



People Power

The Advocacy Project strengthens community-based advocacy



Peace Fellow Sujita Basnet with students at the Hindu Vidyapeeth School in Nepal. The school takes in children who have been freed from coercive labor and works closely with Backward Society Education (BASE), a long-time partner of The Advocacy Project.

THE ADVOCACY PROJECT 2013 ANNUAL REPORT

www.advocacynet.org

People Power – 2013

The Advocacy Project strengthens community-based advocacy

Contents

1. Mission and Vision 2013 snapshot	p.2
2. Letter from the Executive Director	p.3
3. The Challenge of Marginalization	p.4
4. Community-based Partners	p.6
5. Telling the Story	p.7
6. Putting out the Story (Dissemination)	p.9
7. Advocacy Quilting	p.10
8. Building an International Constituency	p.11
9. Fundraising for Partners	p.12
10. Taking Action for Social Justice	p.13
11. Fellows for Peace	p.22
12. People at AP	p.26
13. Financials	p. 27

1. Mission and Vision

A Voice for the Voiceless

The Advocacy Project (AP) was registered as a 501c3 organization, with headquarters in Washington DC, in July 2001. AP has a human rights mission. Its goal is to help marginalized communities around the world take action against the root causes of their disempowerment - in a way that benefits society as a whole and produces social change.

We do not initiate partnerships, but try to respond to requests – particularly when they come from small groups that lack allies and urgently need to raise their profile. We believe strongly that those who are directly affected by social injustice are best equipped to take action. Information is their first and maybe their greatest need.

The Advocacy Project works abroad through graduate students and young professionals who volunteer with our partners as Fellows for Peace and give generously of their time and talent. We view them as a valuable resource and are committed to encouraging international service on behalf of human rights.

Snapshot of 2013

- **Communities:** AP worked with 14 marginalized communities
- **Partners:** AP supported 14 community-based organizations
- **Telling the story:** AP produced 15 bulletins, 79 blogs (282 comments), 5 videos, and 826 photos for use by partners
- **Putting out information:** AP trained 8 “accidental techies” in partner organizations and worked on 2 partner websites. 69,465 visitors viewed AP videos. The AP site received 114,489 views.
- **Outreach:** AP quilts were in display for 295 days in 2013, at Kean University, the Textile Museum, and in Marseilles, France
- **Fund-raising:** AP helped to raise \$258,741 for partners
- **Campaigns:** AP supported campaigns on war rape in the DRC; accessible sanitation in Uganda; Agent Orange in Vietnam; and child labor in Nepal
- **Peace Fellows:** AP recruited 12 Fellows from 7 universities
- **Staff and volunteers:** 38 individuals worked for AP in 2013. Three drew a salary.

2. Letter from the Executive Director

During 2013, The Advocacy Project continued to evolve from an online news service to providing support for field-based community campaigns. The year also saw further consolidation in the fellowship program and advocacy quilting.

Field Programs: After four years of serving as a fiduciary partner for *SOS Femmes en Danger (SOSFED)* in the DRC, AP handed over management of SOSFED's funding to SOSFED at the end of 2013. Chapter 10 of this report carries a special 5-page analysis of lessons learned in this important program. AP will continue to raise funds for SOSFED and promote the model of risk reduction elsewhere. In this connection AP visited Mali in 2013 at the request of a new partner, *Sini Sanuman*, that also works on sexual violence. We hope this will evolve into another strong field program in 2014.

AP invested in developing other long-term programs in 2013, at the request of partners. These will involve working with victims of Agent Orange in Vietnam; prosecuting employers of children in Nepal; building accessible toilets in Uganda; and supporting women's courts in India. All are described in greater detail in this report.

Fellowship Program: AP's flagship program Fellows for Peace was upgraded in 2013. We recruited fewer fellows and this allowed us to focus more on producing results and building long-term programs. The 2013 cohort of Fellows was also notable for its diversity – no fewer than 8 nationalities among 12 fellows. They included our first-ever Syrian and Saudi Arabian. Several fellows showed tremendous dedication, none more so than John Steies from Minnesota, who spent the summer working on toilets in Uganda.

Website: Webmaster Laura Jones coordinated work on a new AP website. By the end of the year the site was close to going live with an elegant new design from our developer, Vertigo Visual. Our biggest challenge has been to produce new pages for current partners that will do justice to their campaigns and the hard work of their Peace Fellows.

Quilts: We produced one new quilt during the year. The panels were embroidered by artisans in Bangladesh and assembled by the Sisters Choice Guild in Virginia in October. Our main goal for this program in 2013 was to show our collection of quilts – which number over 30 - to as wide an audience as possible. They were exhibited at Kean University for 7 months and covered by the New York Times. The Textile Museum in Washington also showed eight quilts for three weeks in November - the last exhibition at its elegant location off Massachusetts Avenue. AP also produced a set of greeting cards on each of the quilts which went on sale at the end of the year and sold well.

Outreach: We continued to promote the work of partners from Washington with UN agencies, embassies, and think tanks. As part of this, we contributed to two strong online campaigns on behalf of two partners – Chintan in Delhi and the Kakenya Center of Excellence in Kenya. Chintan was shortlisted for a major innovation prize by Google, while Kakenya Ntaiya was selected as one of CNN's top ten heroes. Both organizations were handsomely rewarded, which was no more than they deserved. We are pleased to have helped them through their formative years to international recognition.



Iain Guest

3. The Challenge of Marginalization

Marginalized communities have been disempowered by conflict, poverty, discrimination and racism. Most of all they lack a voice. AP helps them to tell their story, take action and ultimately remove the cause of their disempowerment. We give priority to communities that have few other allies.

AP worked for 14 communities in 2013

- **Africa**

Survivors of sexual violence in East Kivu, DRC; Survivors of sexual violence in Mali; People with disabilities in northern Uganda; Women recyclers in Uganda; Weavers from the Atlas Mountains in Morocco; Waste-pickers in Delhi; Maasai girls in Kenya.

- **Asia**

Persons with disabilities in Vietnam; Freed child laborers in Nepal; River Gypsies in Bangladesh; Tribal women in India; Dalit in Nepal.

- **Europe**

Travellers in the UK.

- **Middle East**

The Israeli Peace Movement.

The Faces of Marginalization

As in past years, our work in 2013 helped to bring home the many different facets of marginalization. AP divides partners into six categories: women, children, disability, conflict, minorities and indigenous, and the environment.

Violence: Two partners were violently treated in 2013, underscoring the dangers that face defenders on the front lines. In Bangladesh, Shahed Kayes, the founder and president of the Subornogram Foundation, was kidnapped and assaulted by thugs from local corporations (box). Shahed had accused the corporations of stealing sand from the Mayadip islands and the attack – which happened in front of Peace Fellow Chris Pinderhughes – received international media coverage. In Nepal Urmila Chaudhary and several other freed domestic slaves (known in Nepal as *kamlaris*) were assaulted by the police for protesting against the suspicious death of a young *kamlari*, Srijana



Shahed Kayes, founder of the Subornogram Foundation in Bangladesh, and an AP partner, was kidnapped and beaten by thugs for protesting against illegal sand-dredging. The dredging underlines the livelihood of River Gypsies who live on the Mayadip Islands. AP has sent two Fellows to help Shahed's schools program.

