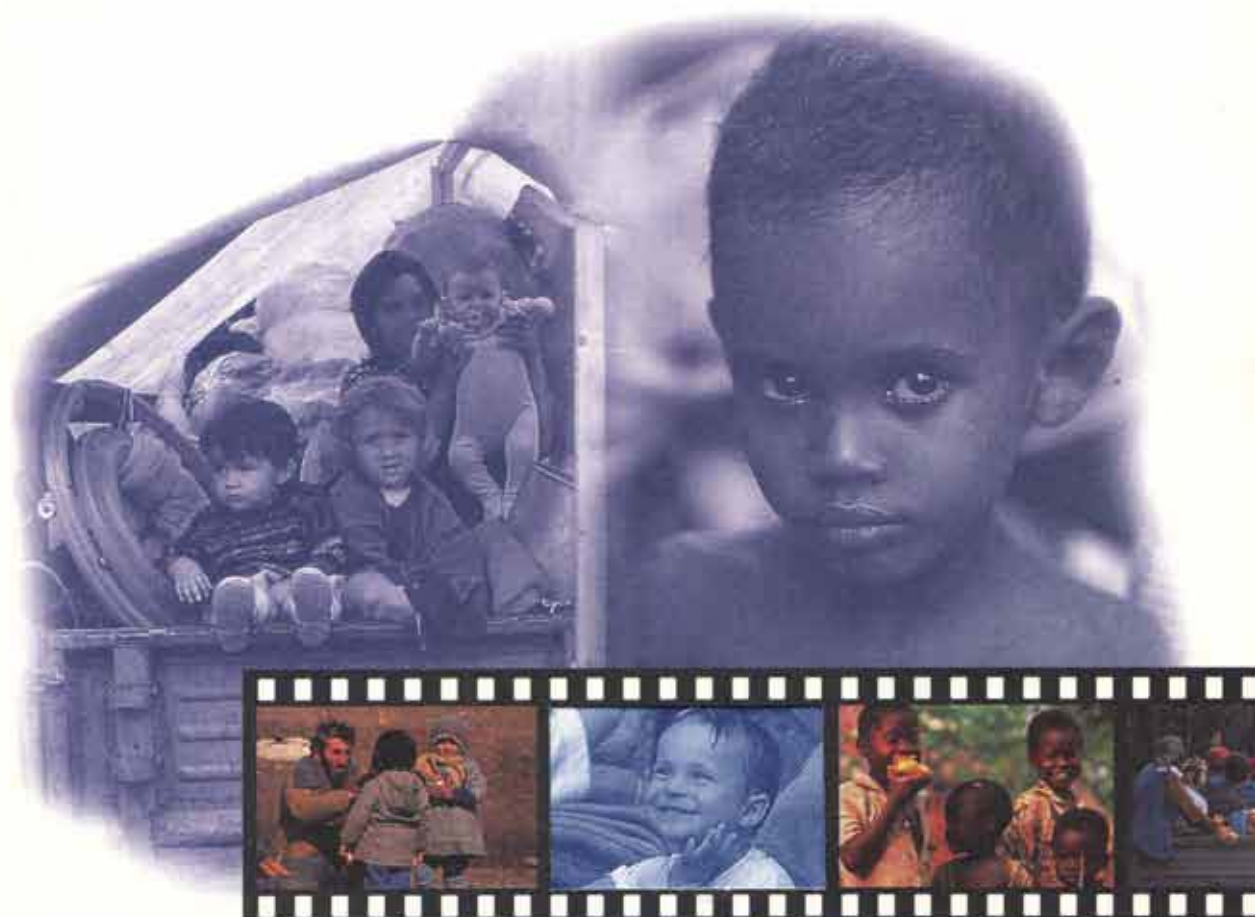


EUROPEAN UNION
ACTION IN HUMANITARIAN AID

1995



The year they gave
peace
a chance in
ex-Yugoslavia

ECHO ANNUAL REVIEW



European Community Humanitarian Office



INICIACIÓN DE LA ACTIVIDAD HUMANITARIA DE LA UNIÓN EUROPEA



ACERCOS AL SUPERVIVIENTE EN TODO EL MUNDO

Activación administrativa	Formación	Intervención
<p>Elaboración de los planes de actuación de las ONG y de los organismos de cooperación internacional para la gestión de las emergencias humanitarias.</p>	<p>Elaboración de los planes de actuación de las ONG y de los organismos de cooperación internacional para la gestión de las emergencias humanitarias.</p>	<p>Elaboración de los planes de actuación de las ONG y de los organismos de cooperación internacional para la gestión de las emergencias humanitarias.</p>

INICIACIÓN DE LA ACTIVIDAD HUMANITARIA DE LA UNIÓN EUROPEA



ECHO



Cumbre Humanitaria

¿Qué futuro para la ayuda humanitaria?

14 Diciembre 1995
Palacio de Congresos de Madrid



Reportaje de **Directeur, GÓMEZ-REINO**

El mundo de la tragedia rwandaise

94



Un grupo de niños de la zona humanitaria de la ayuda humanitaria en el momento de la intervención de las ONG y de los organismos de cooperación internacional para la gestión de las emergencias humanitarias.

European Community Humanitarian Office

The European Community Humanitarian Office (ECHO) was set up in 1992 to coordinate the activities of the European Community - now the European Union - in the field of humanitarian assistance. ECHO took over responsibility for funding emergency and disaster relief efforts, carried out mainly with international organisations such as the Red Cross and the United Nations agencies, and with non-governmental organisations (NGOs). It subsequently took on responsibility for coordinating disaster preparedness projects.

Largest donor

Through EU funding, ECHO has become one of the world's largest donors to humanitarian aid programmes. Funding during 1995 totalled 692 million ECU, not including bilateral aid that EU Member States gave separately. During 1995 ECHO was involved in relief efforts in over 50 countries. It made humanitarian aid available to victims of both natural disasters and of conflict. It also ran a natural disaster preparedness programme, covering early warning systems and financing preventive measures in high-risk countries.

Partners

During 1995, ECHO widened its network of partners who carry out the work in the field.

ECHO

on world wide web:

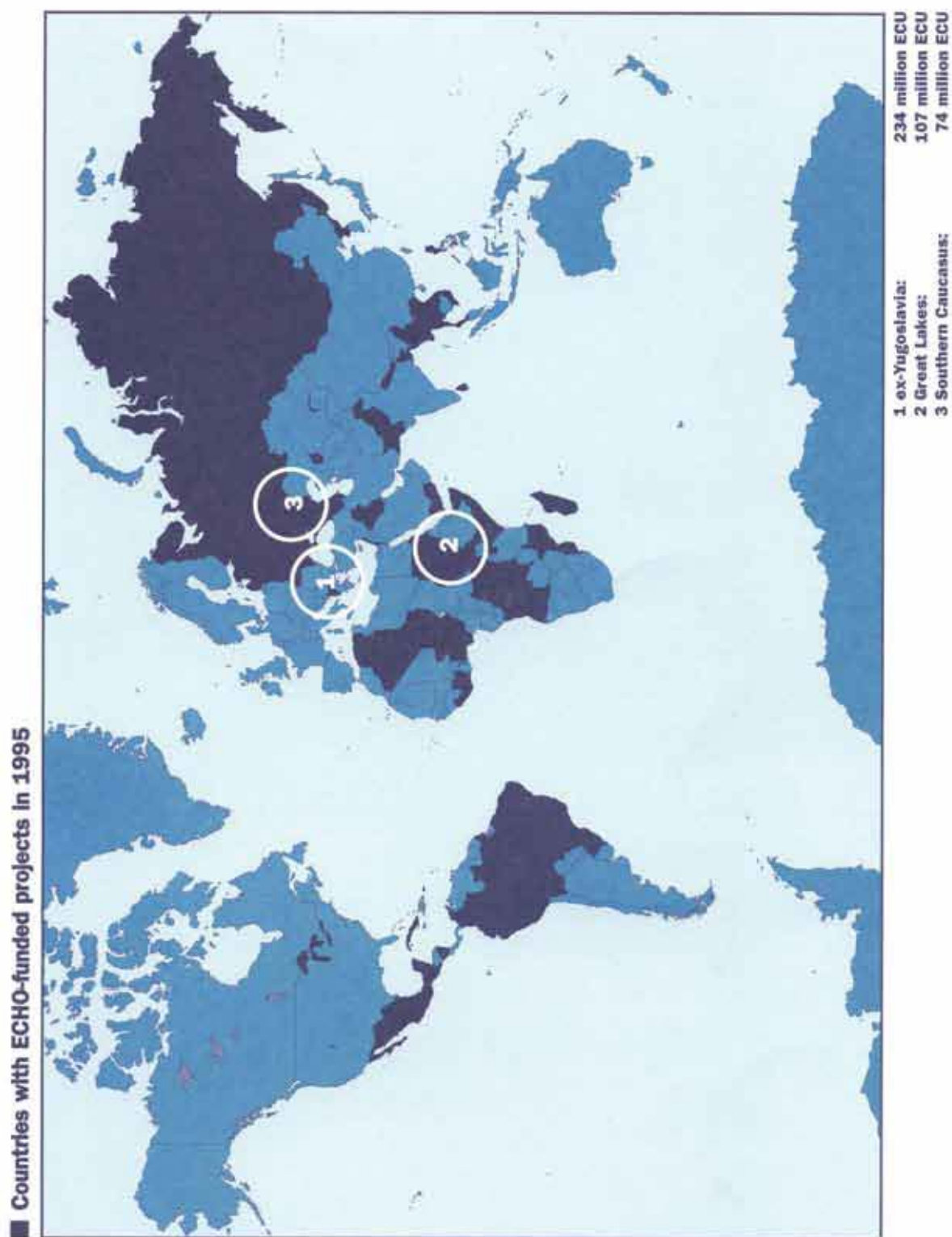
<http://www.cec.lu/en/comm/echo/echo.html>

Over 170 humanitarian agencies and non-governmental organisations have now signed ECHO's Framework Partnership Agreement.

Information

Information on ECHO's activities is made available via publications including this annual review, a quarterly newsletter, *ECHO News*, fact sheets on specific emergencies, *ECHO Files*, and via the World Wide Web. In Member States, information campaigns on humanitarian assistance are organised to coincide with each presidency. Such events have so far included exhibitions, seminars, concerts and phone-ins. ECHO also co-produces materials such as audiovisual productions and publications with the public affairs departments of its partners.

ECHO'S GLOBAL REACH



FOREWORD

Union's commitment to helping them does it credit, and gains it enormous sympathy.

But my missions to ECHO projects in the field also made me very aware of the limits of humanitarian aid. Compassion fatigue is setting in, and our resources are limited with respect to the needs. In any case, humanitarian aid on its own can never solve deep-rooted problems, it can only alleviate distress. It seemed obvious to me that donors and humanitarian agencies needed to pool resources and to come up with a common approach to maximise the potential of their actions.

