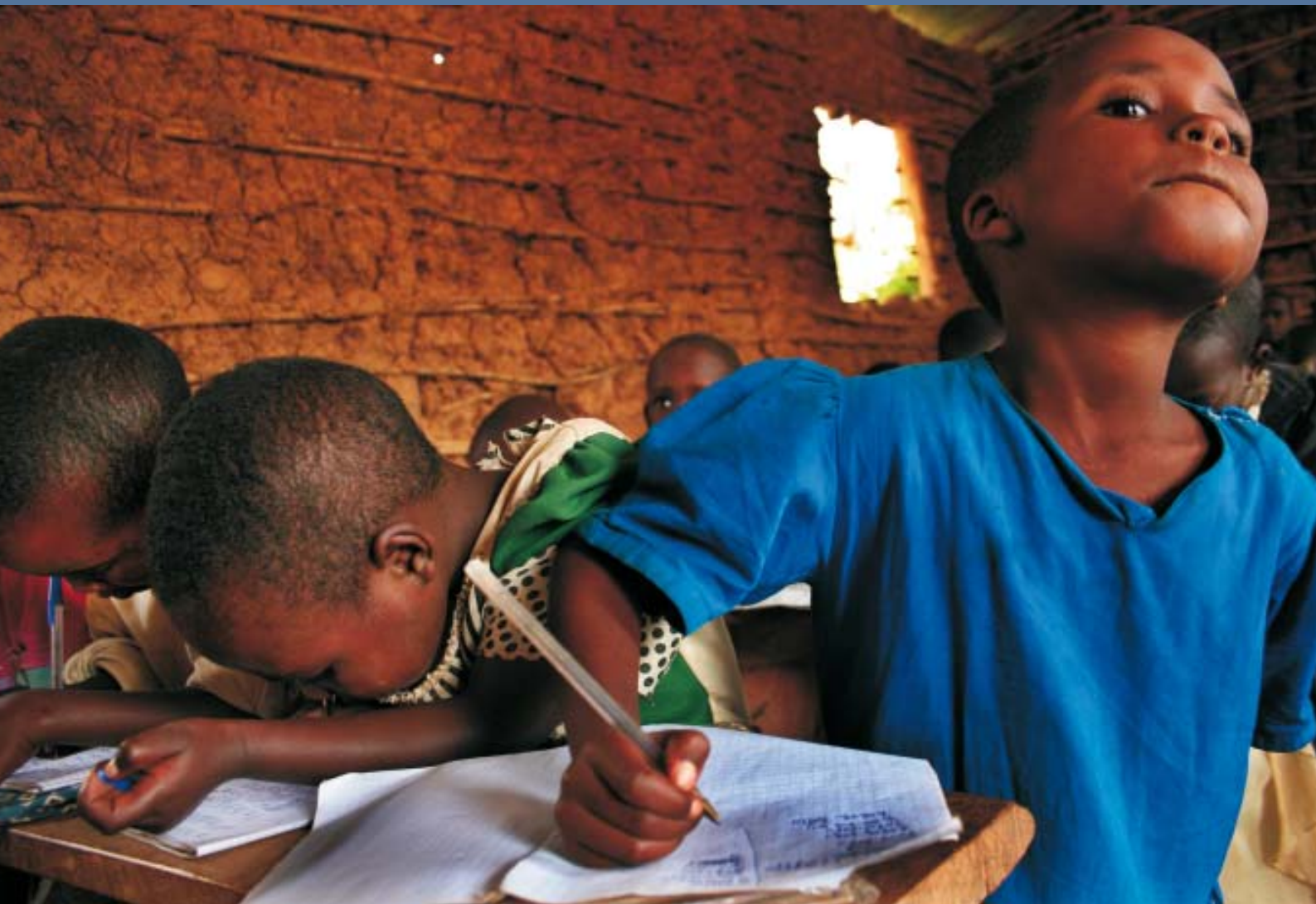


Annual Report 2 0 0 6



Jesuit Refugee Service





<http://www.jrs.net>

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 **2006 Report** is published in English, Spanish, Italian and French.

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JRS-assisted school, Gihembe refugee camp, Rwanda. Photo by Sergi Camara.

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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 email 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>

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Sara Pettinella/JRS

Materials provided by JRS to distance-learning students of the University of South Africa, Kakuma refugee camp, northern Kenya

MESSAGE FROM THE INTERNATIONAL DIRECTOR

Last year positive trends in refugee protection were reinforced while the negative were exacerbated. Hundreds of thousands of refugees were enthusiastically assisted by the UN refugee agency (UNHCR) to return home to post-conflict societies, often devoid of services. Contemporaneously, refugees fleeing their homes found accessing protection increasingly difficult. Xenophobia induced stricter migration and refugee policies in large parts of the world, unduly affecting the poorest and weakest.

JRS staff, in more than 20 countries, reported the arbitrary use of administrative detention – and confinement in closed camps – to deter the arrival of refugees. Extremely concerned, JRS International prioritised work with immigration detainees and played a key role in the launch of a new global coalition on the detention of refugees and migrants.

The resumption of all-out civil war in Sri Lanka cost the lives of 3,000 people and displaced thousands more, hindering the delivery of relief assistance. Consequent food and medicine shortages caused prices to rocket. In eastern Chad, more than 90,000 civilians were internally displaced as the Darfur conflict spread, with an ensuing increase in forced recruitment into armed groups. In Darfur, at least 200,000 people were displaced by brutal attacks, some repeatedly, and sexual violence continued to be pervasive.

JRS staff, working in more than 50 countries, continued to assist over half a million people. Our teams empowered forcibly displaced persons to access their rights, and provided them with skills training and basic services. Listening to the forcibly displaced, JRS set its advocacy priorities.

Post-conflict reconstruction and rehabilitation processes were in early phases in Angola, Burundi, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Liberia and southern Sudan. JRS teams

reported a lack of basic services and infrastructure in places to which forcibly displaced persons were returning, and in some cases instability and lawlessness. The success of these processes largely depends on support from the international community.

The prospect of the resettlement of Bhutanese and Burmese refugees, long confined to refugee camps in Nepal and Thailand, dependent on humanitarian aid and denied access to local labour markets, improved last year. A number of states, particularly the US, announced they will consider applications from those unable to return home or integrate locally. Over the next few years we hope it will be the most vulnerable refugees who are provided with long-term protection.

Access to social services and labour markets is perhaps the most contentious issue in refugee-hosting countries. Kenya, Namibia and Zambia took steps towards easing restrictions on refugees who for years have lived

in closed camps. The government of Kenya enacted legislation providing refugees with rights, including the right to be self-employed. Following the return of thousands of Angolans, the Namibian and Zambian governments spoke publicly of granting vulnerable refugees, unable to return home, long-term residence permits.

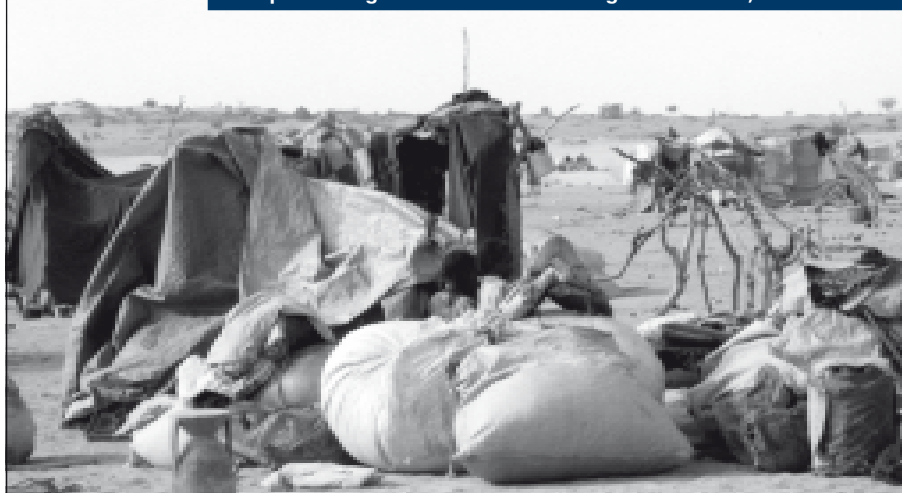
These words are not just to remind us of the hopes for and horrors of this world. They call upon us to act: to accompany, serve, and defend the rights of forgotten refugees. As our founder, Fr Pedro Arrupe, born 100 years ago this November, told us: “Only by being a man-for-others does one become fully human, not merely in the natural, but also in the spiritual sense”.

LLUÍS MAGRIÑÀ SJ

“LISTENING TO THE FORCIBLY DISPLACED,
JRS SET ITS ADVOCACY PRIORITIES.”

Lolín Menéndez RSCJ/JRS

Camp for refugees from the Darfur region of Sudan, eastern Chad



JRS AND ADVOCACY

In early March, the designation of six inter-regional strategic advocacy priorities laid the basis for future cooperation between JRS teams around the world. International and regional internal advocacy meetings – in Rome, Santo Domingo and Bangalore – provided the fora for workshops on international human rights law, media skills and message development and an opportunity for staff to discuss strategic approaches to their work.

At the annual advocacy meeting, regional representatives highlighted the need to exchange information and best practices on issues related to child soldiers, immigration detention, durable solutions, food security, landmines and sexual- and gender-based violence (SGBV).

Moreover, JRS provided support and gave a voice to refugees and other forcibly displaced persons in a number of difficult situations. In Indonesia, JRS was a significant actor in the campaign to persuade the government to ratify the treaty banning the use of landmines. The team also raised public awareness of the needs of hundreds of thousands of earthquake survivors, acting as an intermediary between displaced persons and government agencies. In the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) and Colombia, staff actively participated in the national coalitions against the use of child soldiers, raising public awareness and providing children with alternatives to conflict.

Internationally, JRS played a key role in the establishment of the International Coalition on the Detention of Refugees, Asylum Seekers and Migrants (IDC). In June, the international team, together with a number of leading NGOs, organised the official launch of the new coalition. JRS also provided input on children in immigration detention to a UN study on violence against children. In Europe, JRS kept up its efforts to challenge the use of administrative detention at policy level in Brussels.

Important advances were made in finding durable solutions to protracted refugee situations. JRS was involved in persuading the US government to remove obstacles to the resettlement of Bhutanese and Burmese refugees and the Thai and Nepalese governments to facilitate the local integration of those unable to return home. In Liberia, JRS issued a report identifying the difficulties faced by displaced persons returning home – encouraging the state and UNHCR to take steps to improve the process.

In various regions, JRS published material and participated in radio programmes on refugee issues. Staff organised workshops for refugee parents and government officials to encourage girls' education and combat violence against girls and women. Offices promoted the use of development assistance to refugee-hosting countries and public awareness

of refugee issues to promote, among others, food security. Teams also spoke out against continuing violence targeting civilians in various parts of the world, particularly Sri Lanka.

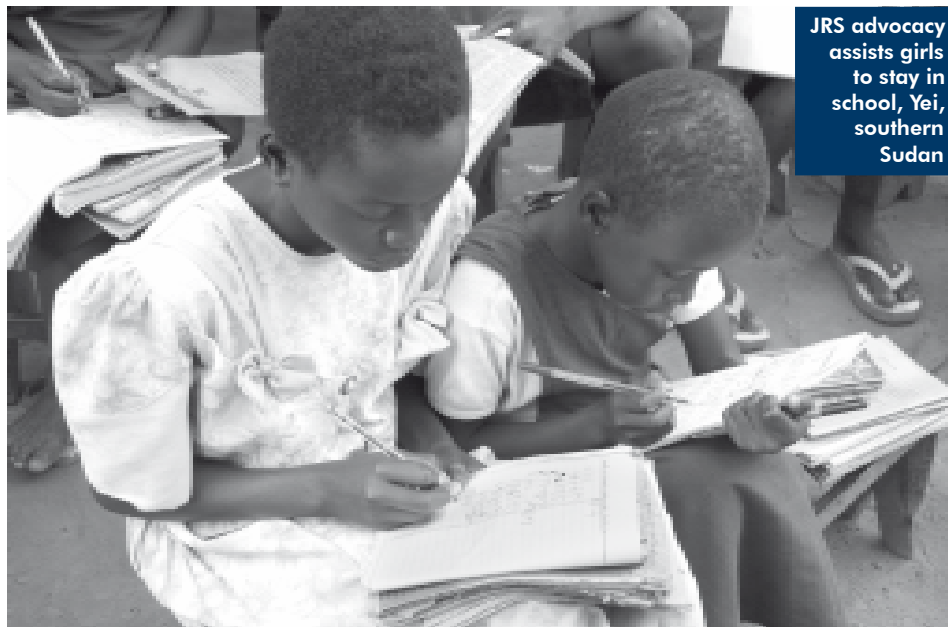
JRS continued to contribute to the development of UNHCR policy towards refugees and lobby for the introduction of national legislation to protect the rights of refugees. In Kenya, efforts bore fruit when the government enacted comprehensive legislation protecting refugees. Meanwhile JRS offices in the Dominican Republic and Thailand maintained their focus on statelessness.

Too many displaced persons live in appalling circumstances, paralysed in intractable situations. The only way JRS can fulfil its mandate to accompany and serve forcibly displaced persons is to advocate on behalf of the most forgotten.

ANDREW GALEA DEBONO,
ADVOCACY AND POLICY COORDINATOR

"IN KENYA...THE GOVERNMENT ENACTED
COMPREHENSIVE LEGISLATION PROTECTING REFUGEES..."

Don Doll SJ/JRS



JRS advocacy
assists girls
to stay in
school, Yei,
southern
Sudan

DETENTION INDISCRIMINATELY HINDERS THE ARRIVAL OF REFUGEES

JRS PLAYS KEY ROLE IN ESTABLISHING GLOBAL COALITION

More and more governments around the world are using detention as a migration management tool. They cooperate bilaterally and multilaterally, and share information and at times personnel to restrict migration flows. After facing persecution and extreme poverty at home, increasing numbers of refugees experience further suffering when they are deprived of their freedom of movement and detained – simply for fleeing for their lives.

In detention, many refugees and migrants, particularly children, suffer further physical and psychological harm. For some time JRS had felt it necessary to share resources and information with other groups working with immigration detainees in order to promote greater respect and protection for the human rights of refugees, asylum seekers and migrants. Consequently, last year, these groups came together to establish the International Coalition on the Detention of Refugees, Asylum Seekers and Migrants (IDC).

The coalition set concrete objectives to encourage governments to limit the use of, seek alternatives to, and use the least restrictive forms of, immigration detention. IDC members recognised that detention policies and practices in one region affect other regions and that they needed to act globally – to assess and address the regional and international effects of government policies and practices.

On World Refugee Day, 20 June, JRS offices, together with a number of leading NGOs, organised press confer-

ences in 16 countries around the world to launch the new coalition. The international team organised the Rome conference which was addressed by Cardinal Martino of the Pontifical Council on Justice and Peace, Mario Scialoja, President of the Italian Muslim League, and Alan Naccache, President of the Jewish *Bnai Brith* Youth Organisation. Worldwide, the launches gathered significant media attention and laid the groundwork for future development of the coalition.

