

Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe Secretariat

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Conference Services

Please find attached the presentation by Mr. David Stone, Director – Livelihood and Environmental Security (LIVES) Advisory Group, delivered to the Session III (*Environment and Migration*), of the 13th OSCE Economic Forum, Prague, 23 -27 May 2005.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS OF DISPLACED POPULATIONS

Dealing with Issues rather than the Problems

SOME FACTS...

- More than 160 wars have been recorded since the end of World War II
- Almost 40 million people worldwide have been uprooted from their homes by war alone
- 28 million people affected by natural disasters in 1960s; 64 million in 1980s;
- Nearly every country in the world hosts refugees including many of the poorest nations
- 25% in Africa



...AND ISSUES

- Natural resources diamonds, timber, water... - are increasingly becoming a cause of conflict and papulation displacement.
- Ecosystem services & functions collapse under pressure of sudden, concentrated human displacements
- Many camps & settlements are located close to borders and protected areas
- Significant damage can result, but preventive and/or mitigation



WHO ARE WE TALKING ABOUT?

- Refugees conflict generated; outside of country of origin; unable to return under prevailing circumstances
- Internally displaced people some, but not all, conflict generated; may be unable to leave their country
- Environmentally displaced persons environmental degradation is a major (but no the only) cause of displacement
- Voluntary migrants voluntary movement for economic, social, cultural or personal gain
- Returnees refugees (mainly) who are able to return home following political changes

SOME ISSUES OF CONCERN

- FUELWOOD, BUILDING MATERIALS AND CHARCOAL: USE & COMMERCE
- OVERGRAZING
- POOR AGRICULTURAL PRACTICES
- EROSION
- WATER POLLUTION
- WASTE MANAGEMENT
- POACHING (BUSHMEAT)
- INTRODUCED INVASIVE SPECIES
- SOCIAL & ECONOMIC DISRUPTION
- CONFLICT



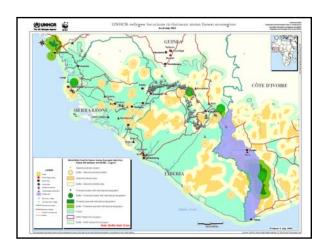
WHAT CAN BE DONE?

- Understand the situation
- Identify what is/might be at risk
- Assess what environmental mitigation opportunities might be available
- Consider the impact of institutional assistance including donor and government responses - on the environment and existing communities
- Consider the implications of "no action"

4 PHASES

- Normal/Pre-emergency
- Emergency
- Care and Maintenance
- Durable Solutions





REHABILITATION PAKISTAN – INCOME GENERATING PROJECTS FOR REFUGEE AREAS 12 years (1984-1996) - \$86 million "This approach does not provide a blueprint for replication" WB Evaln SUDAN – SUSTAINABLE OPTIONS FOR LIVELIHOOD SECURITY IN EASTERN SUDAN Participatory approach 3-year programme; 300,000 people; \$11.5 million

NORMAL / PRE- EMERGENCY ACTIONS TO TAKE Identify potential hotspots/ flashpoints Identify high risk sites (e.g., protected areas) using different dispersal/movement scenarios Prepare contingency plans Train and equip for initial response (e.g., park wardens) Best practices applied Capacity building (institutions, government) Rapid response system — contingency plans Conflict prevention/resolution of disputes at local community level Awareness raising Best practices applied ACTIONS TO TAKE SITUATION **EMERGENCY** ACTIONS TO TAKE • Prevention before cure making Influence settlement location and design Identify appropriate alternative systems and practices Awareness raising - all levels - e.g., protected areas or off-limit resources, food provision... Begin to organise management structures Influence policy decisions (a.g. Influence policy decisions (e.g. procurement by relief operation)

CARE AND MAINTENANCE Situation begins to stabilise for part of population at least of population and paragraph (original per population) and insurance of population and displaced people (property of population) and displaced peo

DURABLE SOLUTIONS

- Possible upheaval if returning to home country (refugee) or town/region (JDP) or new country (refugee) or town/region (JDP) or new country (refugee/migrant) Returnee (refugees/IDPs) population may add further stress to existing situation Few dominant actors are they the right/most appropriate ones? Often weakened government and divil society structure incapable of making good decisions Lack of dairly/transpersery over ownership issues, as well as security

- ACTIONS TO TAKE

 Careful pre-planning to assess actual situation and anticipated/expected needs of returnees

 Examine broader landscape needs and options for more sustainable environmental management

 Re-housing and resettlement takes environmental considerations into account

 Dispute resolution skills for all community members new and existing

 Contidence building and stakeholder involvement

 Legal rights leaffied, e.g. land tenure

 Education

 Skills training based on experiences and needs

 Livelihood restoration

 Poverty reduction, socio-economic development and benefit sharing

 Best practices applied

 Monitor-and evaluate

THEORY TO PRACTICE

- Many tools and best practices exist, but these often don't reach the intended audiences re-inventing the wheel, or cost of "no action"