That is why I called the Humanitarian Summit, held in Madrid last December. For the first time, leaders of some of the key organisations sat down together to thrash out the issues. We signed a declaration that sets out our vision and will be the basis for future cooperation. We will work together in a climate of

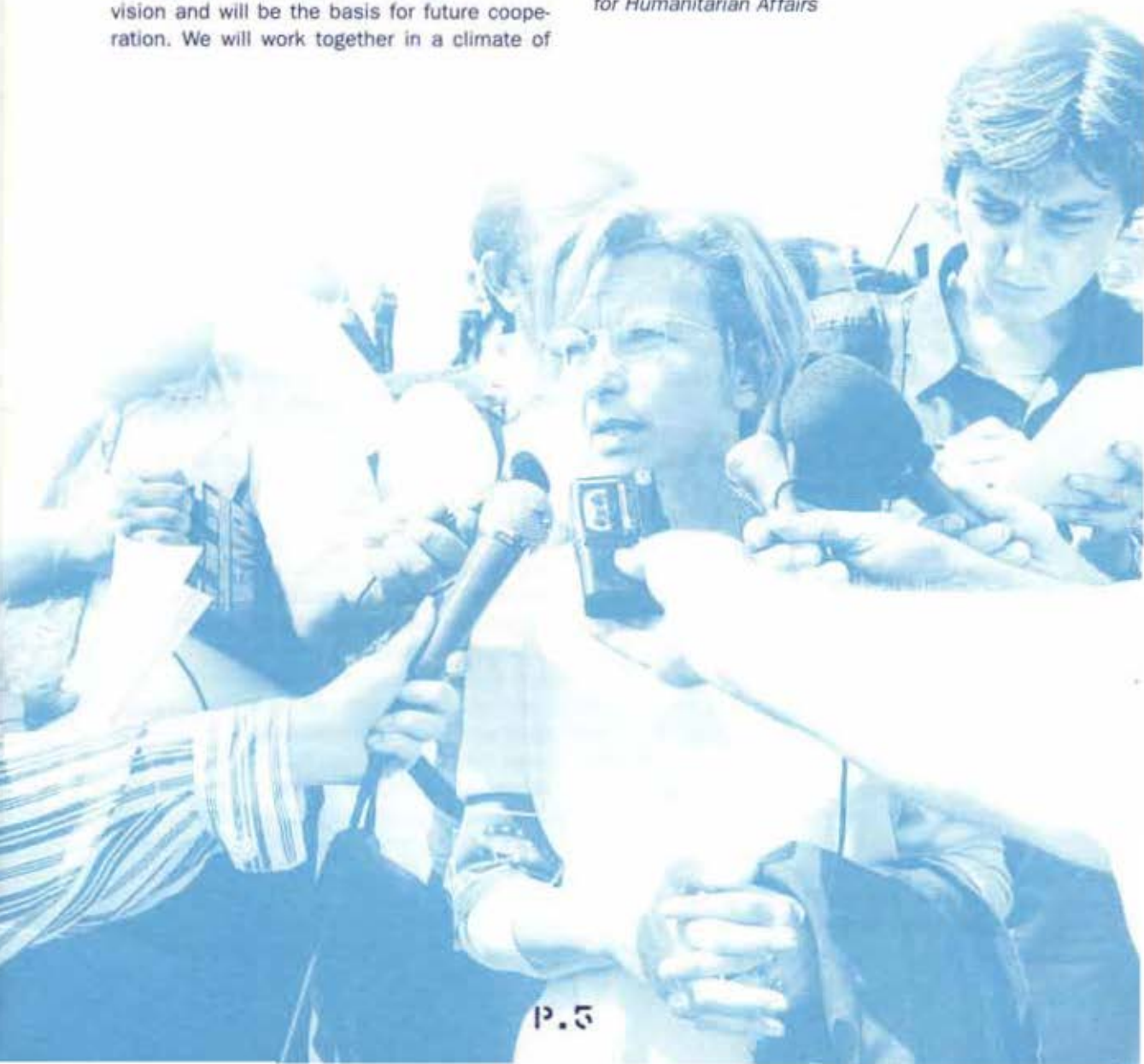
neutrality and impartiality, guided by the needs of victims in emergencies.

For civilian victims of conflicts and disasters worldwide, it is my sincere hope that the Madrid Declaration will be worth much more than the paper it is written on. Their lives may depend on it. For its part, ECHO will be there with a helping hand.



Emma Bonino

*European Commissioner
for Humanitarian Affairs*



A sense of relief



As we stop once again to look back at 1995, one cannot help feeling a tiny sense of relief that, unlike the recent past of ever multiplying crises, things did not get worse. The escalation in humanitarian crises appears at least for the moment to have stopped with some positive steps here and there towards a peaceful settlement of local and regional conflicts. This is reflected in the material resources that ECHO allocated which were under 700 million ECU, compared to about 760 million ECU in the previous year.

However, the magnitude of the operation has not shrunk. Some 170 Non-Governmental and International Organisations including UN agencies and the Red Cross, worked with ECHO in humanitarian projects in over sixty countries across the globe.

The former Yugoslavia now begins to move gradually from a phase of humanitarian operations to that of reconstruction, on the other hand the Caucasus region and the Russian Federation (Chechnya) continue to cause concern and therefore has required an increment in the overall share of aid, from 12 % in 1994 to 20 % last year.

From 1992 to 1995 the European Commission spent over 2 billion ECU on humanitarian aid. However, this funding was largely done on an

ad hoc basis within the Commission's budgetary procedure. In view of the importance of the sums involved the Commission and the Member States felt that the time had come to provide a more precise legal basis for the management by the Commission, on behalf of the Union, of the budgetary resources made available for humanitarian aid. The Commission's proposal seeks to codify the scope and nature of humanitarian aid, the relationship with partner organisations and establish procedures for consultation with Member States before decisions are finalised.

The draft Regulation on this matter was examined at length by European Parliament and is likely to be adopted by the Council in the first half of this year (common position reached by the Development Council last December.) The Commission looks forward to even closer cooperation with the Member States under this new legal framework.

Our NGO partners followed closely the passage of the Regulation to ensure that speed in response, flexibility in the rules of operation, political impartiality, among other aspects, were given due recognition in this exercise.

A MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR OF ECHO

In the light of experience gained in the past three years, and the various assessments, from different angles of our operations not least the new legal base, we hope to be in an even better shape in the coming year to face possibly a less troubled world, with challenges of a different kind than the ones we have faced hitherto.

During the past year, NGOs from the three new Member States joined the network of those that signed the Framework Partnership Agreement.

The quest for an even greater professional approach in the management of humanitarian aid, in close coordination with a host of partners, possibly with Member States and other leading countries such as the United States in diverse theatres of operation in the world, has led us to the setting up of a new data base for a better exchange of information and communication. The first phase of HOPE (Humanitarian Office Programme Environment) is now operational and the contract management module will follow in early 1996.

Links with the United States were significantly strengthened in the framework of the EU-US Action Plan agreed in December.

Considerable attention was devoted to evaluation of ECHO financed humanitarian operations. These exercises are now done according to a code of practice that has been designed in the light of experience of the past few years in the field, and which is specifically tailored for the requirements of ECHO regulations and the operational needs of our partners.

In the light of experience gained in the past three years, and the various assessments, from different angles of our operations not least the new legal base, we hope to be in an even better shape in the coming year to face possibly a less troubled world, with challenges of a different kind than the ones we have faced hitherto.



Santiago GÓMEZ-REINO

Director,
European Community Humanitarian Office

Principles and options for action



On 14 December, for the first time ever, leaders of humanitarian agencies and donors met in one place to thrash out issues of common concern. Representatives of the European Union, the United States government, United Nations agencies, the Red Cross and NGOs from Europe and the U.S. convened for a Humanitarian Summit held in Madrid. The summit, called by Commissioner Bonino, drew up a declaration of principles and options for humanitarian action.

Commissioner Bonino said: "We are today witnessing a degree of donor fatigue and there is a tendency to focus attention on certain regions which receive the most publicity and are therefore more in the public eye. The reason for this unprecedented initiative was a need for a new awareness and a new mustering of effort at global level. The scale of humanitarian emergencies worldwide over recent years has surpassed all forecasts and has thrown up new problems which have to be discussed and tackled".

Queen Sofia of Spain was patron of the event, and a message of support came from His Holiness Pope John-Paul II. Delegates saw a video message from Mrs Hillary Rodham Clinton, U.S. First Lady, who was unable to attend, but expressed her support for the event. The summit also had the backing of Spanish prime minister - and EU president in office - Felipe Gonzales.

THE SIGNATORIES OF THE MADRID DECLARATION: Brian Atwood (USAID Administrator), Carol Bellamy (Executive Director of Unicef), Catherine Bertini (Executive Director World Food Programme), Emma Bonino (European Commissioner for Humanitarian Aid), Agostinho Jardim Gonçalves (President, Liaison Committee of Development NGOs to the EU), Peter Hansen (UN Under Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs), Sadako Ogata (UN High Commissioner for Refugees), Doris Schopper (President, Médecins sans Frontières), Cornelio Sommaruga (President, ICRC), Julia Taft (President, InterAction, U.S.)

The Madrid Declaration summary

Global humanitarian aid, the summit heard, had exceeded \$4 billion a year, with an estimated 45 million people dependent on aid in 1994. But as the examples of Bosnia, Rwanda had shown, humanitarian aid is not a solution to man-made crises;

The summit restated a pledge to relieve the victims of natural or man-made crises wherever possible, and in particular to feed and shelter the needy, organise medical care and bring together families who had been split up;

Some 50 armed conflicts had raged across the world since the end of the Cold War, with civilians brutally murdered, injured and forced to flee their homes. Those left behind had suffered untold misery as human rights were trampled and international humanitarian law ignored;

The causes of such disasters often lie in social and economic injustice, with poor and corrupt government and competition over resources compounding problems of poverty, inequality and over-population;

Humanitarian organisations have as their guiding principles the ideas of neutrality, impartiality, humanity and independence;

The Summit therefore called on the international community to take whatever action may be needed to resolve crises, while respecting the impartial principles of humanitarian assistance. Humanitarian aid must never be used as a substitute for political action;

Political will is essential to address the direct and indirect causes of humanitarian crises, requiring early warning through a global system of pro-active crisis prevention;

A commitment to development assistance is needed. Poverty can lead to crisis, perpetuating a deadly spiral;

Food security must be highlighted in a global campaign. One in seven people are hungry today, especially in poor rural parts of the developing world. Safe drinking water too is vital.