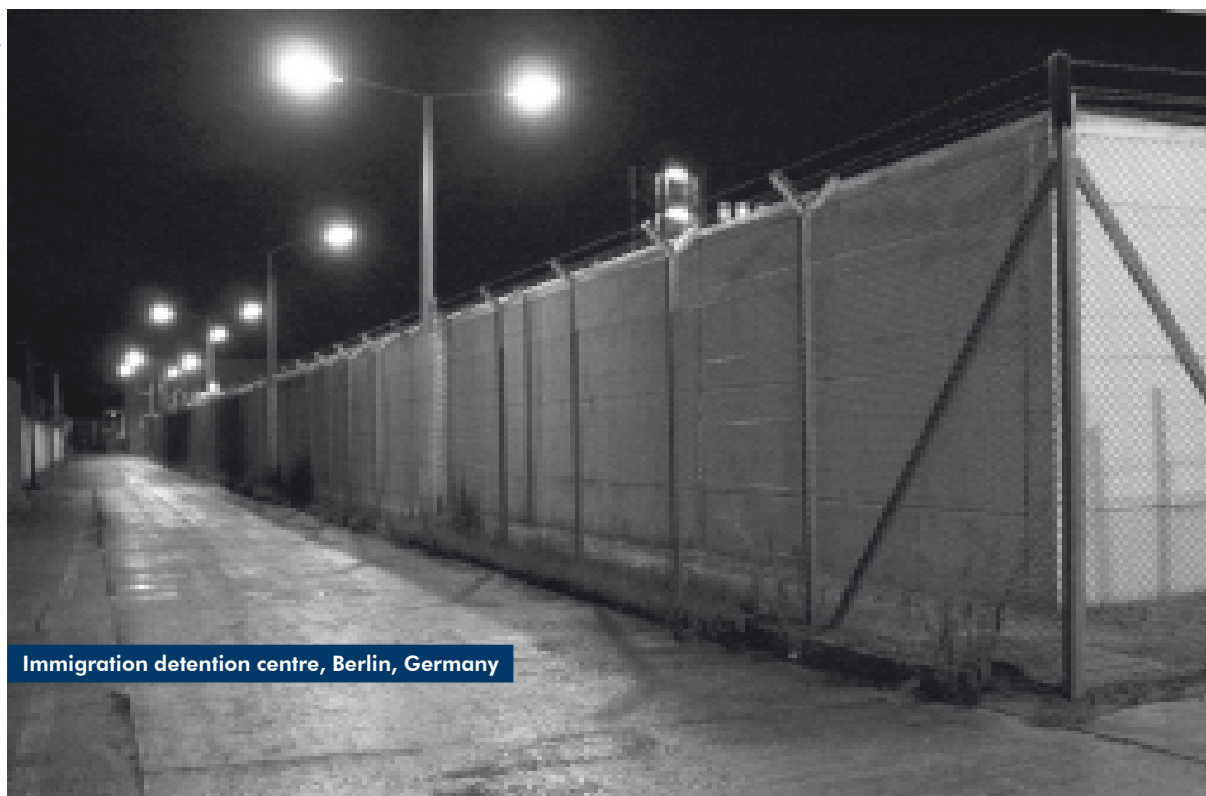
In September, JRS supported the IDC in organising a workshop on detention at the UN refugee agency (UNHCR) annual consultations with NGOs. Subsequently, the steering committee members of the coalition met to approve a strategic plan of action and agreed to pool resources to campaign against the immigration detention of children. In November, coalition members issued press statements highlighting cases of children in detention and urged governments to examine alternatives to imprisonment. In December,

work began assessing the living conditions of detained asylum-seeking, refugee and migrant children in countries where coalition members work. The research will be finalised in November 2007.

At the end of 2006, the coalition involved over 100 members – NGOs, faith-based organisations, academics and individuals – in more than 40 countries around the world where individuals are detained purely on the basis of their immigration status.

"AT THE END OF 2006, THE COALITION INVOLVED OVER 100 MEMBERS – NGOs...AND INDIVIDUALS – IN MORE THAN 40 COUNTRIES..."

JRS Germany

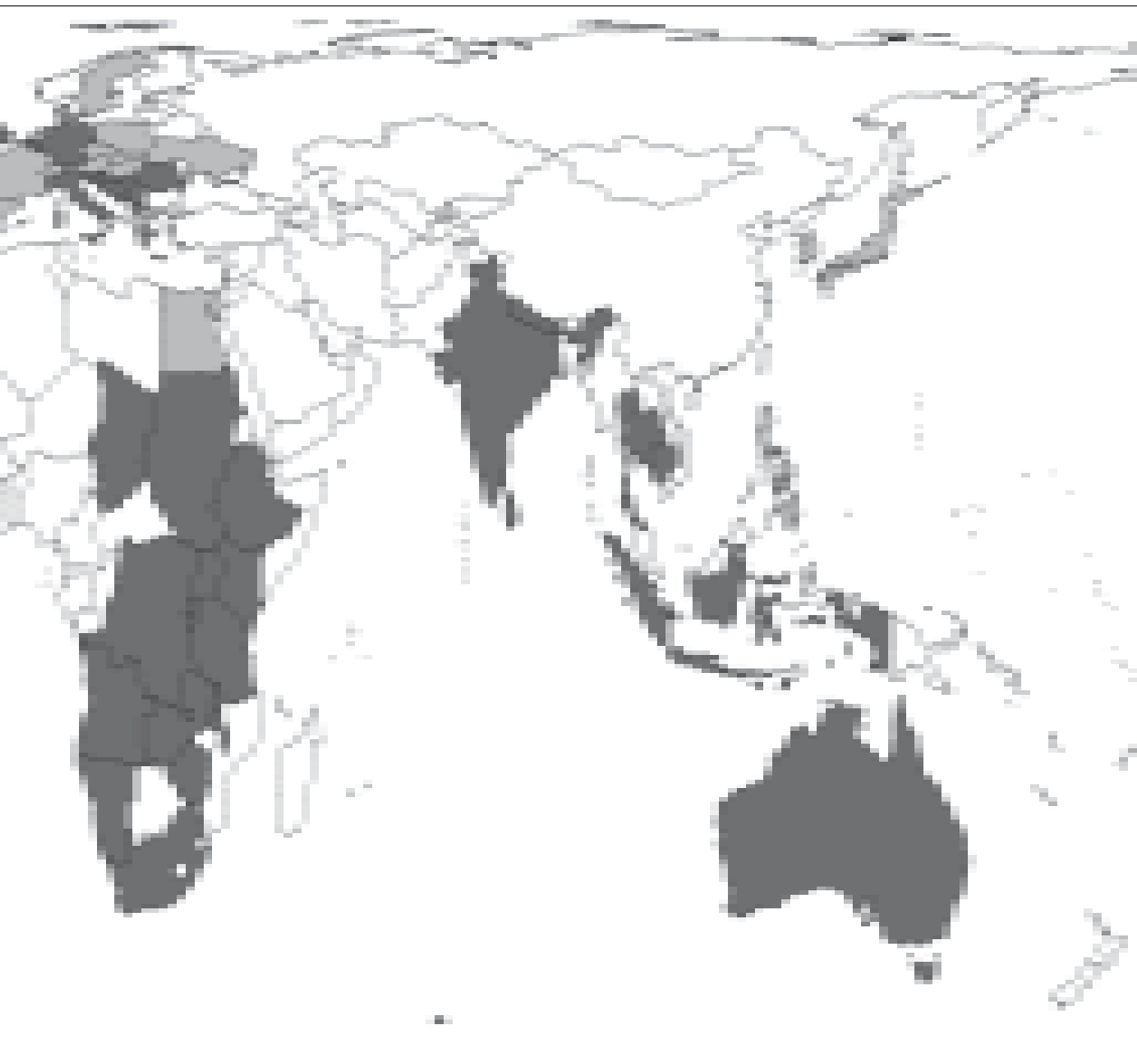




Immigration detention centre, Berlin, Germany



The Hobo-Dyer Equal Area Projection.
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www.odt.org

WORLDWIDE 2006



-  Countries in which JRS currently provides services to forcibly displaced persons
-  Countries in which JRS has appointed a contact person but does not directly provide services to forcibly displaced persons

AFRICA EDUCATION IN 2006

Access to quality education is a basic human right and an essential protection tool. A source of hope for many, it can empower forcibly displaced persons to help build more just and peaceful societies. Sadly, a quarter of the world's refugees and more than half of the internally displaced persons live in Africa. Notwithstanding the importance of education, and an estimated 30 million children living in conflict-affected fragile states in Africa are prevented from accessing primary school education.

Tackling this situation is an enormous challenge. The Africa Education project, established in 1997, has provided educational expertise and resources to JRS field personnel in the four JRS Africa regions. The project office and resource base for refugee education is in Nairobi, Kenya, but its scope and outreach includes JRS education personnel and projects in 18 African countries where the provision of quality services is an absolute priority.

In 2006, the Education Resource Person for Africa visited 24 projects in 10 countries throughout the continent. Besides providing support to JRS education teams, sharing expertise and examples of good practice and monitoring, JRS carried out a needs assessment and project evaluations.

Following a needs assessment in Chad, JRS set up a number of education projects. Evaluations highlighted good practices and emphasised the importance of empowering local communities in post-conflict societies to assume greater responsibility regarding education. As a consequence of the evaluations JRS teams began developing detailed strategies to close or transfer the management of their projects in places where forcibly displaced persons were returning home.

Following evaluations of education projects in Burundi and the Democratic Republic of Congo, staff set about implementing the recommendations. Consequently, JRS Grands Lacs drafted a document, *Strategy of Intervention: Basic Education Programme for War-Affected Populations*, to share examples of good practice throughout JRS Africa and beyond.

An evaluation of the JRS Nairobi scholarship project recommended the adoption of new selection criteria and priorities. Scholarships support in 2007 will be specifically tailored to address the education and health-

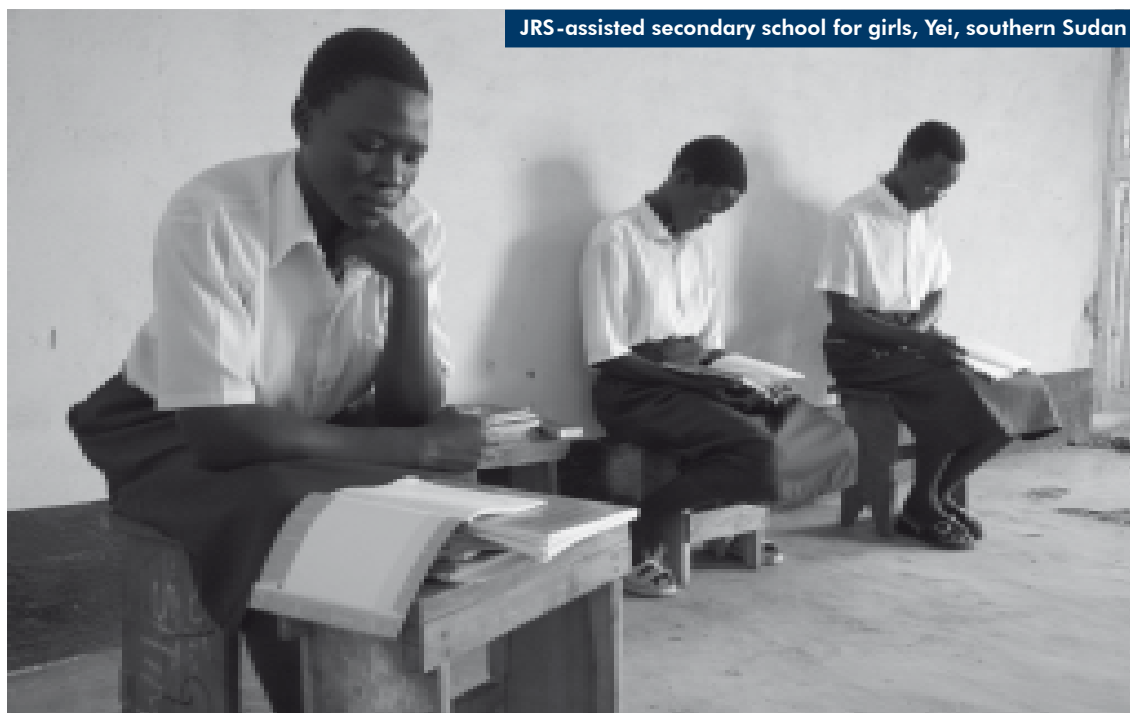
care needs of the community and facilitate greater participation of women refugees.

Based on guidelines produced by the Interagency Network for Education in Emergencies, JRS facilitated three workshops on Minimum Standards for Education in Emergencies, Chronic Crises and Early Reconstruction for JRS and other education personnel. The education resource centre published a monthly newsletter and other documentation informing JRS and other refugee education staff of new materials to improve their work.

The resource centre staff also participated in regular meetings with NGOs – such as the Girl Child Network, the Forum for African Women in Education, the NGO Committee on the UNICEF Working Group on Girls and the Africa Faith and Justice Network – to help implement strategies for promoting universal access to quality education.

ROXANNE SCHARES SSND,
JRS EDUCATION RESOURCE PERSON FOR AFRICA

Don Doll SJ/JRS



JRS-assisted secondary school for girls, Yei, southern Sudan



Mark Raper SJ/JRS



EASTERN AFRICA

Rwandan refugees assisted by JRS, western Tanzania

In 2006, eastern Africa continued to host 7,607,400 internally displaced persons (IDPs) and 1,450,800 refugees. Political developments, some positive, have been significant.

A huge upsurge in civil strife in Somalia following clashes between the Union of Islamic Courts and the Transitional Government led to massive internal displacements and tens of thousands of Somali refugees fleeing to neighbouring countries – notably Kenya. The subsequent closure of the Kenyan border denied women and children in particular the opportunity to seek safety. Relatively few of these refugees sought assistance in urban centres across the region. Nevertheless, the impact of their arrival on JRS emergency assistance projects in Kampala, Addis Ababa and Nairobi forced some budgetary and other adjustments. Should civil unrest continue or deteriorate, measures need to be taken to establish more refugee camps as existing ones are unable cope with the influx. Severe drought followed by flash floods in northeast Kenya, southeast Ethiopia and large parts of Somalia also produced many refugees and economic migrants.

"A SHARP INCREASE IN DISPLACEMENT IN DARFUR...COUNTERBALANCED ANY POSITIVE DEVELOPMENTS IN THE REGION."

Sudanese refugees across the region continued to return home, an estimated 100,574 since January 2005. However, the rate of return – dependent on availability of basic services, security, crop cycles and other perceptions and realities – remained relatively small in some

areas. A sharp increase in displacement in Darfur, western Sudan, counterbalanced any positive developments in the region. Attacks on international staff and property increased dramatically and Sudanese government troops poured into the province as rebel groups and interests fragmented, heightening tension and insecurity. Peace talks, hosted in the southern Sudanese capital of Juba, between the Lord's Resistance Army (LRA) and the Ugandan government encouraged some IDPs in northern Uganda to return home or move to designated secondary camps where security could be provided. The agreed cessation of hostilities created a climate in which people in northern Uganda and southern Sudan could move freely and raised hope of finding a permanent solution to this protracted conflict.

Relative peace – and the effective inclusion of the last remaining rebel group, the FNL, in the peace accord – persuaded many Burundian refugees in Tanzania that it was safe to go home. If peace, stability, law and order can be maintained and the provision of basic services assured, most Burundian refugees are expected to return home next year.

Post-election efforts in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) to establish a government, although delayed, were reasonably peaceful. Subsequently Congolese refugees began returning home from Tanzania. Nonetheless, various militia and government-supported groups continued to clash over natural resources in North and South Kivu, Katanga and Ituri provinces discouraging many from returning to these areas.

There were indeed lights and shadows on the Eastern Africa horizon. With the assistance of all people of goodwill within the continent and the international community, our hope for 2007 is that the peace processes in Burundi, southern Sudan and northern Uganda will be strengthened, and that ways forward out of the crises in Darfur and Somalia will be identified.

JOHN GUINEY SJ,
JRS EASTERN AFRICA DIRECTOR



KENYA

JRS projects in Kenya

advocacy / information

JRS provided technical assistance and training to country offices in the region to develop advocacy plans, including the development of a protection mechanism for refugees at risk. The staff also regularly published information on refugee-related news and examples of good practice in newsletters and on the regional website.

scholarships

NAIROBI, KAKUMA camp JRS financially assisted 280 refugee students to continue their primary, secondary, vocational and tertiary education, including distance education at the University of South Africa. They also attended workshops on personal and community development. Three meetings were organised to enhance the ability of parents/guardians to participate in their children's education.

parish outreach

NAIROBI JRS provided 400 new arrivals – asylum seekers and the most vulnerable refugees – with emergency food, non-food and financial assistance, as well as pastoral and psychosocial assistance. Staff intervened with state and UN agencies on behalf of refugees accessing services or those in need of protection.

income-generating

NAIROBI Eighty refugees received marketing training, loans and assistance in dealing with the authorities and other agencies.

social services / community development

KAKUMA JRS provided counselling to 1,026 vulnerable refugees, shelter to 100 women and child refugees, and respite-care to 110 refugees with mental disabilities. All three groups received skills training, as did 45 counsellors. Staff also raised awareness of the needs of these vulnerable groups among the wider refugee population in the camp.

