

Trinity International Development Initiative



Trinity Development Research Week 2011

Development Evidence Based Aid: Helping Decision Makers Before and After Natural Disasters

Logistical Details

Date: 9th November, 2011

Time: 3-5pm

Venue: TCD/UCD Innovation Academy, 3-4 Foster Place

Map of campus: <http://www.tcd.ie/Maps/assets/pdf/tcd-main-campus.pdf>

Link to Trinity Development Research Week Programme:

<http://www.tcd.ie/tidi/development-research-week/2011.php>

Background to the event:

The Evidence Aid project and its partners have been providing information to people planning and responding to natural disasters and other humanitarian emergencies since the Indian Ocean Tsunami in 2004. Evidence Aid uses knowledge from the Cochrane Collaboration and other systematic reviews to provide reliable, up-to-date, evidence on interventions that might be considered in the context of natural disasters and other major healthcare emergencies. After a successful conference in Oxford on September 26 2011, when more than 70 participants from various agencies including WHO, CDC, UNICEF, ICRC, MSF, IRC, Red Cross, Save the Children, UNHCR, MERLIN, DFID and OXFAM expressed support for Evidence Aid, this workshop is an opportunity for Ireland-based organisations to consider the role that Evidence Aid can play to promote evidence-based practices in humanitarian emergencies and international development.

For more information about Evidence Aid click these links:

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/science/blog/2011/sep/26/evidence-aid-natural-disasters?INTCMP=SRCH>

<http://www.cochrane.org/cochrane-reviews/evidence-aid-project/1st-evidence-aid-conference-september-26-2011>

Running Order:

Time	Topic	Speaker
1500 - 1505	Introduction by Chair	Prof. Mike Clarke, Queen's University Belfast and TCD Centre for Global Health
Part 1		
1505 - 1520	Plenary 1: How do donors limit or encourage the use of research evidence in the	Ciara O'Brien, Deputy Director, Emergency and Recovery Section, Irish Aid

	humanitarian sector and related areas?	
1520-1535	Plenary 2: Was the evidence ignored in the Horn of Africa? Experience from an NGO perspective	Austin Kennan, Regional Director, Horn of Africa, Concern
1535-1550	Plenary 3: Including evidence based practice in the academic curriculum	Pat Gibbons, Director, MSc Humanitarian Action, UCD, TBC
1550-1605	Plenary 4: The need for systematic reviews in the humanitarian sector and related areas	Bonnix Kayabu, Evidence Aid Coordinator, Centre for Global health TCD and the Cochrane Collaboration
1605-1615	Questions and answers	
Part 2		
1615- 1645	Small group discussion on specific topics	See below for details
1645 - 1700	Feedback from small groups and general discussion	

The small group discussions will consider the following topics:

- **Group A:**
 - Which systems were in place to monitor the food security crises in the Horn of Africa?
 - How was this information transmitted and used?
 - Why was the evidence ignored?
 - What lessons should be learned from the surveillance of malnutrition in the Horn of Africa?

Facilitator: Austin Kennan, Concern

- **Group B**
 - Do you think students in the humanitarian sector or international development should be taught about research evidence?
 - How can academic institutions that run Masters Programs in humanitarian response, Public Health, International Development, Human Rights promote the production and use of research evidence in this context?
 - Should students be able to assess the quality of information they are exposed to during their studies and when they start working?

Facilitator: Pat Gibbons, UCD

- **Group C**
 - How does Irish Aid promote evidence-based practices in the humanitarian and international development sectors?
 - How can Irish Aid encourage NGOs (including INGOs) to use research evidence?
 - Is it important for the Irish Aid to take a leading role in promoting evidence based practices in the humanitarian sectors and international development?

Facilitator: Ciara O'Brien, Irish Aid

- **Group D**
 - How can Evidence Aid work with Irish NGOs to support them in their mission to assist those in need?
 - How can Irish NGOs take a global leading role in promoting evidence based practices in humanitarian sectors?

Facilitator: Karen Hand, Centre For Global Health