Measures must be taken to prepare for disasters, especially natural disasters. Lack of attention to this in the end leads to higher costs for both victims and donors whenever disaster strikes;

Crises no longer in the headlines still need relief and solutions. Though forgotten, they still cost lives, threatening the stability of whole regions and the survival of millions of people;

The trend towards making civilians the target of conflict demands urgent steps. Modern warfare's arsenal now includes ethnic cleansing, rape and torture, in flagrant disregard of humanitarian law. The guilty must be held accountable for their atrocities. In particular, the International Criminal Tribunals for the former Yugoslavia and for Rwanda must be empowered to carry out their mandates. In the longer term, a permanent International Criminal Tribunal should be established to punish genocide, war crimes and crimes against humanity;

Measures must be taken for the millions of people forced to leave their homes and flee within their own countries for safety. Guiding principles designed to ensure their security must be drawn up, and the rights of refugees to asylum protected;

All victims require protection, but the needs of women, children and the elderly require special attention. The role of women in ensuring relief reaches the most needy must be recognised in the planning, management and distribution of humanitarian assistance;

Children have the right to home and family, to life, physical and psychological health, to education and to a peaceful existence;

Rebuilding societies broken by war can further the aims of peace and prevent future disaster. Links need to be reinforced between relief and development, and the ability of local people to cope. Relief has to be efficiently managed so that communities can move on from relief assistance to development;

The humanitarian and non-partisan nature of this work must be respected; access allowed to those in need, and a secure base of funding given. Governments and leaders need to recognise that, in an ever more inter-dependent world, the vital interests of every nation in global peace and security can only be achieved through concerted international action.



The year they gave
peace
a chance in
ex-Yugoslavia

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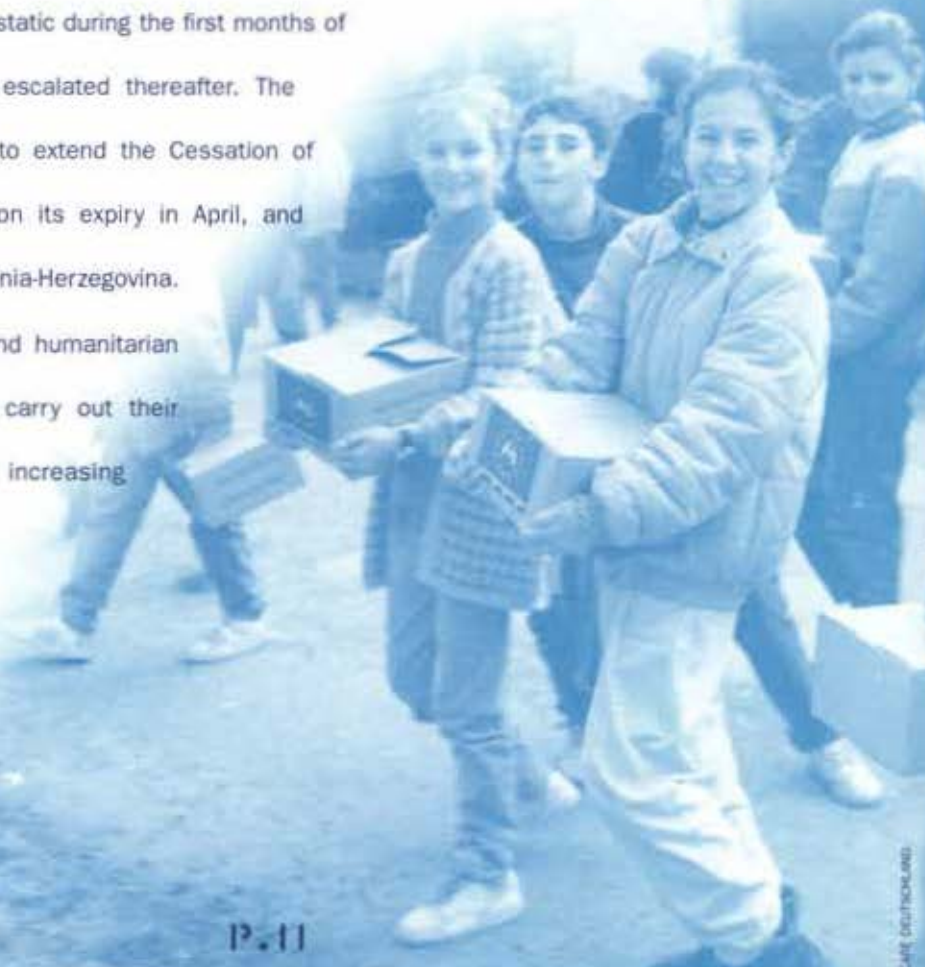


Former Yugoslavia: the tide turns at last

The year ended on an optimistic note in the former Yugoslavia after some of the most dramatic events in this tragic four-year conflict.



Though 1995 started amid relative calm, with the situation more or less static during the first months of the year, the conflict escalated thereafter. The warring parties failed to extend the Cessation of Hostilities Agreement on its expiry in April, and tensions rose in Bosnia-Herzegovina. The fighting spread, and humanitarian aid workers trying to carry out their mission encountered increasing obstructiveness.



EX-YUGOSLAVIA: PEACE GETS A CHANCE

Fall of enclaves

During July and August, tens of thousands of civilians were uprooted in the wake of the fall of the two Muslim enclaves of Srebrenica and Zepa. Fighting escalated in both central and north-west Bosnia.

The Croatia army launched a series of offensives, in May and August, triggering the movement of some 200,000 refugees into northern Bosnia. Most of them subsequently moved into Serbia or Montenegro. Further fighting in north-west Bosnia in September and October

forced about 100,000 people to flee their homes towards Banja Luka. At the beginning of August, about 25,000 refugees from Velika Kladusa, Northern Bihac, fled into Croatia to seek refuge and were stopped at Kupljensko. There they were harassed by Croatian police and endured dreadful living conditions. Their campsite itself was woefully inadequate, and they were denied vital supplies.

Refugees from Banja Luka making their way to Davor

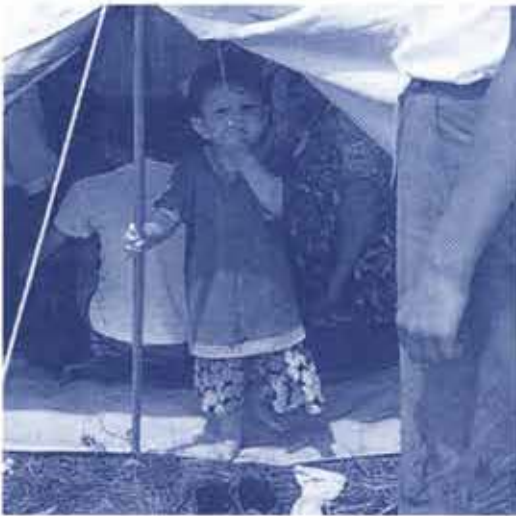


EX-YUGOSLAVIA: PEACE GETS A CHANCE

Thousands stranded

People fleeing the fighting in Bosnia-Herzegovina did so in increasingly alarming conditions. Not only did they suffer mental and physical injury, they had to endure flagrant disregard for human rights. Elderly people, handicapped people and children were resettled in so-called 'newly-liberated' cities, cities devastated during offensives, or even on the front line itself. Thousands of civilians were left stranded, without essential utilities or relief supplies.

Ethnic cleansing continued unabated. There were brutal evictions of minorities from the Banja Luka region of northern Bosnia, intensifying from August onwards.



Peace gets a chance

Then the tide turned. From October onwards, the warring factions decided to give peace a chance at last. In mid-October, a ceasefire was declared, and it held. Access to Sarajevo was restored, and the city finally saw its utilities reconnected. The enclave of Gorazde also became accessible overland. At last, prospects for limiting the scale of the humanitarian tragedy seemed to improve.

From Dayton to Paris

A peace accord thrashed out at Dayton, Ohio was ratified in Paris by mid-December. By the end of the year, access to victims improved considerably, allowing humanitarian aid to flow through. Freedom of movement for both civilians and goods was on the way to being restored — internal checkpoints were dismantled by the end of December. At last, there seemed to be hope of an end to the suffering of Bosnia-Herzegovina.



During 1995, ECHO contributed 234 million ECU to humanitarian aid in ex-Yugoslavia, bringing the total, 1992-1995, to 1,185 million ECU.



Full-scale war in Chechnya

The year started with a major crisis in Chechnya. At least a million people were directly affected, whether they fled, or stayed and risked the destruction of their homes.

In December of 1994, Moscow decided to regain control of the Autonomous Republic, which had declared independence in 1991. It sent in the army, and some generals clearly expected a walkover.

Instead, the Russians met fierce resistance. There was a bloodbath in the capital, Grozny, ending in its virtual destruction and the death of between 20,000 and 30,000 civilians. Many other urban centres were exposed to prolonged bombardment and shelling.

At least a million people were directly affected, whether they fled, or stayed and risked the destruction of their homes. Some 400,000 Chechens, mainly women, children and elderly



people, moved to safer areas, either within Chechnya, or in neighbouring areas.

The Russian army gained control of Grozny only in March, and a ceasefire was declared in July. But tensions remained

high, and by the end of 1995, the Chechen resistance was still very active, showing its ability to strike back even in Grozny itself.

No end in sight

As the year drew to an end, there was no solution to the conflict in sight. Grozny's population was down to around 280,000, against a pre-war total of 400,000. Some were still living in bomb shelters. Elsewhere, though many had returned, for some needs were more acute

CRISIS IN THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION

Elsewhere in the Russian Federation

Fight against diphtheria

Elsewhere in the Russian Federation, the pressures of poverty revived illnesses long thought to be under control. Diphtheria became a menace. Some 200,000 cases were reported in 1994, raising the threat of the disease spreading westwards into the European Union. ECHO committed itself to a three-year campaign to combat it via a mass vaccination programme. Its partners in this plan are UNICEF, IFRC and WHO.

Victims of Chernobyl : not forgotten

Victims of the nuclear accident at Chernobyl continued to rely on ECHO's support. Many of them are children whose chronic disorders have emerged long after the event. ECHO went on funding monitoring programmes, specialist equipment and medical supplies for them in Belarus, the Russian Federation and Ukraine.

