

Human Securities Activities in 2013

12 December: The United Nations Trust Fund for Human Security (UNTFHS) has released its **2014 Call for Proposals**. For tools on how to design human security projects and the UNTFHS Guidelines, please visit the **UNTFHS page**.

14 November: The **Global Partnership for the Prevention of Armed Conflict (GPPAC)** released the next edition of their **newsletter**. This edition came during the GPPAC International Steering Group (ISG) meeting where the network cemented its commitment to focus on the human security approach. Additionally, the newsletter highlights GPPAC's participation at the recent seminar on **'Human Security Perspectives on Developments in the Middle East'** held in Istanbul, and provides further information on their **'Human Security First'** campaign which advocates for human security as an overarching principle for the United Nations Post 2015 Development Agenda.

5-6 November: The **Advisory Board on Human Security** met in New York for its 14th meeting. Board Members discussed ways to build on the current momentum around human security within the United Nations and beyond and continued to explore a strategic approach to further integrate the human security approach into the work of the United Nations. Minutes of the meeting as well as the annual progress report will follow shortly.

2 October: The Human Security Network, the Government of Japan and the Human Security Unit will co-host an interactive panel discussion on **'Applying the Human Security Approach at the National Level'**, at the UN Headquarters in New York from 15:00 to 18:00 in Conference Room 6 (NLB). The panel discussion is an opportunity for Member States, the United Nations system and representatives from non-governmental organizations to reflect on the application of the human security approach at the national level. Based on a wide range of country experiences, the panel discussion will provide for an interactive dialogue with experts and practitioners on this important topic. To demonstrate how the human security approach is being successfully implemented at the national level, panellists will share their first-hand experiences in applying the human security approach into national policies, programmes and projects, providing examples of best practice.

2 October: The Global Partnership for the Prevention of Armed Conflict (GPPAC) and IKV Pax Christi are hosting a reception and informal discussion on **'A Human Security approach to the post-2015 Development Agenda'** at 708 Third Avenue from 18:15pm to 19:30pm. This is also an opportunity to introduce the new Human Security First initiative, which will provide a platform for local voices to share their perspectives on what human security means to them. Three-minute clips will be screened from Afghanistan, Fiji, and Sri Lanka, and one of GPPAC's partners visiting from Mexico, Mr. Mauricio Salazar, from Serapaz will share his experiences.

30 September – 1 October: The Global Political Trends Centre, is convening a seminar entitled **'Human Security Perspectives on Developments in the Middle East'** at Istanbul's Kültür University. The seminar will focus on human security issues as experienced in the Middle East region, and in particular the role of Turkey in responding these challenges. Please click **here** for the event programme.

25 September: The **Advisory Board on Human Security (ABHS)** will host a **'Roundtable Meeting on Human Security in 2013'** at the United Nations Headquarters in Geneva. In light of the High-Level Event on Human Security that took place in May 2013 in New York, the meeting is an important opportunity to inform Member States and the UN system in Geneva on the development of the human security concept and its implementation. Following welcoming remarks and an introduction to the human security concept by the ABHS, a presentation will be made on the work of the United Nations Trust Fund for Human Security (UNTFHS) and recent developments on human security at the UN. A short video will be screened on the added value of the human security

approach and the impact of projects funded by the UNTFHS. The meeting will also hear the outcomes of a recent independent rapid assessment of the UNTFHS.

23 September: Action for Global Health, Global Health South (an alliance of southern civil society for global health) and the Global Health Council hosted a side event during the UN General Assembly entitled **'The Road Forward: What's Next for Global Health?'**. The event marked the launch of the **One Voice Coalition**, a civil society coalition for health in the post-2015 development agenda. An important vehicle advocating for a human security approach to health, One Voice will establish and support a coalition of health and development advocates—North and South—to spur community engagement and actively promote the engagement of southern civil society and other global health advocates in the political process and negotiations of the post-2015 development agenda.

19 September: The Centre for Health Sciences Training, Research and Development (**CHESTRAD**) issued a factsheet on **'Health and Human Security Approach'**. Utilizing user-friendly graphical presentations, the factsheet provides a concise overview of the human security approach, its added value in the health sector, as well as its relevance to advancing more flexibility and contextual relevance in the Post-2015 Development Agenda.

15 September: Oxford Brookes University has release a **Call for Papers** in view an international conference entitled **'Human Security @ 20: Past Experiences and Future Prospects'** in January 2014. The 3-day conference will take stock of two decades of conceptualizing and practicing human security. Held in Oxford, UK, the conference will explore the idea of human security as an instrument of change and promote its holistic character and its use as a methodological tool. Panel and paper abstracts should be submitted by 15 September 2013.

