that deals with specific issues related to the question of refugees. With the support of the refugees in the border areas, JRS conducted a study and produced a report to help asylum seekers have their applications in order when the National Refugee Commission begins to process their claims.

Due to a worsening of the Chiapas conflict, combined with social dislocation and the government's inaction, many families are being forced to move to areas with better security conditions. Five spots can be identified as places of "war-caused displacements", with a total of more than 15,000 indigenous people. Local and international organisations have succeeded in supporting and assisting the displaced communities, though an adequate response or solution from the government has been slow to arrive. This has resulted in internal community divisions and also a strengthening of armed groups, while the social and psychological rehabilitation of the people affected by the war has been left aside. There were an estimated 6,200 refugees or asylum-seekers in Mexico at the beginning of 2002, mostly people from Guatemala and El Salvador trying to reach the USA or Canada.



JRS Mexico Director
Pedro Arriaga SJ

JRS projects in Mexico

JRS works in the Chiapas region, in the south of Mexico, where 1,173 families, or 6,332 people have been displaced because of conflict. JRS is developing a 3 year plan to improve the effectiveness of its service in supporting the indigenous people.

CHIAPAS JRS works closely with the organisation *Las Abejas*, which reaches out to approximately eleven communities in several different camps. The work of JRS also takes place in the camp that holds the majority of the displaced people in the municipality of Chenalhó. Currently, there are approximately 700 families or 4,000 displaced people located there.

general assistance

CHIAPAS JRS maintains several projects – construction of houses, improvements to alternative cultivation of food, strengthening of civil society organisations – which benefit the displaced, directly and indirectly.

working with organisations

PANAMA

During the last number of years, while Colombians have been victims of the civil conflict, Panama has systematically deported, and violated the human rights of, the Colombians seeking asylum in Panama. During the year, the National Council for Refugees focused on displaced people and refugees and concluded that the assistance given to them was clearly insufficient. Panama is hosting a large number of Colombians, though only a few of them hold refugee status and most are considered as illegal immigrants. More than 400 Colombians live in the border village of Jacqué and are often looked upon unfairly as being part of the guerrilla forces. Although the real number of refugees in Panama is close to 1,500, only 680 are officially registered.



JRS Panama Director
Miquel Córtes SJ

JRS projects in Panama

JACQUÉ, DARIÉN region During the year JRS accompanied refugees in Jacqué, in Darién region, which borders Colombia, while working closely with other civil human rights organisations. Food production programmes have been established and with the support of *Fe y Alegría*, the child refugees are being provided with formal education.

pastoral, education



As the war in Colombia continues, the Ecuador Ministry of Foreign Affairs received 5,949 refugee applications from Colombians to November 30, 2002, granting refugee status to just 1,701 individuals. However, these figures may not accurately reflect the real number of refugees in Ecuador, as the number of people entering through the border point in Rumichaca bridge is estimated at 100,000, of which less than 20,000 returned back to Colombia. The Government and the Ecuadorian people have received refugees from Colombia in a more welcoming manner than has been the case in Venezuela and Panama, due to stronger social, familial and economic links in the border areas. Some 30,000 Colombians in border areas are estimated to have lived as refugees for more than 10 years. The Government of Colombia considers them economic migrants, to avoid drawing attention to their situation.

JRS Ecuador Director
Luis Tupac-Yupanqui SJ

JRS projects in Ecuador

In Ecuador JRS continued to work to strengthen relations with human rights organisations. During the year, JRS conducted an investigation in the border towns, to establish the most appropriate activities for JRS, and to understand better the reality for the refugees in Ecuador and to determine immediate and long-term necessities. Some of these activities were conducted in coordination with UNHCR and the local church.

pastoral **IBARRA** JRS accompanies the refugee population in Ibarra (bordering Colombia) where JRS activities are concentrated, in coordination with Migration Pastoral.
Beneficiaries: 24 families or 73 individuals

legal assistance **IBARRA** JRS offers legal advice and information to the refugees in Ibarra, which allows them to conduct their daily lives more easily and to pass through the necessary processes more speedily.

recreational facilities **IBARRA** During the recognition of refugee status and re-location stage of the process, JRS offers recreational and productive activities and other facilities to the refugees.



