

Emergency  
Nutrition Network

# Annual Report

1 February 2009 – 31 January 2010





# Introduction

The ENN was set up in 1996 by an inter-agency group of humanitarian organisations to improve practice and strengthen institutional memory of humanitarian agencies involved in the food and nutrition sector of emergencies. The ENN's flagship publication, *Field Exchange*, was developed as the main means of achieving this. To date (31 January 2010) there have been 37 Editions of *Field Exchange* as well as many complementary activities including the production of three *Special Supplements* on areas of 'cutting edge' programming, development of operational guidance and training resources on *Infant and Young Child Feeding in Emergencies*, research initiatives, facilitating workshops and producing reports on international technical meetings.

The ENN is a participatory-based initiative, with networking and collaboration at the core of ENN's activities. The ENN targets those concerned with humanitarian response at all levels, from international policy-makers to field workers 'on the ground'.

## The ENN's Vision

That every individual caught up in a nutritional emergency anywhere in the world gets the most effective help possible.

## The ENN's Objective

To improve effectiveness of emergency food and nutrition interventions through identification and dissemination of lessons learnt in the course of operational practice and through research and evaluation.

## The ENN's Mission

There are three cross-cutting themes to all of ENN's activities:

- *Building up capacity* – at all levels, from international non-governmental organisations to local community organisations, and, from policy-makers to field workers, to respond more effectively to crises. This involves developing a shared institutional memory of what does and does not work in different crisis situations and delivering that knowledge as widely as possible.
- *Network-building* – so that organisations and individuals support and learn from each other as much as possible. The overarching purpose of ENN is to speed up the sharing of knowledge and wherever possible, reduce the communication chain.
- *Impartiality and independence* – to encourage reporting on failures as well as successes, the independence of the ENN is vital. Protecting this means ensuring that no one source of income predominates.

## Institutional base

The ENN was initially established as a self-financing activity in the Department of Community Health and General Practice in Trinity College Dublin, Ireland and later incorporated as a limited company in Ireland (30th April 2001). In September 2003, a transfer of ENN activities to Oxford, UK was initiated and completed in July 2004. Initially operating as a UK company limited by guarantee (not-for profit), the ENN was granted UK charitable status in July 2006. The ENN is governed by a Board of Trustees.

## The ENNs Activities

- The ENN's tri-annual print/online publication, *Field Exchange*, records field level programming experience and disseminates this worldwide, to those working in the emergency nutrition and food security sectors. Producing *Field Exchange* offers a unique perspective of emergency programming that continues to help identify 'gaps' and challenges in the field and informs the development of ENN's other activities.
- ENN *'Special Supplements'* collate recent experience of best practice in specific 'cutting edge' areas of emergency programming. Three ENN *Special Supplements* have been produced to date.
- The online technical forum, *en-net*, provides field practitioners with access to prompt technical advice from experts and peers for operational challenges faced in emergency programmes.
- Coordination and technical input in the area of *infant and young child feeding in emergencies (IFE)* and *research initiatives* are geared towards filling gaps in knowledge and developing guidance and resource material to make a difference to 'on the ground' implementation.
- Coordinating research and technical input into the prevention and treatment of moderate malnutrition.
- Piloting and developing approaches to capacity building in the emergency nutrition sector through pre- and in-service training and development of nutrition in emergency modules for inclusion in post-graduate training courses.
- Facilitating and reporting on *international technical meetings* is a means of achieving speedier consensus on best practice and disseminating findings to those in the field and/or responsible for programming at headquarters level.

# Output



## Field Exchange

During the reporting period, *Field Exchange* issues 35, 36 and 37 were produced. Development of a *Field Exchange* online and CD search archive was funded by the Global Nutrition Cluster (GNC) and completed in late 2009. A *Field Exchange* archive CD archive was included with each copy of *Field Exchange* 36.

Staff from 15 non-governmental organisations (NGOs), including one local/community based organization, and eight research groups or individual researchers wrote articles or submitted research for *Field Exchange*. Six articles were written by United Nation agencies. A breakdown of the type of article included in *Field Exchange* 35, 36 and 37 is given in Figure 1.

*Field Exchange* 35 covered a broad range of topics including efforts to scale up and integrate community therapeutic care (CTC) services within existing health services in Malawi, a number of pieces about the cause and effect of the food price crisis, and a field article by Action Contre la Faim (ACF) describing their experience of implementing a new survey method for assessing acute malnutrition in nomadic pastoralist populations.

