

## Newsletter August 2011



With Famine Crisis Thousands of Somalis Flee to Ethiopia Refugee Camps, 25 August 2011  
UN Photo/Eskinder Debebe

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*If you are a member of the Gender and Development Network and would like to publicise an event or send us an update on your work, we will gladly include it in the newsletter. If you are not yet a GADN member and would like to become one please download the application form on our website or contact the GADN Coordinator for more information.*

## 1. GADN News

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### **GADN Members Meeting – 10 October 2011**

A reminder that GADN members are invited to join us on October 10 to update other members of the Gender and Development Network on their latest activities, highlight their recent publications and upcoming events and identify possible areas of collaboration.

The GADN Secretariat will also report back and update members on the latest news from GADN. As part of this meeting, we will also begin to look at development alternatives and ask for members' views.

If you are a member of GADN and would like to attend, please email Lauren on [gadnetwork@oneworldaction.org](mailto:gadnetwork@oneworldaction.org)

### **New GADN Research and Communications Intern**

GADN would like to send a huge thank you to Charlie Wilson, who finished her internship with GADN at the start of August. She has been a tremendous support to the Secretariat and GADN's Advisory Group and we wish her well in her future career.

We now welcome Jessica Summers, who will start mid-September as GADN's new Research and Communications Intern. Jessica is studying at Queen Mary, University of London and has recently returned from a year specialising in Gender Studies at the University of California, Berkeley. Jessica also has a background in social media, so make sure you are following us on Twitter ([@GenderandDevNet](https://twitter.com/GenderandDevNet)) to keep up to date with the latest news in Gender and Development.

## 2. GADN Members' Update

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- It is with some sadness that the Board of **One World Action** has decided to move towards a managed closure of the organisation. This was a difficult decision to take and was due to lack of sufficient funding to continue their work despite all their efforts. In light of their financial situation and also taking into account the changing funding patterns for international development in the UK the Trustees decided that it was better to take the decision now when they would be able to make arrangements for much of their work to continue than risk a sudden closure due to impending insolvency.

With the help of their friends and supporters OWA have achieved a lot: they have helped women refugees in Tanzania access legal advice; provided clean water to urban slum dwellers in Angola; enabled disabled women in Central America to claim their rights to healthcare and other services.

Although One World Action will be closing, they are pleased that much of the work will continue. They are delighted that **Womankind Worldwide**, a women's rights and development organisation, which shares many of One World Action's aims, has agreed in principle to take forward active programmes and projects. They are currently working together and in close cooperation with One World Action's partners to ensure that the best interests of the women they work with are met. For more information, please visit One World Action's [website](#).