Haitians in Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic

Ledys Bohórquez/JRS



Displaced people in
Tierralta, Colombia

Children's rights in
Barrancabermeja,
Colombia

Ledys Bohórquez/JRS



Mark Raper SJ/JRS



Santo Domingo,
Dominican
Republic

Displaced
people in
Barrancabermeja,
Colombia



Ledys Bohórquez/JRS



JRS USA Director
Rick Ryscavage SJ

The September 11, 2001 attacks on the USA created a dramatically different working environment for JRS USA. The US government's official refugee resettlement programme was sharply reduced with only 27,000 refugees out of an authorised ceiling of 70,000 allowed into the country. While there were no extreme shifts in public opinion towards anti-immigration policies, detention of immigrants did increase and the public seemed prepared to accept harsher policies for security reasons. In February, the President issued a new boat policy designed primarily to deter the arrival of Haitians to the US. The new policy mandates indefinite detention for all boat arrivals, even asylum seekers. The US Immigration and Naturalization Service was folded into a new government agency called the Department of Homeland Security. One positive result of this reorganisation was the transfer of responsibility for unaccompanied minors to the department of health and human services, which will seek to place most children in foster care rather than detention centres.

JRS projects in USA & Canada

Because the government still lacks a coherent way to meet the spiritual and religious needs of detainees, the chaplaincy work of JRS within the immigration detention system continued to be very important, both to the detainees served and as a model of how spiritual care in the detention centres should be provided.

detainees, pastoral

JRS is now assessing the possibility of opening chaplaincy services in some new detention sites, where simply being present with detainees can be an important service. The chaplains not only serve Catholics; they also arrange appropriate religious services and assistance for people of many different faiths. JRS also hopes to increase the small but successful programme serving unaccompanied children in detention. Presently, JRS has programmes in 3 adult detention centres, including Mira Loma (700 detainees) and San Pedro (600 detainees) detention centres in Los Angeles, and El Paso detention centre in Texas (600 detainees). JRS provides services to two juvenile detention centres in Los Angeles (40 detainees).

advocacy

Substantial policy/advocacy work during 2002 involved the crisis in Colombia. In solidarity with the projects of JRS Colombia, JRS USA strove to bring the plight of the displaced Colombians to the attention of the US government and public.

JRS joined NGO colleagues in Washington to press for much better implementation of the US Refugee Admissions Program. The response of the Bush Administration has been disappointing but this will continue to be a major advocacy goal of JRS.

JRS USA has also been responding to requests from JRS in Africa by advocating for better refugee protection and solutions to long term refugee situations there.

For the past two years, the JRS USA Country Director has been invited to join the US government delegation to the UNHCR Executive Committee, the annual meeting of the member states, which make up the UNHCR governing body.

research

In October, Fairfield University, a Jesuit institute in Connecticut, launched an innovative partnership with JRS to provide research in key areas of asylum, migration, and forcibly displaced people.

scholarship fund

The Keeping Hope Alive Refugee Scholarship Fund was established in 2002 to provide tuition fees to highly motivated refugees to pursue tertiary education in their own countries.

TORONTO, Canada JRS works with organisations advocating refugee rights.

JRS Canada contact person Jack Costello SJ

JRS FINANCES 2002

Some brief notes of explanation

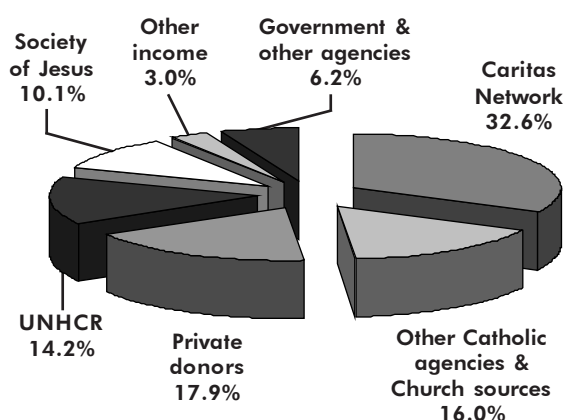
Sources of funding:

- Information extracted from financial reports (income & expenditure) received from the country and/or regional offices;
- *Other Catholic agencies & Church sources* include donations received from Catholic agencies other than Caritas and those from dioceses, parishes and religious congregations;
- *Society of Jesus* refers to donations received from individual Jesuits, from the Jesuit Provinces, foundations and funding agencies of Jesuit inspiration;
- *Private donors* includes individuals and private foundations;
- *Other income* is mainly bank and investment interest;
- In-kind donations are not included in these figures, though they play an important role in support of JRS.