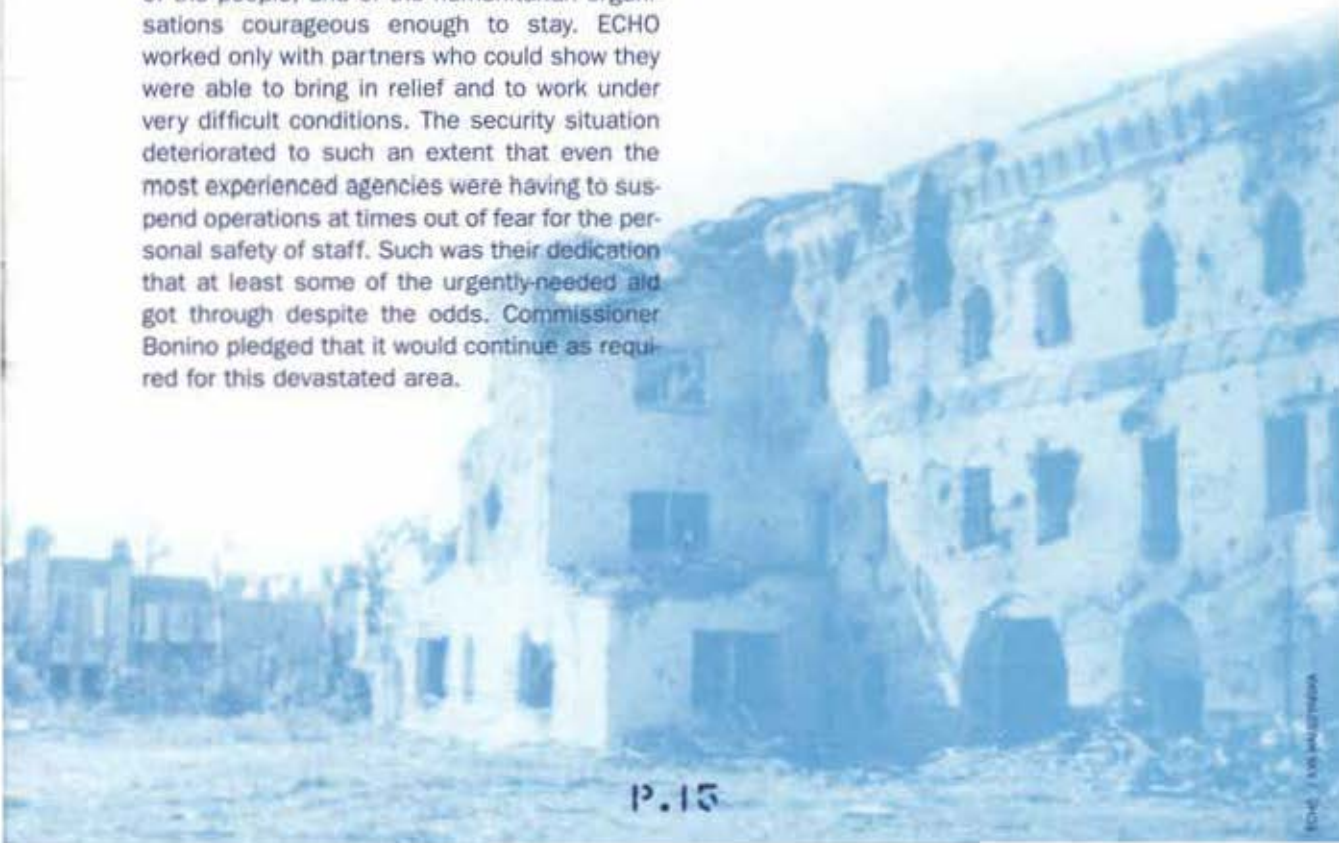


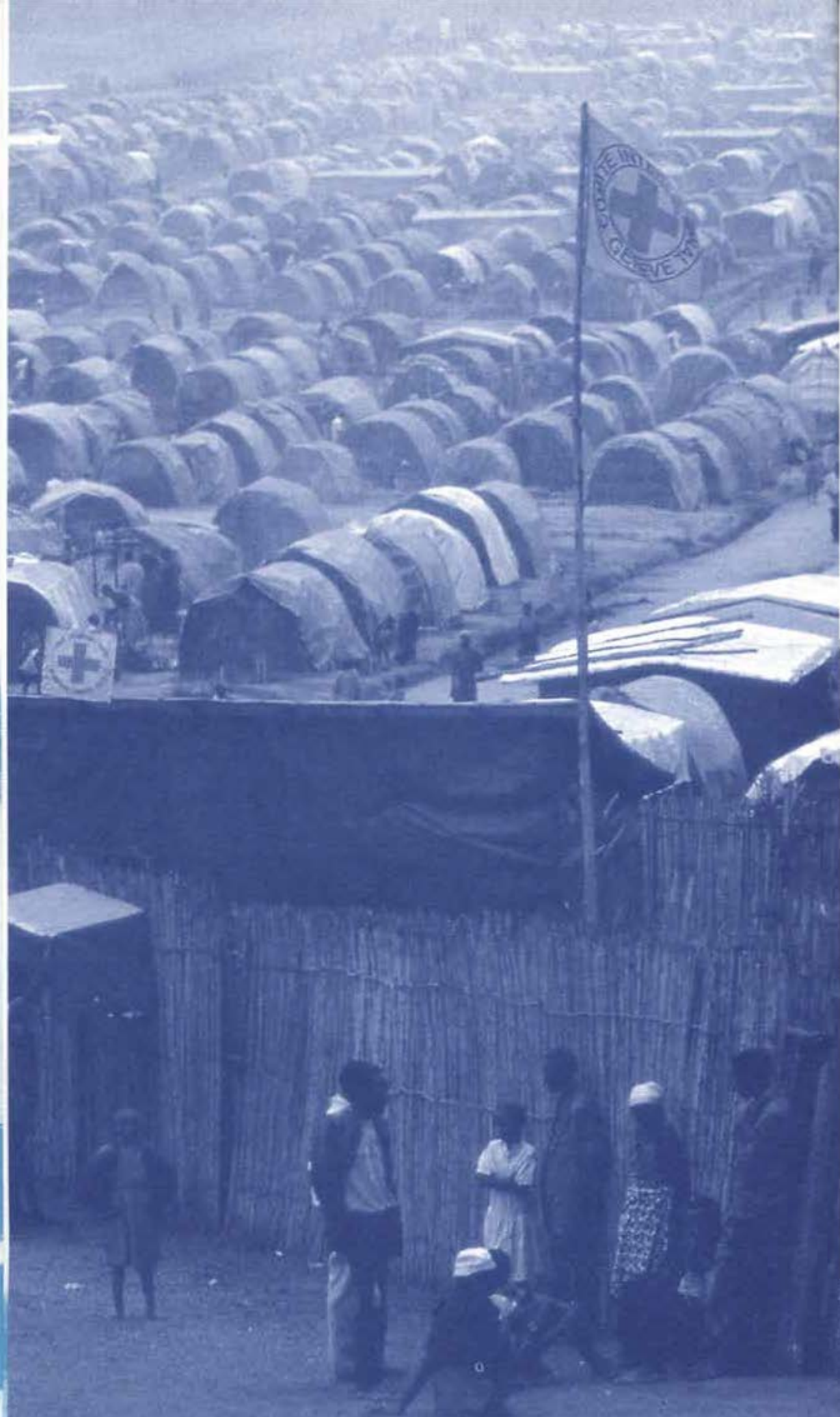
Children are worst hit by the consequences of the Chernobyl disaster

than ever. Neighbouring Dagestan, Ingushetia and Northern Ossetia were still home to thousands.

ECHO made four visits to the area over the year, experiencing at first hand the shootings and bombings that were part of the daily lives of the people, and of the humanitarian organisations courageous enough to stay. ECHO worked only with partners who could show they were able to bring in relief and to work under very difficult conditions. The security situation deteriorated to such an extent that even the most experienced agencies were having to suspend operations at times out of fear for the personal safety of staff. Such was their dedication that at least some of the urgently-needed aid got through despite the odds. Commissioner Bonino pledged that it would continue as required for this devastated area.

In 1995, ECHO grants in aid of those affected by the war in Chechnya totalled 26 million Ecu.







Ethnic tensions still high in Rwanda and beyond

Ethnic tensions stayed high throughout the Great Lakes region of Africa in the aftermath of 1994's genocide against Tutsis and moderate Hutus in Rwanda. By the end of 1995, there were still 1.7 million refugees in neighbouring countries.

Sparked off by the deaths of the presidents of Rwanda and Burundi in April 1994, a bloodbath left up to a million dead and over two million people either displaced, or stranded in neighbouring countries, Zaire, Tanzania and Uganda.

Refugees slow to return

By the end of 1995, there were still 1.7 million refugees in neighbouring countries. Only 228,000 people were repatriated during the year. Of those, 146,000 had been refugees from previous troubles in Rwanda, in 1959 and 1970.

Zaire alone became home for over a million refugees in 40 camps. Kibumba, north Goma, was the biggest of the camps, housing 197,000 Rwandans. Tanzania took the burden of 600,000 refugees, Burundi 135,000. Other people scattered into Uganda.

From the start of the exodus, ECHO realised that a regional approach was essential to manage the crisis.

Regional approach

All assistance to refugees in the camps was coordinated by UNHCR, ICRC and IFRC, ECHO's partners for this programme.

Refugees were kept alive, but host countries started to lose patience with the situation. There was widespread criticism of the camps for harbouring Hutu forces hostile to the Rwandan Patriotic Army. The camps were seen as destabilising the situation in the whole area for two reasons: because rebels were using them as bases for guerrilla incursions into Rwanda, and because of the social, economic and environmental strains the refugees were imposing on Zaire's resources.

GREAT LAKES

Zaire reacts

Zaire reacted strongly in August, and tried to repatriate Rwandan refugees forcibly. Some 15,000 people went back at this point. Thanks to pressure from the international community, the Zairean government was persuaded to respect the right of asylum, and to cooperate with organising orderly, voluntary repatriation.

Refugees feared oppressive treatment and intimidation if they returned. Former Rwandan government leaders in the camps discouraged people from returning, fostering rumours about arbitrary detention, the non-functioning of the legal system and confusion over property rights. Via UNHCR, ECHO funded Radio Hirondelle, a radio service designed to counter disinformation. Refugees were also allowed to go on exploratory visits to see the situation for themselves before making a decision about going home, though the results of this initiative bore little fruit.

Inside Rwanda: time to switch to rehabilitation

During 1995 it became clear that it was time to move from emergency work to urgent rehabilitation. ECHO continued to fund 15 non-governmental organisations that had been working in Rwanda since the beginning of the crisis, all well-established in their specific fields. Top priorities were help for the handicapped and for unaccompanied minors, including tracing of relatives. ECHO's partners managed to rehabilitate healthcare premises and systems, as well as some 250 schools. They supported feeding centres and distributed domestic goods, home start-up kits, to some 50,000 families that came back.

NGOs expelled

At one point, there were more than 150 NGOs working in Rwanda. The Government asked them to register officially and to abide by working conditions that it laid down. It nevertheless expelled 38 of the organisations. Among them were five of ECHO's partners, all of which had signed the working agreement as requested. Their bank accounts were frozen, and

equipment confiscated. In its dialogue with the Government, ECHO continued to emphasise basic humanitarian principles — its mission to help victims of crisis on a neutral basis, via training of local personnel where possible.

Collapse of legal system

Commissioner Bonino visited the region in March 1995 and was particularly shocked at the effects of the collapse of the legal system. Some 60,000 detainees, including more than 1,000 children, languished in detention centres intended for a fifth of that number. Many deaths occurred due to overcrowding. Exceptionally, ECHO funded initiatives to relieve the strain, enabling NGOs to look after detainees in secure wings of hospitals, and to help establish files on detainees.

Inside Burundi: hopes fade as tensions rise

The year started with hopes of a more stable situation that would enable ECHO to move from humanitarian assistance to rehabilitation work. ECHO tuned its programmes to resettling people that had dispersed, to providing clean drinking water, housing and domestic goods.