Chaudhary. Peace Fellow Emily McDonald interviewed Urmila in hospital.

Conflict: Six of the 14 communities supported by AP continue to feel the effects of conflict. In the Eastern Congo, AP's partner SOSFED took in 132 victims of armed rape at its two centers (Mboko and Fizi Town). AP's new partner in Mali, Sini Sanuman, also handled scores of rape cases from the war in northern Mali in 2012. In Vietnam, Agent Orange continues to strike second and third generation Vietnamese, years after the country was sprayed by Dioxin during the Vietnam War. Peace Fellow Kelly Howell spent much of her summer investigating.

Caste and discrimination: Several communities in 2013 continued to suffer from persistent discrimination. The Travellers of Dale Farm, in the UK, remained in limbo next to their ruined former homes two years after their eviction. Despite promises the local council was no nearer finding them land. The Dalit in Nepal – another long-time community supported by AP – continued to suffer from discrimination.

Women: Seven communities suffered from gender-based discrimination or violence – survivors of war rape in DRC and Mali; recyclers in Uganda; tribal women in western India; domestic workers in Nepal; weavers in Morocco; and Maasai girls in Kenya. Peace Fellows Andra Bosneag and Jasveen Bindra in Gujarat produced insightful blogs on the cultural complexities of discrimination in tribal society.

Children: AP worked with advocates for children in Nepal, Bangladesh, and Kenya. In Nepal we investigated the failure of child labor laws. Our partner in Bangladesh, the Subornogram Foundation, provides education for children of river gypsies and cobblers.

Environmental protection: AP sent a Fellow to support the women of KIWOI, in Uganda, who turn plastic straws into bags. In 2012, KWOI persuaded two supermarkets to suspend the use of plastic bags and provide customers with straw bags.

Disability: AP worked for three disabled communities in 2013, in Vietnam, Bangladesh and Uganda. Program manager Karin Orr visited BERDO in Bangladesh, which works for blind people, and landmine survivors in Vietnam. AP also constructed a toilet for people with disability in northern Uganda.

4. Partnering with Community-based Advocates

In 2013 AP worked with the following 14 community-based organizations:

- **Africa**
SOS Femmes en Danger (DRC); Sini Sanuman (Mali); Gulu Disabled Persons Union (GDPU – Uganda); Kinawataka Women Initiatives (Uganda).
- **Asia**
Subornogram Foundation (Bangladesh); Backward Society Education (Nepal); Jagaran Media Center (Nepal); Vikalp/Parma (India); The Association for Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (AEPD – Vietnam).
- **Europe**
Dale Farm Housing Association (UK).
- **Latin America**
Peruvian Forensic Anthropology Team (EPAF – Peru).
- **Middle East**
The Alternative Information Center (AIC) in Israel; The Ain Leuh Weavers cooperative (Morocco); The Democracy and Workers Rights Center in Palestine.

New partners: Sini Sanuman in Mali was recommended to AP by the office of the UN Special Representative on Armed Sexual Violence in New York. The organization worked for several years on female genital cutting in partnership with UNICEF before taking up the issue of war rape in 2012. The second new partner, Care Women Nepal (CWN), found AP through Sujita Basnet, who served as an AP Fellow in Nepal. CWN works with survivors of prolapse in Dhankuta district.

Organization: As always, working with CBOs underscored the organizational strengths and needs of community-based human rights advocates. This was nowhere more clear than in the DRC. SOSFED's field team is without equal – brave, effective, honest and extremely experienced. But the organization's management continued to struggle with communications, reporting to donors, and administration. This was not helped by the lack of English-speakers in south Kivu and weak infrastructure.

5. Telling the Story – Producing information

AP helps partners to profile their work and produce information that can be used in campaigns. Peace Fellows provide much of the raw material, in the form of blogs, videos, photo, and Tweets which are then used by AP and their hosts.

Telling the story

Many partners work on issues which are topical and important, but lack the means to publicize them. AP helps to fill the hole with news bulletins, which are sent to over 5,500 subscribers. AP has produced over 250 bulletins since 2003, and published 13 in 2013:

- **Liechtenstein Support for Rape Survivors Offers Hope for Dilapidated Congolese Hospital** (January 31, 2013).
- **Advocacy Quilts Featured in the New York Times** (February 14, 2013)
- **Dale Farm Travellers Retain Their Dignity Amid Sewage And Rats** (February 20, 2013).
- **Army Base In Peru Yields Secrets, Galvanizes Advocates For The Disappeared** (March 22, 2013)
- **After a Decade of Achievement, It's Time to Move Beyond Fistula** (May 20, 2013)
- **Long-awaited Toilet Promises Accessible Services for Ugandans with Disability** (August 21, 2013)
- **Foreign Students Bring Diversity and Experience to American Volunteering** (May 30, 2013)
- **Peace Fellow Blog Highlights** (July 12, 2013)
- **Graduates from Syria and Saudi Arabia Inspire Moroccan Weavers** (July 22, 2013).
- **Nepal's Laws Leave Child Workers Defenseless Against Abuse and Death** (July 29, 2013).
- **Bangladesh Rights Advocate is Kidnapped and Assaulted for Protesting Sand Theft** (August 12, 2013)
- **Survivors of War Rape Struggle to Survive in Mali's Capital** (September 9, 2013)
- **Vote for an African Hero - and Raise \$250,000 for Girl's Education in Kenya** (October 16, 2013)
- **Help to Protect Waste Pickers in Delhi and Encourage Recycling** (October 30, 2013).

Blogs

Peace Fellows are expected to produce regular blogs from the field. These have been posted on the AP site since 2003, when the fellowship program began.

Providing material on programs: Fellows produced 79 blogs in 2013. Some blogs were exceptional. They included Emily's work on child labor laws; Kelly's blogs on Agent Orange; Meron's detailed description of the straw-pressing machine in Uganda; the blogs of Jasveen and Andra on the tribal women's courts; Mohamed's analysis of the treatment of women in Islam; and Chris' description of inaccessible services in Uganda. These will all be very useful as we build programs.

Breaking news: Chris Pinderhughes broke news with two eye-witness reports on the kidnapping of Shahed Kayes in Bangladesh. Emily McDonald's blogs on the suppression of *kamlari* advocates in Kathmandu provided material for an AP news bulletin which provoked a lively discussion among Nepali diaspora on the PCDN network.

Comments: The 2013 blogs attracted 282 comments. In proportion to the number of blogs (79) this was one of the highest number of comments ever recorded. Andra Bosneag (India) attracted the largest number, with her blogs on food and culture (68). Fellows who took the time to reply (Benan, Jasveen, Emily, Mona) to comments had the satisfaction of starting a lively debate.

Visuals

Videos and photos: AP asks Fellows to use video in profiling the work of their hosts, and AP's YouTube pages now feature over 500 videos. AP provided a day of training in video photography and editing during the week-long training for Fellows in May 2013. Peace Fellows in 2013 produced 5 videos on their own, and posted another 4 videos in their blogs on the work of their hosts.

Many past videos continue to attract attention, and viewers. One video, by Kan Yan (Peace Fellow at BASE in 2009) has won prizes and generated \$600 of donations in 2013. 2013 Fellows posted 826 photos on AP's Flickr site.