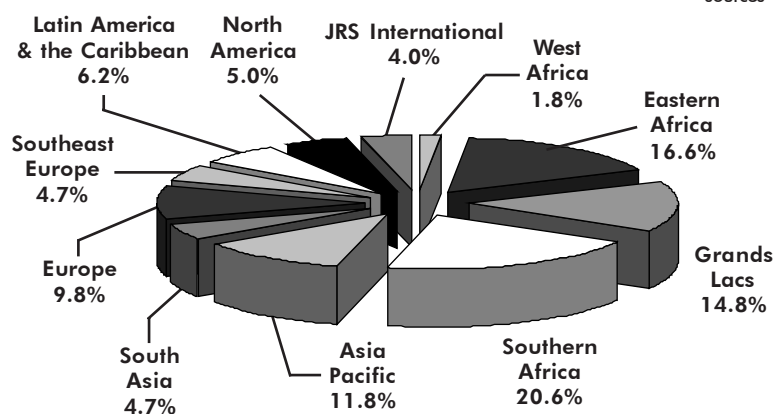
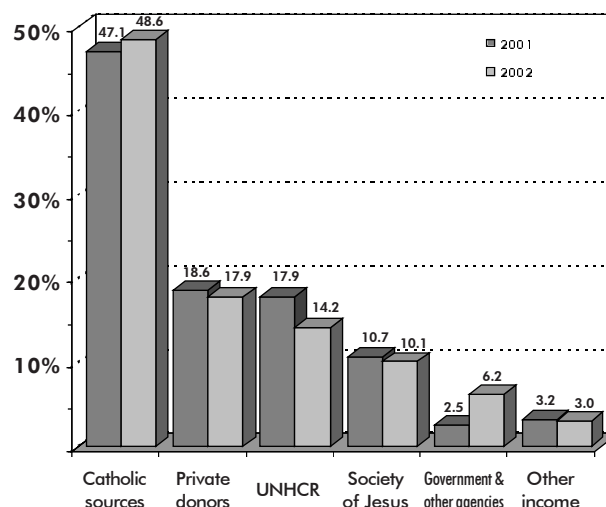
SOURCES OF FUNDING JRS WORLD-WIDE (in US dollars)

Sources of funding	Amount
Caritas Network	5,139,007
Other Catholic agencies & Church sources	2,517,637
Private donors	2,821,367
UNHCR	2,243,301
Society of Jesus	1,585,170
Government & other agencies	982,683
Other income	463,435
Grand Total	15,752,600

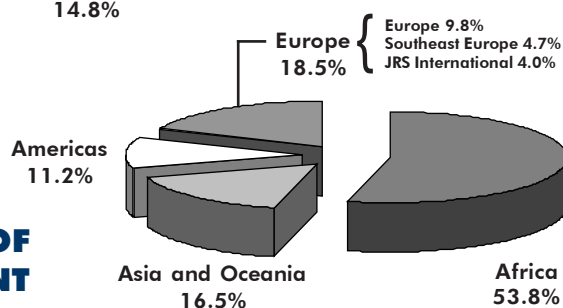
SOURCES OF FUNDING BY PERCENTAGE



SOURCES OF FUNDING: COMPARISON 2001-2002



PERCENTAGE DISTRIBUTION OF EXPENDITURE BY REGION



PERCENTAGE DISTRIBUTION OF EXPENDITURE BY CONTINENT

CONTACTING JRS

International office

CP 6139,
00195 Roma Prati, Italy
Tel: +39 - 06 68 97 73 86
Fax: +39 - 06 68 80 64 18
Email: international@jrs.net

Eastern Africa

PO Box 76490,
Nairobi, Kenya
Tel: +254 - 2 574 152
Fax: +254 - 2 571 905
Email: eastern.africa@jrs.net

Grands Lacs

B.P. 2382,
Bujumbura, Burundi
Tel: +257 210 494
Fax: +257 243 492
Email: grands.lacs@jrs.net

Southern Africa

PO Box CY 284, Causeway,
Harare, Zimbabwe
Tel: +263 - 4 708 998
Fax: +263 - 4 721 119
Email: southern.africa@jrs.net

West Africa

Evêché, B.P. 45,
N'zérékoré, Republic of Guinea
Tel: +224 - 910 793
Email: west.africa@jrs.net

Asia Pacific

24/1 Soi Aree 4, Phaholyothin 7,
Bangkok 10400, Thailand
Tel: +66 - 2 279 1817
Fax: +66 - 2 271 3632
Email: asia.pacific@jrs.net

South Asia

ISI, 24 Benson Road,
Bangalore, 560 046, India
Tel: +91 - 80 35 37 742
Fax: +91 - 80 35 37 700
Email: south.asia@jrs.net

Europe

Haachtsesteenweg 8,
B-1210 Brussels, Belgium
Tel: +32 - 2 250 3220
Fax: +32 - 2 250 3229
Email: europe@jrs.net

Southeast Europe

Jordanovac 110,
10000 Zagreb pp 169, Croatia
Tel: +385 - 1 235 4303
Tel/Fax: +385 - 1 234 6129
Email: southeast.europe@jrs.net

Latin America & the Caribbean

Centro Bonó, Apartado 76,
Santo Domingo,
Dominican Republic
Tel: +1809 - 688 1646
Fax: +1809 - 685 0120
Email: latin.america@jrs.net