Unfortunately, the situation deteriorated. Both Hutu and Tutsi extremists became more active throughout the provinces. As tensions rose, ECHO had to switch back to emergency work, supporting the ICRC, the IFRC and NGOs specialising in medical and surgical work, as well as food aid.

At the end of 1995, ECHO had to suspend most programmes because of the level of tension and the security risks facing humanitarian workers.

In 1995, ECHO funding for the people of Rwanda and Burundi amounted to 107 million ECU, spent via UNHCR, NGOs and international organisations.

With the collapse of the legal system in Rwanda, there were many deaths because of overcrowding in the prisons

Ongoing action in Africa



Elsewhere in Africa, long-running crises moved out of the headlines, but in many cases, little improvement was seen in the situation on the ground.

Angola opens up at last
A peace agreement signed in Lusaka in November 1994 between the two sides of the civil war in Angola opened up whole areas which had previously been inaccessible to aid agencies, but the sluggish moves towards demobilisation of troops stood in the way of economic reconstruction. Government troops and former Unita rebels are no closer to the planned integration, and one expert described the post-ceasefire situation as a "conflictual peace". The countryside remains littered with mines from the 20-year conflict, and this is holding up the return of up to 1.3 million displaced persons who have gathered in the capital Luanda and all the provincial capitals.

In addition, Angola has been left with virtually no medical care system apart from what is provided by NGOs. Health provision was made an aid priority with a grant of 7 million ECU in May which funded the work of 19 NGOs from eight member states. A grant of 10 million ECU was made in November to enable ECHO actions to continue, supporting Handicap International in its work with the war-wounded, and extending assistance to new areas as these became accessible.

ECHO grants for Angola came to a total of 17 million ECU in 1995.

Sudan still ravaged by war
Sudan continued to be ravaged by the civil war that has plagued the country since 1983. A cease-fire brokered by former US President Jimmy Carter in April failed to staunch the conflict, as tribal warlords in the south extended their fight for independence to warring among themselves. NGOs were forced to abandon whole areas for long periods after their compounds were looted and staff threatened or taken hostage.

There are about 4.25 million people affected by the war within Sudan, 3.6 million of them in the south of the country. A further 200,000 Sudanese are refugees in northern Uganda.

ECHO humanitarian aid was oriented so as to avoid feeding the war, while ensuring effective implementation of programmes. In the north, the focus was on meeting the essential needs of those displaced around Khartoum. In the south, the plan was to decrease dependency on food aid, to cover basic healthcare needs, and to supply basic relief to those displaced.

In 1995, the Commission granted over 21 million ECU to humanitarian programmes in Sudan.

ECHO Flight - a vital lifeline



In the Horn of Africa, ECHO's partners depend on flights to bring in personnel and supplies, and to evacuate people as necessary.

No other means of transport is safe or reliable. ECHO Flight was started up in May 1994 to meet this need. Eight aircraft are based in Nairobi, Entebbe, Djibouti, Manderla and Lokichoggio, servicing operations in Somalia, Kenya, southern Sudan and Uganda. Unfortunately, the level of security risk and denial of flight clearances from the Government of Sudan or Sudanese rebel factions meant that ECHO Flight had to suspend services to various destinations over the year, leaving humanitarian organisations stranded at times.

In July 1995, the Government of Sudan banned flights by a Belgian Air Force Hercules

C-130 based in Lokichoggio that had been used to air drop food and equipment into South Sudan and Somalia as necessary. The Sudanese government did not bow to pressure for the service to be restored.

By the end of 1995 ECHO-Flight had clocked up over 15,500 flight-hours, carried 50,000 passengers and shipped in 13,000 tonnes of supplies for NGOs including MSF, Save the Children and Action Internationale contre la Faim.

In 1995, ECHO made grants totalling 16 million ECU to maintain the service.

Somalia : conflict subdued, but not quelled

The final withdrawal of UN peacekeepers from Somalia coincided with the withdrawal of a large number of humanitarian organisations. Contrary to expectations, fighting between factions did not intensify, but there was continued low-level fighting throughout the country, where massive unemployment and difficulties of access to food held up large-scale rehabilitation.

ECHO funding was restricted to essential programmes in areas where NGOs could operate effectively. Aid workers faced security risks — threats, kidnappings and forced evacuation.

A staff member of one NGO, Caritas, was killed in November.

The priorities were basic health-care, food, water and sanitation and some restoration of food security in areas where there was relative political stability. A food survey showed that an estimated one-third of the population of nine million was suffering from the effects of hunger. In the capital, Mogadishu, NGOs estimate that one child in four is severely malnourished.

In 1995, ECHO funding for programmes in Somalia amounted to just over 6 million ECU.

AFRICA: OUT OF THE HEADLINES, STILL IN NEED



Liberia : misery of malnutrition

Liberia continued to suffer malnutrition and massive displacement of the population. But peace accords struck in August 1995 did at least open up regions that had been isolated, in some cases for up to three years. ECHO was able to fund the work of 10 or so NGOs specialising in medical aid, food aid, therapeutic feeding and sanitation.

Cholera struck in the capital, Monrovia, in October, putting a million people at risk. ECHO was able to fund a campaign to curb it, as well as backing two yellow fever vaccination programmes.



DCR / MACDOUGALL

Grants for Liberia totalled 6.125 million ECU for the whole of 1995.

Sierra Leone : overwhelming, random violence

Sierra Leone continued to suffer the ravages of a conflict which dates back to 1991. Sporadic, random acts of violence have forced many people to flee their homes, leaving all their possessions behind. In the Moyamba area, up to 60,000 people arrived under such circumstances.

Elsewhere, hospitals and health centres were overwhelmed by people fleeing the countryside as a result of the civil war.

The cities also found themselves unable to cope with the food needs of the fleeing rural populations, and ECHO helped NGOs in actions to counter the crisis.



In 1995, ECHO grants for Sierra Leone came to over 6 million ECU.



Central and Latin America

conflicts and catastrophes



natural catastrophes

Throughout the region, aid was given to victims of natural catastrophes. Hospitals and health centres in Colombia destroyed by an earthquake in April received funding. ECHO helped to fight cholera, and contributed to aid after flooding. Atlantic coast regions hit by the heaviest rains in a decade got support after 150,000 people were made homeless.

Simultaneous floods and drought in different parts of Bolivia affected 17,500 families. Food aid and medical assistance, the evacuation of casualties, work on riverbank protection, and disease prevention got ECHO support.

Four earthquakes and four hurricanes hit Mexico in September and October, overwhelming the Mexican Red Cross. ECHO responded with a grant to help provide food aid, clean water and shelter.

In November, ECHO contributed to a relief project in El Salvador after severe flooding damaged crops and drove people from their homes. About 16,000 people were affected.

CENTRAL AND LATIN AMERICA

Peru : border dispute with Ecuador

The dispute between Peru and Ecuador over the border region flared up again, affecting the people of both countries. In the border region, a sparsely-populated jungle area, human rabies was reported, spread by vampire bats. About 30,000 people, 8,000 of them children, were threatened. ECHO supported the Italian NGO Istituto per la Cooperazione Universitaria in checking the spread of the disease through culling of the bats, vaccination and treatment.

Bubonic plague threatens

Elsewhere in Peru, bubonic plague became a threat as a result of poor sanitation and conditions of extreme poverty. More than 1,100 cases were reported, including 51 deaths in 1994. The threat of the disease hung over 122 villages and more than three million people. In coordination with the Pan-American Health Association, the Latin American branch of the WHO, ECHO gave aid to the sick and to efforts to prevent the disease, through insecticides to eradicate the plague-carrying flea. Some 1.3 million people were expected to benefit directly.

Cholera strikes

Cholera threatened in the shanty-towns of Lima, where drought had affected the urban water supply. A programme helped provide safe drinking water and medicines including rehydration salts and antibiotics. Cholera was also a problem in Coronel Portillo province, while paludism struck in the poorest part of the country, Loreto province.

ECHO funded a programme to help people return to homes they had fled during the violent conflicts in Peru over the last ten years. The money was expected to help about 13,000 out of 800,000 displaced people come back to their homes in rural areas.



Eccuador

In Ecuador, meanwhile, about 15,000 people, most of them native Amerindians who fled the fighting and moved to the cities,

benefited from grants for resettlement, covering food supplies, water, blankets and medicines.

Mexico

Conflict in the Chiapas province of Mexico in 1994 continued to affect the civilian population. In 1995 the Mexican authorities for the first time allowed NGOs into the region. Until then, only the Red Cross had been given access. Hospitals and refugee camps for people displaced by the earlier conflict finally got medical assistance. In July ECHO funded a project to provide food and shelter for 5,000 people. Another 30,000 in camps for displaced persons received basic health care. Then, in December, funding was provided for nutritional supplements, vaccination and water treatment among the people of Chiapas.



ROGER JOB / M.S.F.

Guatemala

In Guatemala, refugees who fled to Mexico during civil war in the 1980s, as well as displaced persons in the mountain regions of Guatemala, got humanitarian aid for food aid, basic shelter, medicines and the means to start farming again.

Nicaragua

Malaria and cholera spread in the poorer regions of Nicaragua. ECHO responded to a government appeal for international help.

Colombia

In Colombia, massacres caused people to flee from the Uraba-Antio-Quia region. ECHO provided finance for basic healthcare and food for victims of violence, especially mothers and children.

ECHO humanitarian aid for the region came to over 12 million ECU in 1995.



Cuba:

model health system hard hit



Cuba is experiencing hard times following the break-up of the Soviet Union. Today, the country is heavily dependent on aid to help it cope with the collapse of its economy.

Cuba used to depend very heavily on trade with COMECON countries, especially the Soviet Union. With the collapse of that source of income, and the continuing U.S. embargo, the country has found itself unable to pay for desperately-needed supplies.

Despite an abundance of highly-trained medical personnel, the healthcare system, once a model for the developing world, has been very hard hit. Imports of drugs and medical supplies have been badly affected, dropping by about a third.

Vitamin deficiencies

Meanwhile, production of meat, fish and crops has fallen by half, and the country has been unable to make up the shortfall with imports.

The average Cuban's calorie intake has been cut by half. Many people are suffering deficiencies of iron, calcium and essential vitamins. Thanks to international aid, Cuba managed to control an outbreak of optical neuritis, a disease caused by vitamin deficiency. But the incidence of diseases such as tuberculosis, asthma and respiratory complaints, diarrhoea and the leptospirosis infection rocketed. There is even a lack of clean drinking water.

Commissioner Bonino visited the country in May, to mark the launching of ECHO's new aid programme. Priority was given to the most vulnerable: children and the aged, as well as the chronically ill and pregnant women, whose poor diet was a factor in low birth-weight babies and increased infant mortality.



Child takes home precious supply of milk

© GEMMA / J. SAITON

In 1995, ECHO spent 15 million ECU on a coordinated food aid and health programme.