Sara Pettinella/JRS



JRS-supported Safe Haven for women and children, survivors of domestic and other forms of violence, Kakuma refugee camp

JRS projects in Ethiopia

emergency assistance

ADDIS ABABA, KALITI camp JRS provided financial, non-food items, medical and transportation assistance to new arrivals, asylum seekers and vulnerable refugees in Addis Ababa. Unwell asylum seekers and refugees were referred for medical services and those suffering from chronic illnesses were visited regularly at home. The team also offered pastoral support and held weekly meetings. In total, the team assisted 2,989 individuals. In Kalita camp, JRS provided business management training and follow-up support to 300 internally displaced family heads. Scholarships were also made available for students to attend catering school. Rent and transportation were provided to help displaced persons attend the formal training. The team also offered pastoral support to otherwise socially isolated individuals.

community centre

ADDIS ABABA Some 680 refugees availed themselves of the formal education courses and library and computer facilities on offer in the centre in 2006. Supervised after-school study sessions for students, sports activities and personal and community developmental courses, including HIV/AIDS awareness, were also organised.



ETHIOPIA

JRS projects in Tanzania

education

JRS provided teacher training to refugee staff offering education services to 4,043 nursery school students and children with disabilities in Lukole camp. The teachers also received training on dealing with children with mental disabilities, raising public awareness of disability issues and providing follow-up and home based support to students. The teachers and coordinators accepted greater responsibility for the management of the schools and enhanced the level of parental and community involvement.

Radio Kwizera

JRS station Radio Kwizera continued to broadcast in three languages to refugees and local people across the northwest and southeast of the country on a wide range of topics. These included the Burundi repatriation programme organised by the UN refugee agency (UNHCR), formal education courses, community development issues, arts, sports and current affairs. The broadcasts both supported and challenged local authorities and NGOs delivering services to refugees and raised public awareness of issues pertaining to local and refugee community protection and development.

social services / community development

NGARA & KIBONDO camps In these camps in northwest Tanzania, JRS assisted 9,165 refugees with life-skills development courses and supported women in attaining leadership positions within the community and local church structures. The teams also provided scholarship assistance and supplementary material support. Sacramental services – baptisms, first communions, confirmations, marriages and Eucharistic celebrations – were organised for thousands of people in the four camps in Kibondo district.



TANZANIA



JRS projects in Uganda

community college / psychosocial

KITGUM camps Last year, in collaboration with local employers who provide internship opportunities and tuition support, JRS opened a community college to cater to youth groups. After intense consultation with the community, 100 students enrolled in life skills training and formal curricula development courses. Psychosocial counselling workshops were offered to camp residents and the local population on peace building, alcohol and domestic abuse. Pastoral and psychosocial outreach support was also offered to residents in two camps. In all 1,441 individuals benefited from the projects.

education

ADJUMANI, MOYO JRS supported 42 nursery, 27 primary and five secondary schools. The exams results attained in the schools improved compared to 2005. JRS provided education materials, in-service training and financial assistance to teachers. Teams monitored and supervised the work of supported teachers and encouraged parental involvement in the management of the schools. Teachers also received opportunities to attend formal training courses. Particular attention was paid to building the capacity of school structures to facilitate the education of girls and children with disabilities. JRS financially supported the secondary education of 953 girls and constructed girls' dormitories. The team assisted 797 special students to obtain medical assistance and sponsored another six to attend special needs schools. In all 29,595 refugees benefited from the projects.

emergency assistance

KAMPALA JRS provided food and non-food items, transport, rent and medical assistance on a short term basis to 2,496 new arrivals and asylum seekers waiting for their refugee applications to be processed by UNHCR. The team also provided 1,385 refugees with legal advice and assistance and weekly language classes to 41 refugees to help them integrate into Ugandan society.

informal education

RHINO camp JRS provided adult literacy courses to 726 individuals once a week and vocational training and structured youth group activities to 1,718 early-school leavers. JRS also offered vocational training in tailoring to 176 women and gave them access to, with an option to buy, sewing machines. Pastoral care was also provided to the wider community. In all 5,602 refugees benefited from the projects.

pastoral

ADJUMANI, PALORINYA The local team provided theological education – in catechism, youth group development and parish council and pastoral planning – to facilitate the spiritual growth of the refugees living in the settlements. In all 15,000 refugees benefited from the project.

peace building and conflict transformation

JRS facilitated workshops, awareness-raising campaigns and peace groups to strengthen and build local capacities within existing community-based peace-building initiatives to respond to cases of conflict and human rights violations in a more effective way. Human rights and peace-building activities, particularly peace groups, were also organised for school children. The growing number of requests to facilitate workshops was an indication of increased community interest in human rights, peace and sexual- and gender-based violence.

JRS project in Sudan

education

NIMULE In three districts in Nimule, in cooperation with the local education authorities, JRS provided educational materials and support to 14 primary, two secondary schools and adult literacy centres benefiting 4,006, 540 and 900 students respectively. Support to local officials included supervision of schools and recruitment and training of teachers and others in school management. The local teams focused on improving learning environments and attracting and retaining female students. Material and financial support was provided to 1,379 girls to encourage them to stay in school. In cooperation with other agencies, staff also raised community awareness of HIV/AIDS.

KAJO KEJI In collaboration with the county education office, JRS provided a safe and instructive environment for 5,515 primary and 404 secondary students and in-service and formal training to 100 teachers, as well as financial assistance to 194 girls. School supervision led to increases in attendance and teacher-student performance, as well as strengthening cooperation with the local education authorities. A more structured approach to promoting girls' education led to a 12.5 percent increase of enrolment in key primary and secondary classes.

LABONE In cooperation with the county education office, JRS provided educational materials and support to one secondary, 12 primary and seven pre-schools, benefiting 307, 514 and 3,769 students respectively. Pre-school students also received meals. The team supervised teachers and the internal and external assessment processes. In cooperation with community leaders, JRS worked to increase local community participation in the management of schools, and focused on improving learning environments and attracting and retaining female students. Pastoral support was also offered in this isolated community.

YEI In cooperation with local stakeholders, JRS provided educational materials and support to 15 primary and two secondary schools, benefiting 8,357 primary and 389 secondary students, including 309 girls, encouraging more refugees to return to Yei county. Some 189 primary and secondary teachers received ongoing in-service and formal training. The team encouraged local communities to become actively involved in the management of the schools, and offered pastoral support to displaced, local and returnee communities to promote the development of peaceful community relations.

NORTH DARFUR JRS provided adult literacy classes (particularly to women), primary education and psychosocial support. Adult literary teachers were recruited and training was provided to primary school teachers. The JRS presence in the area, particularly in settlements for displaced persons, provided them with protection from attack and helped bridge the gap between members of different ethnic groups. In all, the projects benefited 734 displaced persons.

peace building and conflict transformation

JRS facilitated capacity-building training for 2,400 – returnee, internally displaced and indigenous – community members to challenge intolerant behaviour and attitudes, and reduce the use of violence as means of resolving conflict. Awareness of human rights was systematically promoted in schools benefiting 15,204 primary and 2,097 secondary students. All groups were made aware of non-violent dispute resolution mechanisms.





Kibondo refugee camp, western Tanzania



Jigomoni Primary school, one of fifteen JRS-assisted schools in Yei, southern Sudan

JRS-assisted students attending St Bakhita Primary School, Nimule, southern Sudan





Irene Guia ASC/JRS



GRANDS LACS

Congolese refugee children, Kibuye camp, Rwanda

The Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) is slowly emerging from 40 years of dictatorial misgovernment and a devastating war that left three million people dead. In 2006, Joseph Kabila was elected president in the second democratic elections since 1960. Five times the size of France, the DRC is beleaguered by weak or non-existent government, particularly in the eastern third of the country. Numerous irregular armies are still active. Although some were demobilised and integrated into the regular army, they, and the local police, continued to exploit and harass local populations. A large number of eastern regions are no-go areas, forests have reclaimed dirt roads and rivers are still not safe for navigation.

In this fragile failed state, the average life expectancy is 43, 4.2 percent live with HIV/AIDS, 54 percent have no access to drinking water and 10 percent suffer from malnutrition and easily treated diseases, like malaria, which often lead to death. Approximately 50 percent of Congolese children do not attend school and more than 33,000 are child soldiers. In 2006, some 22,750 refugees returned home, while a further 409,000 awaited repatriation. There were still roughly 1.1 million internally displaced persons (IDPs) in the country. These statistics demonstrate the enormity of the problems faced by the DRC. Only with massive sustained aid will some semblance of normality be restored. For its part, JRS will strengthen its future efforts in the most forgotten areas of eastern DRC.

In 2006, despite a ceasefire agreement in September between the CNDD-FDD-led government and the last rebel group, the FNL, the Burundian civil war did not officially end. But complications aside, a formal power-sharing agreement is expected soon. Last June, the UN refugee agency (UNHCR) stepped up its repatriation policy from 'assisted' to 'facilitated' return, believing that the end of hostilities was imminent. Some 70,000 of 350,000 Burundian refugees in Tanzania, of whom 70 percent are women and children, returned home. Some were assisted by UNHCR, some forcibly repatriated, but most returned spontaneously, just walking over the border. The return of refugees has flooded the justice system with land ownership conflicts, among other difficulties. While JRS works with IDPs in the capital, Bujumbura, it plans to establish projects in eastern Burundi to assist returnees from Tanzania.

"UNLESS UNREST...STOPS, PROSPECTS OF REFUGEE REPATRIATION TO THE DRC WILL REMAIN UNTHINKABLE."

The distinctly traumatic and violent history of Rwanda continued to determine its collective and individual organisation. Governmental control over political and civil life was absolute. Accusations of promoting 'genocidal ideology' were used as a pretext for repression.

Yet, significant economic and social progress has been made, particularly infrastructural development and health service provision. Soon to join the

East African Community, Rwanda is slowly being drawn into the English-speaking sphere. When the French judge, Jean-Louis Bruguière, issued international arrest warrants for senior Rwandan officials, Franco-Rwandan relations were further damaged.

Congolese General Nkunda, responsible for much of the fighting in eastern DRC, is still reportedly supported by Rwanda. December was marked by intense fighting and pillaging, forcing thousands to flee. Unless unrest instigated by Nkunda's militia and the regular army stops, prospects of refugee repatriation to the DRC will remain unthinkable.

TONY CALLEJA SJ,
JRS GRANDS LACS DIRECTOR



JRS projects in Burundi

advocacy

The regional advocacy officer, based in Bujumbura, issued a weekly regional press view analysing the effects of political changes on refugees. A workshop – including films and plays – was organised for Congolese refugees to raise awareness of violence against women. JRS Burundi also continued to participate actively in the national coalition to stop the use of child soldiers.

education

BUTERERE, BUJUMBURA, MUYINGA & KIYANGE camps In Muyinga, JRS rebuilt five primary schools and furnished materials for eight others. It provided training for 48 teachers, and financially and materially supported 3,742 pupils, as well as offering them remedial classes. In Kiyange, JRS managed a kindergarten for 252 displaced children, while in Buterere, it financially supported 150 children to attend school, and provided remedial classes to another 116. In Bujumbura, in partnership with UNHCR, JRS managed two reception centres and provided school materials to 200 Congolese refugee children, also offering them remedial classes.

income-generating / vocational training

BUJUMBURA, BUTERERE, KIYANGE In Kiyange, JRS provided vocational training – bread-making, woodworking, tanning, cutting and sewing – for displaced persons, and offered 26 displaced persons management training. In Buterere, 82 displaced women received vocational training in agricultural methods, embroidery, restoration and management. JRS also supported 250 ethnic Batwas, discriminated against in Burundi, to increase their agricultural production capacity. In Bujumbura, JRS provided vocational training and microfinance to young Congolese refugees.

health

BUJUMBURA, BUTERERE, KIYANGE In Kiyange and Buterere, the JRS health centre provided basic healthcare and medicines to 50 refugees per day. Seventy-two refugees per day also received meals and healthcare while the most vulnerable received assistance to obtain hospital care. Those with psychological difficulties were referred to an appropriate NGO. JRS also assisted 488 vulnerable refugees, particularly those serving sentences in Mpimba and Rumonge prisons. In Bujumbura, 4,000 Congolese refugee families were assisted in accessing medical care, and in limited cases hospital care, with help from UNHCR. An AIDS awareness-raising campaign was also organised for Congolese refugees.

Initiated in 2000, JRS continued to work closely with 12 parishes in the Bujumbura area raising awareness of HIV/AIDS, and offering medical services to persons living with, or in danger of being infected with, HIV. Monthly meetings, film screenings and workshops were organised targeting 127,458 individuals. Pre- and post-test counselling was provided to 2,249 and 2,197 persons respectively, while 2,130 underwent HIV testing. Of those tested, 153, six percent, resulted HIV positive. JRS also carried out 276 home visits, providing psychological support to 570 people living with HIV/AIDS, and emergency assistance to 23 orphans and 26 bereaved families. In 2006, 180 refugees living with HIV were hospitalised and clinical care was provided for 2,431 patients. JRS provided 320 people with HIV with antibiotics, and referred 155 others to obtain anti-retroviral drugs. Financial support was also provided to four cooperatives and 252 refugees to establish small businesses.

humanitarian assistance / social and cultural activities

BUTERERE, KIYANGE In Kiyange and Buterere, JRS financed the construction of 38 houses and provided financial and food assistance to 25 orphans and 350 vulnerable refugees in both camps. Sixty different activities – sports, films, etc – were financed for 3,778 young refugees.

JRS projects in the Democratic Republic of Congo

education

KONGOLO, KISANGANI, MANONO JRS rebuilt 30 schools and provided education material for 6,012 displaced children, as well as financially assisting 1,802 of the most deserving disadvantaged students and offering remedial classes to those with learning difficulties. Teaching training workshops were organised for 315 teachers and school principals offering pedagogical support in mathematics, French and management skills. JRS also provided teaching manuals and kits.

child soldiers

UVIRA In 2006, JRS established a transit and reception centre for former child soldiers between 12 and 18 years of age. The children were given the opportunity to continue their formal education or undertake vocational training. Those who have experienced serious trauma received psychological assistance. JRS worked closely with the parents of the children and after three months, they returned to their families or communities of origin. Upon return home, the families received a reintegration kit containing agricultural tools and seeds. JRS provided post-return follow-up support to the families to support children continuing their education and advise those who have established small businesses.

voluntary return

KINSHASA, LUBUMBASHI JRS facilitated the voluntary return of 2,710 displaced persons. JRS, in cooperation with UNHCR and the UN Development Programme, also built 383 homes for displaced persons unable to return home.



DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO

JRS projects in Rwanda

education / vocational training

KIZIBA & GIHEMBE camps As the UNHCR implementing partner, JRS provided pre-school, primary and secondary education to 1,242, 8,358 and 1,734 Congolese refugee children respectively, as well as funding 439 students to continue their secondary education outside the camps. JRS also provided remedial classes, vocational training and small business management training for 459, 401 and 80 refugees respectively.

assistance / culture

KIZIBA, GIHEMBE JRS continued to financially assist 1,481 vulnerable refugees, as well as providing cultural, sports and religious activities for 7,300 refugees.

advocacy

GIHEMBE JRS provided advocacy training for staff working on the right to asylum in Rwanda. An advocacy project was established to address difficulties faced by Congolese refugees, such as obstacles obtaining identity papers.



RWANDA



Refugee children, Bujumbura, Burundi



Post-war reconstruction, Bukavu, eastern Democratic Republic of Congo

Literacy classes, Gihembe refugee camp, Rwanda





JRS Angola



SOUTHERN AFRICA

JRS helped the local community to rebuild its primary school, Cazombo, Angola

Since 2002, the situation in the region has changed dramatically. Political changes, including the Angolan peace agreement, subsequent refugee repatriation and acceptance by opposition leader, Jean Bemba, of the October elections in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), have raised expectations of peace and stability in the region.

"POLITICAL TURMOIL AND ECONOMIC MELTDOWN HAVE DISPLACED AS MANY AS 700,000 ZIMBABWEANS."