United States of America

1616 P Street, NW Suite 300,
Washington, DC 20036-1405,
United States of America
Tel: +1 - 202 462 0400
Fax: +1 - 202 328 9212
Email: usa@jrs.net

United Kingdom

112 Thornbury Road, Osterley,
Middlesex TW7 4NN,
United Kingdom
Tel: +44 - 20 8847 3555
Fax: +44 - 20 8758 9483
Email: uk@jrs.net

Australia

PO Box 522,
Kings Cross NSW 1340, Australia
Tel: +61 - 2 9356 3888
Fax: +61 - 2 9356 3021
Email: australia@jrs.net

SUPPORT OUR WORK WITH REFUGEES

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 to the JRS International office. Thank you. (Please make cheques payable to Jesuit Refugee Service)

I want to support the work of JRS

Please find enclosed a donation of

My cheque is attached

☐

Surname:

Name:

Address:

City:

Post Code:

Country:

Telephone:

Fax:

Email:

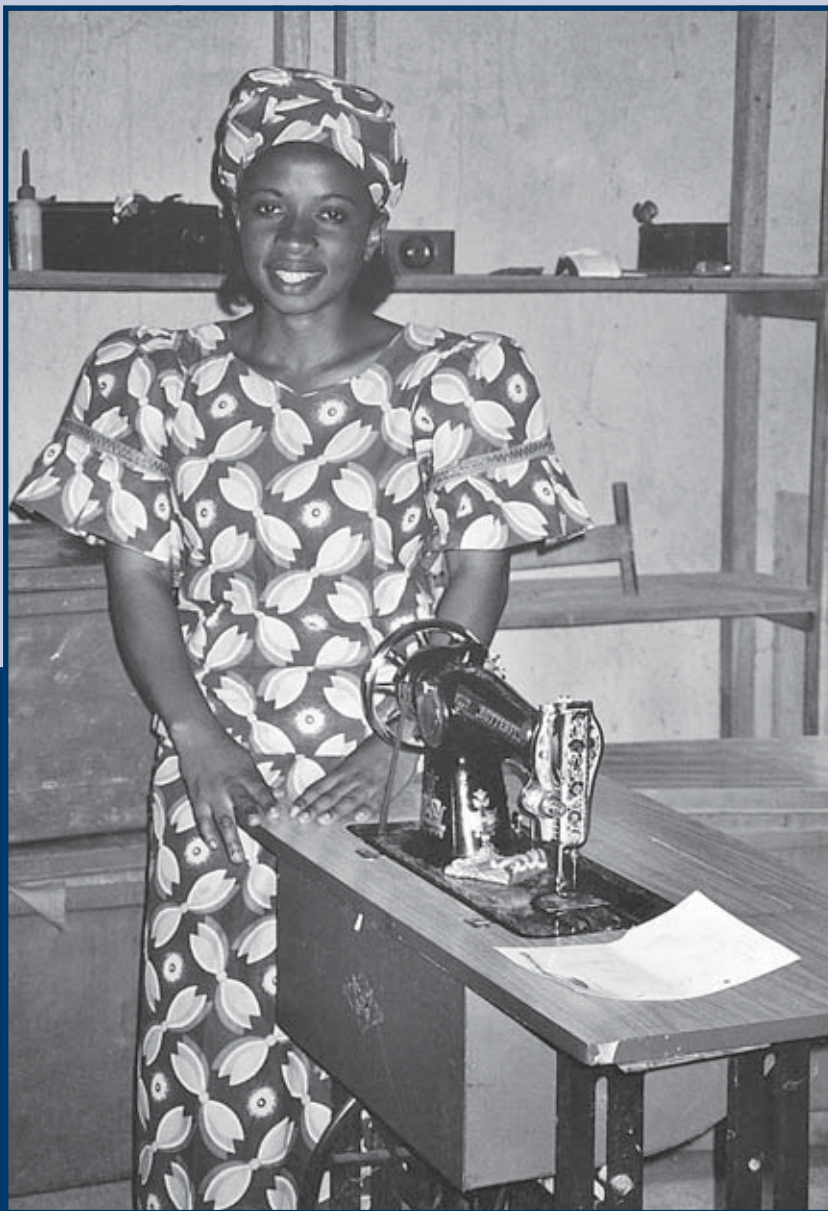
For bank transfers to JRS

Bank: Banca Popolare di Sondrio, Roma (Italy), Ag. 12
ABI: 05696 – CAB: 03212 – SWIFT: POSOIT12
IBAN: IT86 Y056 9603 2120 0000 3410 X05

Account name: JRS

Account numbers: • for Euros: 3410/05
• for US dollars: VAR 3410/05

Jenny Cafiso/IRS



Lolín Menéndez RSCJ/IRS