*Field Exchange* 36 included a number of field articles that endeavoured to demonstrate some form of intervention impact, including nutrition supplementation of HIV positive individuals in Zambia a voucher scheme for fresh fruit and vegetables in a Dadaab refugee camp in Kenya and a joint cash and food programme in drought affected Swaziland. Research summaries covered a broad range of topics including the relationship between protein



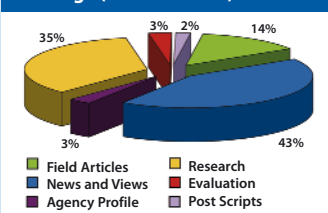
## Infant and Young Child Feeding in Emergencies (IFE)

ENN coordinates and is the institutional 'home' for a collaborative interagency effort (the IFE Core Group) concerned with developing policy guidance and capacity building in IFE since 1999, IFE Core Group members are the ENN, UNHCR, WFP, WHO, UNICEF, IBFAN-GIFA, Action Contre la Faim, Save the Children UK and Save the Children US, and CARE USA. Associate member is Fondation Tdh. The outputs from this collaboration are the Operational Guidance on IFE (OG IFE) and three training packages, the translation of the OG IFE into 13 languages, an online Resource Library and a regional workshop held in Indonesia to improve IFE preparedness and response in the region.

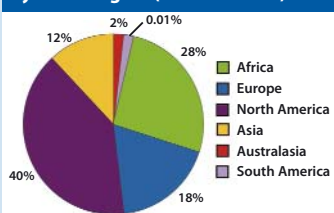
In 2009, the ENN finalised an online orientation package for emergency staff on IFE (Module 1, v2.0) and associated resources, including a media guide on responsibilities around IFE. Face to face training content was piloted by ENN in a UNICEF regional training on nutrition in emergencies in Nairobi in July. In collaboration with the partnership Nutrition, Policy & Practice, the ENN/IFE Core Group developed training content to integrate infant and young child feeding into community-based management of acute malnutrition (CMAM), piloted in Sierra Leone and Zimbabwe. An evaluation of the regional IFE workshop held in Bali in 2008 showed an impact in terms of national policy development, training, and in regional emergency response. ENN was a member of the Sphere technical review group to inform IFE content in the Sphere Revision process in 2009 and 2010. ENN and IFE Core Group member IBFAN-GIFA,



**Figure 1: Article types for Field Exchange (issues 35 – 37)**



**Figure 2: Field Exchange distributed by world region (issues 35 – 37)**



energy malnutrition and genetic mutation and the impact of introducing new breeds of livestock as part of emergency restocking programmes on local genetic stocks in Bosnia-Herzegovina.

*Field Exchange* 37 addressed four key thematic areas; the role of data and indicators in emergencies, the use of specialised foods used in feeding programmes, programming in conflict situations and how nutrition is conceptualised<sup>1</sup> within the humanitarian sector. Articles included a review conducted by the Health and Nutrition Tracking Service in WHO on the primary indicators used in emergencies and research on the relative effectiveness of fortified spreads compared to corn soy blend (CSB) in Malawi supplementary feeding programmes.

**Profile of Field Exchange recipients**

As of January 2009, there were 2,593 recipients of Field Exchange in 122 countries who received 3497 print copies. Geographic coverage of print distribution is given in Figure 2. Nutrition/emergency nutrition tops the area of expertise of mailing recipients, followed by health, food security, and infant and young child feeding and research (Figure 3). During 2009-10, the Field Exchange website had 61,947 visitors from 196 countries/territories. A geographical breakdown of these visitors is shown in Figure 4.

**Evaluation of Field Exchange**

Between February and May 2009, the ENN completed an evaluation of how Field Exchange is received and used. This involved phone interviews with print copy recipients, a review of the amount of citation of Field Exchange in peer-review journals, online and in agency reports, and interviews with institutions involved in nutrition in humanitarian

led the content development for materials to support the World Breastfeeding Week (WBW) 2009 theme 'Breastfeeding in emergencies: a vital emergency response. Are you ready?'

**Research**

Through 2009, the ENN's three main areas of research were:

- i) Reviewing the evidence base and exploring alternative approaches for the prevention and treatment of moderate malnutrition (MAM) in children under five years of age. An OFDA funded programme of research was initiated in October 2009. During the funding period a method for the study has been developed and endorsed by the steering group and a short-list of study sites has been drawn up.
- ii) Strengthening supplementary feeding programme implementation through the development of minimum reporting guidelines and research into causes of defaulting. An OFDA funded programme of research was initiated in October 2008. During the reporting period data collection for the defaulter study has been ongoing in three countries while piloting of the minimum reporting package took place in two countries.
- iii) Review of the management of acute malnutrition in infants less than six months of age (MAMI Project). Funded by the GNC, the MAMI Project was completed in early 2010.