- **One World Action** have compiled a list of **One Hundred Unseen Powerful Women Who Change The World** to celebrate the impact of women who are powerful in different ways: they aren't celebrities, super-rich, or widely recognised or celebrated, but they have a positive impact on the people around them. The list has come through nominations; through networks, word of mouth and social media. The nominations include women from over 30 countries and span an extraordinary range of activity – activists, comediennes, teachers, inventors, healthcare workers and writers. They've divided the list into four categories: public service; human rights; business and entrepreneur; and arts and media. Visit the One Hundred Women **website** to see these incredible women.
- **Orchid Project** have been entered into an online competition by their Danish supporters to raise £17,000 to go towards their work to end FGC. You can help them by voting on the competition's Facebook page. Please note it is in Danish, so just follow these steps:
  - 1) First, go to your Facebook page.
  - 2) Search for PFA Brug Livet Fonden (copy and paste to make it easier!)
  - 3) On the opening page, click the thumbs up "Like" button
  - 4) The next page says "Velkommen", click "Stem pa en sag"
  - 5) Next page has a "Vis Alle" dropdown, select "Projekter"
  - 6) At the bottom, scroll through until you find the ORCHID PROJECT logo
  - 7) Click on it, then click "Stem pa sag" and that is it!
- **Tearfund's** Silent No More report, which discusses the untapped potential of the church in addressing sexual violence, is now available in **English** and **French**.
- **WLUML** have produced a new dossier, **Dossier 30-31: The Struggle for Secularism in Europe and North America**. Edited by Algerian sociologist and WLUML founder, Marieme Hélie-Lucas, this bumper dossier brings you papers by over 15 contributors, including Karima Bennoune: *The Law of the Republic Versus the 'Law of the Brothers': A story of France's law banning religious symbols in public*; Pragna Patel: *Cohesion, Multi-Faithism and the Erosion of Secular Spaces in the UK: Implications for the human rights of minority women*; and Gita Sahgal: *'The Question Asked by Satan': Doubt, dissent and discrimination in 21st-century Britain*. Marieme Hélie-Lucas explains in her introduction that the dossier "addresses a burning issue: the specificity of the struggle that women – be they Muslim or 'of Muslim descent' – are waging in Europe and North America, and the way in which their struggle and their strategic decisions are perceived elsewhere, outside the context... Progressive forces in Europe are afraid to... be labelled 'Islamophobic' and racist. Bending to both the pressure from fundamentalists (a tactic we know well for they use the same one to silence us in our countries) and to the guilt feelings inherited from the colonial past, progressive forces fear above all to confront Muslim fundamentalists (and not other fundamentalisms), as they know that fundamentalists will accuse them to be 'against Islam', as they claim they are Islam and the only legitimate representatives of the true Islam."
- ITV's Born to Shine TV series has raised more than £1.778 million for **Save the Children's** charity work overseas with the help of UK aid and the generous British public. The money raised throughout the series will help save children's lives in the world's poorest countries, giving them a chance to grow up and fulfil their potential. Inspired by Save the Children's No Child Born to Die campaign, Born to Shine saw talented children mentor celebrities in a new skill in the weekly Sunday night series, hosted by Natasha Kaplinsky. Public donations throughout the final episode of Born to Shine going to children overseas were matched

pound for pound by UK aid. By backing support for popular charity appeals like this, the Coalition Government's new UK Aid Match scheme gives the public a say in how part of the aid budget is spent. Save the Children's Born to Shine fundraiser is the first appeal to receive support from the scheme. International Development Secretary Andrew Mitchell said: "The Born to Shine appeal will mean a brighter future for thousands of children, and is an excellent example of how the public, the Government and the charity sector can work together on the shared goals of improving the lives of some of the poorest and most vulnerable people in the world." Donations can be given to Born to Shine until 30 September 2011 and the Government will continue to match fund donations for Save the Children's overseas work until this date. To find out how to make a donation click [here](#).

- **Bretton Woods Project** is recruiting a **Programme Manager: Environment, Human Rights and Social Impacts**. This leadership role is an exciting opportunity to make a real contribution to influencing international financial institutions so they work for poverty eradication, the environment and human rights. This is a great chance to help lead a dynamic and fast-paced networking organisation. Pay: £35,098 - £37,575 per annum plus contributory pension (10% of salary). **Closing date: 9 am GMT, Tuesday 27 September 2011**. Further details and application instructions can be found on BWP's [website](#).
- **VSO UK** are recruiting a **Head of External Affairs**. The purpose of the External Affairs Department is to strengthen VSO's global fight against poverty by using the first hand experience of VSO's volunteers and the communities they work in to influence UK policy and public opinion. Managing a strong and high-achieving team, you will be responsible for delivering a programme of activities – through the media and parliament, policy development, advocacy and campaigning, to deliver policy change that improves the lives of poor communities around the world and transforms VSO's profile here in the UK. As part of VSOUK's Management Team, you will also be responsible for the overall strategic direction of the organisation and its contribution to international corporate performance targets, working closely with other colleagues globally to ensure VSO continues to maximise its impact. Drive the communication in the UK of our global strategy and improve the lives of poor and marginalised people. **Closing date: 12 noon, Friday 9 September 2011**. For more information, visit the [website](#).

- **NEWS FROM WIDE**

### **Economic Alternatives for Gender and Social Justice: Voices and Visions from Latin America**

This is the second publication in the series "Economic Alternatives for Gender Equality and Social Justice" produced by WIDE. "Economic Alternatives for Gender and Social Justice: Voices and Visions from Latin America" reflects WIDE's strategic goal to promote the construction of alternatives to the current dominant economic model from a feminist perspective. This publication is the result of a longstanding collaboration between WIDE and her allies in Latin America.

