Fitting comfortably in the palm of your hand is this latest edition of Global Impact. You will have noticed we have moved to a more compact format in response to feedback. We hope that this is more convenient for you.

More importantly, we hope the content catches your attention and alerts you to the many important issues in our world that ADRA Canada deals with.

As always, the strength of our agency and the significant impact we make, is only possible because of your support and involvement. For instance, in this issue, we talk about ADRA Canada’s response to flooding in Yorkton; and in “A Trilogy of Hope” you will read about some of the people ADRA helped following the Haiti earthquake.

Be sure and let us know how you like this new format (see the short survey on the back page)

We’re excited to announce the release of our 2010 videos. This year we take you from Africa to Asia, and on the way bring you some heartwarming music presentations by Canadian recording artists, Naomi Striemer and Christine Wollmann. Contact us for your free copy.

Thank you for your support of ADRA Canada!

James Astleford,
Donor Relations Director
ADRA Mission
ADRA works with people in poverty and distress to create just and positive change through empowering partnerships and responsible action.

ADRA Vision
ADRA is a professional, learning, and efficient network that embodies integrity and transparency. ADRA reaches across boundaries empowering and speaking out for the at-risk and forgotten to achieve measurable, documented and durable changes in lives and society.

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AIDS is not always the consequence of reckless or immoral behaviour as is frequently portrayed; it is most often a result of poor education, lack of awareness, and poverty.

Education can mean the difference between life and death in countries like Togo, a small country in Western Africa.

Alougba is a wife and mother who lives with her husband and children in the village of Apetikondji, Togo.

Not long ago, Alougba’s brother in-law died. After his funeral, Alougba’s in-laws met and decided, as is often the custom, that her husband should marry his brother’s widow. At first Alougba’s husband resisted the decision, but following threats from his family, he eventually agreed to the arrangement.

Remembering the symptoms her brother in-law had exhibited before he died, Alougba grew increasingly concerned about the health of her husband and herself. Realizing she had to share her feelings with her husband, she woke him one morning to discuss her fears with him. She suggested that he get tested for AIDS and asked him to request that his brother’s widow be tested too.

Alougba’s husband was tested and received a negative result, but his sister in-law decided to leave the village quietly without being tested and hasn’t returned since.

Alougba says it is thanks to ADRA that she and her husband were aware of this potentially deadly health risk.

“Thanks to ADRA who came to bring us this message of salvation which is the awareness of AIDS. The way my sister in-law reacted indicates that she knows of what her husband died. Maybe she herself is infected.”

While the unavailability and expense of drugs plays a part in the spread of HIV/AIDS, lack of awareness of how it is transmitted and prevented also plays a large role in the proliferation of this deadly disease.

ADRA Canada believes in the importance of educating people about life-threatening diseases like AIDS. Educating parents will help erode current prejudices against people with HIV/AIDS, while educating children and youth will ensure that the next generation of parents and influential decision-makers are outspoken and unashamed of addressing the topic of HIV/AIDS.

HIV (Human Immunodeficiency Virus) infects cells of the immune system and destroys or impairs their function. Infection results in the progressive deterioration of the immune system, breaking down the body’s ability to fend off infections and diseases. AIDS (Acquired immune deficiency syndrome) refers to the most advanced stages of HIV infection, defined by the occurrence of any of more than 20 opportunistic infections or related cancers. ~ World Health Organization
It’s unbelievable that much rain could fall in that short a span on a part of the province that’s already saturated. All of Saskatchewan’s like a big sponge that’s full right now, there’s no place for water to go.” Saskatchewan Premier Brad Wall, speaking July 2, 2010.

“It happened so fast - the flood. In half an hour a total of 6” (15.24 cm) of rain fell on Yorkton. We don’t have a river to overflow its banks - this was all just from the downpour of rain.” Carmen Manweiler, Yorkton resident and ADRA Canada supporter.
On July 1, 2010, the rain falling on Yorkton, Saskatchewan began to form pools of water around playground equipment, and in dips in the road. Quickly the water crept down the streets and into fields already saturated with water. As the storm sewers filled to capacity and began to overflow, the streets became rivers that swept toward homes situated on low ground.

Water flooded yards and splashed against foundations.

When Julie* realized that the water had filled her basement and was rising rapidly, she gathered her five children and escaped to higher ground. In the confusion, the family dog was left behind; trapped in the house. Julie struggled through the water that was now shoulder-deep and somehow managed to open the door to her house. Water gushed out through the door and the dog floated out with the water. Overwhelmed, she stood in the swirling water with her hands over her face and wept.