Social media: Fellows posted to their own Facebook pages and also produced tweets, which were picked up and retweeted by AP. AP's own Facebook page attracted over 1,000 likes in 2013. The most prolific tweeter among Peace Fellows in 2013 was Mohammed Alshubrumi, from Saudi Arabia.



Peace Fellow Raymond Aycock was on hand to capture the clash between Nepali Police and Members of Nepal's Dalit civil society in Kathmandu

6. Putting out the Story (disseminating information)

AP helps partners to disseminate their information by creating a demand for IT; by training “accidental techies” to manage IT within the organizations; and by posting information about partners on the AP website and online platforms (YouTube, Flickr, Facebook).

- IT training: 8 “accidental techies” were trained at 3 partner organizations.
- AP Fellows helped to build and develop 2 partner websites.
- By end-December, AP’s YouTube pages had attracted 397,007 views. 69,465 views were recorded in 2013, compared to about 90,000 in 2012. 71% of the views were through the YouTube website, and 25% via mobile applications. The largest number of views came from the US (15,248) followed by Saudi Arabia (5,276). The AP website received 114,489 page views.

7. Quilting tells a story

AP's program of advocacy quilting advanced during 2013. As noted above, our focus was on exhibiting quilts rather than producing new quilts. At the end of the year, we also invested in producing greeting cards to test their market.

- **New quilts:** Peace Fellow Chris Pinderhughes worked with artisans from Bangladesh to describe the life of river gypsies through embroidery. Chris brought the panels back to the US, where they were assembled by the Sister's Choice quilt guild, under the direction of Beth Suddaby. The quilt will be unveiled early in 2014. Fellows Jasveen Bindra and Andra Bosneag worked with several gay artists in Gujarat to produce painted panels on cloth in the local style known as *pithora* art. Nancy Evans, from the Faithful Circle Guild in Maryland, agreed to assemble the panels.
- **Building a constituency for partners through quilts in the north:** Over 40 American quilters, or groups, have helped assemble advocacy quilts. The latest group, the Sisters Choice Guild in Arlington Virginia, met with an AP team in October 2013 and worked diligently on the Bangladesh quilt over several weeks in 2013. The final quilt will be presented to AP early in 2014. Nancy Evans, Susan Schreurs and Alka Mital, from the Faithful Circle Guild, attended the opening of AP's exhibition of quilts at the Textile Museum in November 2013.
- **Advocacy quilts were displayed at three major exhibitions in 2013.** Kean University showed 24 quilts at the University's Human Rights Gallery for seven months, starting on January 1, 2013. The event was profiled by the New York Times and Quilting Life. The Textile Museum in Washington then exhibited 8 quilts between November and December 2013. Meanwhile, four Roma quilts were exhibited for a month at the Italian Institute of Culture, in Marseilles, France. The organizers profiled the Roma quilts, and AP, in an elegant brochure.
- **Greeting cards:** AP produced 150 boxes of greeting cards, featuring images from advocacy quilts, at the end of 2013. We produced 5 or 10 boxes on each quilt, or set of quilts, starting with the Ahadi quilts from the DRC which were produced with funds from our German donor Zivik. All cards carry the logo of the partner and AP (and in the case of the Ahadi quilts, of Zivik).
- **One-off presentations:** AP staff showed quilts at several meetings in 2013: with UN focal points on armed sexual violence at the UN in New York; at a meeting with staff from the World Bank Legal department; at a meeting with Canadian donors in Windsor, Ontario.

Looking ahead, AP will sell all of the greeting cards in 2014. The proceeds will be invested in an artist fund and shared between quilting groups. AP is also investigating possible venues for exhibiting the quilts.



Left: the River Gypsy Quilt from Bangladesh.

Right: this square from the quilt shows Gypsies being attacked for protesting against the theft of their sand.



8. Building an International Constituency - Outreach

AP organized several outreach events in 2013, attended meetings, and continued to promote the work of partners in the DRC, India, Nepal and Kenya.

- **Universities:** AP's Executive Director made presentations at several universities in 2013: Columbia; the Fletcher School at Tufts University; the University of Maryland; Georgetown University; and New York University.
- **Congo networking:** AP promoted the Congo project with three different types of audience in 2013:
 - **Outreach in Europe and US:** AP hosted the Foreign Minister of Liechtenstein; and shared lessons learned with the UK embassy in Washington and the German embassy in Mali.
 - **Outreach using Ahadi quilts:** AP showed Ahadi quilts at Kean University, the Textile Museum, to UK diplomats, to UN focal points, and UNFPA. AP produced 500 cards from quilts.
 - **Outreach to UN:** AP briefed 10 senior level UN officials in New York and met with UNICEF and UNFPA in Mali, to share lessons learned.
- **EPAF (Peru):** AP accompanied Jose-Pablo Baraybar, from the Peruvian Forensic Anthropology Team (EPAF), when Mr Baraybar gave testimony to the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights, and published a bulletin on the hearing. AP later co-hosted a reception for Mr Baraybar at the Washington Office on Latin America.
- **Uterine Prolapse:** AP met with USAID at the US Embassy and the UN Population Fund in Nepal to advocate for more action on prolapse. AP later met with a high-level group at USAID in Washington. USAID remained adamant that prolapse does not represent a major threat, worthy of USAID's time or money.
- **Ain Leuh weavers:** AP helped a local Washington chapter of the Girl Up Club to organize a bake sale in Washington for Ain Leuh. The sale raised \$200, which was matched by the Freddy Mac Foundation and generated \$800 for Ain Leuh. The cooperative used the money to purchase a basting machine and increase their productivity.
- **Embassy of Liechtenstein:** The Government of Liechtenstein organized a reception for AP at the Embassy in early October, on the occasion of the launch of the World Bank's Community Connections Campaign. AP has been a member of the Campaign for two years.
- **Zonta reception:** AP organized a reception for the Zonta Club of Washington, to express appreciation for their support through the years. Ten members attended.
- **Council on Foreign Relations:** AP's Executive Director attended meetings of the Council on trafficking and human rights.
- **Outreach on behalf of Chintan and Kakenya:** AP published news bulletins in support of two online campaigns by partners - Kakenya Ntaiya, from Kenya, and Bharati Chaturvedi, the founder and director of Chintan. Kakenya was shortlisted for Hero of the Year by CNN, while Chintan was shortlisted for a major prize by Google. Neither won the ultimate prize, but both organizations raised their profile during the campaign and emerged stronger and more prominent than ever.

9. Fundraising for Partners

AP supports partner organizations financially, by raising funds, channeling funds from benefactors, and sub-granting funds. AP also raises indirect funds by sending fellows, who are free of charge to partners. ***During 2013 AP generated \$253,741 in direct and indirect fundraising for partners.***

Direct: The following was raised by AP, donated through AP and sub-granted by AP (Country/Partner organization/amount/date(s) of transfers).