Download the publication in **English** and in **Spanish**.

## **3. DFID/EU/UN**

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- **Situation in Libya – latest updates**  
DFID, August 2011

- **World Humanitarian Day 2011**  
DFID, August 2011
- **Horn of Africa food crisis – latest updates**  
DFID, August 2011
- **The UK's priorities for the World Bank**  
DFID, August 2011
- **Investing in Women's Leadership Is Essential to Transforming the AIDS Response in Asia and the Pacific**  
UN Women, August 2011
- **Afghanistan National Parliament to Establish Resource Centre to Promote Women's Role in Decision-making Processes**  
UN Women, August 2011
- **Statement by Under-Secretary-General and Executive Director of UN Women Michelle Bachelet on the Famine in Somalia**  
UN Women, August 2011
- **Egypt's Youth Revolution: Building a New Future**  
UN Women, August 2011
- **UN Women Signs Agreement to Empower Women Representatives in Odisha State of India**  
UN Women, August 2011
- **Police and Judges against Gender Violence in the Southern Cone**  
UN Women, August 2011
- **Decision: Alyne da Silva Pimentel v. Brazil**  
Centre for Reproductive Rights, August 2011  
*In the first maternal death case to be decided by an international human rights body, the United Nations Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) establishes that governments have a human rights obligation to guarantee that all women in their countries—regardless of income or racial background—have access to timely, non-discriminatory, and appropriate maternal health services. Even when governments outsource health services to private institutions, they remain directly responsible for their actions and have a duty to regulate and monitor said institutions.*

## 4. Development News

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- **Libya will only become inclusive when women are given a say in its future**  
Guardian, September 2 2011
- **NGO lobbies govt to act on gender rights**  
Myanmar Times, August 29 2011
- **The Perils of Being a Widow in Zambia**  
allAfrica.com, August 29 2011
- **Sierra Leone: Are Rights Campaigners Losing the Fight Against FGM?**  
allAfrica.com, August 29 2011
- **Cabinet drops Bahati's gay Bill**  
Daily Monitor, August 22 2011
- **Women March for Rights of Rural Workers, Make Demands on President in Brazil**  
Global Press Institute, August 22 2011
- **Pakistani Rights Group Says Violence Against Women Increasing**  
RFERL, August 18 2011

- **South African Women Protest Against Fracking**  
Care2.com, August 12 2011
- **Nepal: Women Activists Demand To See New Draft Constitution**  
IRIN, August 8 2011
- **What Does US Policy Have to Do With Child Brides and Drought in Kenya?**  
RH Reality Check, August 5 2011
- **Somalia: Women seek refuge in IDP camps - in pictures**  
Guardian, August 3 2011

## 5. Publications & Resources

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- **Aid effectiveness: bringing country ownership (and politics) back in**  
ODI, August 2011
- **Civil Society Oversight of the Security Sector and Gender**  
The Geneva Centre for the Democratic Control of Armed Forces (DCAF), August 2011
- **Control and Sexuality: The Revival of Zina Laws in Muslim Contexts**  
WLUML, December 2010 (now available as free download)
- **DAWN July Newsletter**  
DAWN, July 2011
- **Dossier 30-31: The Struggle for Secularism in Europe and North America**  
WLUML, July 2011
- **Growth and development**  
BOND, July 2011
- **SADC Gender Protocol 2011 Barometer**  
Gender Links, August 2011
- **Sex and Age Matter**  
CARE International and OCHA, August 2011
- **Strengthening Monitoring And Evaluation For Women's Rights: Thirteen Insights For Women's Organizations**  
AWID, August 2011
- **Talking Gender to Africa**  
Counterpoints, July 2011
- **The War at Home - GBV Indicators Project**  
Gender Links, August 2011

## 6. Campaigns/Calls for Papers

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### **GJC Call to Action: Urge the President to Issue an Executive Order Lifting Abortion Restrictions on U.S. Humanitarian Aid**

Sign GJC's petition to President Obama urging him to lift abortion restrictions on U.S. humanitarian aid by clicking [here](#).