Consequently, the UN refugee agency (UNHCR) and host governments have made concerted efforts to hasten the return of Congolese, Burundian and Rwandan refugees. A tripartite agreement between the DRC, UNHCR and Zambia to assist the voluntary repatriation of Congolese refugees in Zambia was signed last November. Zambia hopes to repatriate 20,000

Congolese next year. With the exception of Zimbabweans seeking employment, food and sometimes protection, primarily in South Africa, the flow of refugees into the region is generally negligible. Political turmoil and economic meltdown have displaced as many as 700,000 Zimbabweans. Years of drought and mismanagement of land and other resources have caused food shortages throughout the region.

As the number of refugees decreased throughout the region, camps closed forcing refugees to migrate towards cities in search of employment and social services. In the past, governments would not have even considered facilitating the local integration of refugees in their societies. Refugees were required to live in designated sites and denied access to local services and the labour market. However, with reducing refugee populations the prospects of local integration have improved significantly in Namibia and Zambia.

Nevertheless, in competition for scarce resources with the local population, particularly in Johannesburg, Pretoria, Lusaka and other large cities, refugees are often the losers. In South Africa, extreme poverty fosters xenophobia against refugees and other non-nationals. Asylum seekers regularly wait years for a decision on their refugee applications. Meanwhile, they are denied access to services only available to recognised refugees. The official perception of the difference between irregular economic and forced migration is increasingly blurred. Considered as a threat to national security and associated with illegality and the displacement of local workers in the labour market, refugee and asylum seekers face marginalisation. Consequently, detention in abusive conditions and deportation without appropriate legal safeguards are on the rise. The International Organisation on Migration reported that 80,000 Zimbabweans were deported from South Africa between May and December 2006.

"...DETENTION IN ABUSIVE CONDITIONS AND DEPORTATION WITHOUT APPROPRIATE LEGAL SAFEGUARDS ARE ON THE RISE."

In the light of evolving circumstances, JRS continued to evaluate its projects within the region in 2006. At the close of the year, JRS withdrew from projects in Luanda and Uige in Angola and reduced its operations in the Zambian capital, Lusaka. To ensure their sustainability, the management of vital services to refugees was transferred to government, churches, local NGOs and other international agencies.

JOANNE WHITAKER RSM,
JRS SOUTHERN AFRICA DIRECTOR



JRS projects in Angola

JRS education, advocacy and school reconstruction programmes in Angola in 2006 sought to facilitate the return and reintegration of returnee refugees and internally displaced persons. JRS worked as a UNHCR implementing partner for education and cooperated with the Catholic Church, the Ministry of Education and other government departments, the International Organisation for Migration and other international and local NGOs.

education

LUANDA, MOXICO, UIGE In 2006, JRS provided Portuguese language classes, teacher training in line with national guidelines and teaching materials to 26,212 returnees and teachers. Sports and other recreational activities were also provided.

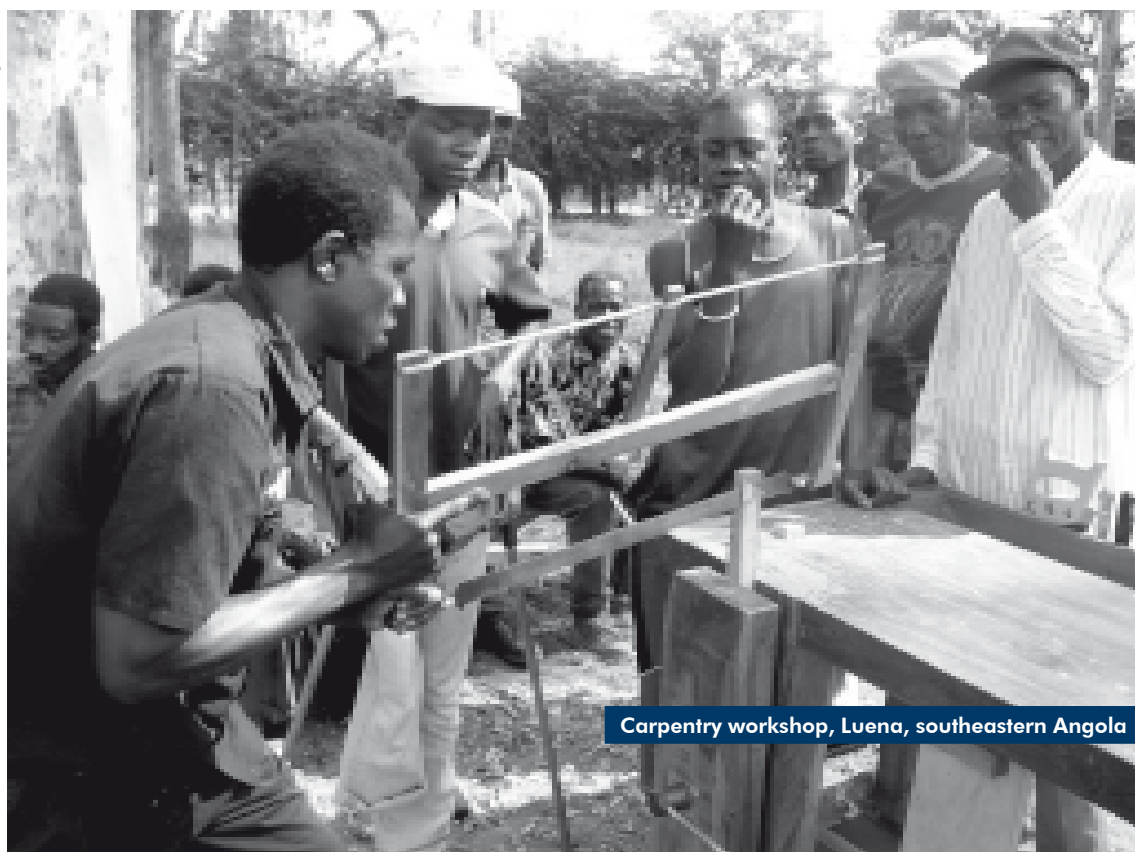
advocacy and protection

LUANDA, MOXICO, UIGE JRS organised 21 seminars with community leaders on the police and human rights, gender issues, human and children's rights, citizenship and elections and peace building and reconciliation. Participating in community workshops and on Radio Ecclesia, among others, JRS raised awareness of human rights issues among local authority staff and community leaders. JRS also provided legal assistance to asylum seekers from the Democratic Republic of Congo. These projects reached 38,181 beneficiaries.

school construction

LUANDA, MOXICO, UIGE Financed and supervised by qualified and experienced JRS personnel, local community members built and rebuilt 10 schools in Cazomba, Lumbala N'Guimbo, Negage and Viana. Management of six of the schools was transferred to the local Catholic Church and state authorities. The remaining four will be taken over by the state in 2007. In 2006, 1,620 students enrolled in the schools. Also used as a community centre, the construction project brought members of the local and returnee populations together cementing bonds. For many communities, this was their first decent school.

JRS Angola



Carpentry workshop, Luena, southeastern Angola

JRS projects in Namibia

OSIRE camp, CALAI As the UNHCR implementing partner for education in Osire camp, JRS provided pre-school, primary and junior secondary education to 525, 1,753 and 475 child refugees respectively, principally from Angola but also from Burundi and the DRC. Another 18 refugee children were financially supported to attend senior secondary and vocational education courses outside the camp. JRS also organised recreational activities for 1,643 young refugees between 10 and 26 years of age and adult literacy courses for 393 refugees.

Although in Angola, the Calai project is managed by JRS staff in Namibia. In 2006, JRS provided literacy classes to 3,656 local people, returnees and internally displaced persons (IDPs), adults and children. Subsequently a number of the children were placed in local schools. JRS also organised recreational trips for 1,228 children.

In cooperation with the education department, UNICEF, Philippi Namibia (a local NGO) and the Portuguese Cultural Centre, 116 teaching and support staff, Osire refugees and local people from Calai, were provided with training. Last year, JRS began planning with its partners to withdraw from Osire and Calai in 2007.



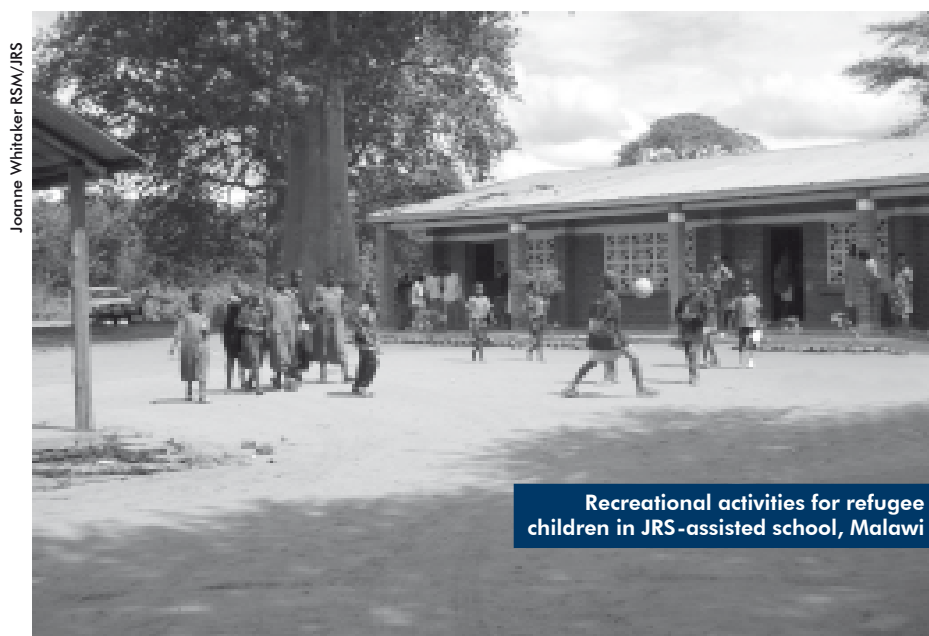
JRS projects in Malawi

education

DZALEKA & LUWANI camps As the UNHCR implementing partner for education, and in close cooperation with World Relief, Red Cross Malawi, the Catholic Church and the government of Malawi, among others, JRS provided pre-primary and primary education respectively to 163 and 2,074 refugee children mainly from Burundi, Rwanda and the DRC. It also helped 79 refugees to attend secondary schools outside the camps. To overcome high rates of absenteeism for primary school children, the JRS counsellor and social worker visited student's homes. Unfortunately, the principal factors driving absenteeism – unstable camp population, food insecurity and poverty – are outside the direct control of JRS. Nevertheless, more than 80 percent of grade eight students and 100 percent of grade 10 students passed their respective state exams. The national pass rate for grade 10 students is 55 percent. Last year, in response to incidents of trafficking of girl refugees, JRS began a 'No to Human Trafficking' campaign in both camps.

vocational and teacher training

DZALEKA JRS also provided 153 refugees with vocational training, such as carpentry and IT courses, and literacy, English and peace education classes. An additional 4,000 refugees benefited indirectly from JRS activities, including 3,500 refugee parents. JRS financially assisted a group of refugees, former vocational training students, to build and renovate three classrooms in Dzaleka camp. JRS education coordinators continued to provide in-service training and ongoing supervision to camp teachers.



Joanne Whitaker RSM/JRS

Recreational activities for refugee children in JRS-assisted school, Malawi



SOUTH AFRICA

JRS projects in South Africa

JRS, a UNHCR implementing partner, works as an intermediary between refugees and government agencies assisting primarily Congolese, Burundian and Rwandan refugees to access the rights and services mandated by law.

education

JOHANNESBURG, PRETORIA JRS helped 271 refugee children to attend pre-primary, primary and secondary schools, and supported them with their school work, contributing to a 98 percent pass rate for primary and secondary refugee students. The number of schools which granted fees exemptions to refugee students rose after JRS intervention. JRS also provided all the refugee children with assistance for school books and transport, and when necessary, for other school related needs. Seventy-five separated and abandoned children received food, shelter and school uniforms.

emergency assistance

JOHANNESBURG, PRETORIA JRS provided 1,841 vulnerable refugees, particularly vulnerable adults and separated and abandoned children, with emergency shelter, food and other material assistance, as well as home visits and counselling for 250 and 814 vulnerable individuals respectively.

health / income-generating

JOHANNESBURG, PRETORIA Fifty disabled and chronically ill refugees received help accessing public hospitals and clinics, home visits and assistance to meet their basic needs. Another 785 refugees were referred for healthcare and often accompanied by French-speaking JRS staff. JRS also assisted 18 Zimbabwean torture survivors to access trauma counselling. JRS provided 650 young and adult refugees with vocational training, and French and English language instruction. Student groups were given sewing machines and materials to start small businesses.



ZAMBIA

JRS projects in Zambia

advocacy / protection

MWANGE camp, LUSAKA In collaboration with local churches and NGOs, government agencies and UNHCR, the JRS advocacy and policy unit provided training and information to community and church leaders and other related groups, indirectly benefiting 20,000 refugees. The team also visited detained refugees and provided legal assistance to asylum seekers and refugees. Due to the falling refugee population, projects continued to wind down. In 2007, JRS will close activities in Mwange camp. Responsibility for these activities will be transferred to the local Church.

pastoral / social services

MWANGE, LUSAKA JRS provided pastoral and social services, particularly for young and child refugees, to 15,000 Congolese refugees respectively in Mwange camp, as well as material assistance to 73 refugees with disabilities and older refugees. In Lusaka, pastoral services and community activities were also organised for more than 120 refugees and local people.

education / self-sufficiency

MWANGE, LUSAKA In Lusaka, JRS provided 1,119 refugees and local people with language and vocational training and financially assisted nearly 300 refugee women and local people to start small businesses. More than 275 refugees and local people were given the use of email and postal services to track down and communicate with friends and family. JRS financially supported three students from Meheba refugee settlement to attend university. Community activities for young people and pastoral services were also organised. In Mwange, JRS initiated a sustainable agriculture and animal husbandry project for 50 individuals to assist refugees and local people to become self reliant. With 11 hectares under cultivation, the beneficiaries harvested 800 kg of vegetables, bought six pigs and managed five fishponds.

JRS projects in Zimbabwe

material and food assistance

HARARE transit centre, TONGOGARA camp More than 1,000 asylum seekers in Harare received food and clothing. Assisted by World Vision, JRS restocked its library in Tongogara and made it available to the 2,800 refugee population.

education / health

CHECHECHE, HARARE, TONGOGARA In cooperation with St Peter's Parish in Checheche, the team paid for fees, schools uniforms and stationery for 28 primary and secondary students, dependents of victims of political violence. JRS also supported 16 refugees studying at post-secondary vocational schools in Harare and in Mutare. In Harare and Tongogara, JRS helped 26 refugees to pay doctors' fees and buy medicines, supplied cleaning materials and encouraged them to clean the sites.

income-generating / training

TONGOGARA JRS financed small business loans to 14 refugee tailors, bakers and shop owners for which the repayment rate was 95 percent. The most significant was a group of ten refugees producing school uniforms. Seventeen women also enrolled in a JRS sewing course, which provided them with useful skills and a new supply of school uniforms for camp students.



ZIMBABWE

JRS-financed businesses for refugee women, Tongogara, eastern Zimbabwe



JRS Zimbabwe



Refugee school girls, Malawi



A refugee receives emergency assistance from JRS, Johannesburg, South Africa

Distribution of school materials, Lumbala Nguimbo, southeastern Angola





Bredjing refugee camp, eastern Chad

Hugh Delaney/JRS



WEST AFRICA

While both loyalist and opposition parties came together in Côte d'Ivoire to name a prime minister and form an interim government, political manoeuvring by both sides halted progress towards elections. Although the UN Security Council backed another year-long presidential mandate for Laurent Gbagbo in November, most expect the 'no war, no peace' crisis dividing the country to continue in 2007. The consequent instability negatively affected the estimated 750,000 internally displaced persons (IDPs) already living in poverty and insecurity in urban areas in the south of the country and the 10,000 Ivorian refugees waiting to return home. Nevertheless, the UN refugee agency (UNHCR) expects to assist the 40,000 Liberian refugees in Côte d'Ivoire to return next year. Although JRS continued to work in the rebel 'capital' of Bouaké, it closed two education projects and a mobile health clinic in Man.