Haiti: fresh start in new democracy

After the overthrow of Haiti's military junta and the return to power of President Jean-Bertrand Aristide, the European Union took on an active role in the reconstruction of the country's beleaguered economy.

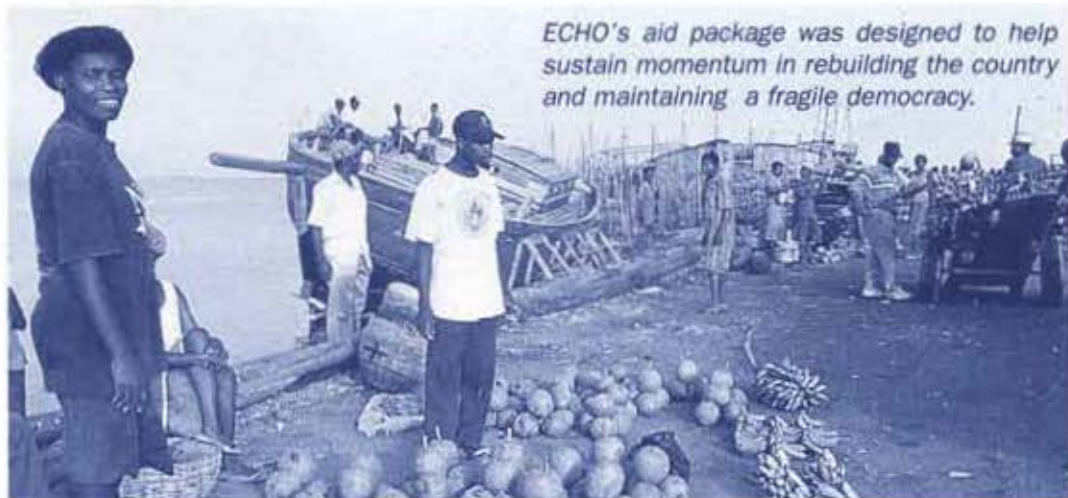
Already, in 1994, ECHO provided grants totalling 12 million ECU for more than 20 projects, covering aid in health, food, water supply and water purification.

Commissioner Bonino visited Haiti in May, prior to which ECHO had agreed a new aid package worth 6 million ECU aimed at helping Haiti overcome the heavy toll of its time under military dictatorship.

Aid agencies noticed a new respect for human rights after the restoration of democracy. This gave NGOs on the ground an opportunity to deal with partners at government level, impossible under military rule. This was just as well, as Haiti's problems are very deep-rooted. The rate of infant mortality is among highest in

world, while life expectancy for adults is among the shortest. At least two-thirds of the workforce are unemployed, and at least half of the people are underfed to some extent. One in five children, according to aid workers, suffers from malnutrition.

Priority actions include primary medical care, the provision of essential drugs and supplies, vaccination against threatened epidemics, food aid, dietary supplements for children, pregnant women and nursing mothers, and ensuring a supply of safe drinking water. In December, a further five million Ecu was agreed to fund the extension of the aid programme.



ECHO's aid package was designed to help sustain momentum in rebuilding the country and maintaining a fragile democracy.

In 1995, ECHO funding for Haiti totalled 11.5 million ECU.



Out of the headlines, still in need



ECHO funded humanitarian aid for many crises that seldom get media attention

SOUTHERN CAUCASUS

Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia: conflicts subside, hardships persist

Tensions subsided in the region during the course of 1995. The ceasefire in the war between Armenia and Azerbaijan over Nagorno-Karabakh held good, and ECHO's partners in the field found it easier to bring humanitarian aid to people in need. Despite the relative calm throughout the region, hardships persisted as all three countries struggled with the virtual collapse of their economies.

ECHO supported NGOs providing shelter for displaced people in all three countries. For hundreds of thousands of people, food and medical supplies, including drugs, were a vital lifeline throughout the year. Many are still totally dependent on humanitarian aid. Repairs to public buildings such as hospitals and designated centres for the displaced were another important strand of ECHO's activities. Winters are particularly hard in the region, and ECHO provided fuel, both for households and institutions. Without that support, many of the urban poor would have been unable to afford the energy supplies needed for basic heating.

Armenia struggled with a triple crisis: the after-effects of war, those of the devastating earthquake that struck in 1988, and the economic blockade imposed by Azerbaijan and Turkey. ECHO food, medical and fuel aid made a vital difference.

Azerbaijan had to cope with accommodating hundreds of thousands of people fleeing the conflict over Nagorno-Karabakh, as well as the related war between Armenia and Azerbaijan. Some 70,000 are living in tent camps, and there are an estimated 700,000 refugees and displaced people in all. Food and shelter were ECHO's top priorities.

Georgia: Ethnic conflicts, both within the country and on its borders, catalysed the collapse of the economy. The country is almost totally dependent on outside help for medicines and medical supplies, and was the biggest recipient of ECHO food aid over the year.

In 1995, ECHO support for Armenia, Azerbaijan and Georgia came to over 80 million ECU.

OUT OF THE HEADLINES, STILL IN NEED



afghanistan : tensions flare anew in Kabul

After two full-scale battles during the winter of 1994-95, life for the people of the Afghan capital, Kabul, calmed down. After years of conflict and the loss of at least 30,000 lives, at last there were hopes that some semblance of everyday life could resume. People even started returning to Kabul.

But the lull proved short-lived. Tensions flared anew with the emergence of a new political force, the muslim fundamentalist Taliban. The siege of Kabul resumed with a vengeance. No solution to the turmoil was in sight as the year ended. Malnutrition was rife. In one of the most poignant signs of despair, parents increasingly resorted to abandoning children in public places in the hope that someone would help.

ECHO supported the few organisations still prepared to work under often unbearably difficult conditions. It concentrated on helping

Kabul throughout the year. Over three-quarters of all aid to the country was spent on the city. Many of those returning to their homes, either from other parts of the city, or from outside, found that their neighbourhoods had been mined. These hidden hazards of life claimed many victims.

Medical aid was a top priority, as was shelter for the homeless. ECHO's partners paid special attention to the needs of those most vulnerable. Restoring supplies of safe drinking water for much of the city was one of the year's achievements. Unfortunately, in a situation so volatile, nothing could be taken for granted as a stepping stone to stability.

In 1995, ECHO grants for Afghanistan came to a total of 12.695 million ECU.



Iraq : embargo takes its toll

The humanitarian situation throughout Iraq deteriorated during 1995, as an international embargo entered its fifth year. In central and southern Iraq, stocks to buffer its effects ran out, leading to widespread malnutrition and ill health. ECHO had to give top priority to food aid and medical assistance. This was aimed mainly at the most vulnerable — infants, children, hospital patients and the elderly.

The Turkish military incursion into northern Iraq in June made up to 20,000 Iraqi and Turkish Kurds flee their homes. ECHO provided food aid

and shelter for them. In November, people in the north were hit by an outbreak of cholera, but fortunately, ECHO-funded NGOs on the spot managed to contain this.

ECHO also backed projects set up to carry out de-mining in northern Iraq. Clearing the land is essential if people are to return home and resume farming, but progress was disappointingly slow.

Marsh Arabs

Shi'ites living in the marshes of southern Iraq continued to endure the hardships of military

OUT OF THE HEADLINES, STILL IN NEED

oppression. Some 100,000 of them have been displaced, and are living in reception camps near the Iranian border. ECHO has been providing food and medical aid.

Despite all the setbacks, there were some signs of hope, at least in the north, as the year ended. ECHO's partners found that the political and administrative authorities had become more disposed to co-operate among themselves with a view to enabling humanitarian agencies to bring relief to people suffering long-term instability.



GAZDAR / ABBEY

In 1995, ECHO funding for humanitarian aid in Iraq totalled 24.3 million ECU.



Poorest countries assert independence

Tadjikistan started on the road to independence as the poorest country in the former Soviet Union, closely followed by Kyrgyztan. The price of reform has been dire poverty for hundreds of thousands of people trying to survive massive recessions.

In Tadjikistan, civil war shattered any hope of stabilising the country quickly. The economy has virtually collapsed, and there are about 600,000 people in dire need, with no immediate prospect of improvement in the situation. The country is highly dependent

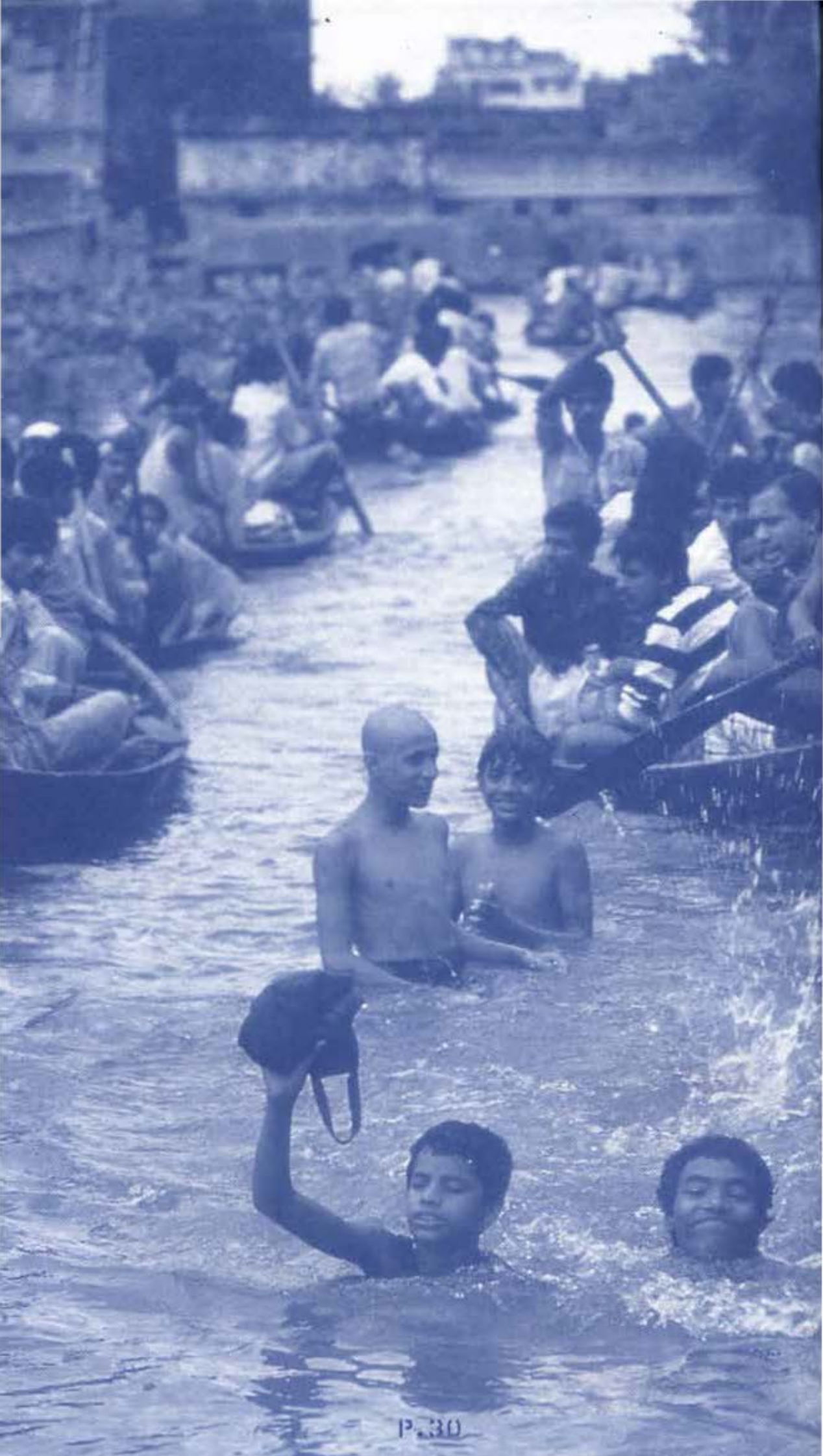
on outside help for basic healthcare and food aid.