- Afghanistan (Oruj Learning Center) - \$500.
- Democratic Republic of the Congo (SOS Femmes en Danger) - \$202,294 donated by Zivik, Government of Liechtenstein, and National Endowment for Democracy (NED).
- India (Chintan Environmental Research and Action Group) - \$300.
- India (Vikalp Women's Group) - \$800. Raised by Peace Fellow Andra Bosneag.
- Morocco (Ain Leuh Women's Cooperative)- \$3,600. Raised by Peace Fellow Mohammed Alshubruni and the Girl Up Club.
- Nepal (Backward Education Society) - \$628. Donations from the film by Kan Yan.
- Palestinian Territories & Israel (Alternative Information Center) - \$847. Online donors.
- Uganda (Gulu Disabled Persons Union) - \$8702. Raised by former Peace Fellows Dane Macri and Rebecca Sherpelz.
- Quilt Cards - \$70.

Total : \$217,741

Indirect: Peace Fellows provide significant technical support to AP's partner organizations. The cost of recruiting, training and deploying them to partners is born by AP and by Fellows. The cost to AP is approximately \$3,000 per Fellow:

- Israel/Palestine- \$3000 (1)
- Bangladesh- \$3000 (1)
- India-\$6000 (2)
- Uganda - \$6,000 (2)
- Nepal - \$9,000 (3)
- Vietnam - \$3,000 (1)
- Morocco- \$3000 (2)

Total: \$36,000.

10. Taking Action for Social Justice

All AP partners are agents of change. AP helps them to develop campaigns that will eventually produce widespread change. This begins with telling the story, which is done through Peace Fellows. Typically, Peace Fellows will work with a partner over one or two summers to produce a website, build IT skills, and develop the partner's message. During this time, AP will help the organization develop long-term goals, identify donors, and build a network of international contacts. After two years, this should produce at least one campaign that will – eventually – produce a larger impact on society.

AP's role in this process is catalytic. This means that while AP can help to launch a campaign, the long-term program must be led by the partner at the outset and sustainable without AP's support. Indeed, while AP remains loyal to partners indefinitely, we do not expect to work directly on a campaign for more than four years.

AP has developed this model from working in Kosovo, Afghanistan, Nepal, Sri Lanka and – most recently – the DRC. Between 2010 and 2013, Zivik channeled over \$350,000 through AP to the Congo. AP also secured grants from the government of Liechtenstein, Diane Von Furstenberg and the national Endowment for Democracy (NED). AP handed over the Zivik contract to SOSFED at the end of 2013. The following pages review the lessons learned, and the results produced, from the DRC program over the past four years. They then review work on other programs during 2013.

10.1 Special Report - Responding to War Rape in the Congo

When SOSFED and AP launched the DRC program in May 2010, our main goal was to help women survivors of war rape to recover. Many of these women had suffered horrific injuries and also been abandoned by their husbands, so their needs were great. Over the next four years, the program developed a more integrated basket of services:

10.1.1 Rehabilitation and recovery: The program seeks to help rape survivors regain their confidence and re-enter society. This is achieved by offering women the chance to spend three months at an SOSFED center, freed from the pressures of home and family. Being in the company of other women has proved to be an excellent form of therapy.

Between 2010 and 2013, SOSFED operated four centers in the communities of Kazimia, Kikonde, Mboko and Fizi Town. Kazimia and Kikonde were closed because of security concerns, but on January 1 2012 SOSFED opened a new center in Fizi Town – scene of one of the most notorious mass rapes in the region a year earlier.

Between May 2010 and December 2013, 707 women spent time at one of these four centers. Over the four years, the number seeking shelter fell dramatically, from 260 in 2010 to 132 in 2013. This appears to reflect a general fall in the level of violence, which in turn suggests that SOSFED's strategy of risk reduction was successful.

Many rape survivors suffer serious medical injuries. In addition, seven of the 2013 beneficiaries were impregnated by their attackers. Until 2013, SOSFED was ill-placed to respond, because it lacked medical expertise or the funds to buy drugs. This forced the women to seek help from the government health services, which are – in Fizi – totally inadequate. Furthermore, abortion is illegal. International aid is also deeply flawed because it works through “PEP kits.” (PEP kits provide women with a “morning after pill.” Unfortunately, the pill has to be taken within 72 hours of an attack and most rape survivors go into hiding after they are attacked.) As a result of these glaring deficiencies in government services, SOSFED’s donors agreed to pay for a medical check-up for each beneficiary. Ninety-nine women underwent a check-up in 2013.



Survivors at the SOSFED center in Mboko, South Kivu.

The program also provides skills-training, which also helps survivors to recover. Sewing has been particularly popular since 2010, when SOSFED beneficiaries made embroidered panels for the six Ahadi quilts. This created demand for sewing in the centers and in 2012, SOSFED purchased two sewing machines with money donated by 12 year-old Anna McGuire, an American High School student. SOSFED uses the machines for training. In 2013, 98 women from Mboko and Fizi Town took part in sewing training.

SOSFED allowed family visits to the centers in 2013. As a general principle husbands are not permitted at the centers, but center staff noted that women would become progressively more nervous as the time approached for them to return home. By inviting husbands and family members to pay a short visit, SOSFED lets the women know that they will be welcomed home.

Seeing justice done also contributes to rehabilitation, but none of the 707 beneficiaries was willing to initiate a judicial case against an attacker between 2010 and 2013. Aware of the importance of providing this opportunity, SOSFED sought advice from the Uvira branch of the American Bar Association in 2013. This will hopefully evolve into a new project in 2014.

10.1.2 Risk Reduction: The second major service offered by the program seeks to reduce the exposure of women to rape by reducing the pressure on them to travel long distances. This developed after two Peace Fellows analyzed interviews with beneficiaries in 2010 and found that most of the attacks happened when women were farming alone far from home, or collecting firewood and water. Between 2010 and 2013, SOSFED and AP received funding from Zivik to initiate several small interventions aimed at bringing these services to the women. This became the cornerstone of a new strategy of “risk reduction.” It produced impressive results in 2013:

- **Cultivation:** The program rented 40 hectares of land near the centers of Fizi and Mboko. Here 122 beneficiaries and 19 local women, planted beans, manioc, and vegetables. By the end of the year, they had harvested 147,488 kilos of food. They kept 75% of this produce and gave the remaining 25% to the center kitchens. The women also took this good practice of communal farming back home with them. In 2013, returnees worked in eleven farming groups in their villages.
- **Manioc processing:** Manioc (cassava) is the staple food in south Kivu, but turning the hard root into flour can be exhausting and expensive. It can even be dangerous because so few manioc mills are available in Fizi Territory. This forces women to travel miles to process their flour and exposes them to attack while they are on the road. Zivik agreed to purchase a manioc mill in Mboko, which came on stream in 2012, and a second mill for the Fizi Center in 2013. An estimated 1,600 women used the Mboko mill in 2013.
- **Alternative Cooking Fuel:** Most firewood is collected in forests, and this also exposes women to attack. In 2010, Peace Fellow Ned Meerdink worked with a local environmentalist, Clement Kitambula, to develop a machine that mashed agricultural waste into a pulp. The pulp was then dried and turned into cooking brickettes. By 2013, the program had purchased three brickette-makers, which produced about 1400 brickettes a month. Some villages in the Mboko sector had converted entirely to this new form of cooking fuel.
- **Water:** Collecting water is also exhausting and dangerous. In 2010, women were travelling up to 20 kilometers to find water, which they then carried back home. Collecting water at night was particularly hazardous. The program installed one water well near the Mboko center in 2011, and a second well in Fizi in 2013. By the end of 2013, 3,700 families were using the Mboko well and 2,893 families were using the Fizi well. Neither of the two pumps has broken down since installation because they are being maintained by local village teams.
- **Information by radio:** the first attempt by the program to promote the message of risk reduction involved the use of roadside posters. It has since become more sophisticated thanks to radio, and in 2013 seven local radio programs broadcast 52 programs about SOSFED. Many were pegged to the opening of the Fizi water well. Program manager Amisi Mas did 31 interviews with radio stations in 2013. This blanket information has undoubtedly helped to inform women about the risk of rape and also attracted new clients to SOSFED: almost half the women who stayed at a center said they had learned of SOSFED through radio. In 2013, Mr Ganzoliso, a student deejay has made a popular ditty (*Ujumbé*) about SOSFED.
- **Measuring impact:** Overall, SOSFED estimates that 65,000 individuals benefitted from these risk-reduction interventions in 2013. During the year, the number of attacks fell sharply around Mboko, and some villages experienced no attacks in 2013. It is, however, difficult to demonstrate a direct cause and effect between the program's risk reduction efforts and this welcome development, because no baseline survey was developed in 2010.
- **Replicating the model.** In 2013, at the suggestion of the Special Representative of the UN on armed sexual violence, AP visited Mali twice to meet with Sini Sanuman, a Malian group that works with women.