"AFTER 14 YEARS OF
CIVIL WAR...IN LIBERIA...
300,000 IDPs AND 80,000
REFUGEES RETURNED..."

Since the early nineties Guinea has hosted hundreds of thousands of refugees. As conditions have improved in neighbouring countries, this number has dropped to around 67,000. In eastern Guinea, the government and UNHCR began transferring the remaining 25,000 Liberian and Ivorian refugees to larger camps near the town of Kouankan. Officially intended to render

services more efficient, many believe the consolidation process is a means of pressurising refugees to return home. The future for those refugees who wish to integrate locally looks extremely uncertain amid Guinea's slide into economic, political and social chaos. Nonetheless, JRS continued working with Liberian and Ivorian refugees in the Lainé and Kouankan camps, while handing over its Kolouma projects to local partners.

After 14 years of civil war, the long reconstruction process in Liberia began under the leadership of the first female African head of state. More than 300,000 IDPs and 80,000 refugees returned, principally to Lofa and Nimba counties. However, the authorities struggled to provide the resources and infrastructure to cater to their return. JRS focused on providing education services and rebuilding schools to meet the needs of displaced persons in these and other counties, including approximately 3,000 Ivorian refugees in Saclepea refugee camp.

For JRS the largest development in the region was opening new projects in 12 camps hosting some 200,000 refugees from the Darfur region of western Sudan and five camps hosting 90,000 IDPs in eastern Chad in September. In the last few months of 2006, fighting between various armed groups and government soldiers intensified leaving hundreds dead, hindering the development of humanitarian services, including that of JRS. Though some UN warehouses were looted following a brief rebel takeover in the eastern town of Abéché, humanitarian personnel were not directly targeted. It is within this context that JRS begins 2007 with plans to develop further its camp-based projects and its work in the southeast with IDPs and the local community in Goz Beïda.

"THE FUTURE FOR...REFUGEES...LOOKS
EXTREMELY UNCERTAIN AMID
GUINEA'S SLIDE INTO ECONOMIC,
POLITICAL AND SOCIAL CHAOS."

MATEO AGUIRRE SJ,
JRS WEST AFRICA DIRECTOR

JRS projects in Côte d'Ivoire



CÔTE D'IVOIRE

education

MAN, BOUAKÉ After three years, the scholarship project in Man financing 51 secondary school students and providing educational materials to 662 was closed. JRS transferred responsibility for a skills-training project for 160 vulnerable war-affected persons to a local NGO. To the deprived neighbours of the once booming Bouaké, JRS offered holistic training in literacy, parenting, health and hygiene and business management, as well as providing some with small loans. In cooperation with the UN World Food Programme (WFP), JRS also provided food, day-care and medical and social services to the 167 beneficiaries.

healthcare

MAN, BOUAKÉ The JRS Man mobile clinic provided 447 individuals with medical care. The team also supplied 5,500kg of rice to 873 vulnerable residents. Due to a significant drop in beneficiaries the project closed last year. However, mainly due to problems of poverty, hygiene and sanitation, the Bouaké mobile clinic carried out 15,089 medical consultations, treating illnesses such as malaria, diarrhoea, bronchitis and skin diseases linked to contaminated water. Cholera, yellow fever and meningitis also reappeared, signs of widespread poverty. The team organised an HIV/AIDS public awareness campaign benefiting 9,448 individuals, as well as providing HIV tests to 668 individuals and medical assistance to 119 persons living with HIV.

JRS projects in Guinea



GUINEA

social services

LAINÉ, KOUANKAN II In Lainé, JRS provided material support, counselling and other services to 1,276 vulnerable Liberian refugees while organising sports, recreational and cultural activities for another 3,750 Liberian refugees. The team also offered logistical support to 2,073 Liberians returning home. In Kouankan, JRS assisted 70 vulnerable Ivorian refugees and organised cultural and recreational activities for 780 Ivorians.

income-generating

LAINÉ, KOLOUMA In Lainé, JRS provided 320 vocational training graduates and vulnerable refugees with small loans, trade tools and technical advice. In Kooouma, JRS transferred responsibility to a local religious congregation for its cereal cooperatives which supported 11 villages, or 1,484 families, and its accounting and management courses.

education

LAINÉ, KOUANKAN II JRS provided a kindergarten school for 150 young children. Non-formal vocational education – baking, carpentry, sewing, business initiatives and health awareness, among others – was organised for 47 vulnerable refugees, including those with disabilities. Some 900 young refugees also received similar vocational training. In Kouankan, vocational diplomas were given to 48 vulnerable Ivorian refugees and 147 adolescents at risk after completing soap-making and sewing courses. In Kolouma, JRS also offered vocational training in sewing and soap-making to 30 vulnerable girls. Responsibility for these projects was transferred to the local congregation.

JRS project in Liberia

protection / advocacy

MONROVIA JRS published a report on the follow-up assistance provided to return communities after the closure of camps for internally displaced persons (IDPs).

education

BOMI, LOFA & NIMBA COUNTIES With the approval of the ministry of education, JRS organised the curricula and provided training to 86 teachers in Bomi county. Three schools were also reconstructed and four refurbished, benefiting more than 1,000 students and 40 teachers. In Lofa, in partnership with the WFP, JRS monitored the distribution of food in 97 schools for 34,000 students, as well as rebuilt schools in three communities for 751 pre-primary and primary students. In Saclepea camp in Nimba county, JRS provided 210 Ivorian refugees with vocational training in baking, soap-making, sewing and agriculture, among others.

income-generating

BOMI, LOFA, NIMBA In Bomi, an agricultural project was established in four communities, benefiting nearly 1,000 students and 40 teachers. In Lofa JRS organised carpentry workshops in eight communities to produce 100 school benches for 2,304 students. JRS also provided school materials, and distributed agricultural seeds and tools in 12 communities for teachers to overcome funding shortages. In Nimba, JRS supported 85 vulnerable and displaced Liberians to start community-based agricultural projects. Six schools were rebuilt benefiting 98 teachers and 2,670 students, and vocational training was provided to 155 students. Nearly 360 families received materials to rebuild their homes.

pastoral

BOMI One hundred adults, 300 young people and 500 children participated in catechism studies in four communities. JRS also provided liturgical materials and assisted in the construction of four churches, benefiting 1,000 individuals.

social services / community development

LOFA, MONROVIA JRS organised the reconstruction of 54 shelters for 250 vulnerable Liberian returnee families in Lofa county. In a poor district in Monrovia, West Point, JRS provided recreational, psychosocial, education and counselling services to 765 street children.



JRS projects in Chad

education

JRS began providing teacher training to 842 primary and 372 pre-school school teachers, indirectly benefiting 58,282 primary and 22,713 pre-school students in 12 refugee camps – Oure Cassoni, Iridimi, Touloum, Am Nabak, Kounoungou, Milé, Farchana, Bredjing, Treguine, Gaga, Djabal and Goz Amir – in eastern Chad home to Darfur refugees from western Sudan. In partnership with UNICEF, the team also conducted field analyses in preparation for providing primary education to 4,857 Chadian primary school children in five IDP camps – Gouroukoum, Koubigou, Koloma, Habile and Aradib.





Education and community centre for women, Bouaké, northern Côte d'Ivoire



JRS community agricultural project, Lofa county, northern Liberia

Education project for Sudanese refugees in eastern Chad





Sara Pettinella/JRS



ASIA PACIFIC

Vocational training for Karenni Burmese refugees, Mae Hong Son, northern Thailand

In Australia, the most significant event last year was the arrival and subsequent recognition of 43 West Papuan refugees from Indonesia. Consequently, Indonesia temporarily withdrew its ambassador, guaranteed the refugees protection upon return home and demanded that Australia consult the government before granting protection to Indonesians in the future. In response, Australia promised closer consultation on border controls and proposed that future arrivals by boat would be taken to the Pacific island state of Nauru, a non-signatory to the UN refugee convention, to have their asylum cases determined. Unusually, the proposed legislation was withdrawn as members of the governing party, acting partly in response to a campaign by refugee advocates, including JRS, threatened to vote against it on human rights grounds. Their concerns included enhanced border cooperation effectively preventing the arrival of asylum seekers, strict

interpretation of the UN refugee convention and denial of access to employment and social services, placing vulnerable asylum seekers at risk of poverty and homelessness and aggravating psychiatric illness.

“...LARGE NUMBERS OF BURMESE
ROHINGYA...IN SOUTHERN THAILAND...
WERE ARRESTED AND DEPORTED...”

In Indonesia, government agencies and NGOs continued tsunami rehabilitation and reconstruction work. The recent peace agreement between the government and the GAM, former pro-independence rebels, transformed Aceh, paving the way for provincial elections in December. Starting in 2006, the Indonesia rehabilitation and reconstruction Agency (BRR) gradually assumed responsibility for inter-agency coordination from the office of the UN Recovery Coordinator for Aceh and Nias. Unfortunately, not equipped for its new role, the BRR struggled. Concurrently, the provincial authorities established the Aceh reintegration agency to assist conflict-affected individuals reintegrating into mainstream society. In May, an earthquake hit the Central Java and Yogyakarta provinces, causing major destruction in Klaten and Bantul districts. Reconstruction and the provision of humanitarian assistance continued throughout the year. Some 5,778 people were killed, another 38,883 injured and an estimated 2,111,872 left homeless. Of the 608,008 houses affected, more than 139,859 houses were completely destroyed or heavily damaged. In June, heightened volcanic activity on Mount Merapi in Central Java prompted the evacuation of tens of thousands of local people to safer areas.

Political instability in Thailand throughout the year culminated in a military coup in September. Parts of the country remained under martial law. An increased emphasis on border security resulted in large scale arrests of selected groups of undocumented migrants considered a danger to national security. In November, 152 Hmong, mostly refugees including children, were arrested. After a brief stay in the Bangkok immigration detention centre (IDC), they were taken to the Thai-Lao border. On 31 December, they were still in detention. In December, large numbers of Burmese Rohingya from Arakan State arrived in southern Thailand on their way to Malaysia. Many were arrested and deported and reports indicate subsequent mistreatment in Burma. Government commitments to increase access to education for all children were honoured and JRS activities for migrant children operated more openly than in the past. The government made slow progress in addressing statelessness issues. Although many states began considering resettlement applications from Burmese refugees in nine camps, the numbers accepted were lower than expected.

“...AN EARTHQUAKE HIT THE CENTRAL
JAVA AND YOGYAKARTA PROVINCES,
CAUSING MAJOR DESTRUCTION...”

BERNARD ARPUTHASAMY SJ,
JRS ASIA PACIFIC DIRECTOR



JRS projects in Australia

advocacy

In 2006, JRS challenged new legislation designed to exclude Indonesian West Papuans from making asylum claims in Australia. The team also participated in consultations on asylum and refugee policy developments concerning the offshore humanitarian programme, and immigration detention where it also monitored the implementation of recent reforms. Staff assisted other refugee NGOs to carry out research on agreements with nearby states on border controls, particularly in countries which received individuals returned from Australia.

awareness-raising

JRS raised public awareness of refugee-related issues through the publication of newsletters, the organisation of public events, participation in seminars and conferences and contributions to the production of a film 'a Nun's New Habit'. The team regularly fields media requests on refugee and migration issues. The visit of JRS Indonesia Director to Australia proved an important opportunity to gain insight and understanding of the JRS' tsunami response and other issues facing its nearest neighbour.

social services and community development

Staff continued to visit asylum seekers regularly at the country's largest immigration detention centre in Sydney. In cooperation with other agencies, JRS assisted approximately 20 asylum seekers to find housing. The team also undertook a range of other activities, including sourcing scholarships for refugees to attend school and university.

Georgina Pike/JRS



Villawood immigration detention centre, Sydney, Australia

JRS projects in Indonesia

emergency assistance

In Aceh, over 217 permanent houses were built while another 171 are in progress. Food items were provided to 236 internally displaced persons (IDPs). In Yogyakarta and Central Java, the team provided 10,323 vulnerable families with emergency assistance, including equipment for 1,000 families to clean the village and school kits for 690 students. Staff also built 1,500 temporary shelters for 2,226 families of persons with disabilities. Basic assistance was provided to 6,048 persons displaced by volcanic activity near Mount Merapi and supplementary food assistance was distributed to 1,009 children and 884 older people. School materials were also provided to 100 primary school students.

healthcare

In Aceh and North Sumatra, JRS provided 6,720 IDPs with medical assistance of whom 16 were referred to hospital for further treatment. The team distributed supplementary food aid and personal hygiene kits to 367 displaced mothers and children. JRS offered training in trauma management to 20 individuals who in turn counselled 128 IDPs. Public latrines and drinking-water facilities were installed for 533 people and 1,243 IDPs received healthcare education information. In Yogyakarta and Central Java, JRS organised trauma management activities, including traditional dance classes, for 125 primary school children.

education

In Aceh and North Sumatra, JRS supplied school materials for 2,367 students and recruited, trained and financially assisted 186 teachers, also establishing a teachers' association. JRS provided scholarships to 282 students, including university students, and extra tuition to 476 children. A workshop on business management was provided to 59 IDPs to encourage them to establish small businesses.

income-generating / community development

In Aceh and North Sumatra, JRS supplied 20 boats, fish processing facilities and tools to 118 families, and financially assisted 613 IDPs to establish small fish-related businesses. JRS organised vocational training courses on tailoring, carpentry and basic business management, among others, for 131 IDPs and provided them with loans to establish small businesses. Social, cultural, religious and sports activities were also organised for 1,071 adult and young IDPs. In Yogyakarta and Central Java, JRS financially assisted 105 families to establish small businesses producing batik paintings, soya cakes and kalo bamboo-based kitchen utensils.

advocacy

In cooperation with UNICEF and the International Campaign to Ban Landmines, JRS successfully lobbied the government to ratify the UN treaty to ban landmines. In Aceh and North Sumatra, in collaboration with the Yogyakarta-based organisation *Pusat Audio Visual*, JRS produced CDs on the lessons learned in responding to the tsunami crisis. The team actively participated in coordination meetings with NGOs and local government officials bringing issues raised by IDPs to the attention of officials working for local government and state agencies. Monthly newsletters were also published to highlight the living conditions of IDPs. In Yogyakarta and Central Java, JRS frequently shared information on the cultural context and the humanitarian needs of earthquake survivors. In collaboration with the Yogyakarta-based organisation, Realino Foundation, staff conducted a workshop on cultural and local perspectives of humanitarian intervention based on JRS experiences during the tsunami crisis. A CD was also produced to promote the design and construction of earthquake-resistant buildings for earthquake survivors and local agencies.



INDONESIA

JRS projects in Thailand



THAILAND

education

MAE HONG SON Since 1997, JRS has worked with the NGO, Karenni Education Department, in two refugee camps. Last year, JRS continued to support primary and secondary schools, special education, a school-based vocational training project and a teacher training course. A new project providing vocational training and non-formal education began in 2006. In all, the education projects benefited 7,300 children, 700 refugee teaching and non-teaching staff and more than 1,000 adult refugee vocational training students. In addition, pastoral services were provided to 6,700 Catholics, about one-third of the camps' population.

RANONG JRS assisted five Burmese community schools and two special classrooms in Thai schools. During the year, two schools were moved to new facilities and nutrition and Thai language projects were extended. In 2006, 900 children and 24 teachers were assisted.

social services and community development

CHANG MAI province JRS provided emergency and medical assistance to Shan and other minority refugees and supported community-based schools and boarding houses. Last year, JRS began working with nationally- and locally-based groups to reduce statelessness. The teams also assisted residents in the Ban Krung Jor temporary shelter. In 2006, 3,100 individuals were assisted.

urban programme

BANGKOK, MAE SOT JRS provided counselling services to asylum seekers entering camps and new arrivals in Mae Sot, a western border town. In Bangkok, JRS provided counselling, legal advice and emergency assistance, as well as supporting community-based organisations. The team began providing supplementary food assistance to asylum seekers. In 2006, Lao Hmong were a significant part of the caseload in Bangkok. In late December, JRS assisted Hmong sent to a detention facility on the Thai-Lao border. In all, 6,500 individuals were assisted.

detention / medical

BANGKOK Last year, JRS continued to operate its detention release programme which allows detainees without resources to return to their home country and managed a medical clinic in the main Bangkok detention centre. During the year, large numbers of Hmong, North Korean and Rohingya asylum seekers were arrested and detained. JRS provided medical assistance to 13,500 and financially supported 450 detainees to return home.