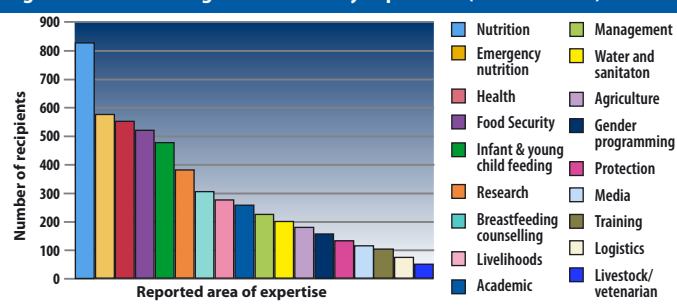
All research activities have involved steering groups of agencies and academics and are funded by bilateral donors, UN agencies, the GNC and many international NGOs. Reports and activity updates are available at [www.enonline.net/research/mami](http://www.enonline.net/research/mami)

**Building national and international capacity**

In late 2009, the ENN secured funding from OFDA to undertake three projects that aim to build the capacity of national, regional and international practitioners. These are due for completion in Sept 2011.

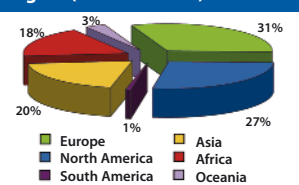
The *Harmonised Training Package* (HTP) is a set of materials developed in 2007-2008 under the auspices of the GNC by NutritionWorks (NW)<sup>2</sup>. It

**Figure 3: Field Exchange distribution by experience (issues 35 – 37)**



response training<sup>1</sup>. The majority of interviewees were highly enthusiastic about Field Exchange, and confirmed that it provides them with insight, information and exposure that they struggle to find elsewhere. Two thirds of respondents had been informed of areas that they were not aware of, while others stated that it substantiated existing knowledge. The majority used Field Exchange as a training resource and over half to guide programming and inform their agency programming or policy.

**Figure 4: Field Exchange website visitors distribution by world region (issues 35 – 37)**



**Online Technical Forum (en-net)**

In February 2009, the ENN launched en-net, an online forum offering technical support to those working in emergency nutrition and food security. The forum is organised into seven thematic areas, each with one assigned technical moderator(s) and overseen by an ENN moderator. During 2009-10, en-net had almost 5,000 unique visitors from 150 different countries/territories, with over 8,000 hits in total. A total of 121 people posted either questions or answers during this period. Visit [www.en-net.org.uk](http://www.en-net.org.uk)



<sup>1</sup> <http://www.enonline.net/resources/view.aspx?resid=753>

offers a 'one-stop resource' on all aspects of food and nutrition in emergencies to inform training. An update to Version 2 of all 21 modules is began in late 2009 through an ENN/NW collaboration, for completion in late 2011.

*Pre and in-service training* for 'front-line workers' using the HTP content is being jointly piloted with NW and looks at the viability of incorporating emergency nutrition training into ongoing training of health, agriculture and other cadres of national staff. The project is being piloted in Africa and Asia.

*A post-graduate and professional nutrition in emergencies training project* is being undertaken in partnership with the University College London Centre for International Health and Development. This project will work with southern based academic institutions in Lebanon, Uganda and Thailand to develop masters and diploma level modules based on the HTP content.

**Project Funding and Sustainability**

Historically, ENN funding has been sourced from a range of bilateral donors, UN agencies and NGOs. 'Recurrent' funding from UN agencies/NGOs provides about one third of the minimum operational needs to cover ENN's core activities and is the cornerstone of ENN's funding base. The ENN has been successful in developing a broad base of funders, which is key to the organisation's sustainability. The overall funding strategy is to further broaden the funding base to include as many agencies involved in nutrition in emergencies as possible, and avoid over dependence on any one funder. Active fundraising has been successful in securing funds to undertake new projects that build upon ENNs core activities and reflect our commitment to realising our charitable objects. In 2008/09, funding was provided to support ENN activities by 30 UN agencies and NGOs, and three bilateral agencies: USAID/OFDA, Canadian International Development Association (CIDA) and Irish Aid.

<sup>2</sup> A UK based partnership of international public nutritionists with strong experience in capacity development.



# Staff

## Management and Accounts

Since its inception, the ENN has undergone external annual audit of accounts. A copy of the ENN's audited accounts report and financial statements for 2009/10 are available on request.

The ENN's accounts are prepared on an accrual basis. The ENN is not in any financial deficit. The organisation only undertakes expenditures for which there are committed funds. The ENN's annual general meeting was held on 26th September 2009. ENN Trustee meetings were held in February, June and September 2009.