10.1.3 Reintegration: While deeply grateful for the chance to recover at a center, women grow apprehensive as the time approaches for them to return. In 2011 the program recruited two reintegration officers to accompany women home and ease their process of re-entry. In 2013, the two officers helped 112 to return to over 25 villages. SOSFED also purchased two new motor bikes with Zivik funding, to give them increased mobility. Of the 112 returnees, only 4 were still separated from their husbands at the end of the year – a testament to the success of the reintegration effort. One reason was the support of Mwamis, or village chiefs, who wield considerable authority in their villages. Finally, the program provided \$20 to each of the 112 returnees, to assist their economic reintegration.

10.1.4 Strengthening SOSFED: the program’s fourth goal was to strengthen SOSFED as an organization, with a view to SOSFED assuming overall control by the end of 2013. In practice, this meant that SOSFED would take over all interactions with donors, ranging from the submission of proposals to reporting.

The program partners set several targets for 2013. Of these, several were met. For example, SOSFED opened bank accounts and accounted for 98% of its (500+) expenditures. SOSFED also developed an extensive network of 20 partners, organized into 5 categories (medical, radio, technical support, training, and international). SOSFED also organized trainings for 83 Mwami and civil society members under a related project supported by the National Endowment for Democracy.

But SOSFED’s senior managers continued to struggle with English-language communications (in spite of language training), email communications, and donor relations. The group also fell behind in its data collection and storage. All beneficiaries are interviewed twice – on arrival and departure. But the quality of this reporting left much to be desired. In addition, most of these sensitive files were intercepted by government officials on the road between the centers and Uvira and “borrowed” for research. By the end of the year, only 8 reintegration reports and 14 entry/exit reports from 2013 were available on file at SOSFED in Uvira. SOSFED’s website suffers from poor connectivity, but the Facebook page attracted 30% more “likes” between August 1, 2013 and December.

10.1.5 Outreach: AP promoted the program actively between 2010 and 2013. This began in 2010, when AP nominated Marceline Kongolo to be a Fern Holland awardee. Marceline won the award and was invited to Washington to receive her prize from the actor Ben Affleck. The following year, 2011, AP accompanied Ms Kongolo to Berlin and Geneva. In March 2012, AP invited Ms Kongolo to the US, where she opened a major exhibition of advocacy quilts at the United Nations. Ms Kongolo then proceeded to Washington, where she met with diplomats, government, and NGO officials.



SOSFED has helped over 700 survivors to recover and re-enter society.

AP continued to promote the program actively between 2010 and 2013. This involved producing web pages, four news bulletins, over 20 videos (which attracted 13,555 views by the end of 2013) and an editorial in the London Guardian. By the end of the year, the program database stood at 128 contacts.

AP also promoted the program, and the model of risk reduction, with UN agencies, embassies, NGOs and governments. These included:

- Hosting the Foreign Minister of Liechtenstein at AP in September 2013. The government of Liechtenstein has funded SOSFED since 2012;
- Sharing lessons learned with the UK embassy in Washington and the German embassy in Mali;
- Briefing ten senior level UN focal points at UN headquarters;
- Meeting with UNICEF and UNFPA officials in Mali;
- Promoting the model of risk reduction at the Legal Department of the World Bank;
- Exhibiting the Ahadi quilts (made by SOSFED beneficiaries) at Kean University, the Textile Museum, to UK diplomats, UN focal points and to UNFPA;
- Producing 500 greeting cards from Ahadi designs, for sale.

10.1.6 Fundraising: Between 2010 and 2013, SOSFED and AP generated considerable amounts of money for the DRC program. SOSFED's annual budget was around \$10,000 in 2010. By 2013, it was implementing a program worth \$175,000. Zivik alone provided \$376,000 between 2010 and 2013. AP secured funding from Dianne Von Furstenberg, the National Endowment for Democracy, and the Government of Liechtenstein.

Equally impressive was the fact that SOSFED's Board and Congolese friends filled gaps that were not covered by other donors. This included pesticide (\$1,900); sewing training (\$1,200); radio programs (\$3,000); customs charge (\$500); the 3rd charcoal-maker (\$400); and a fourth motor bike (\$2,600).

10.1.7: Concluding remarks and ethical dilemmas: There are important lessons to be learned from AP's involvement with this depressing, but exciting, program. AP played a catalytic role by helping SOSFED to "think outside the box" and identify interventions that would advance SOSFED's broad goal while also interesting donors. AP then contributed by deploying field officers, promoting the program internationally, liaising with donors, reporting, and raising funds. Much of this will continue, except that SOSFED will direct all aspects. This will be a test of the sustainability of the program and of SOSFED's capacity.

One final comment needs to be made - that working on armed sexual violence raises profound ethical and moral dilemmas. AP has shared these at several presentations. They can be posed as questions:

- Does humanitarian aid of this kind ease the pressure for political and military intervention to stop the violence?
- Is the program asking victims to protect themselves by reducing their exposure to war rape?
- Should the program send women back to their husbands, who abandoned them after they were attacked?
- Should the program identify survivors?

- How can outsiders provide support without imposing an agenda and creating a dependency?
- Should foreign supporters – like AP – enter a program of this kind if they are not assured of sustaining their support?

Such dilemmas affect all work of this kind. AP’s answer is to be humble at all times, to refer to the local Congolese partners, and to avoid the sort of self-promotion that seems to accompany so much of the work on sexual violence.

10.2 Eliminating Child Labor in Nepal

At the encouragement of Backward Society Education (BASE), a long-standing AP partner, AP continued to support efforts by BASE and other Nepali NGOs to reduce coercive child labor in Nepal.

BASE identified child labor as a program priority in 2012, during a visit by Iain Guest and Scott Allen from AP. AP then submitted a proposal to the US Department of Labor on behalf of BASE and two other NGOs that work on child labor (SWAN and Concern).