The Global Justice Center (GJC) is launching a critical campaign to ensure that women and girls impregnated during armed conflict are provided with comprehensive and non-discriminatory medical care. The systemic use of rape as a tactic of war is horrifying, life threatening, and a war crime. For those girls and women victims who become pregnant, their suffering is exacerbated and prolonged by the near universal denial of abortions in humanitarian medical settings. In places

where war rape is rife, such as the Democratic Republic of Congo, Sudan or Burma, the option of abortion could save the lives of many girls and women.

Rapes that result in pregnancy have significant, sometimes deadly, physical, psychological and social consequences. Girls and women raped in armed conflict face increased rates of maternal mortality. Further, where women are denied abortions, they may resort to "non-sterile" or "non-medical methods" which can lead to death, infection, scarring or sterilization. The psychological consequences of rape and a resulting pregnancy are also severe. In fact, the denial of access to safe abortion for rape victims has been characterized as torture or cruel, inhumane and degrading treatment by various international human rights bodies. Women impregnated by rape are often ostracized by their communities, face spousal abandonment and physical violence by family members.

Unfortunately, this group is denied complete medical care when the service providers tasked to treat them in humanitarian medical settings are unable or unwilling to provide them with information about or access to abortions. This can be attributed to the blanket abortion restrictions the U.S. places on all its foreign assistance, including humanitarian aid. These US restrictions contain no exceptions for rape or to save the life of the woman. Thus, all foreign governments, NGOs and humanitarian aid providers receiving US funds are prevented from providing the option of abortions to girls and women raped in armed conflict. These restrictions are unaffected by the lifting of the "Global Gag Rule" by President Obama, because the executive order revoking the gag rule explicitly keeps the all other U.S. abortions restrictions firmly in place. To comply with its international obligations, the US must modify its policy and practices.

In honour of the 62nd anniversary of the Geneva Conventions (August 12, 2011), the GJC is coordinating a letter writing campaign to President Obama, urging him to issue an executive order lifting these restrictions on humanitarian aid for situations of armed conflict. Let our leaders know that you believe girls and women raped in armed conflict deserve complete medical care. Please sign GJC's petition by clicking [here](#).

See also Global Justice Center's publication, **The Right to an Abortion for Girls and Women Raped in Armed Conflict**. To see GJC's full submission to the UN Human Rights Council [here](#). View Norway's recommendation at the Universal Period Review of the US [here](#). Click [here](#) to view other letters in support of this cause to President Obama.

### **Call For Papers: Reproductive Health Matters (RHM): Maternal Health And Maternal Mortality**

RHM seeks papers (for the May 2012 journal issue) about why some countries are reducing maternal deaths and others are not and what has changed in the past decade. Millennium Development Goal 5 does not provide anything like an adequate picture of what needs to be done to reduce maternal mortality and improve maternal health. Even if countries were to achieve "skilled attendance at birth" for 100% of deliveries, given the limited definition of "skilled" that the poorest countries are forced to work to in order to come even near reaching this goal, maternal deaths would not fall sufficiently. Indeed, MDG5 slides over 25 years of evidence and experience of what it takes to make motherhood safe. So it's not an accident that it has been the least achievable MDG. In fact, it is only in countries where overall development has improved health and health systems since 1990, including access to good maternity care, and where abortion has been made safe(r), that any noticeable drop in maternal mortality has occurred.

With the best will in the world, neither the UN nor the megastructures called global health initiatives, currently pumping money into selected vertical programmes the least developed countries, have reduced maternal deaths.

This issue of RHM is a call to get back to the cruel reality of what maternal mortality and morbidity look like. It asks what countries are doing to prevent it – or not? In 1999, RHM published a multi-authored book called **Safe Motherhood: Critical Issues**. A whole generation of expertise on preventing maternal deaths is contained in that book. In 2007, the 20th anniversary of the Safe Motherhood Initiative, we devoted a journal issue to the question: “Is pregnancy getting safer for women?” We found reasons to celebrate and reasons to despair. Where deaths remained high, we found a clear lack of commitment, a failure to act and a persistent lack of finance in all the places where finance counts. The papers reiterated how much is known but not applied. Why has that knowledge been dissipated, not put into action? Who is paying the price?