ADRA Canada’s Emergency Response Fund was established and is maintained so that when disaster strikes in Canada or in other countries around the world, funds are available to provide immediate assistance to those in desperate need.

Julie and her husband received assistance from ADRA Canada that provided two months’ rent for the family, school supplies for the children, and additional essentials.

The hard facts haven’t changed: the family lost their home and everything in it; but the support received from ADRA Canada and other humanitarian agencies has given Julie hope for the future.

Thanks to dedicated supporters, ADRA Canada was able to provide assistance and give hope to a total of seven families who lost all of their possessions in the Yorkton flood.

*pseudonym
According to the World Health Organization (WHO), tobacco is the leading preventable cause of death in the world.

We all know about the illnesses associated with tobacco use, but did you know that more than five million people die from the effects of tobacco every year? That's a higher number than those who die from HIV/AIDS, malaria, and tuberculosis combined. Up to half of all smokers will die from a tobacco-related disease, and second-hand smoke harms everyone who is exposed to it. Ironically, tobacco is the only legal consumer product that kills when used exactly as the manufacturer intends.

Increasingly strong tobacco control laws in North America have forced tobacco companies to look elsewhere for new markets. Unfortunately, the poor countries of Asia, Africa, and Latin America are easy prey for their slick marketing techniques.

Even though Canada has witnessed a dramatic drop in smoking prevalence over the past 50 years, in Cambodia, 54% of men and 6% of women smoke; making smoking prevalence there worse than it was in Canada in 1965! 75% of the population in Cambodia is exposed to secondhand smoke, including three million children. The country spends almost $70 million (USD) on tobacco each year.

Deliberate targeting of vulnerable communities by tobacco companies combined with insufficient education on the effects of tobacco use has made smoking widely prevalent and a socially acceptable practice in Cambodia.

Offering tobacco to friends or visitors is a common gesture of hospitality among Khmer men. In Khmer homes, it is usual to find a packet of cigarettes in the middle of the table for male guests to help themselves. The more honoured the guest, the more expensive or ‘classier’ the cigarettes. Cigarettes are also given as gifts for special events such as weddings, ceremonies, and other social occasions.

For the past seven years, ADRA, in partnership with the local Ministry of Health, has been helping to stimulate change at both the grassroots and governmental levels and is now
recognized as one of the most effective agencies providing tobacco awareness in Cambodia.

ADRA’s program in Cambodia advocates for tobacco control using a variety of methods including:

• weekly radio programs
• training Quit Counselors
• distribution of materials to policy and law-makers, government institutions, NGOs, and communities
• surveillance of tobacco industry ads, promotions and sponsorships at retailers, gas stations, and supermarkets
• support of local research to strengthen advocacy.

In addition, by using valuable smoking cessation tools, ADRA has helped thousands of smokers quit.

KIM LEANG’S STORY

Kim Leang is a 24 year-old pregnant Cambodian woman who lives with her husband and three year-old son in Ankrang village. Kim and her husband grow rice for a living.

Kim was excited to join a Reflect Circle in her community. (The Reflect Circle provided the opportunity for the community people to get involved in decision-making, and to gain knowledge and skills to improve their lives.) As she attended these meetings sponsored by ADRA, Kim learned about the dangers of tobacco use.

Concerned because her husband was a smoker, Kim convinced him to attend the sessions about tobacco with her.

It was a long, hard struggle, but with her help, Kim’s husband was able to successfully stop smoking. Now the family has at least 2000 riel extra per day, which helps them to provide good food for their children.

Kim has discovered an additional benefit of her husband attending the meetings - he now takes time to help her with the housework when he returns from the field.
Twenty-five-year-old fisherman, Lamy, was playing Dominoes with friends outside his seaside home last January when he felt his chair begin to shake. He saw his house crack in pieces and fall as the sea surged in a most unusual way dragging his clothes and the contents of his household out to sea.

Perhaps it was his skill and ease of pulling fish from the water that enabled him to successfully retrieve a few of his belongings. The few items he was able to snatch back from the sea, became the only earthly belongings he and his wife had.

Like many other Haitians displaced by the earthquake, Lamy and his wife moved to one of the internally displaced persons camps that sprung up spontaneously across Port-au-Prince that night.