Burmese Shan refugee children



Immigration detention centre, Bangkok, Thailand



Conflict- and tsunami-affected children,
Idi Cut, eastern Aceh, Indonesia

JRS-supported primary school for Karenni Burmese
refugee children, Mae Hong Son, northern Thailand



Former IDP beneficiaries of education and healthcare assistance from
local JRS teams, Koto Indarung village, southwestern Aceh, Indonesia





Max Martin/JRS



SOUTH ASIA

Sri Lankan refugees, Tamil Nadu, India

South Asian states went a step closer to signing a regional free trade agreement, potentially strengthening regional political and economic cooperation. Despite this, 2006 was a year of widespread violence in the region.

When the bloodshed on the streets of Nepal reached new heights as the population struggled for democracy, the monarch was forced to restore the House of Representatives. Many momentous and historic decisions were reached in Nepal. An agreement between the alliance of seven democratic parties and the Maoists was reached. The interim Nepali government and the Maoists immediately requested assistance from the UN to establish a peace process, convene a constituent assembly and monitor eventual disarmament and management of arms. This new democratic government in

Nepal has shown interest in solving the long-pending Bhutanese refugee issue. The visit of the US ambassador to the Bhutanese refugee camps and the announcement of the resettlement of 60,000 refugees in the US were positively received by the refugee community.

*"UNFORTUNATELY IN SRI LANKA THE
LOW-INTENSITY CONFLICT IN JANUARY ESCALATED
INTO HIGH-INTENSITY CIVIL WAR BY APRIL."*

Unfortunately in Sri Lanka the low-intensity conflict in January escalated into high-intensity civil war by April. The ensuing

large-scale displacement of civilians in the north and east of the country quickly led to a humanitarian crisis. More than 3,000 civilians were killed and a further 18,000 fled to India. The once dreaded forced disappearances, curfews, arbitrary arrests, detentions and torture returned.

There was a ray of hope when the two main political parties, the United National Party and the United People's Freedom Alliance, agreed to cooperate to find a solution to the crisis. However, it was short lived. The killing of 17 aid workers, 65 bus passengers and aerial bombings and shelling causing the death of 60 children and 45 displaced people, forced the international community to condemn the warring groups and urge them to restart the stalled peace talks. Yet two rounds of peace talks produced nothing. The subsequent closure of the A9 highway, the only link to the north, brought untold misery to the people of Jaffna peninsula. Severe food and medicine shortages caused prices to rocket and the tsunami rehabilitation work of NGOs came to a standstill.

*"...IN INDIA, A SRI LANKAN REFUGEE-
FRIENDLY PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT WAS
ELECTED IN TAMIL NADU STATE JUST AS
NEARLY 18,000 NEW REFUGEES ARRIVED."*

Fortunately in India, a Sri Lankan refugee-friendly provincial government was elected in Tamil Nadu state just as nearly 18,000 new refugees arrived. There was also a welcome change in the attitude of the national government. A naval blockage was lifted and NGOs were permitted to assist arriving refugees on the seashore. The national government also issued strong statements condemning the attacks on women and children and dispatched a shipload of 8,000 tons of essential food supplies to meet the emergency needs of the people living in the Jaffna peninsula. In addition, the provincial government doubled the allowance given to refugees and increased the number of camps from 103 to 132.



INDIA

JRS projects in India

education

JRS managed 98 evening tuition centres with 269 teachers for 6,649 Sri Lankan refugee children in the Indian state of Tamil Nadu. Scholarships were provided to 348 secondary, 227 tertiary students and 104 technical refugee students. JRS continued to provide valuable support to 117 student associations of 7,000 school children and a 21-university student association of 630 members. Two workshops and quarterly meetings were facilitated for 127 school student leaders and 190 university students respectively. A 6-month life skills training course was provided to 126 early-school-leaver girls and 978 upper-secondary school students participated in summer camps. One 6-day and four 1-day workshops were provided for 119 and 269 teachers respectively. JRS also assisted university students to produce 2,000 copies of their bi-monthly magazine *Manavar Vidyai*.

community services

JRS supported 18 district level committees of 293 members to coordinate camp activities and liaise with state agencies. Thirty-nine women and 207 young refugees participated in a tailoring course and a workshop on community organisation respectively. More than 700 vulnerable refugees also received emergency assistance.

emergency relief

JRS provided transportation, food and information to 6,078 newly arrived refugee families. Twenty-five volunteers offered psychosocial care, food and non-food items to new families in the transit camps. The volunteers cleaned 150 refugee homes, ensured the provision of electricity to 280 houses and assisted 700 refugee children to register in local schools, as well as distributing school stationery and accompanying the ill to hospital. JRS also provided 1,196 families settled in 82 camps with food and non-food items, and cooperated with other agencies providing similar support to refugees in another 33 camps.



NEPAL

JRS projects in Nepal

education

JRS provided education for 32,921 Bhutanese refugee children in 42 schools employing 1,142 staff. Of this number 1,987 students sat and passed the junior secondary school state exam. The staff participated in 10 teacher training workshops and 385 youth leaders participated in a 4-day workshop on leadership. Six-to-nine month vocational courses were provided to 410 early-school leavers and students with disabilities and 4,500 secondary students were supported financially. Forty-eight staff attended to 3,716 young children in seven pre-schools, 14 support teachers assisted 462 special needs students participating in inclusive education and seven youth-friendly recreation centres were established. Staff also counselled survivors of sexual- and gender-based violence, and raised awareness of the issue with the general student body.

disability

Twenty-seven trained staff continued to facilitate the integration of 3,367 refugees with disabilities into their communities. Fifty-eight students with severe cerebral palsy were assisted in six care centres, 214 children received hearing devices and 304 were provided with medical certificates. The centre and other staff also received training on working with persons with disabilities. Of the students with disabilities, 22 were sent to Bangalore, India for a one-year study course. Sixteen counsellors took part in a 15-day workshop and five of them participated in a further 40-day intensive workshop. Uniforms and woollen blankets were provided to 2,200 of the most vulnerable students and families respectively. The most vulnerable families also received regular home visits and financial assistance.

advocacy

JRS continued to provide field reports and undertake lobbying with local and international partner agencies encouraging Nepal, Bhutan and the international community to find durable solutions to the Bhutanese refugee crisis.

JRS projects in Sri Lanka

education

JRS managed 117 pre-schools employing 119 teachers and 273 evening tuition centres employing 679 teachers for 3,753 and 24,632 war-affected and displaced children respectively. The team also provided after school tuition to 2,162 upper-secondary school students. It also established libraries in 13 centres benefiting 890 students and supplied 45 teachers to 23 government schools benefiting 1,690 students. JRS provided scholarships to 3,121 and uniforms to 14,169 students, and assisted seven orphanages in accommodating 117 students. Computer training was also offered to 45 students.



SRI LANKA

human resource development

Seven JRS vocational training centres provided life skills training to 162 early-school leaver girls, 926 teachers and 4,875 parents and leadership, peace and reconciliation and human rights training to 6,696. Vocational training in screen printing, electrical wiring and outboard mechanics was also provided to 92 students. In the five JRS production centres 46 people received management training and in 30 tailoring centres 950 girls received vocational training from 32 teachers. JRS also organised a 10-month course for 17 counsellors who in turn offered psychosocial counselling to 4,278 students and parents.

income-generating

The team continued to provide managerial assistance to 60 JRS-established cooperatives – five for farmers, 15 for fishermen, nine for widows, three for people with disabilities and 28 for women. Credit was made available to 3,783 members. They also financially assisted 186 returnee families.

emergency relief / tsunami reconstruction

JRS provided food and kitchen utensils to 48,023 newly displaced persons. Pedagogic aids, food and school uniforms were supplied to 3,545, 1,785, and 4,142 students respectively. JRS took responsibility for the management of five camps hosting 2,090 internally displaced persons (IDPs), and established five temporary schools for 1,246 children and 14 evening tuition centres for 801 students. Medical assistance was also provided to 884 people. JRS rebuilt and constructed 228 houses, two orphanages, four pre-schools, 11 evening tuition centres and eight human resource development centres destroyed by the tsunami in 2004.

JRS skills training centre, Sri Lanka



JRS Sri Lanka



JRS vocational training project, Tamil Nadu, India



JRS-supported pre-school Bhutanese refugee children, eastern Nepal

JRS vocational training project, Sri Lanka





Malta today



EUROPE

Immigration detention centre, Malta

Last year, the migration debate was front-page news throughout Europe, reflecting its significance in local and national elections. The number of asylum seekers continued to fall in most EU states, revealing the difficulties in accessing European asylum procedures rather than reductions in the causes of forced migration. Border fences are higher; patrols on the Mediterranean Sea and near the Canary Islands have been intensified and EU-state coordination – on matters such as visa applications, fingerprinting of asylum seekers and their return to the EU state in which they first arrived – has been strengthened.

In this climate, refugee recognition rates have fallen substantially. As a result of restrictive migration practices, asylum seekers find it harder to access refugee determination procedures and arbitrary detention is used as a general deterrent. The number of migrants in administrative detention is cause for great concern, while the inaccessibility of reliable data on the number of people in detention, the places where they are being held and the conditions under which they will be either removed or released remains a major obstacle to change.

Many unsuccessful asylum applicants, still in need of international protection, fear serious human rights abuses if returned to their countries of origin. Without any economic and social rights, these former asylum seekers find themselves destitute in a legal 'no man's land'.

Nevertheless there is growing recognition of the economic and demographic benefits of migration. While most media attention is directed at efforts to reduce irregular entry to the EU via airport and sea controls, measures have been

*"MANY UNSUCCESSFUL ASYLUM APPLICANTS...
FEAR SERIOUS HUMAN RIGHTS ABUSES IF
RETURNED TO THEIR COUNTRIES OF ORIGIN."*

taken to facilitate the entry of highly educated migrants. Restrictions are more stringent on migrants with fewer skills. In fact a great number of migrants legally enter the EU as tourists or students and later take up employment without a work permit.

Migrants, both forced and voluntary, continue coming to Europe. The main destination of migrants to Europe is Russia, while Chechen

Russians comprise the largest group of Eastern European migrants trying to enter Western Europe. Others resident in the EU for more than 12 years, principally Bosnians, are being encouraged by governments to return to their country of origin.

Old situations are evolving and new ones are developing. In Kosovo and the west Balkans there is a real risk of further ethnic conflict in the near future. States which until recently were countries of emigration and transit – like Poland, Ukraine and Croatia – have now become countries of destination; migrants remaining in these countries need assistance. Christians are leaving Iraq, Lebanon, Turkey and neighbouring areas in bigger numbers than before, and the war in Lebanon has created many civilian victims, in addition to persons of concern, migrants and refugees, to JRS in Beirut.

In the search for durable solutions for refugees throughout the world, many have begun advocating increased resettlement quotas in the EU. This has yet to lead to higher numbers of refugees being resettled in Europe.

JAN STUYT SJ,
JRS EUROPE DIRECTOR

JRS projects in the regional office



EUROPE

advocacy / awareness-raising

Since 2002, JRS Europe's advocacy work has focused on the administrative detention of asylum seekers and irregular migrants. In coordination with country offices in Europe, the regional office continued to act as a leading voice in research in this field, undertaking advocacy with key policy makers in Brussels and in national capitals. In 2006, it commissioned research on the rapidly increasing number of destitute migrants in Europe.

At the 'Preparatory Meeting of the UN High level Dialogue on Migration and Development' in New York, JRS highlighted the contribution of refugees, particularly those who have received training and education, to the development of their host countries and on return to their countries of origin. While the debate was dominated by South-North migration, JRS highlighted the relevance of South-South migration. JRS Europe also organised a competition for student journalists to write on refugee issues. The prize winners came from Denmark, Ireland and the UK.



BELGIUM

JRS projects in Belgium

detention

In 2006, JRS staff regularly visited asylum seekers and migrants in the five centres. In close partnership with other refugee NGOs, JRS monitored the global situation in the centres, advocating on behalf of detainees to various key decision makers.

Based on information received during its detention visits, JRS assisted in producing a research report on the physical and mental health problems experienced by detainees in Belgian closed centres and the violence used during the deportation process. The report received substantial media attention. In coalition with other NGOs, JRS also participated in a large public awareness campaign on detention in Belgium.

JRS took part in a study by the European Council for Refugees and Exiles seeking to give a voice to asylum seekers. Focusing on detention issues, JRS collected several stories based on interviews with asylum seekers. A joint publication with JRS Malta was planned.

separated children

As a member of the NGO coalition, *Mineurs en Exil*, JRS continued to monitor policies and practices relating to separated children. Following intense lobbying, the government established a state agency to oversee an open reception centre for separated children. A team member also acted as a guardian for three separated children during 2006.



GERMANY

JRS projects in Germany

detention

After a 10-year campaign, detainees received a chapel in the Berlin-Köpenick detention centre. In Brandenburg detention centre, JRS provided pastoral care to a diminishing number of detainees. Furthermore, approximately €20,000 was raised for a legal aid fund for lawyers to take on 61 cases. By the end of 2006, half of the detainees had been released.

awareness-raising

JRS submitted a report to the UN Special Rapporteur on the Right to Education concerning the situation faced by undocumented children, an issue viewed as a security rather than humanitarian matter by the government. JRS published a research report on the use of pre-removal detention and conditions in closed centres. Despite some positive developments, the report highlighted scope for improving detention conditions. In Munich, 170 participants attended a JRS co-organised workshop on the detention of people facing deportation. JRS also facilitated visits by European parliamentarians and their staff to two detention centres in Munich and Berlin.

advocacy

In 2006, JRS sent 41 applications, representing 403 individuals, to the Hardship Commission in Berlin. The commission recommended that the Berlin home secretary issue humanitarian residence status for 273 individuals, 157 of which were granted.

JRS projects in Ireland

integration / outreach

The JRS Community Links project, in inner city Dublin, continued to foster the integration of 608 refugees and others with humanitarian leave to remain in Ireland. The School Integration Programme provided translation services to refugee and migrant parents, and raised awareness of refugee-related issues in 48 schools and adult community centres in Ireland, as well as supporting Jesuit schools in raising awareness of refugee issues. JRS continued its outreach and psychosocial support service to women in immigration detention, as well as a post-release follow-up service. A project worker also visited reception centres for asylum seekers.

training / education

JRS provided workshops to refugee-led community groups on positive parenting, CV and interview preparation, intercultural communication and NGO management skills. The team developed a resource folder containing information on the main migrant countries of origin, and template letters in 10 languages to facilitate communication between parents and teachers. One-on-one English classes were also provided to asylum seekers and refugees. A number of intercultural activities were organised to lessen the isolation experienced by asylum-seeking and refugee families, facilitate interaction between the participants and promote their awareness of the diversity of communities in Dublin. An intercultural and interfaith calendar was published and circulated widely.



IRELAND

JRS projects in Italy

awareness-raising

Two school projects, *Finestre – Storie di Rifugiati*, on asylum rights and integration, and *Incontri*, on awareness of different religions and interfaith dialogue, were offered to students in several Italian towns. A course on the rights of migrants in Italy, *I diritti non sono stranieri*, was attended by 120 JRS volunteers between March and May. To commemorate the 25th anniversary of JRS Italy, a conference on migration and a concert were organised in Rome.

social assistance / integration

In Trento, in collaboration with Sant'Ignazio cooperative, JRS provided accommodation and social assistance to 16 refugees. In Rome, JRS staff provided legal assistance to migrant detainees in Ponte Galeria centre. JRS signed an agreement with the local health authorities in Rome to permit staff to act as intermediaries for asylum seekers and refugees accessing health services, and to raise awareness of the specific needs of this group among healthcare staff. In cooperation with the local social services, a new foster care project was established, *La casa di Marco*. The project allows a team of experts to support 10 refugee children, unable to live with their parents, in temporary community accommodation. In Catania, a JRS centre was established to offer accommodation to 20 asylum seekers. Funded by the regional government, JRS staff provided health assistance to asylum seekers, and advice to other groups working with asylum seekers. In Palermo, JRS provided information, health screenings, legal assistance and language classes to asylum seekers.