In 2009, a review and update of ENN Human Resources Policies and Procedures and a pay review was completed. An ENN environmental policy was put in place and risk assessment system regarding finance and projects established.

## Emergency Nutrition Network Income & Expenditure Statement

For the Year 1 Feb 2008 to  
31st January 2009

	GBP
<b>Income</b>	<b>491,575</b>
UNICEF	191,693
OFDA	80,796
Irish Aid	27,081
CIDA	19,967
Save the Children UK	17,066
UNHCR	8,005
World Vision Canada	3,321
Care Inc	3,166
Dan Church Aid	3,166
OXFAM	2,500
MSF Holland	2,003
British Red Cross	2,000
WHO	1,498
Other Supporting Agencies	6,284
Exchange rate gain	73,798
<b>Expenditure</b>	<b>384,027</b>
Wages and Salaries	110,761
Consultancy Fees	187,781
Postage, Stationery, Production and Distribution	32,075
Rent, Rates, Service charges and Utilities	6,680
Office equipment, Website and IT	14,352
Insurance	1,027
Telephone and Fax	1,442
Travelling Expenses	24,442
Audit and Accountancy Fees	4,680
Bank Charges	450
Depreciation	337
Interest Received	2,438
<b>Operating Surplus/(Deficit)</b>	<b>109,986</b>

## Supporting agencies in 2008/09:



**Jeremy Shoham** is Field Exchange Editor, Moderate Malnutrition Research Coordinator and is a Technical Director and ENN Trustee



**Rupert Gill** is Office Manger and Field Exchange Database Manager



**Matt Todd** is ENN's Finance Manager



**Carmel Dolan** joined the ENN as a Technical Director in November 2009. Carmel has over 25 years experience working in both emergencies and development in Africa, Asia and the Middle East. She brings a wealth of experience in emergency and development programming, capacity development approaches, evidence based strategic focus, and coordination and communication skills.



**Marie McGrath** is Field Exchange Sub-editor, IFE Core Group Coordinator, MAMI Project Coordinator and Director/Trustee



**Diane Crocombe** is Administrator and Finance Officer



**Katherine Kaye** is Mailing Administrator

## Additional ENN expertise is provided by:



**Orna O'Reilly** designs and produces all of ENNs publications



**Phil Wilks** provides IT expertise

ENN projects are implemented through a range of partnerships and collaborations with institutions, agencies and individuals. Technical consultants working with the ENN in 2009/10 include Ali Maclaine, Karleen Gribble, Mary Lung'aho, Maryanne Stone-Jimenez, Joyce Kelly, Tamsin Walters, Mariangela Bisani, Fabiana Pisani, Nicky Dent, Carlos-Nabarro Colorado, Simon Harragin and Audrey Prost.

## Trustees

**Jeremy Shoham.**

**Marie McGrath.**

**Bruce Laurence** is a Consultant in Public Health in Derbyshire, UK. Previously he was Medical Director of the UK-based NGO, Merlin, and has also worked with Oxfam and MSF.

**Nigel Milway** was a senior executive with British Telecom for over 14 years and is now director of his own leadership and coaching consultancy.

**Victoria Lack** is a Lecturer in Public Health and Primary Care, at City University, London and spent years working in the field with ACF.

**Arabella Duffield** is an independent nutritionist with academic and field experience in nutrition and food security, and most recently was a SC UK nutrition advisor.

## Auditors

Wenn Townsend Chartered Accountants, 30 St Giles', Oxford, OX1 3LE, UK  
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The Emergency Nutrition Network is a company limited by guarantee and not having a share capital.  
Registered address: 32, Leopold Street, Oxford, OX4 1TW, UK  
Registered company no. 4889844  
Registered charity no. 1115156

## Cover photos from top:

Women collect drinking water in West Bengal Gram Panchayat, Gita Sabharwal, India, 2008; Withdrawing money from an ATM as part of cash transfer programme, SC UK, Swaziland, 2008; Children in Hamar weyne, SAACID, Somalia; Participants of a CAS-supported training give their feedback after a practical field session, Elizabeth Jordan-Bell, Malawi, 2008; Growth monitoring in a programme 'target area', Tdh Fondation, Bangladesh, 2008; Checking MUAC to determine nutrition status, Indrias Getachew/UNICEF, SNNPR, Ethiopia, 2008.

## Background:

Banana plantation in Cabaret, 35 km north of Port-au-Prince. The area's key crop, destroyed by the hurricane, Diana Hernandez Cordero/Oxfam, Haiti, 2008.