Times turned tough for them. “The sea was very different,” Lamy complained. “For a month after the earthquake, I couldn’t catch even one fish! Now things are better, but not much.”

His wife sells his fish in the market, so with a big drop in the amount of fish he could get, their income suffered.

They remained at the camp for one month, then, using a tarp given to them, they built a small shelter on the other side of a stone wall that separates them from the sea and their former home. This small shelter has been their home for the past six months.

Lamy’s parents suffered the loss of their home as well, and live under a tarp just a few feet from him and his wife. But that’s about to end.

Today, I found Lamy labouring alongside the ADRA mason and carpenter on a piece of land just behind his temporary home. Taking a quick break from handing corrugated sheeting up to the carpenter on the roof, Lamy excitedly commented, “We’ve been working for two days. I hope to be finished by tomorrow!” then quickly continued with his work.

After showing us the tarp shelter he now calls home, it’s easy to understand why he’s in such a hurry to finish the home he’s constructing.

“When I’m finished, I’m going to help my parents build their home,” he added.

Lamy’s parents are also building a home in partnership with ADRA on the same government owned property.
2. Martine

Unlike the dour, pessimistic personality of the Charlie Brown doll she was clutching, she was all smiles, giggles and wiggles. The little girl’s mother, Martine was just as happy.

When the year began, Martine, her husband, grandmother and five-year-old daughter lived on this same piece of land in a house completely destroyed by the January 12 earthquake. Today, they are spending their first week in a new shelter they built hand-in-hand with ADRA.

Martine was away from home doing errands when the quake hit. She rushed home knowing her daughter and two relatives were in the house. Seeing a collapsed house when she arrived, she panicked and began running through her neighbourhood, now turned to rubble, calling and searching desperately for her daughter.

Despite the head wound she suffered, Martine was grateful to find her daughter alive. Sadly, the aunt who was also in the home, did not live.

Without a home, the family moved in with another aunt, whose house became overcrowded as three other families, also newly homeless, sought refuge there as well.

Sitting in their new home today Martine comments, “This is much smaller than we had before, but we are just so glad to have somewhere to call home.” She and her husband sleep in the one bed they salvaged. The grandmother and daughter share a mat on the floor.

Their livelihoods have been affected as well. Martine, who formerly sold clothing as a street vendor, has felt a drop in business. While the needs of those around her who also lost everything have increased, their ability to buy has nearly disappeared. Her husband, a teacher in Port-au-Prince, also lost his job when the building he worked in was destroyed. The earthquake has affected them psychologically as well, but their new home has helped ease those fears.

“Lots of people say the earthquake could happen again, but I feel safe because even if this house collapses in a quake, I’ll be OK. And even if a hurricane comes, we are safe inside here,” Martine acknowledged gratefully.

3. Pradel

For such a young family, they’ve experienced a lot of trauma. Just eight months ago, Pradel, his wife and six-year old son anxiously awaited the impending arrival of a new baby in their home.

Pradel had good work as a technician, could provide for his family, and even had some savings. The earthquake of January 12 changed all of that.

A technician by trade, Pradel was fixing fans at a nearby hotel when the earthquake hit. After safely escaping from the hotel, he rushed home and found that his neighbour’s home had fallen on his, completely destroying it. To his terror, he found his son nearly falling into the deep cracks opening in the earth around his home.

He then learned that as his wife sought to escape their home, rubble fell and struck her stomach. Suffering from eclampsia and experiencing severe panic from the quake, she went back to her hometown in the mountains.
where she could get medical care at the hospital. Unfortunately, two days later, just two months before her delivery date, “She gave birth to a dead baby,” Pradel recounted sadly.

Without a home, Pradel and his young son moved onto the streets. For six months they lived under a tarp and slept on a piece of carpet.

Trauma after trauma hit the family in the upcoming days. Added to the devastating loss of their house and their baby, Pradel lost all his savings with his wife’s medical expenses, he found himself without work after the quake, and his son lost the opportunity to be in school as his father could no longer afford it.

Then two things happened to turn things around. He heard of ADRA and how they were partnering with families to rebuild their homes. Although he fit ADRA’s selection criteria, he had no land on which to to build. It was then that a friend offered to pay for the rent on a land space for an ADRA shelter.

ADRA provided a team leader, a mason, a carpenter and all the materials. Pradel was required to gather at least four friends to assist in the labour required to construct the home. “I didn’t sleep for the four days of construction,” Pradel recounted with a laugh. “I was so happy to have a home to live in again, to have a place for my family and to watch the progress of the construction each day!”

