

Human Security Activities in 2015

30 November: The fourth in a series of briefs from the Human Security Unit focuses on **Human Security and Migration**. With examples from the UN Trust Fund for Human Security projects in the Dominican Republic, Mexico, Moldova and Somalia, the brief highlights the added value of the approach in managing migration in all its forms in a more dignified and humane manner in order to protect migrants and capitalise on the dividends of migration for both migrants themselves and their host communities.

26-27 November: The Human Security Unit will participate at the **7th Graz Workshop on the Future of Security**. This year's theme will focus on "Blurring Boundaries: Human Security and Migration". Panel discussions will explore the contribution of the human security approach to ongoing migration discourses and the need for more dignified and managed migration flows. Discussions will focus on the current migration emergency in Europe as well as the nexus between climate change, development and migration.

24 November: The Human Security Unit released its latest **video on the human security approach**. Drawing of footage and examples from projects funded by the UN Trust Fund for Human Security, the five minute video provides a concise explanation of the approach and its added value in responding to today's complex and inter-related challenges that threaten the most vulnerable groups around the world.

20 November: **Human Security and Agenda 2030** is the third in a series of briefs from the Human Security Unit. It outlines how the human security approach can contribute to the implementation of the Agenda through setting priorities and achieving integration; cutting the root causes of exclusion; linking peace and sustainable development; and bringing together the UN system.

17-19 November: United Nations agencies gathered in San Jose, Costa Rica, for a 3-day **Workshop on Good Practices and Lessons Learned in Latin America** through programmes funded by the United Nations Trust Fund for Human Security. Programme focal points from IOM, UNDP, UNICEF, UNFPA, UNHCR, as well as NGO partners, discussed their experiences in implementing integrated human security projects and documented lessons learned and good practices to be shared system-wide. The outcomes of the workshop will feed into a publication on the topic to be released early next year. Presentations were made (in Spanish) by project teams from **Ecuador, Costa Rica and Panama**, the **Dominican Republic**, Nicaragua, and **Paraguay**.

9 November: The second in a series of information briefs on human security focuses on the work of the **UN Trust Fund for Human Security**. With examples from Egypt, Pakistan, Peru and Serbia, the brief provides an overview of the Trust Fund's work over the past 16 years.

4 November: The last instalment from the **UN Television "21st Century"** series highlighting projects funded by the UNTFHS is released. Titled **"Fighting for Change"**, this edition focuses on the situation of Haitian migrants and their descendants living in the bateyes of the Dominican Republic. By applying the human security approach, the United Nations, local NGOs and the national Government are working together to address the situation of the vulnerable bateyes communities.

26 October: Latest edition of the newsletter from the UNTFHS-funded project in Kenya **"Strengthening Human Security in the Border Communities of Turkana"**. This edition provides updates on the project's work in building capacities of women and youth peacebuilders, tackling child labour, the girl's mentorship programme, support to sustainable livelihoods and community health outreach.

21 October: The Human Security Unit is pleased to share the first in a series of briefs on the human security approach. This first brief on **"What is Human Security?"** provides an overview of the

approach from the perspectives of vulnerable people caught in different situations and highlights its added value to the work of the international community.

20 October: Fifth Istanbul Human Security Conference on “The Role of Non-State Actors in Building Human Security: Opportunities and Challenges Ahead” will take place on 20 and 21 October 2015. A close collaboration between the Centre for Trust, Peace and Social Relations (CTPSR) at Coventry University, the United Nations Human Security Unit and Kadir Has University, the conference will be held at Kadir Has University in Istanbul. Panel sessions will focus on the role of non-state actors in building human security across four thematic areas – development, humanitarian aid, disaster management and peacebuilding – and will provide an interactive forum to engage both the academic and practitioner communities.