ITALY

JRS projects in Malta

legal assistance / pastoral care

European Refugee Fund II support enabled JRS workers to hire additional legal staff. Consequently JRS increased its legal assistance service to asylum seekers, as well as increasing the number of workshops provided to law practitioners and students. JRS also provided pastoral services to roughly 1,400 detainees in closed centres.

awareness-raising

For the third year, JRS raised awareness of asylum-related issues in 46 schools and community centres. In September, the education department encouraged all schools to participate in this campaign. On World Refugee Day, in cooperation with other NGOs, JRS published a full-page advert in the biggest national newspaper highlighting the plight of refugees. In October, in collaboration with a local foundation for the education of journalists, JRS provided a 3-day seminar on migration issues and the media.



MALTA



JRS projects in Portugal

general assistance

In 2006, JRS supported 5,200 migrants, primarily from Eastern Europe, but also from Brazil and Portuguese-speaking Africa. Financial assistance was provided to 200 homeless and chronically ill migrants, and, in cooperation with *Irmãs de S. Vicente de Paulo*, 110 were provided with food. JRS provided legal assistance to 140 individuals and referred others to a state funded agency. Staff offered healthcare assistance to 84 migrants facing difficulties accessing the state system. On behalf of employers, JRS interviewed approximately 1,500 migrants seeking employment. In May, a JRS accommodation centre housing up to 25 migrants was opened in Lisbon. By December, centre personnel were providing 60 migrants with housing, food, employment support, medical aid, occupational activities and language courses.

awareness raising / integration

Over 45 migrant nurses, who had successfully participated in a JRS recognition of qualifications project, were secured employment. Around 140 students studied Portuguese and citizenship courses. JRS participated in a project in 20 schools to raise awareness of migrant issues and encourage the integration of those communities. JRS also took part in several debates, conferences and occasional media events and distributed a quarterly newsletter to nearly 1,800 individuals.

detention

JRS provided psychosocial assistance to irregular migrants in a pre-deportation detention centre in Porto. A JRS chaplain and visitors group, which included cultural mediators, also regularly visited the centre.



JRS projects in Romania

social and psychosocial / accommodation

JRS assisted approximately 380 of the most vulnerable persons in immigration detention and reception centres, and in facilitated and other forms of accommodation. They supplied food and non-food items and assistance in contacting family members and close friends. JRS also provided 1,150 small group counselling sessions and issued 717 basic goods kits. The JRS Pedro Arrupe Centre and apartments housed 93 unsuccessful asylum seekers in 2006, and supported their integration into Romanian society.

education / integration

JRS offered Romanian and English language courses as well as IT classes to 130 and 115 individuals respectively. Scholarships were made available to three refugees. A number of cultural events were organised – including exhibitions, a picnic and an African music course – to promote integration and raise awareness of refugee-related issues.



JRS projects in Slovenia

reception and detention visits

JRS provided training to 15 volunteers in four seminars, and regular operational support to the Ljubljana reception and Postojna detention centres. The team visited approximately 50 detainees between once and twice a month, offering psychosocial support to the adults and children. Staff and volunteers also visited the open centre three times a week where a variety of workshops for 15 individuals and cultural activities for more than 50 individuals were held. Eight children were assisted with school work and a week-long vacation was organised for 25 women and children away from the centre.

awareness-raising / education

Twice a month, JRS participated in a broadcast 'Building a more Open Society' on Ljubljana Catholic radio station to promote understanding of refugee and migration issues. JRS also organised IT classes for 30 asylum seekers and refugees to assist their integration into Slovenian society.

JRS projects in the United Kingdom

destitute asylum seekers

In the JRS drop-in centre 1,142 destitute and homeless, principally unsuccessful asylum seekers from 31 countries, received psychosocial and material assistance. They were aided in purchasing bus tickets in order to attend medical and immigration appointments and were also provided with meals.

outreach detention visits

Five volunteers and a chaplain regularly visited vulnerable detainees in Colnbrook and Harmondsworth detention centres. Volunteers ensured that vulnerable detainees were referred to health professional and legal advisors. The chaplain accessed between 40-60 detainees per week.

advocacy / awareness-raising

Staff participated in and organised conferences and workshops for church and secular groups to raise awareness of refugee-related issues in the UK. Events included 'Refugees and Health' and 'Refugee Solutions or Solutions to Refugeehood'. More than 150 people attended the latter. JRS regularly participated in UK government/ UN refugee agency (UNHCR) stakeholder meetings, primarily on international and EU protection issues. It actively participated in an asylum interview monitoring group, and helped establish a charity, the Independent Asylum Commission, to review the UK asylum process, whose findings are due out in 2008.



JRS projects in West Balkans

Bosnia-Herzegovina

elderly homecare

Since 1996, JRS has provided regular medical, practical and psychological support to vulnerable returnees and displaced older people living alone in Sarajevo. The team also distributed food parcels to vulnerable persons.

Croatia

reconciliation

Since 1995, JRS has managed a multi-ethnic and multi-religious kindergarten in Knin for 55 Bosnian, Serb and Croat children. Supported by a Swiss-based Serbian Orthodox NGO, the Serbian Orthodox Church and the local government, it actively assists children and parents to live together in a tolerant and peaceful atmosphere. JRS also organised seminars on reconciliation for the social and pastoral ministry and managed an elderly homecare programme.

Kosovo

landmine survivors

JRS continued to provide prostheses, financial and medical assistance and accommodation to landmine-survivor students and offered ongoing psychosocial support to traumatised children and their families. In 2006, one 14-year old boy lost his right hand in a landmine incident. The team also distributed food parcels to vulnerable persons.

reintegration

In 2006, in agreement with Caritas Luxembourg, JRS visited families returning from Luxembourg to assess their reintegration needs. Consequently, Albanian language classes were offered to the children.

Macedonia/Serbia

In Macedonia, JRS provided language courses and support for children with disabilities and food parcels for vulnerable families. In Serbia, material assistance was offered to vulnerable families and computer classes were provided to children.





JRS sports integration project, Bucharest, Romania



Inauguration of a new chapel for migrants in
Berlin-Koepenick detention centre, Germany

Rome, Italy





Osiris Abrego/JRS



LATIN AMERICA & THE CARIBBEAN

Urban refugees assisted by JRS, Panama City

At the beginning of 2006, the region hosted more than 25 million displaced persons – refugees, internally displaced persons (IDPs), and documented and undocumented migrants. Elections of new governments in Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Mexico and Venezuela did little to bolster human rights protection. Increasing forced displacement, exacerbated by the conflict in Colombia, strengthened the hand of those who placed issues of sovereignty and national security above all else. In fact, regardless of political affiliation, nearly all of these governments introduced restrictive asylum and migration policies in the region.

Of the more than 200,000 refugees in Venezuela, only 6,200 requested asylum and fewer than 10 percent received a response from the state. Most refugees do not even apply for asylum but rather live as undocumented migrants at risk of being deported at any moment. Mexico, complying with US government requests, closed its borders, indiscriminately hindering South-North migration. Brazil is perhaps the country with the most liberal migration policies in the region.

Escalating conflict in Colombia is the major cause of increasing displacement in Latin America. It is estimated that more than three million people are forced to live in poverty without adequate state protection. Last year, along the Colombia-Venezuela border, fierce fighting between left-wing guerrilla groups, FARC and their former allies ELN, and right-wing paramilitary groups, worsened the humanitarian crisis. An additional 600,000 Colombian refugees live in neighbouring countries, including Ecuador, Panama, Venezuela and Brazil. The application of Plan Colombia, the US-backed plan to eradicate coca production, significantly contributed to forced displacement. Indiscriminate coca-spraying in the south of the country pushed many Colombians into Ecuador.

*"ESCALATING CONFLICT IN COLOMBIA
IS THE MAJOR CAUSE OF INCREASING
DISPLACEMENT IN LATIN AMERICA."*

Worsening conflict in western Colombia and along the Pacific Coast, the tight grip of right-wing paramilitaries over the northern Atlantic province and the expanding dollar-based Panamanian economy led to an influx of refugees and migrants in Panama. Growing levels of recruitment of child soldiers in Ecuador, Panama and Venezuela by Colombian guerrillas and paramilitaries indicate the spread of conflict in the region. Given their relatively high levels of GDP, Panama and Venezuela receive scant international aid, leaving refugees in these countries with little financial or other assistance. Hence, greater coordination is required to assist child soldiers, IDPs, migrants and refugees.

Despite relative political stability, undocumented Haitians continued to migrate to the Dominican Republic, and in smaller numbers to Jamaica, Venezuela and the US. Haitians were increasingly vulnerable to unscrupulous human smugglers and traffickers in desperate attempts to escape extreme poverty. Upon arrival in the Dominican Republic they faced racist and xenophobic state migration policies. Last year, no asylum seekers were recognised as refugees in the country and from April to December 1,423 Haitians were deported. Furthermore, the parliament enacted legislation in contravention of national and international legal norms while blatantly ignoring the ruling by the Inter-American Court of Human Rights ordering it to provide birth certificates to Dominican children of Haitian origin. JRS was criticised by the local media for defending human rights and supporting the integration of Haitians into Dominican society.

ALFREDO INFANTE SJ,
JRS LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN DIRECTOR

JRS projects in Colombia



COLOMBIA

In 2006, JRS worked in the provinces of Bogota, Magdalena Medio and Valle del Cauca where its teams assisted 47,824 displaced persons.

pastoral / psychological

The team provided pastoral care, psychological support and guidance to displaced people, including methodological approaches designed to assist them in reflecting on their life plans, re-examining values and behaviour and sharing their spiritual beliefs.

education / awareness-raising

The JRS mobile training unit provided workshops on basic accounting and projects management to local human rights NGOs. The team also offered workshops to children attending Jesuit schools, JRS volunteers and local NGOs on human rights, particularly children's rights. Methodologies to undertake socio-political analyses were developed and used in workshops with children, volunteers and local NGOs.

income-generating / housing / legal

JRS assisted IDPs to establish and manage small businesses, promoting food security and economic independence and easing their integration into mainstream society. Local teams also financially assisted IDPs to make home improvements. JRS also provided information to IDPs on their rights and entitlements and training on how to use state legislation and procedures designed to protect the rights of displaced persons.

advocacy

The team developed methods of collecting and managing information in local advocacy work. JRS also worked jointly with the Colombian Commission of Jurists and the Colombia-Europe/USA Coordination Committee to prepare data on human rights abuses of internally displaced people for the Special Representative of the United Nations Secretary General.

JRS projects in Mexico



MEXICO

pastoral / healthcare / advocacy

SAN PEDRO DE POHLÓ JRS provided pastoral care to IDPs and assisted sick people to gain access to healthcare services. The team carried out a survey of the needs of the displaced population and held regular meetings with local authorities to improve assistance provided to refugees. In 2006, JRS assisted approximately 5,000 individuals.



Cecilia Bock/JRS

Colombian refugee child, Guasdualito, southwestern Venezuela

JRS projects in the Dominican Republic

In 2006, JRS assisted 4,500 forcibly displaced migrants, of whom 3,000 were asylum seekers, in Dajabón, Santiago and Santo Domingo

health / pastoral

During a national health awareness campaign, JRS distributed medicines to displaced children under five and persons over 65. Staff also provided pastoral care to migrants working on banana plantations.

education / income-generating

JRS assisted young Haitian refugees and migrants to attend local schools, and where necessary helped the children to obtain birth certificates. Staff organised four multiethnic and cultural events to promote harmonious relations between Dominicans and Haitians in working class communities. The team also provided Spanish language courses to 97 young refugees and migrants and assisted refugee and migrant small business owners to market their organic produce and industrial products.

legal assistance

JRS staff carried out 1,246 legal consultations with migrants and refugees assisting them to meet bureaucratic procedures such as obtaining ID cards, residence permits. Regular visits to government departments resulted in 95 cases being resolved.

advocacy / awareness-raising

Staff organised workshops sessions on nationality law, migration, multiculturalism and constitutional reform for migrant and refugee NGOs and developed awareness-raising campaigns in universities and government institutions. JRS participated in a campaign against human trafficking and organised a meeting on the Dominican-Haitian border to promote understanding between the two peoples. Two books entitled "Racial discrimination in Dominican legislation" and "Seventeen opinions on racism in the Dominican Republic" and a weekly news bulletin on migration- and asylum-related issues in the Dominican Republic were published. The team also organised a variety of cultural (musical, painting, drawing and theatrical) events for refugee and migrant children, as well as workshops on multiculturalism to promote tolerance.



JRS projects in Haiti

advocacy / general assistance

Forced by poverty and human right abuses to flee, Haitians often face discrimination and are arbitrarily and brutally deported by the Dominican authorities. JRS works in Wanament (northwest Haiti on the Dominican border) to prevent irregular migration by challenging the irresponsible economic policies of their government. In 2006, JRS provided management, media, human rights and gender awareness training to local community organisations. In cooperation with a bi-national Haitian-Dominican network, the team documented human rights abuses on the border. The accusations were presented to the authorities to ensure that the law is applied and to encourage political and practical change. Information was disseminated to raise public awareness of human rights abuses in Wanament and in the Dominican Republic. Staff also provided humanitarian and legal assistance to the victims of human rights abuses, prioritising deported migrants, seasonal workers and trafficked women and children.





ECUADOR

JRS projects in Ecuador

In 2006, JRS continued to work in suburban districts of the Ecuadorian capital, Quito, directly assisting 800 children and adults and indirectly benefiting another 4,400 individuals.

training

JRS provided assistance to 200 members of migrant and refugee NGOs to improve their organisational and management skills, as well as helping 300 members of youth groups in suburban Quito to organise socio-cultural events.

psychological / education

The team provided psychological assistance to refugees and migrants suffering from psychiatric illnesses and refugee and migrant victims of intra-family violence, including children. JRS also provided workshops to teaching staff working with refugees on methodological approaches to psychosocial support. Staff also worked with various educational centres to assist 47 refugee and migrant children to register in local schools.

legal / advocacy

JRS provided legal advice, assistance and legal representation to asylum seekers during the refugee determination procedures, and to asylum seekers and local community members who were victims of human rights abuses seeking redress through the courts. In all the team carried out approximately 400 legal consultations. Staff organised visits and meetings for the public and key decision-makers to raise awareness of the difficulties faced by refugees in Quito and to lobby for improved assistance to refugees. The team also participated in networks and joint campaigns with partner NGOs and public and private bodies to the same end.



PANAMA

JRS projects in Panama

In 2006, JRS assisted 1,389 refugees in Curundú, Parque Lafevre, Jaqué, Puerto Piña and Zona del Tuira in Darién province.

advocacy / legal

JRS visited refugees and migrants, carried out a survey of their needs and presented the results to the Panamanian authorities, as well as providing legal advice and humanitarian assistance to urban migrants and refugees. In partnership with the Institute of National Studies, the Justice and Peace Commission, Menamire, *Fe y Alegría*, Caritas, the Apostolic Vicariate of Darién, the Centre for Legal Assistance (CEALP) and the Regional Network of Civil Society Organisations (RROCM), the team detailed a plan of action designed to promote change in government policy towards refugees and migrants. Staff also held meetings with representatives of the Catholic Church to put the issue of asylum on the agenda during the Panamanian Episcopal Conference. JRS also produced a regular electronic refugee and migration news bulletin (<http://boletinsjr-panama.blogspot.com>).

training

JRS organised workshops for refugees on child welfare and human trafficking. A training module was developed for volunteers providing pastoral care to migrants. Workshops were also provided to women working in the pastoral centre in María Reina de Curundú parish, and spiritual activities during Holy Week and over Christmas were organised.