For now Pradel is content, although he worries about finding sufficient work to be able to continue paying for the rent of the land.

As I visited them today, they had been in their home for two days. “The house is ours,” he said proudly, “but everything in it,” he admitted as he pointed to the bed, pots, pans and dishes in the room, “came from my mom. We lost everything.” I am so grateful to ADRA providing the materials for this house,” Pradel said. “And I was also happy to be part of rebuilding a home for my family. Thank you!”

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**Millennium Development Goals**

In September 2000, the largest number of world leaders in history gathered at the Millennium Summit and adopted the Millennium Declaration. This Declaration not only committed their nations to a new global partnership to reduce extreme poverty, but also set out a series of time-bound targets with a deadline of 2015. These targets have become known as the UN Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).

The MDGs promote gender equality, education, and environmental sustainability and include the basic right of each person on the planet to health, education, shelter, and security.

**Goal 1:** Eradicate Extreme Hunger and Poverty
**Goal 2:** Achieve Universal Primary Education
**Goal 3:** Promote Gender Equality and Empower Women
**Goal 4:** Reduce Child Mortality
**Goal 5:** Improve Maternal Health
**Goal 6:** Combat HIV/AIDS, Malaria and other diseases
**Goal 7:** Ensure Environmental Sustainability
**Goal 8:** Develop a Global Partnership for Development

The world has made significant progress in achieving many of the Goals.

- Between 1990 and 2002, average overall incomes increased by approximately 21%.
- The number of people in extreme poverty declined by an estimated 130 million.
- Child mortality rates fell from 103 deaths per 1,000 live births a year to 88.
- Life expectancy rose from 63 years to nearly 65 years.
- An additional 8% of the developing world’s people received access to clean water.
- An additional 15% acquired access to improved sanitation services.

ADRA Canada development programming seeks to help achieve the MDGs.
Hunger in a world of abundance is unacceptable. Fast for Change is about recognizing the link between hunger and over-consumption; poverty and affluence.

On October 16, 2010, your group is invited to fast, in whatever way is healthy for you, and then to gather afterwards to share your experience and what you learned.

Canadian Foodgrains Bank and ADRA Canada are encouraging Canadians to Fast for Change, and to consider how our daily activities are linked with hunger. Resources are now available.

They include a prayer and reflection booklet, prayer plate, worship elements, and a youth event which are all designed to help people focus their attention on what is required to grow and raise food for our human family. Register your support and have the option to download or receive these resources at no cost to you.

Sign up at fastforchange.ca and receive a Kit and other resources.
For more information call 1-800-665-0377.
In the rugged highlands of western Mongolia, hunters use eagles to capture prey. At the annual Eagle Festival, Kazakh hunters celebrate and show off their traditional falconry skills by competing in a series of competitions. The picture above depicts the Festival parade of hunters on horseback with their eagles.

The Festival is a time of high excitement and great entertainment for the people of Mongolia. See if you can spot the six things that are different in the pictures below. Check your answers at: www.adra.ca/SpotDifference
Approximately 200 km north of the capital city of Khartoum, Sudan, is an area called Um Jawazir. With sand stretching to the horizon, it is a surprise to learn that for more than fifteen years the Nomads have been doing desert farming here.

Originally started as an ADRA pilot project, the Nomads who settled in the area and mixed some farming with their nomadic life now grow food for their animals and families and make an income by selling their produce.

A large underground freshwater aquifer has made it possible for the Nomads to turn this part of the desert into an oasis with flourishing fields of okra, sorghum, millet, onions, eggplant, garlic, and alfalfa.

The variety of fresh vegetables and clean water have made life more civilized for the Nomads. There is less sickness, better hygiene, and more educational opportunities for their children.

Formerly the Nomads traveled from place to place in search of pastureland and water. Now they stay in one place for most of the year.

There is a school and a youth centre for the children. The women are more confident, have social skills, understand principles of health care and have learned agriculture techniques. The men have learned to value the women. ADRA is truly changing lives in Sudan.

(ADRA has dug more than 18 wells that supply clean water in Um Jawazir.)

In the desert there are many underground aquifers that contain salty water. When the water is pumped to the surface and poured on the ground, the moisture evaporates, leaving salt crystals that ruin the soil and make it impossible to grow crops.
Did reading this issue teach you anything new?  Yes  No

Do you like the new format (smaller size)?  Yes  No

What development topic is most interesting to you?

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