RHM seeks papers about why some countries are reducing maternal deaths and others are not and what has changed in the past decade:

- what national programmes and services exist? what do they consist of? what have they achieved and not achieved? who regulates and monitors them? who is paying for them?
- do countries know what they need to know and how to find it out? how are they measuring progress? why is there progress in some places and no progress in others?
- are the same women dying now as 10 and 20 years ago, or different women?
- have more women begun attending antenatal and delivery care with a skilled attendant? post-partum care (if there is any)? what led more of them to start doing so? or if not, why not?
- what is the content and quality of maternity and abortion care? which health professionals are providing it? what competencies have they attained and are they able to use them?
- how to resolve the seemingly unending debate about TBAs? has anything changed for women since 1987 in countries where TBAs still attend most deliveries?
- are more countries carrying out verbal autopsies, sisterhood studies, maternal death audits, than a decade ago? are they keeping good clinical records, analysing and using them to make change happen?
- has information about maternal morbidity increased? is attention to the women who survive complications also increasing or not? is there more and more effective care for complications of unsafe abortion than 10 or 20 years ago? is D&C being replaced by MVA?
- are lifesaving essential drugs, equipment and procedures to treat obstetric complications and emergencies more available in resource-poor countries than in the past? how is the international war by big pharma against generic and affordable drugs affecting maternity and abortion care?
- what about midwifery and abortion training for health professionals in hospitals, primary care and the community – is that happening or increasing? are there fewer shortages? are there really more skilled attendants – what do those words mean in the training curriculum and practice?
- deaths from complications of unsafe abortion have fallen in some parts of the global South in the absence of law reform – why? have countries moved forward on making abortion safe and legal?
- why is unsafe abortion a dirty word in influential safe motherhood circles again, or not mentioned at all?
- are infants and children taking resources and attention away from women’s needs, in spite of the “continuum of care” ideal?

- why is maternal mortality no longer addressed as a part of sexual and reproductive health and rights?
- why only “mothers”? pregnancy doesn’t happen only to mothers – why have the MDGs been allowed to make a comprehensive women’s health agenda obsolete?

Something retrogressive has diverted the attention of those in power and even many neo-NGOs from recognising and addressing the reality of maternal mortality. RHM19(38) November 2011 calls for sexual and reproductive health and rights to be re-asserted on the global and national stage. This includes women’s right to safe pregnancy, safe delivery and safe, legal abortion, with universal access to services.

For the May 2012 journal issue, we ask: how can we bring the world and its leaders back on track and make change happen in countries – some thought-provoking commentaries from those with experience at the grassroots would be welcome.

**Submissions due: ± September/October 2011 (negotiable due to late distribution of this call)**

For further information, please visit **Reproductive Health Matters**

**WWSF: 19 Days of Activism for prevention of abuse and violence against children and youth 1-19 November 2011**

The WWSF Children-Youth Section is pleased to announce and share with you its new global campaign - “**19 Days of Activism for prevention of abuse and violence against children and youth 1-19 November**”, in the form of a Prevention Kit – Call to Action – which presents 19 abuse situations from which to chose your annual activities. You can register your activities directly **online**.

The 2011 main campaign theme is "Prevention of corporal punishment" with suggestions for action in the **Prevention Kit** with links to many ideas contained in the revised WWSF Guide “**Prevention is Key**”!

WWSF invites you to use and **download** the 2011 campaign poster, banners and logo and grants you the right to add your own logo on the poster provided that you do not remove the WWSF logos.

## **7. Events and Conferences**

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**Putting Gender at the Centre: Gender Awareness Workshop for NGO Professionals Working on China, Wednesday 21st September, 2011, 1pm – 5pm, University of Westminster - 309 Regent Street, London W1B 2UW**

The event will include different types of activities through which you will be able to 1) explore China from a gendered perspective looking at Chinese visual materials 2) learn and share your views about China and related gender issues through contributing to group discussions 3) increase your gender awareness and learn how this can improve the quality of your work through group activities.