In 1995, ECHO aid for Tadjikistan came to a total of 16 million ECU.

In Kyrgyztan, at least, the political situation is relatively stable. ECHO provided essential healthcare, and food aid to those living in particularly deprived areas. Needs will certainly carry over into 1996 and beyond. Experts expect the numbers of those exposed to crisis to rise, at least in the short term.

In 1995, ECHO aid for Kyrgyztan amounted to 8 million ECU.







Natural disasters in Asia

Natural disasters took their toll in Asia. ECHO gave relief aid given to Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Pakistan, Bangladesh, the Philippines and, for the first time ever, North Korea.



Cambodia: food aid after a third of the rice harvest was lost due to floods followed by drought • 2.3 million ECU.

Philippines: aid worth 2 million ECU for victims of Typhoon Angela. ECHO backed Medecins sans Frontieres, who were the first aid agency on the spot. Funding of disaster preparedness training in a country under constant threat from volcanoes, floods, earthquakes and typhoons • 120,000 ECU.

Bangladesh: emergency aid after severe flooding of over 60 percent of the country made 15 million people homeless - 1.4 million ECU. Further flooding in Bangladesh later affected 7.5 million and 400,000 evacuated • 700,000 ECU.

North Korea: aid to victims of flooding which caused damage to three-quarters of the land in North Korea, the first time such an appeal for assistance has been made • 290,000 ECU.

Pakistan: aid to victims of flooding in Pakistan affecting two million people • 200,000 ECU.

Indonesia: aid after an earthquake in Indonesia killed 100 and practically wiped out communications on the island of Sumatra • 100,000 ECU.

Laos: aid after floods destroyed farms, roads and bridges, and contaminated water supplies • 800,000 ECU.

Vietnam: aid for victims of catastrophic flooding • 500,000 ECU.

ECHO

and its

partners

ECHO has introduced a Framework Partnership Agreement, designed to streamline procedures for international organisations and non-governmental organisations applying for financing.

The number of signatories has now risen to over 170, including organisations from the three new member states of the European Union - Austria, Finland and Sweden. About half of all ECHO funding goes to NGO-managed operations. The Commission values cooperation with them because of their track record in being able to organise relief operations speedily. They have the advantage of being present on the spot, they have the expertise and experience to deal with the problems, and cooperate well with communities that need aid. They are flexible, they play a major role both in promoting human rights and they help to raise public awareness of the problems of humanitarian aid and development. In 1994 NGOs joined an extended Dialogue Group to review the working of the agreement, and made recommendations that were well received.

Regulation - new legal framework

Humanitarian operations have to date been dealt with on an ad hoc basis. They will in future be formalised in a Council Regulation which will provide a legal framework for the Commission's work in this area. The Regulation will provide a definition of the scope and nature of humanitarian aid and clarify relationships with partners.

The European Parliament gave the Commission's proposal for a Regulation a first reading in November, highly favourable in the main. The Council of Ministers reached a common position on the proposal in December. If the European Parliament can agree to the terms of that position, the Regulation could be adopted under the Italian presidency of the Union in the first half of 1996. NGOs and other partners have followed the decision-making process closely, and have expressed their interest at all stages.

Disaster preparedness



Low-tech, low-cost solutions can help to avoid the worst when disaster strikes

ECHO is often called upon when natural disasters strike. But preventing or mitigating catastrophes is crucial to its policy too. Measures such as building flood barriers or earthquake-resistant housing, and training local personnel in drills to be followed in case of disaster can scale down loss of life and damage to property dramatically.

In 1994, ECHO launched its disaster preparedness programme, with an initial 15 projects in Africa, Asia and Latin America. In 1995, six of the original projects were continued, and 27 new ones were launched.

The aim with this programme is to stimulate local, low-technology projects. Local staff are trained in disaster prevention, and local structures improved to cope with disaster when it strikes. The work has to be environmentally sound, and sustainable long-term with local management.

The following disaster-prone regions have been designated as Regional Focal Centres to undertake training: West Africa, East Africa, South Asia, Pacific Asia, Central and South America and Eastern Europe and the newly independent states (NIS) of the former Soviet Union. ECHO provides technical support and expertise.

ECHO held an expert consultation in September on the environmental impact of displaced populations, the conclusions of which have been published.

Since March 1995, ECHO has chaired an inter-service group on off-site nuclear emergency preparedness in central and eastern Europe. A major needs assessment study was completed in January 1996.

Seeking solutions - ECHO has funded:

- **Safety improvements to roads and bridges threatened by flood volcano, landslide and earthquake in Central America and the Andean countries**
- **Hurricane-proof housing in Jamaica**
- **Disaster preparedness training in the Philippines**
- **Landslide prevention and risk assessment in Kyrgyztan**
- **Training for emergency personnel in Armenia**
- **Local radio warnings of drought, cyclones, floods or locusts in the Sahel**
- ... and many other practical measures

Evaluation

making sure ECHO's funding is well-spent



ECHO has a responsibility to make sure its funding is spent as effectively as possible. A special Evaluation Unit carries out this work, assisted by independent, external consultants. In 1995, the work of 46 non-governmental agencies and five United Nations agencies were evaluated by such experts.

ECHO may evaluate a specific project, usually while it is still underway. The idea is to make sure that the right products reach the right people, and that the means are effective. ECHO may also carry out evaluations of regional programmes financed over lengthy periods,

or of a specific type of activity, such as specialised medical aid programmes.

Evaluations are usually welcomed, and the results are generally positive. Partners appreciate the ECHO's close interest in their work, and everyone benefits from sharing experience on best practice.

Among evaluations that took place in 1995 were reviews of a food aid programme in Sierra Leone, vaccination programmes in the former Soviet Union, and disaster preparedness projects in Africa, Latin America and Asia.

Case study: De-mining in Iraq

One evaluator looked at de-mining programmes that ECHO funded in Iraq, as part of a wider study of humanitarian assistance in the country.

Between March 1993 and October 1994, 20,850 mines were removed on 126 parcels of land totalling 90 hectares. 'At that rate, it would take thousands of years to clear Northern Iraq of mines,' the evaluator said.

The work has to go on, and the pace of clearance has to be stepped up so that people can return to their homes and resume life in stable communities. The evaluator suggested involving the local authorities in long-term mine clearance programmes, using expatriate experts to train local people to carry out the work in village teams. As for choosing the sites to be cleared, arable land should be given top priority, he said.

Training professionals for action in the field

The call on humanitarian workers over the last five years has grown dramatically, forcing aid organisations to consider how best to improve management of their stretched resources.

Humanitarian organisations have recognised the need to improve the professional skills of their personnel.

In 1993, ECHO facilitated the setting up of a new one-year post-graduate diploma, the Network on Humanitarian Assistance (NOHA). The diploma is taught in five European universities, and is multi-disciplinary, covering the main areas of humanitarian work.

The NOHA diploma was launched with the collaboration of DG XXII (Education, Training and Youth) in conjunction with the Erasmus and Socrates programmes in higher education.

Five European universities are associated with the NOHA network: Aix-Marseille III in France, Bochum in Germany, Deusto-Bilbao in Spain, the Catholic University of Louvain-La-Neuve in Belgium, and Oxford University in England.

The course

The diploma course is made up of four phases. First, students all meet for an intensive two-week

course in September. Then they return to their home campus for general training from October to February. Next, they opt for specialised training from February to May in any one of the five universities. Finally, students take part in a two-month professional secondment in an international organisation, an NGO or a national administration which deals with humanitarian assistance.



At present, 100 graduates from across Europe are enrolled in the NOHA diploma course, studying a range of disciplines chosen to reflect the main aspects of humanitarian work. Currently, these consist of international humanitarian law, economics, logistics,

geo-politics, anthropology and medicine and epidemiology. Course modules are available in the four working languages of the diploma - French, German, Spanish and English.

Two new modules, on geography and psychology (dealing with the traumatic effects of war, violence and rape, and the special needs of children in crisis zones) are planned.

Universities interested in joining the NOHA Network may contact: ECHO/NOHA, 200 Rue de la Loi, 1049 Brussels. A leaflet outlining the course is also available. Applications should be made direct to the universities concerned.

HUMANITARIAN AID UNDER THE PHARE PROGRAMME

The European Union's PHARE programme aims to support the process of economic restructuring in Central and Eastern Europe and the Baltic States by improving conditions for fledgling democracies and market economies.

But PHARE is also able to meet short-term emergency needs not directly related to those aims.

In 1995, PHARE made available humanitarian aid for the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, providing urgently-needed fuel supplies, raw materials and equipment.

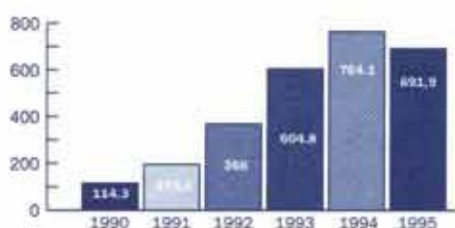
The aid totalled 25 million ECU. It provided fuel for medical centres, schools, dairies,

bakeries, factories, farms and central heating in the capital Skopje. Equipment for water treatment and sanitation plants, as well as other machinery and spare parts, were also covered.

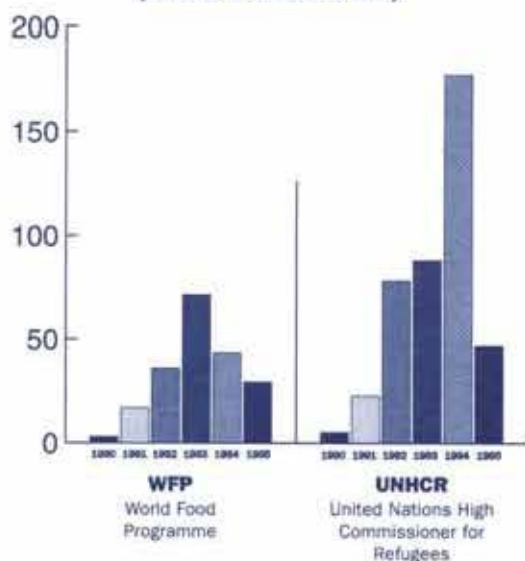
Raw materials were part of the package too — sugar, cotton, wool, soya flour and fish flour. Finally, there was funding for baby food and packaging materials.