In June 2013, ED Iain Guest again visited Nepal and met briefly with Dilli Chaudhary from BASE. AP then deployed two Peace Fellows to work at BASE. Emily MacDonald was asked to research Nepal’s child labor laws, and explain why no one is ever jailed for breaking these laws. She came up with a number of different explanations: the involvement of district politicians (Chief District Officers), who are often close to elites that employ children; a lack of interest and legal training from advocacy NGOs; and a shortage of inspectors and resources.



Peace Fellow John Steies, left, helped the Gulu Displaced Persons’ Union (GDPU) to open a new accessible toilet at the Gulu town bus park.

But Emily also understood the challenge. During her stay in Kathmandu, a scandal erupted over the death of a young domestic worker. An advocacy group of free workers protested, and were badly beaten by police. Emily interviewed the head of the group in hospital. Sujita Basnet also conducted her own research, and visited the Indian NGO [*Bachpan Bachao Andolan*](#) which has launched its own successful campaign on child labor and advises BASE.

Emily and Sujita helped to advance this program by meeting with SWAN in Dang, and Concern in Kathmandu. Both expressed interest in receiving a Peace Fellow in 2014, and in continuing to work together. Later in the year, Karin Orr, AP’s Deputy Director met with SWAN, BASE and Concern during a trip to Nepal. AP

redrafted the BASE partner page on the AP site, to better reflect the challenge of child labor.

10.3 Building Accessible Toilets in Uganda

The origins of this program were explained in the 2011 and 2012 Annual Reports. Peace Fellow Rebecca

Scherpelz (2011) produced a moving blog about the fact that no public toilets are available for use by people with disability in the northern district of Gulu. Peace Fellow Dane Macri, who followed Rebecca to the GDPU in 2012, picked up the theme and worked with Handicap International to construct a toilet at the Gulu Bus Park.

The toilet was still unfinished by the time Dane returned, and was still not ready by the end of 2012. But Rebecca and Dane refused to give up and donated \$2,500 of their fellowship money to complete the project. John Steies, who served at GDPU in 2013, identified a new contractor and pushed through the project. The toilet was opened for business in September. GDPU and the contractor monitored usage through to the end of 2013. Dane, meanwhile, identified a private donor in Canada who pledged \$10,000. AP's Iain Guest visited Canada and met with the donor and Dane. Rebecca Scherpelz agreed to return to AP as an intern in 2014 to assist.

10.4 Supporting Agent Orange Victims in Vietnam

In 2013, AP took the first steps towards building a program to support victims of Agent Orange poisoning in Vietnam. AP has worked with the Association for the Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (AEPD) since 2008, and deployed a number of extremely effective Peace Fellows to AEPD through the years.

In 2013, an AP Board member requested that AP investigate the situation of Vietnamese who have been affected by dioxin poisoning caused by exposure to the defoliant Agent Orange. Dioxin strikes without mercy and randomly. AP recruited a researcher, Kelly Howell, to work at AEPD and Kelly produced several powerful blogs. This increased AP's own interest in the issue, and in October 2013 Karin Orr from AP visited Vietnam to explore the outlines of a long-term program with AEPD officials. The response was enthusiastic. After, Karin reported back to the AP Board, which asked for a concept paper early in 2014.

10.5 The Ain Leuh Weavers Cooperative

AP's partnership with Ain Leuh began in 2012, with the deployment of Peace Fellow Laura McAdams. Laura produced wonderful blogs and helped the cooperative develop a website and online catalog. The weavers received their first online order shortly before Laura departed.

Peace Fellows Benan Grams (from Syria) and Mohamed Alshubrumi (from Saudi Arabia) followed Laura in 2013. Sending a team, let alone a man and a woman from two Arabic countries was a gamble, but Benan and Mohamed proved to be extremely effective. Mohammed succeeded in raising over \$3,000 for the cooperative, and suggested several ways in which the money could be used to increase the cooperative's productivity. They purchased a basting machine, which allowed the weavers to finish off small items (purses and slippers) instead of outsourcing to another village. They met with the local mayor and received permission to erect a new sign on the main road, directing visitors to the cooperative. They also produced a business plan.

Benan, meanwhile, made contact with a local chapter of the Girl Up group in Washington DC, headed by Anna McGuire. Anna and her friends organized a bake sale and raised \$200, which was matched by a Washington foundation. Benan and Anna exchanged greetings through Benan's blogs.

The summer did not produce a clear road-map for AP's future engagement with the cooperative. But it did produce many valuable outcomes, direct and indirect. Not only was Mohammed the first Saudi national to serve as a Peace Fellow, but he also produced more tweets than any other 2013 Fellow and accounted for the fact that Saudi Arabia accounted for most visitors to the AP website in 2013, second only to the US.

10.6 Combating Sexual Violence in Mali

During 2013, AP gave several presentations on SOSFED's work with war rape in the DRC. These included a visit to the UN Special Representative on Armed Sexual Violence in New York. One of her staffers then contacted AP and recommended that we work with Sini Sanuman, an NGO in Mali that began working with rape survivors after the war in northern Mali (2012).

Sini Sanuman responded favourably, and Iain Guest from AP visited Mali in the summer of 2013 and again in December. Iain met with a wide range of survivors, diplomats and UN agencies. Based on his trip, AP described the challenge facing survivors – particularly those who have been displaced – in a news bulletin. This framed the issue and laid the foundation for a long-term program similar to that in the DRC. The main difference is that risk reduction would have to take place in northern Mali, which was still dangerous and insecure.

Based on these two missions, Sini Sanuman and AP began working on a proposal for the German donor Zivik, which has funded the Congo project.

10.7 Empowering Waste-pickers in Delhi

AP has worked since 2009 with the Chintan Environmental Research and Action Group. Karin Orr from AP visited Chintan in October 2013, and met with staff. AP also developed a set of greeting cards based on the Chintan Wastepickers Quilt.

In Late 2013, Chintan was shortlisted by Google for the Global Impact Award, which rewards innovative ideas for using technology to clean up Indian cities. Chintan had submitted a proposal to develop a mobile app to organize 1,600 waste-pickers in Delhi and reduce waste in Delhi by 500 tonnes a day within 3 years. AP produced a news bulletin, urging subscribers to cast a vote for Chintan.

Chintan did not, in the end, receive an award, but the organization was handsomely rewarded by Google for making the list of finalists. This further enhanced the reputation of Bharati Chaturvedi, Chintan's dynamic founder who had earlier won the first-ever Hillary Clinton Award for innovation.

10.8 Educating Maasai Girls in Kenya

AP maintains a close partnership with Kakenya Ntaiya, the Kenyan educationalist who has opened a boarding school for Maasai girls in western Kenya. Families that send a child to the school must promise not to put their daughter through female genital cutting. Two AP Peace Fellows went to work at the school shortly after it opened in 2009.

AP did not send a Fellow in 2013. But AP did exhibit the Rehema Widows Quilt at the Textile Museum in December, and produced a set of greeting cards on the Maasai quilts. Kakenya also sought AP's help in promoting her inspiring message. Midway through 2013, CNN announced that Kakenya had been shortlisted to be the CNN Hero of the Year. Kakenya was competing against several other inspiring finalists,

and she asked for AP's support in raising online signatures. AP produced a news bulletin urging people to vote. Kakenya did not, unfortunately, win the competition. But – like Chintan – she gained from the exposure and received a generous gift from the eventual winner.