14 October: The Governments of Eritrea and Moldova will co-host **Roundtable Session on Enhancing Human Development and Human Security for Forced Migrants** during the Global Forum on Migration and Development (GFMD) Summit Meeting in Istanbul, Turkey. The session will provide an opportunity to discuss the benefits of the human security approach as a comprehensive policy framework for tackling migration. More than 140 countries will gather at the Forum to discuss this year's theme of “Strengthening Partnerships: Migration and Human Mobility for Sustainable Development”. The Human Security Unit will be present at the Forum with advocacy materials on human security and on UNTFHS projects on migration at the IOM booth.

9 October: The Global Partnership for the Prevention of Armed Conflict (GPPAC), The Alliance for Peacebuilding and The Kroc Institute for International Peace Studies will host a global conference on **“Preparing a New Generation of Civil-Military-Police Coordination for Human Security”**. The conference will convene international civilian, military, and police representatives to launch an open source training curriculum, discuss policy approaches and share case studies to support practical strategies for improving coordination on human security. The event will be held at the CIMIC Centre of Excellence in The Hague from 9 to 11 December 2015.

1 October: The **Human Security Collective** (HSC) released its first on-line **newsletter** which highlights their ongoing work to develop an inclusive and comprehensive human security strategy to alleviate the threat of violence and extremism in Mali as well as interviews and editorials on human security from HSC staff and board members.

29 September: Members of the **Human Security Network** (HSN) convened their annual High-level Meeting to renew their commitment to the Network, to take stock of the Network's accomplishments and the recent developments of the concept of human security over the course of the 69th Session of the United Nations General Assembly, as well as to discuss upcoming workplan and joint activities during the 70th Session of the United Nations General Assembly. The meeting was hosted by Thailand, the current Chair of the cross-regional group of like-minded countries advocating for a people-centred, multi-perspective approach to security, complementing traditional, state-centric understanding of national and international security. To read the Network's press release, please click **here**.

16 September: The Human Security Unit is pleased to share the 12th edition of its newsletter **“Human Security at the United Nations”**. This issue focuses on the added value of the human security approach to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals and their means of implementation over the next 15 years. The newsletter also provides an update of recent and upcoming events on human security around the world.

12 September: The third installment of the UNTV “21st Century” Documentary series on human security has been released. Titled **“Egypt: Building Resilience”**, this episode focuses on the UNTFHS-funded project in Upper Egypt.

31 August: The latest newsletter from the **“Human security through inclusive socio-economic development in Upper Egypt”** project, also known as the Hyat Project, is issued. Funded by the

UNTFHS and the Swiss Development Cooperation, this project works to address the multiple manifestations of poverty in the region by promoting economic development and social inclusion. The newsletter is available in **English** and **Arabic**.

20 July: UN Television "21st Century" programme released the second documentary in its series focusing on projects funded by the UNTFHS. The documentary titled **"Kenya: Securing The Future"** highlights a UNTFHS-funded project in the Turkana region where the human security approach is bearing fruit for communities affected by scarce water, food insecurity and the constant threat of violence.

3-10 July: Science Po University in Paris will convene a **Summer School on Human Security**. The course will cover the application of the concept by international organizations in debates about interventions and by states as a foreign policy tool as well as measurements, both qualitative and quantitative, and complex indicators. It will employ concrete examples, case studies and interactive exercises in order to contextualize the approaches and tools, and highlight linkages between theory and practice.

1 June: The United Nations Trust Fund for Human Security (UNTFHS) is pleased to announce the **second round of the 2015 Call for Proposals**. In line with the Human Security Unit's Strategic Plan 2014-2017, the UNTFHS will support initiatives which aim to promote the system-wide application of the human security approach. While the Fund remains committed to advancing the application of the human security approach at field-level, priority will be given to projects and programmes which explicitly mainstream the approach within the United Nations system at the national level.

21 May: The Human Security Unit is pleased to announce the release of the first **United Nations Television "21st Century"** documentary on human security. Titled **"Planting the seeds of the future"**, the short documentary examines the impact of the UNTFHS-funded project in the Republic of Congo and how the application of the human security approach is helping to build peace and restore lives and livelihoods destroyed by conflict. This is the first in a series of documentaries produced by United Nations Television for the "21st Century" series which will highlight the stories of individuals and communities participating in projects funded by the UNTFHS.