19 August: The Security Council met today to hold an **Open Debate on Protection of Civilians in Armed Conflict**, for which it had before it a letter dated 1 August 2013 from the Permanent Representative of Argentina to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (document S/2013/447). On this occasion, the Deputy Permanent Representative of Chile to the United Nations, H.E. Ambassador Eduardo Galvez, presented the following statement on behalf of the **Human Security Network** (Austria, Chile, Costa Rica, Greece, Ireland, Jordan, Mali, Norway, Panama, Slovenia, Switzerland and Thailand, with South Africa as an observer). The statement is available in **English** and **Spanish**.

15 August: A joint **press release** was issued by the United Nations inter-agency coordination group, government representatives, and the United Nations Trust Fund for Human Security (UNTFHS) following a 3-day field visit to the **UNTFHS funded project in Turkana, Kenya**. The joint press release urges greater commitment in the efforts by the Government of Kenya, County Governments and United Nations agencies, to enhance human security in Central Turkana.

16 July: The **Global Partnership for the Prevention of Armed Conflict** (GPPAC) released its **2012 Annual Report**. The human security approach underpins GPPAC's guiding principles and values, and the report highlights the organization's work in the field of human security over the course of 2012.

15 July: The **International Organization for Migration** (IOM) and the **Center for Migration Studies** (CMS) held a side event at the UN Headquarters in New York entitled "Human Development, Human Security and Migration". The event provided an important opportunity to look at migration and development through the more expansive lens of human security, drawing on the contributions of the panelists and discussion session. Statements were given by **Mr. Donald M. Kerwin**, Director, CMS, **Mr. Lucas Benitez**, Co-Founder, Coalition of Immokalee Workers, and **Ms. Michele Klein Solomon**, Permanent Observer, IOM. The CMS also published the **Journal on Migration and Human Security**. The journal explores initiatives to create secure and sustaining conditions in migrant sending communities; promoting safe, legal migration options; and developing

immigration and integration policies that benefit sending and receiving communities and allow newcomers to lead productive, secure lives.

28 June: The Human Security Unit commissioned the independent consultancy group 'Universalialia' to undertake a **Rapid Assessment of the work of the UNTFHS**, upon the request of the Advisory Board on Human Security. This exercise assessed the added value and impact of the human security approach and presented lessons learned from UNTFHS projects in responding to unaddressed threats to human security. The assessment concluded that the added value of the human security approach is evident at its most primal and potentially important level – the actual day to day work of United Nations agencies. The challenge now is to reach beyond project level support to broaden awareness, increase commitment for and resources for the further integration of the human security approach across the United Nations.

17 June: An open debate on **Children and Armed Conflict** was convened at the Security Council in New York. For the press statement made by the Human Security Network on children and armed conflict, please click **here**.

2 June: **Symposium on Human Security** was held on the occasion of the fifth Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICADV). Participants amounted to approximately 250 people including heads of state, heads of UN organisations, and members of the Advisory Board on Human Security. Human security was a theme permeating TICADV. In the Yokohama Declaration, promoting human security was treated as one of the overarching principles of TICADV and it was confirmed that the leaders will strive to establish an effective post-2015 development agenda guided by human security. In addition, the significance of human security was underscored in various opportunities, including the special session on Somalia and the session on disaster risk reduction organized by the World Bank and UNDP. Further information on the event, including statements from the speakers can be found **here**.

23 May: As part of the **Kapuscinski Development Lectures Series**, Dr. Shahrbanou Tadjbakhsh, a leading expert on human security, gave a lecture on the role of human security in development at the Kapuscinski development lecture in Riga hosted by the University of Latvia and the Stockholm School of Economics in Riga.

Coming on the heels of the High-Level Event on Human Security, the **Advisory Board on Human Security** met in New York. Board Members discussed ways to capitalise on the success of the High-Level Event and explored a strategic approach to further integrate the human security approach into the work of the United Nations. For the minutes of the meeting as well as the annual progress report, please click **here**.

8 May: World leaders gathered in the Economic and Social Council Chamber at the United Nations in New York for a **High-Level Event on Human Security** to reflect on the added value and lessons learned from implementing the human security approach and consider the future integration of human security into the work of the United Nations.

The event was opened by statements from the **Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon**, **Mrs. Sadako Ogata**, **Mr. Surin Pitsuwan** and **Ms. Sonia Picado** highlighting the relevance of the human security approach to today's complex and interrelated challenges and the contribution of the United Nations Trust Fund for Human Security (UNTFHS) to the work of the United Nations. After a short **video illustrating the human security approach and the work of the UNTFHS**, Chair of the Human Security Network, Ambassador Octavio Errazuriz, Permanent Representative of Chile to the United Nations, convened a panel discussion on the added value and the challenges in implementing the human security approach.

Addressing a full house, **Mr. Yukio Takasu**, **Special Adviser to the Secretary-General on Human Security**, began the panel discussions followed by a presentation by **Mr. Dale Thompson of Universalialia Management Group** on the **Rapid Assessment of UNTFHS**. The chamber then heard

from **Ms. Helen Clark, UNDP Administrator**, and **Ms. Laura Thompson, Deputy-Director of IOM**, on their organisation's experience in implementing the human security approach, which has proven to be 'highly relevant' and 'fundamental' to the work of both organisations.