Meanwhile, Kakenya's model of education was proving its worth in the best way possible. The school graduated its first class in December 2013. Many of the girls – who included orphans and children from extremely poor families – earned stellar grades and passed the exam admitting them to High School. AP is proud to have helped.

10.9 Recycling Straws in a Ugandan Slum

Benedicta Nanyongo, the founder and director of the Kinawataka Women Initiatives (KIWOI), is another remarkable innovator and change-maker. Benedicta was introduced to AP in 2009. In 2011 AP sent Peace Fellow Scarlett Chidgey to help Benedicta produce a quilt of straws, which has since been shown at the UN and elsewhere. Katie Hoffman, who succeeded Scarlett as Peace Fellow in 2012, surveyed supermarkets in the slum who might agree to stop using plastic bags in favor of KIWOI recycled bags. AP remains very committed to this goal.

Peace Fellow Meron Menwyelet, who worked at KIWOI in 2013, focused on KIWOI's business model. Meron helped Benedicta Nanyongo to introduce some basic organizational rules – including meeting with the workforce. Meron also produced a detailed business plan. But Meron also raised important doubts about KIWOI's capacity to process straws for weaving, which depends on a very unreliable machine. These doubts were expressed in a long blog.

The year ended with AP as committed as ever to KIWOI, but also aware of the technical limitations of Benedicta's model. AP would like to support a campaign by KIWOI to end the use of plastic bags in the slum, but for this to succeed KIWOI will first have to produce sufficient straw bags. This circle will have to be squared in 2014.

10.10 The Dale Farm Travellers

By the end of 2013, the Travellers from Dale Farm remained in exactly the same predicament that they had been in on January 1 - squatting in caravans opposite the remains of their homes, which were bulldozed in October 2011. The Basildon Council had again failed to come through on its promise to find land for the Dale Farm families.

AP did not, however, give up on Dale Farm. Peace Fellow Susan Craig-Greene, who lives near Dale Farm, began working at the Crays Hill primary school, which takes in Traveller children and has received virulent abuse from British tabloids. Susan remains deeply committed to helping the Dale Farm families and is certainly right in thinking that her skills can be best used at the inspiring school. AP will try and build on this in 2014.

11. Fellows for Peace

The 2013 fellowship program was notable for the following:

- The smaller number of Fellows deployed;
- BOSFAM, in Bosnia, did not take a Fellow for the first time in 10 years;
- AP focused more on developing programs and less on producing content;
- AP deployed the first-ever Fellows from Saudi Arabia and Syria.

a) Deployment

AP deployed 12 Peace Fellows to work with partner organizations in eight countries. All Fellows helped their hosts to produce information, build IT skills, and develop international contacts. In addition, they were asked to produce one major output/outcome for their host organization.

Africa

Uganda: Meron Menwyelet (Georgetown) *Kinawataka Women Initiatives (KIWOI)*; John Steies (University of Minnesota) *The Gulu Disabled Persons Union (GDPU)*.

Asia

Bangladesh: Christopher Pinderhughes (New York University) *Subornogram Foundation*

India: Andra Bosneag (Tufts University) *Vikalp Women's Group*; Jasveen Bindra (Georgetown) *Vikalp Women's Group*

Nepal: Emily MacDonald (Tufts University) *Backward Society Education (BASE)*; Sujita Basnet (George Washington) *Backward Society Education (BASE)*; Raymond Aycock (Monterey Institute of International Studies) *Jagaran Media Center*

Vietnam: Kelly Howell (Oregon University) *Association for the Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities*.

Europe and the Middle East

Israel and the Palestinian Territories: Mona Niebuhr (Georgetown) *Alternative Information Center*

Morocco: Benan Grams (Georgetown) *Ain Leuh Weaver's Cooperative*; Mohammed Alshubrumi (Georgetown Law School) *Ain Leuh Weaver's Cooperative*.

b) Impact on Fellows

AP asked all Fellows to evaluate 12 ways in which their fellowship had affected them, on a scale of 5 (excellent) to 1 (poor). 59 of the 115 replies answered 5:

- **Overall experience**
 - One answered 10; Four answered 5; Five answered 4; One answered 3
- **Support from AP in the field**

- One answered 10 (“I had an amazing summer!”); Four answered 5; Five answered 4; One answered 3
- **Academically enriching**
 - Three answered 5; Four answered 4; Two answered 3
- **Changed social, political or other worldview**
 - Six answered 5; Three answered 4
- **Improved ability to network**
 - Five answered 5; Two answered 4; One answered 2; One answered 3
- **More prepared to volunteer**
 - Six answered 5; Two answered 2; One answered 1
- **More tolerant**
 - Five answered 5; One answered 4; One answered 3; One answered 2; Two answered 1
- **More patient**
 - Six answered 5; Two answered 4; One answered 2; One answered 2
- **More confident about traveling**
 - Five answered 5; One answered 3; Two answered 2
- **More culturally sensitive**
 - Five answered 5; Three answered 3; Two answered 2
- **More confident in general**
 - Five answered 5; Two answered 4; Three answered 2
- **Greater ability to work with others**
 - Five answered 5; Two answered 4; Two answered 2.



Left: 2013 Peace Fellows at training in Washington, DC.

c) Feedback from Fellows

- **John Steies (Uganda);** "I can't speak enough about the power of people from different backgrounds, and those thousands and thousands of miles away from one another, coming together to collaborate on such a wonderful and worthwhile cause."

- **Benan Grams (Morocco):** "The ladies are great. Not only are they hard-working women but they are also open to new suggestions and adjustments. We had fun working together especially in shooting the pictures to make the catalog, even children and participating and helping."
- **Meron Menwyelet (Uganda):** "The field experience I gained was very valuable and relevant to my academic focus on women's empowerment; economic empowerment; and civil society capacity-building in sub-Saharan Africa. I saw first-hand the challenges of operating a local NGO in a developing country and was inspired by the persistence and dedication of my host organization to achieve their goals. I definitely learned a lot about myself."
- **Mohammed Alshubrumi (Morocco):** "[My fellowship] changed me a lot, and changed my thoughts about other people. It helped to understand how others live. It improved my self-confidence. It enhanced my business and investment skills."
- **Chris Pinderhughes (Bangladesh);** "The fellowship was an incredible experience... I enjoyed the work that I was given during the fellowship, and would do it again without question... My host is a wonderful AP partner. His initiatives fall in line with the mission of AP, and he is working with some of the most marginalized communities in the world... The Fellowship opened my eyes...."
- **Emily MacDonald (Nepal):** "I gained a lot of insight into how CBOs run, interviewing people in the field and how INGOs interact with these CBOs."
- **Andra Bosneag (India):** "Spending time in the Vikalp office, you are taken on a roller coaster of emotions: people cry in telling their stories, they laugh to deal with the injustices, they smile at strangers as they share their secrets. The office and the women who work there give meaning and a new lease on life to so many marginalized people."
- **Raymond Aycock (Nepal):** "(The) Jagaran Media Center is working on the structure that allows rampant discrimination, and not just reacting to an event. It is the sort of approach that will change the way society thinks about caste and caste-based discrimination."
- **Jasveen Bindra (India):** "Before embarking on this project, I wasn't quite prepared for the challenges it would entail, nor the Huckleberry-esque adventures. In six crazy days, spanning over four crazier weeks, we learned a lot more than how to make an advocacy quilt."
- **Kelly Howell (Vietnam):** "AEPD's work here is much needed and so important, and I am very happy to be working alongside such brilliant advocates for human rights."
- **Sujita Basnet (Nepal):** "I feel privileged to have had this opportunity to give a voice for justice to those children who have dismissed the idea of a better life."
- **Mona Niebuhr (Israel):** "Despite all the complications, working for the AIC makes lengthy commuting, waiting at a checkpoint, and skype discussions interrupted by a weak connection worth it since you become part of the AIC family. From the first day, AIC helped me find my footing."