JRS projects in Venezuela

In 2006, JRS teams worked in Guasdualito, El Nula, Puerto Infante, La Azulita, El Amparo, La Victoria, La Blanquita, Ciudad Sucre towns and villages on the border with Colombia. They directly assisted 2,617 adults and children, as well as indirectly assisting approximately 8,500.

pastoral / psychosocial assistance

In cooperation with individual Jesuits and the NGO *Fe y Alegría*, JRS provided pastoral services to refugees through organising events and providing information to young people and adults. Staff offered psychological services to refugees, including psychiatrically ill adults and children, and acted as mediators in cases of intra-family violence. Workshops provided skills training and psychosocial support to women refugees and school children. Workshops and other activities were organised to inform school children of the dangers of recruitment into armed groups.

community development / training

JRS provided training on issues such as community development and project management to refugee and local community leaders, as well as education and medical assistance. . One of the goals was to strengthen cooperation between networks to provide health, education and refugee-related information to local and refugee populations. The team also provided advice to refugees seeking employment and support to those establishing small businesses, including assistance acquiring small loans. Women refugees also received vocational and managerial training.

legal / advocacy

JRS provided legal advice, assistance and legal representation to asylum seekers during the refugee determination procedures, and to asylum seekers, refugees and local community members who were victims of human rights abuses in Venezuela seeking redress through the courts. The team carried out needs assessment studies with refugees and presented the results of the assessments to key decision-makers to encourage them to introduce or change policies and practices detrimental to the welfare of refugees. JRS worked closely with a variety of NGOs and human rights networks, including *Foro por la Vida* and the Human Rights Centre of the Catholic University of Andres Bello (UCAB). Workshops on human rights issues were provided for NGO staff working on the Colombian-Venezuelan border, as well as training on refugee protection to staff in state agencies in the border area.



VENEZUELA

JRS projects in Brazil

As the UN refugee agency (UNHCR) implementing partner, JRS helped 70 Colombian and nine Afghan resettled refugees to integrate into mainstream society in Rio Grande in southern Brazil. Prior to the arrival of the refugees, JRS locates accommodation with access to public services and aids in furnishing the houses. Contact is established with relevant police, education and health authorities. Upon arrival, the refugees are informed of their rights and duties under Brazilian law, and three-month language courses are offered to them. The adult refugees receive assistance finding employment, including accessing vocational or other education. After the initial support, JRS provides follow-up support to adults and children for up to one year.



BRAZIL



Dominican Republic



JRS children against violence event, Guasualito, southwestern Venezuela

JRS-supported school, northern Haiti





JRS USA



USA CANADA

Despite presidential authorisation for the resettlement of 70,000 refugees in 2006, the number of refugee arrivals in the US last year totalled only 41,269, an annual decrease of over 12,500 from 2005. Although a number of factors contributed to this devastating shortfall in refugee admissions, the most ominous was the so-called 'material support bar' which, by its overly broadened definitions of terrorism and of what constitutes material support to terrorists, jeopardised the country's long-standing commitment to protect victims of persecution.

Implementation of this bar to refugee admission gave rise to an incongruous situation where refugees who have stood against terrorism and tyranny in their homelands or who fought side by side with US troops are being barred from admission to the US as 'terrorists'. In addition, individuals who were forced to give support to terrorist organisations out of fear for their lives – no matter how minimal the value of the amount given – have been considered as supporters of terrorism and thereby denied protection in the US.

On the immigration front, the debate over undocumented immigrants in the US came to a head this past year as marches were held in more than 30 cities protesting against a bill that would have made felons of the approximately 12 million undocumented migrants living in the US. The war against terrorism has caused many to conflate their reaction to undocumented migrants with the fear of further terrorist attacks, thus exacerbating xenophobic tendencies in the country. Throughout 2006 the US Congress was unable to agree upon legislation that would help fix the broken immigration system. Some legislators emphasised the values of protecting the rule of law and national security, while others, including the Catholic Church, emphasised the need for justice and care for undocumented migrants. Despite the passage and signing of an election-driven bill that authorised the construction of a 1,100 km fence along the southwest border between Mexico and the US, there has been little subsequent support in Congress to appropriate the necessary funds to implement this border-securing project.

"THE WAR AGAINST TERRORISM HAS CAUSED MANY TO
CONFLATE THEIR REACTION TO UNDOCUMENTED MIGRANTS
WITH THE FEAR OF FURTHER TERRORIST ATTACKS..."

KEN GAVIN SJ,
JRS USA DIRECTOR

Many refugee NGOs continued to object to the 2004 US/Canada Safe Third Country Agreement as it forces asylum seekers arriving in Canada via the US to apply for refugee status in the latter. JRS challenged this agreement because Canadian policies impose fewer restrictions, provide more personal assistance, and resort to detention far less than their US counterparts. Other JRS lobbying activities focused on obstacles faced by refugees entering the country through private sponsorship agreements and the slowness with which refugee families are reunited. JRS, as part of Sanctuary Coalition, worked with church-based groups providing sanctuary to persons issued with deportation orders but for whom forced return to their country would entail risk of serious harm.

JACK COSTELLO SJ,
JRS CONTACT PERSON IN CANADA



UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

JRS projects in the United States of America

detention / pastoral

In 2006, JRS USA continued to support chaplaincy programmes for detained non-US citizens in four Department of Homeland Security-managed federal detention facilities. These programmes offered 30,000 detainees the opportunity to attend regularly scheduled religious services.

advocacy

- JRS advocated for the expansion of spiritual care programmes to detention centres with limited access to chaplains and religious services.
- In partnership with JRS Asia Pacific and other NGOs, JRS USA successfully paved the way for the imminent US resettlement of sizeable numbers of Burmese Chin in Malaysia and India and Burmese Karen in Thailand.
- JRS urged the US government to set an example for other resettlement countries by making a generous offer to resettle many Bhutanese refugees in southeast Nepal.
- In partnership with JRS Colombia, JRS USA called for US aid to Colombia to focus more attention on humanitarian rather than military assistance. The US team also drew attention to the plight of Colombian refugees refused admission to the US on the basis of the 'material support bar'.

fundraising

- JRS provided \$117,000 to the most vulnerable survivors of Hurricane Katrina, including students in a local secondary school, individuals participating in a job-training programme and a homeless shelter in New Orleans.
- To assist tsunami- and conflict-displaced persons, JRS USA contributed \$200,000 to JRS Sri Lanka.
- JRS USA contributed \$20,000 to purchase construction equipment to rebuild schools and homes for returnees in Liberian villages.
- To assist returning Angolan refugees, JRS USA provided Portuguese literacy schools with \$20,000.
- To provide Bhutanese refugee children in Nepal the opportunity to complete their secondary education, JRS USA donated \$20,000.
- JRS helped JRS Eastern Africa to secure \$437,000 in US grants for primary and adult literacy education for returning refugees and internally displaced persons in southern Sudan.



CANADA

JRS projects in Canada

assistance

JRS, in cooperation with the refugee organisation, Romero House, continued to organise a summer camp at the Jesuit Anishinabe Centre in northern Ontario designed to develop the leadership skills of refugees assisting new arrivals. JRS also provided counselling to refugees, and tended to the pastoral needs of many refugees, workers and supporters.

JRS sponsored refugee families resettling in Montreal and Toronto and assisted their integration into Canadian society. JRS participated in fundraising activities to finance language training for JRS refugee-workers, and assisted a JRS project in Latin America.

outreach

JRS maintained close contacts with teams in Latin America, including participating in meetings in Ecuador and the Dominican Republic. It also co-funded a three-person team comprising JRS and Romero House staff to participate in the conference on experimental apostolic work, 'Homecoming and Encounter', by the Jesuit NGO, Alboan in Javier, Spain. The team in Montreal published *Vivre Ensemble*, a quarterly journal focusing the experiences of refugees and migrants in Quebec and fostered significant inter-cultural dialogue.

JRS FINANCES 2006

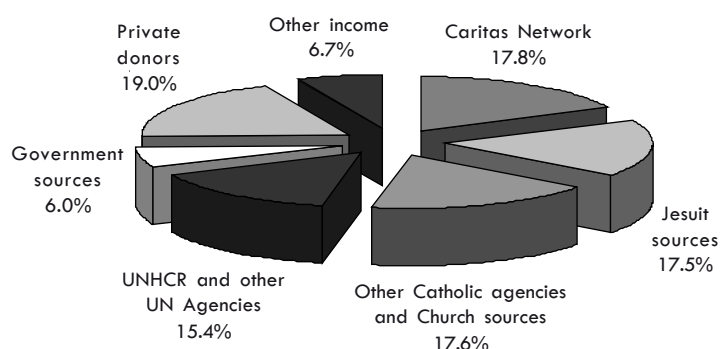
Some explanatory notes

1. Information based on income & expenditure reports received from the country and/or regional offices.
2. In-kind donations, particularly from the Society of Jesus and religious congregations are not included in these figures. They are difficult to quantify but play an important role in support of JRS.
3. Project funding in 2006 remains at the level of 2005.
4. **Sources of funding:**
 - *Other Catholic agencies and Church sources* refers to donations from Catholic Bishops' Conferences, dioceses, religious congregations and Catholic agencies other than the Caritas Network;
 - *Private donors* includes individuals and private foundations;
 - *Other income* refers to earning from investments, interest on bank deposits and retail sales from income-generating projects;
 - *Jesuit sources* refers to funds received from Jesuit provinces, individual Jesuits and the Jesuit Mission Offices.

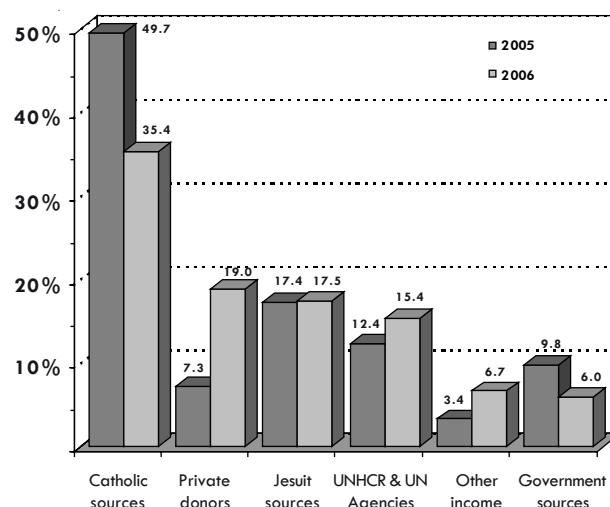
SOURCES OF FUNDING JRS WORLD-WIDE (in US dollars)

Sources of funding	Amount
Private donors	5,033,748
Caritas Network	4,732,655
Other Catholic agencies and Church sources	4,685,483
Jesuit sources	4,652,766
UNHCR and other UN Agencies	4,097,205
Other income	1,775,695
Government sources	1,582,953
Grand Total	26,560,505

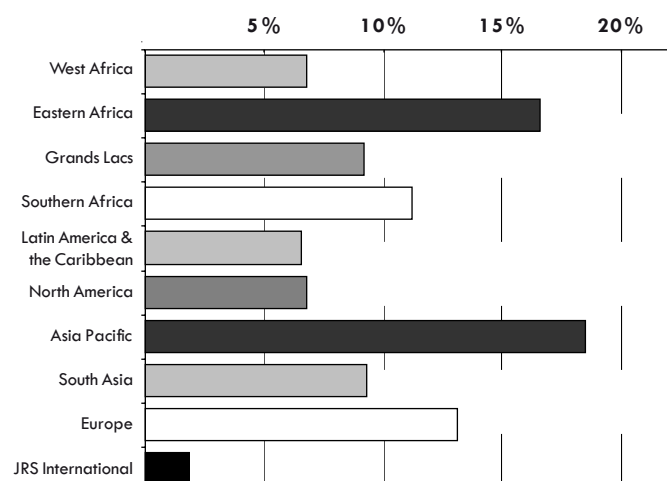
SOURCES OF FUNDING BY PERCENTAGE



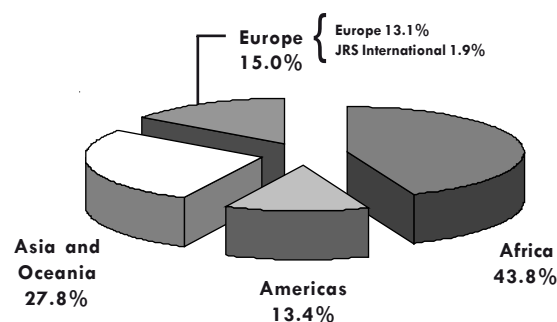
SOURCES OF FUNDING: COMPARISON 2005-2006



PERCENTAGE DISTRIBUTION OF EXPENDITURE BY REGION



PERCENTAGE DISTRIBUTION OF EXPENDITURE BY CONTINENT



http://www.jrs.net The JRS Web Site

Visit <http://www.jrs.net> – JRS's web site – for up-to-date refugee news and information. The site contains regular "Alerts" from specific countries where JRS is present, feature articles and special reports from JRS workers in the field, as well as JRS documents and publications.



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

Servir

Servir, 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. *Servir* is available in English, Spanish, French and Italian.



Dispatches

Dispatches, a twice-monthly electronic news bulletin, details refugee news briefings as well as updates on JRS projects and activities. Also available in English, Spanish, French and Italian.

JRS POLICY LEAFLETS

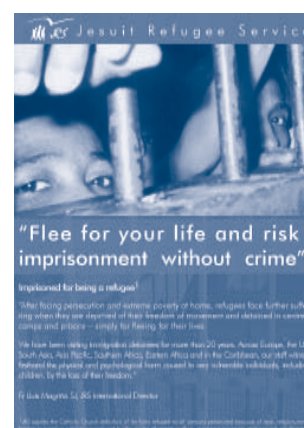
Flee for your life and risk imprisonment without crime

For over 20 years JRS has been serving, accompanying and defending the rights of refugees held in detention. JRS staff around the world – in Europe, the US, South Asia, Asia Pacific, Southern Africa, Eastern Africa and in the Caribbean – visit people in detention who have not been charged with, or convicted of, any crime. These people have been deprived of their liberty simply for entering or remaining in a country or moving without authorisation. JRS is concerned about the inadequate conditions in which refugees, asylum seekers and migrants are held in detention and the obstacles faced by asylum seekers trying to gain access to refugee-status-determination procedures.

JRS has become aware that detention is increasingly being used – inappropriately and in violation of international human rights law – to deter the arrival of refugees and to persuade them to leave. Therefore, JRS decided to work together with other NGOs concerned about this issue to develop the international coalition on the detention of refugees, asylum seekers and migrants, which was launched worldwide on 20 June 2006.

This coalition was established to raise awareness of government detention policies and practices and to promote greater protection and respect for the human rights of detainees. It advocates limiting the use of, seeking alternatives to, and using the least restrictive forms of, immigration detention.

For more information, contact the JRS International office for a hard copy of the leaflet “Flee for your life and risk imprisonment without crime” or download it electronically on www.jrs.net/pubs/leaflets/index.php.



Forced Home by Food Cuts

Through its accompaniment of refugees and IDPs (internally displaced persons) JRS witnesses firsthand the suffering and dangers caused by cuts in food rations. So they conducted a survey of JRS field offices on the impacts of food cuts, and produced a leaflet “Forced Home by Food Cuts” to highlight the issues raised in this survey.

The impact of food cuts reported by JRS field offices included increased health problems and malnutrition, developmental delays in children, higher school drop-out rates among children, an increase in the number of refugees engaged in exploitative employment such as prostitution, and greater numbers of refugees forced to return home.

Food cuts force refugees to break laws restricting their freedom of movement and access to employment. They have to leave the camps to work even when this is illegal. This creates more protection problems and brings them into contact with local police where they are frequently harassed, required to pay bribes, arrested and detained. Some are even deported, placing them at risk of serious human rights abuses.

For more details, contact the JRS International office for a hard copy of “Forced Home by Food Cuts” or download it electronically on www.jrs.net/pubs/leaflets/index.php.



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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

☐

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For bank transfers to JRS

Bank: Banca Popolare di Sondrio, Roma (Italy), Ag. 12
ABI: 05696 – CAB: 03212 – SWIFT: POSOIT22

Account name: JRS

Account numbers: • for Euro: 3410/05

IBAN: IT 86 Y 05696 03212 000003410X05

• for US dollars: VAR 3410/05

IBAN: IT 97 O 05696 03212 VARUS0003410



Domino Frank Suleiman SJ/JRS

JRS assisted local returnee communities to rebuild their churches, northwest Liberia



Sergi Camara