The **Permanent Representative of Honduras to the United Nations, Ambassador Mary E. Flores**, provided an engaging account of the relevance and the added value of human security to multi-dimensional insecurities from the perspective of a Member State. This was followed by a regional perspective on the value of the human security approach from **Ambassador Antonio Tete, Permanent Observer of the African Union to the United Nations**.

The event was closed by **Deputy Secretary-General Jan Eliason** urging us to build on the success of today's event and the General Assembly resolution 66/290 to 'strengthen our commitment to human security through partnerships that go beyond the United Nations systems and include the joint efforts of people, Governments, the UN family, regional organizations, NGOs, civil society, the private sector and more.'

Watch on **UN Web TV** and listen on **UN Radio** **Event Photos** **Event Programme** **Background Note**

2 May: Leading up to the High-Level Event on Human Security on 8 May, an op-ed by Mrs. Sadako Ogata, Honorary Chair of the ABHS is featuring in the Huffington Post. Entitled '**Human Security -- A New Response to Complex Threats**', Mrs. Ogata recalls her lengthy experience working on human security and the increasing relevance of the approach to today's complex and inter-related threats.

10 April: The spring 2013 edition of '**Human Security at the United Nations**', the newsletter of the UN Human Security Unit is now available. With a focus on projects supported by the United Nations Trust Fund for Human Security (UNTFHS) in El Salvador and Madagascar, this edition addresses violence in urban areas, an issue of growing concern in our increasingly urbanized world, through the human security lens. The newsletter also provides the usual update on human security related activities within the United Nations and beyond, as well as the latest resources and publications on human security.

25 March: The Human Security Unit released its latest publication entitled '**Lessons from the Field: Applying the Human Security Approach through the United Nations Trust Fund for Human Security**'. The booklet provides a more in-depth analysis on the application of the human security approach and its added value to the work of the United Nations. Following an introduction on the work of the United Nations Trust Fund for Human Security (UNTFHS) and the key principles of the human security approach, the booklet highlights the added value of applying the approach in the areas of climate change, peacebuilding, migration, urban violence, poverty reduction, and health, and draws on case studies from projects funded by the UNTFHS.

15 March: **The Global Partnership for the Prevention of Armed Conflict (GPPAC)** released the next edition of their **newsletter** highlighting their work over the past 2 months. The newsletter highlights GPPAC's work to promote a comprehensive approach to security in different parts of the world, emphasizing the need to align it with the human security approach. In the past two months, GPPAC has taken part in events such as a dialogue meeting in Brussels gathering civil society input and recommendations for the EU External Action Service. GPPAC also co-organised a roundtable in The Hague entitled '**Challenges and Opportunities in the Comprehensive Approach: Toward a New Paradigm**'.

7 March: The UNTFHS funded project in **Lesotho** entitled 'Strengthening rural livelihoods severely affected by climate change-induced drought in Lesotho' launched a short documentary: '**Basotho Voices: Human Security**'. The documentary gives the floor to a diverse range of citizens from Lesotho to express themselves on issues related to human security. '*Basotho Voices: Human Security*' features insightful interviews with Basotho citizens from different corners of the country,

from rural and urban areas, males and females, elder, adults, youngsters and children - a true mosaic of Basotho society. This 13 minute film has been produced by FAO (Food and Agriculture Organization) and Sesotho Media & Development, a local NGO specialized in the use of films supporting social development. The UN agencies involved in the implementation of this project are FAO, UNDP, UNICEF, UNFPA, WFP and WHO. For a statement made by Ms. Mehrnaz Mostafavi of the HSU at the launch, please click [here](#).

28 February: [UNOCHA website](#) featured a story from the UNTFHS funded project in Kenya's Turkana region entitled 'Strengthening human security in the border communities of Turkana'. The project aims to help people cope with natural disasters through support for livelihoods, food security, education and healthcare. For more information on this project you can visit the UNTFHS [Kenya](#) country page.

26 February: The Civil Society Network for Human Security released the latest edition of its [newsletter](#) featuring updates on the Network's activities over the past 2 months as well as upcoming events throughout March 2013.

19 February: The UNTFHS funded project 'Sustaining Livelihoods Affected by the Aral Sea Disaster' in Uzbekistan was featured in the UNDP [Voices from Eurasia](#) blog. For regular updates you can visit the project's own [blog](#) as well as the UNTFHS [Uzbekistan](#) country page.

17 January: The [Caux Initiatives of Change](#) and the [Initiatives of Change International](#) announced the dates for the [2013 Caux Initiatives for Human Security](#). From 29 June to 12 August, 7 sessions will cover various human security topics from land and conflict to inclusive governance.

16 January: The UNTFHS issued the seventh revision its [Guidelines](#). Applying agencies are requested to refer to this revised edition when submitting concept notes and project proposals

2 January: The [Japan Association for Human Security Studies](#) released the latest edition of the [Journal of Human Security Studies](#).