11 May: The Human Security Unit, with the support of the Permanent Missions of Austria and Japan to the United Nations in Vienna and UNIDO, will host an interactive panel discussion on **"Applying the human security approach and its contribution to priority areas of the international community and the United Nations system"**. The event provides a forum to raise awareness and exchange views on the application of the human security approach as a tool for developing effective policies and programmes by the United Nations, its Member States and the broader international community, including the private sector. Drawing on experiences from the United Nations and academia, the event is an important opportunity to share lessons learned and best practices on the application of the human security approach, while exploring its added value as a people-centred, comprehensive, context-specific and prevention-oriented framework to respond to and mitigate risks, increase resilience and lay the foundation for greater confidence in today's gains and tomorrow's potential.

9-10 April: The Human Security Unit and the Chilean Ministry of Foreign Affairs, in collaboration with the Latin American Social Sciences Institute (FLACSO-Chile), hosted a Latin America and the Caribbean regional human security conference titled **"The Contribution of the Human Security Approach to the Post-2015 Development Agenda"** in Santiago, Chile. The conference brought together practitioners, academics and policymakers from across Latin America and the Caribbean to discuss the added value of the human security approach to current and emerging challenges in the region. The conference consisted of presentations by experts in the following thematic areas: citizen security, public health, and the impact of climate change and natural disasters. Panellists and participants shared their first-hand experiences in implementing the human security approach in

Latin America and other regions, and will also examine ways to integrate best practices and lessons learned into future policies and programmes at the regional, national and local levels.

26 and 27 March: The UNTFHS-funded Joint Programme on Migration in Mexico, in collaboration with the Migration Policy Unit of the Mexican Ministry of Interior, organised an **International Conference on Human Security and Migration** in Mexico City. The conference provided a platform for identifying best practices in the care and management of migration in the region, especially in North and Central America, and to publicize best practices of the Joint Programme as a result of its implementation mainly in the states that make up the southern border, Chiapas, Oaxaca and Tabasco, in Mexico.

18 March: The Human Security Unit has produced a short advocacy video on **Human Security and Disaster Risk Reduction** which highlights the added value of the approach in mitigating and adapting to the devastation of natural hazards and climate change. Featuring examples from Serbia, Kenya and Uzbekistan, the video provides practical examples of how the human security approach can build the resilience of vulnerable communities living with the impact of natural disasters

17 March: The Human Security Unit and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Japan, will host an event titled **"Disaster Risk Reduction and Human Security: Effective Responses to Strengthen Resilience and Protect and Empower People in Response to Natural Disasters"** at the Third UN World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction (WCDRR) in Sendai, Japan. The event will highlight the effectiveness of the human security approach in tackling disaster risk reduction and how it adds value to strengthening the resilience of communities, especially those most vulnerable. Through a combination of top-down protection and bottom-up empowerment measures that are people-centred, comprehensive, context-specific and prevention-oriented, the human security approach has proven to be an effective tool to prepare, adapt and mitigate the risks associated with natural disasters around the world.

21-22 January: The Special Adviser to the Secretary-General on Human Security, Mr. Yukio Takasu, will deliver a key note address at the **"International Symposium Commemorating the 20th Anniversary of Human Security Reflecting Twenty Years of Human Security: Achievements, Challenges, and Prospects"** organized by the Ritsumeikan Global Innovation Research Organisation. Held at the Ritsumeikan University, the symposium will reflect on twenty years of the experiences and achievements of human security and address the future prospects both in concept and implementation. A series of panel discussions will examine the human security approach and its application at the regional level and the specific experiences in Japan.

14 January: The Global Partnership for the Prevention of Armed Conflict (GPPAC) has launched a website dedicated to its latest publication: **"Empowerment and Protection: Stories of Human Security"**. The website provides downloads of each country chapter as well as interviews with the contributing authors.