d) Alumni

- **Maelanny Purwaningrum (Nepal 2011)** worked at the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), teaching human rights to police officers in Indonesia and East Timor. Maelanny also

met with Rachel Palmer, who followed her to BASE in 2012, when Rachel visited Indonesia on a Fulbright scholarship. Maelanny wrote: “AP keeps spreading the goodness through its fellowship!”

- **Erin Wroblewski (Palestine 2007)**, currently at USAID in New Delhi, met with 2013 Peace Fellows Andra Bosneag and Jasveen Bindra on their way to the Vikalp Women’s Group in Gujarat.
- **Walter James (DRC 2010)** joined the American Refugee Committee, based in Minnesota. His work took him to Sudan, Rwanda and Burma.
- **Matthew Becker (Bangladesh, 2012)** raised funds for the education of River Gypsy children in Bangladesh.
- **Jamyl Jennifer (Uganda 2011)** continued to advise her former hosts from the Gideon Foundation, which works against child sacrifice.

12. People at AP

AP drew on a small but committed group of staff, board members, and volunteers:

- **Staff (3):** Iain Guest, Karin Orr, Laura Jones.
- **Interns (7):** Jessica Wilkinson; Natasha Westheimer; Courtney Chance; Wendy Guardado; Julia Moore; Roshun Shah; and Rachel Shabad. Our thanks to California State Fullerton, for supplying an intern – the fourth year of the partnership.
- **AP Board (10):** Mr Scott Allen, Ms Mary Louis Cohen, Ms Teresa Crawford, HE Claudia Fritsche, Mr Devin Greenleaf, Mr Iain Guest, Dr Susan Martin, Mr Soren Jessen-Petersen, Mr Bayo Oyewole, and Dr Cristy West. Cristy joined the AP Board after generously supporting AP for over ten years. She runs the Brimstone Foundation.
- **US quilters (7):** Seven quilters from the Sisters Choice Quilt Guild (Arlington) and the Faithful Circle Guild (Columbia, MD) worked on AP quilts in 2013.



Left: Staff members Karin Orr (left) and Laura Jones. Karin has managed AP's programs since 2010. Laura led the website team in 2013.

13. Financials

(Year ending December 31, 2013)

AP worked with a zero-growth budget, as in 2012. This continued to produce important benefits – greater focus, more efficiency, and lower administrative costs. AP’s overhead was 15% in 2013.

REVENUE AND SUPPORT	
Grants	\$176,968
Contributions	\$97,652
In-kind Contributions	\$60,800
Rental income	\$9,225
Other income	\$9,297
Total Revenue and Support	\$353,942
EXPENSES	
Program Services	\$278,796
Supporting Services:	
Management and General	\$39,142
Fundraising	\$13,936
Total expenses	\$331,874

INCOME	
Individual/foundations (below)	\$97,045
Restricted contributions	\$608
Government Grants	\$176,967
In-kind donations	\$60,800
Contract Revenue	\$3150
Earned Revenue	\$6147
Miscellaneous	\$ 9225
Total income	\$353,942
EXPENSES	
Salaries and benefits	\$104,050
Payroll taxes	\$3,471
Employee Benefits	\$1,668
Business expenses	\$1778
Insurance	\$2,667
Meetings and conventions	\$4,399
Office supplies	\$2,065
Partners & fellow remittances	\$134,518
Rent and utilities	\$21,098
Other	\$6496
Contract Services	\$15,348
Communications	\$924
Travel	\$21,228
Website services	\$5,947
Depreciation	\$225
Accounting	\$5,992
Total expenses:	\$331,874

With Thanks To:

Foundations and other contributors 2013:

Communications Consortium Media Center, Creative Learning Inc, Department of Health & Human Services, Edumetrica, Inc., Embassy of Liechtenstein, Family Eye Care, Georgetown University Law Center, Human & Civil Rights Organizations of America, Kean University, National Council of Women of Canada, Oneaota Valley Family Eye Care, Oslo University, The Brimstone Fund, The Journey Fund, United Nations Population Fund, University of Massachusetts, Verizon Foundation, World Bank Community Connections Fund, Zivik Funding Programme, Zonta Club of Washington Foundation, Diller-Von Furstenberg Family Foundation, Open Society Institute.

Benefactors 2013:

Aaron Swan, Akinwunmi Falade, Alex Evangelides, Alma Yates, Andy Cervantes, Anne R. Tonks, Bekim Elshani, Belinda Arnold, Brianna Jentzel, C E Bestor, Catherine Schaefer, Cindy S Frana, Cynthia Dougherty, Dane Macri, Dante Giadone, Decorah Hatchery, Inc, Elizabeth Cheney, Eric Grossmann, Eugene Cohen, Folasade Tiamiyu, Frederick & Joan Bliss, Georgia Tierney, Glen Jackson, Haris Sofradzija, Harvey & Georgianna Klevar, Heejung Park, Herbert & Mary Ellen Bittner, Hilary F Korman, James Soldano, Jason Cooley, Jason Tauches, Jennifer Evangelides, Jennifer Gillenwater, Jennifer M. Huntington, Joanne Hickey, Joanne T Schaefer, John D. Becker, John & Dorothy Craven, Jonathan Lorenzo, Jordan A Jarrett, Justin D Becker, Kakenya Ntaiya, Karen P Kovarik, Kathleen Hunt, Kathleen and Margo Huston, Kathryn Pepperted, Kelsi Mayne, Kevin & Mini Locke, Kyle P Haley, Larry J Evangelides, Lili I Nikolova, Malcolm Langford, Margaret Baudouin, Marguerite & John B. Heywood, Mary E Bestor, Mary Kay Holmes, Mary Richter, Mary Smith, Matthew Becker, Olaoluwa Oladosu, Paul S Tierno, Paula Chasan, Philister Sidigu, Rachel Woodson, Rebecca Cutter, Rebecca Scherpelz, Rita Cospers Krahl, Rita Hafizi, Robert O Davis, Robert & Karen Fitton, Robin & Larry Rivers, Roxana Goin, Ruth Hoffman, Samantha Levenstein, Sandra Coliver, Scott Allen, Shanela Parvez, Soren Jessen-Petersen, Summer Woodson, Susan Martin, Temilola Abdul, Teresa Crawford, Thomas B. Bracken, Thomas & Margaret R. Gilbert, Timothy & Barbara Read, Vjekoslava Lukovic, William & Martha Davis Deutsch, William Lorie.