This event is for NGO professionals working on China to expand your knowledge on gender issues and develop essential skills to deal with the complexities of contemporary Chinese society in each

area of your work. No previous experience or expertise is required to attend the workshop. Thanks to the support of the University of Westminster this event is offered completely free of charge to professionals working on China. But places are limited, so please **reserve your place** to attend the event by contacting **Dr Alessandra Aresu** at [a.aresu@westminster.ac.uk](mailto:a.aresu@westminster.ac.uk). A light lunch, tea, coffee and snacks will be provided.

**Semillas requests the pleasure of your company at a charity evening in London to support marginalized women in Mexico: Drinks and canapés, 6pm-9pm, Wednesday 5 October 2011, CitySavvy Ltd, 39 King Street, London, WC2E 8JS**

**Semillas** is a non-profit organisation that promotes women's human rights and gender equality by making grants to grassroots women's groups and by developing their leadership and organisational skills. Their grantees carry out projects such as access to justice and the prevention of gender violence; improving women's labour rights; reducing maternal mortality; and boosting the economic autonomy of indigenous artisan women.

**RSVP: [Antonio.orr@semillas.org.mx](mailto:Antonio.orr@semillas.org.mx)**

**Civil Society Capacity Development Workshop, East and Southeast Asia, 24-27 October 2011, Vientiane, Laos**

**Engagingmen.net** are calling all civil society organisations and individuals committed to gender justice from ASEAN countries, China, Mongolia, and Timor Leste to take part in a unique and unprecedented collective learning workshop on transforming masculinities & gendered power relations to promote gender justice, created by East and Southeast Asian practitioners for East and Southeast Asian practitioners.

The Regional Learning Community (RLC) for Transforming Masculinities to Promote Gender Justice is organising a regional workshop to build critical consciousness, critical thinking capacity, knowledge and analytical capacity on foundational knowledge surrounding gender power relations, and masculinities. For more details, **[click here](#)**.

There are **no** registration fees. The electronic application form can be found **[here](#)**. Please fill in the online application and submit with your CV/Resume **by 19 September 2011**. If you have any questions, kindly contact **Khamsavath Chanthavysouk**.

## **8. Job Openings**

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- **Uganda Country Manager – Great Lakes Programme/International Alert/Uganda**  
Closing date: 9 September 2011
- **Head of External Affairs/VSO UK/ London**  
Closing date: 9 September 2011
- **Income Generation Officer/Women's Resource Centre/London**  
Closing date: 9 September 2011
- **Development Officer/Women's Resource Centre/London**  
Closing date: 9 September 2011
- **Policy Analyst – Aid Effectiveness and Sector Strengthening/WaterAid/London**  
Closing date: 14 September 2011

- **Country Representative – Malawi/WaterAid/Malawi**  
Closing date: 14 September 2011
- **Country Representative – Nigeria/WaterAid/Nigeria**  
Closing date: 14 September 2011
- **Programme Manager – Environment, Human Rights and Social Impacts/Bretton Woods Project/ London**  
Closing date: 27 September 2011
- **Research and Policy Intern with interest in women’s rights and HIV/Sophia Forum/London**  
Closing date: 30 September 2011

## 9. Podcasts/Videocasts

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- **Guardian Focus podcast: famine in Somalia**  
Guardian, August 2011
- **The Equality Path: Planning and Budgeting with a Gender Lens**  
UN Women, July 2011
- **Gender-Responsive Budgeting: Rwanda**  
UN Women, July 2011
- **UNICEF issues new guidance on promoting gender equality (three parts)**  
UNICEF, July 2011
- **MDG 3 Promote gender equality and empower women**  
EU, July 2011

The Gender and Development Network is a diverse membership network of leading practitioners, academics and consultants working on gender and development issues in the UK. The GAD Network has been active in advocacy and awareness-raising on gender and development issues since its founding in 1985. You can find out more about us on our website [www.gadnetwork.org.uk](http://www.gadnetwork.org.uk).

If you would like to become a member of the GAD Network please download the application form from our website or contact the GAD Network Coordinator at [gadnetwork@oneworldaction.org](mailto:gadnetwork@oneworldaction.org). Responsibility for the content of these notices belongs to the partner organisations submitting them. While every effort is made to ensure accuracy, the GADN cannot be held responsible for the content of those pages referenced by an external link.

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