ECHO: FACTS AND FIGURES

FINANCIAL DECISIONS FOR HUMANITARIAN AID
(amounts in millions of ECU)



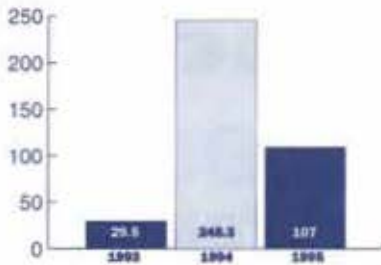
KEY UNITED NATIONS AGENCIES: ECHO FUNDING
(amounts in millions of ECU)



FACTS AND FIGURES

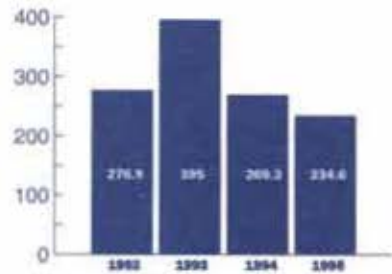
HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO THE RWANDA/BURUNDI CRISIS

(amounts in millions of ECU)

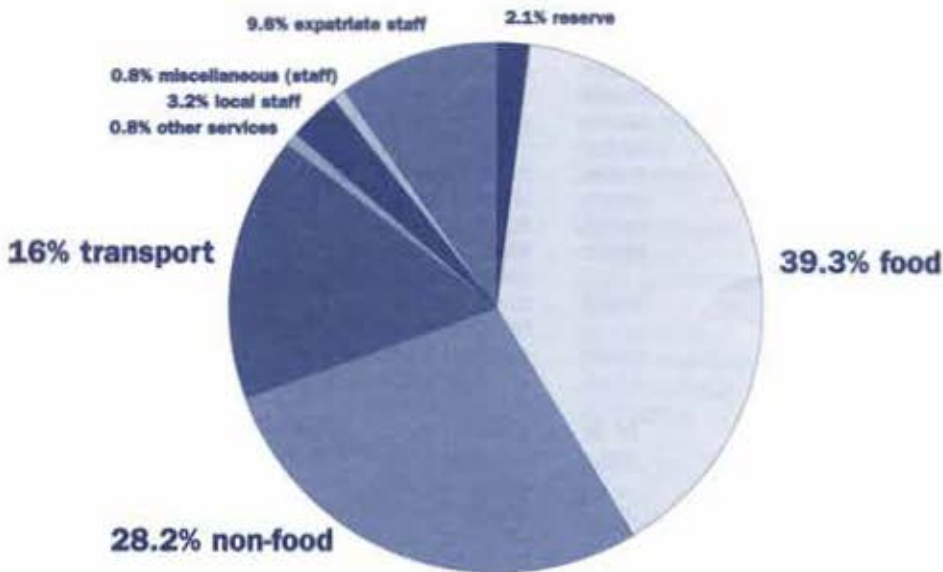


FINANCIAL DECISIONS FOR EX-YUGOSLAVIA

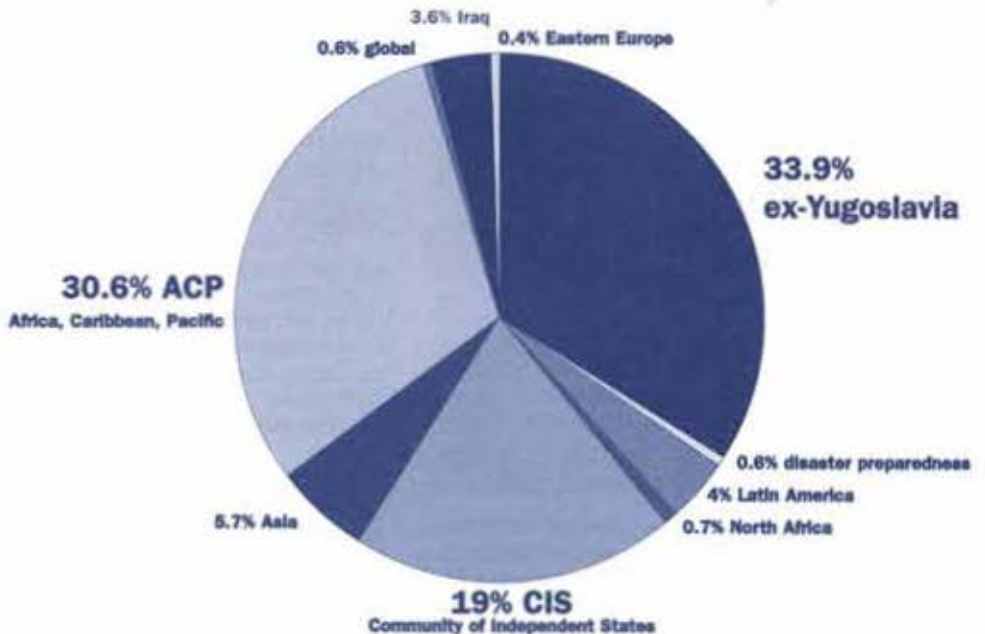
(amounts in millions of ECU)



BREAKDOWN OF SPENDING FOR HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE (1995)



FINANCIAL DECISIONS FOR HUMANITARIAN AID BY REGION (1995)



PARTNERS

Humanitarian organisations *signatories* to the Framework Partnership Agreement as at 22.01.96

GERMANY

DEUTSCHES ROTES KREUZ	CCP 0001
DEUTSCHER CARITASVERBAND	CCP 0007
DIAKONISCHES WERK of the Evangelical Churches in Germany	CCP 0019
DEUTSCHE WELTHUNGERHILFE (GERMAN AGROACTION)	CCP 0042
JOHANNITER UNFALL-HILFE (INTERNATIONAL SERVICES)	CCP 0046
HELP	CCP 0053
MALTESER HILFSDIENST E.V. (M.H.D.)	CCP 0065
ACTION MEDeor	CCP 0080
DÄZ (DEUTSCHE ARZTEGELEINSCHAFT FÜR MEDIZINISCHE ZUSAMMENARBEIT)	CCP 0085
HILFE FÜR KINDER IN NOT E.V. (CHILDREN'S RELIEF)	CCP 0098
ARBEITER-SAMARITER-BUND DEUTSCHLAND E.V.	CCP 0101
CARE DEUTSCHLAND	CCP 105
ADRA	CCP 106
LAZARUS HILFswerk	CCP 124

AUSTRALIA

CARE AUSTRALIA	CCP 0094
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AUSTRIA

CARITAS AUTRICHE	CCP 0049
MALTESER HOSPITAL DIENST-AUSTRIA (M.H.D. A)	CCP 0065
ÖSTERREICHISCHES HILFswerk	CCP 0079
ÖSTERREICHISCHES ROTES KREUZ (CROIX ROUGE AUTRICHE)	CCP 128

BELGIUM

CROIX ROUGE DE BELGIQUE	CCP 0001
SECOURS INTERNATIONAL DE CARITAS CATHOLICA BELGICA	CCP 0012
MEDECINS SANS FRONTIERES/ARTSEN ZONDER GRENZEN	CCP 0013
CARE INTERNATIONAL	CCP 0014
HANDICAP INTERNATIONAL (B)	CCP 0030
OXFAM BELGIQUE	CCP 0043
IEDER VOOR ALLEN	CCP 0056
HÔPITAL SANS FRONTIERE (B)	CCP 0068
MEDICUS MONDI INTERNATIONAL	CCP 0080
MEDICUS MONDI BELGIUM	CCP 0080
MEMISA BELGIUM	CCP 0080
SOLIDARITE LIBERALE INTERNATIONALE	CCP 0099
CAUSES COMMUNES	CCP 107

DENMARK

DANSK RODE KORS	CCP 0001
CARITAS DANMARK	CCP 0008
FOLKEKIRKENS NØDHJÆLP/DANCHURCHAI	CCP 0020
RED BARNET	CCP 0004

DANISH REFUGEE COUNCIL	CCP 0041
MISSION EAST	CCP 0060
ASF-DANSK FOLKEHJÆLP	CCP 138

SPAIN

CRUZ ROJA ESPAÑOLA	CCP 0001
CARITAS ESPAÑOLA	CCP 0005
MEDICOS SIN FRONTERAS	CCP 0013
SOLIDARIDAD INTERNACIONAL (FUNDACIÓN ESPAÑOLA PARA LA COOPERACIÓN)	CCP 0040
MEDICOS DEL MUNDO	CCP 0044
MOVIMIENTO POR LA PAZ, EL DESARME Y LA LIBERTAD	CCP 0050
ASOCIACIÓN NAVARRA -NUEVO FUTURO-	CCP 0054
A.C.S.U.R. ASOCIACIÓN PARA LA COOPERACIÓN CON EL SUR LAS SEGOVIAS	CCP 0057
INTERMON	CCP 0063
NOUS CAMINS	CCP 0077
MEDICUS MONDI ESPAÑA	CCP 0080
FUNDACION ENGELMAJER	CCP 0103
FARMACEUTICOS SIN FRONTERAS	CCP 0114
PAZ Y TERCER MUNDO	CCP 0132

UNITED STATES

INTERNATIONAL ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN CHARITIES	CCP 0055
CATHOLIC RELIEF SERVICES	CCP 0074
INTERNATIONAL MEDICAL CORPS	CCP 0082
WORLD CONCERN DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATION	CCP 0090
INTERNATIONAL RESCUE COMMITTEE	CCP 0135

FINLAND

SUOMEN PUNAINEEN RISTI (CROIX ROUGE FINLANDE)	CCP 0128
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FRANCE

CROIX ROUGE FRANCAISE	CCP 0001
SECOURS CATHOLIQUE	CCP 0006
MEDECINS SANS FRONTIERES	CCP 0013
ACTION INTERNATIONALE CONTRE LA FAIM	CCP 0026
HANDICAP INTERNATIONAL (F)	CCP 0029
ACTION NORD SUD	CCP 0031
MEDECINS DU MONDE	CCP 0032
EQUILIBRE	CCP 0033
PREMIERE URGENCE	CCP 0034
PHARMACIENS SANS FRONTIERES	CCP 0039
FRANCE - LIBERTES (FONDATION DANIELLE MITTERRAND)	CCP 0058
OEUVRES HOSPITALIERS FRANCAISES DE L'ORDRE DE MALTE (O.H.F.O.M.)	CCP 0065
HÔPITAL SANS FRONTIERE (F)	CCP 0068
SECOURS POPULAIRE FRANCAIS	CCP 0071

PARTNERS

MEDICUS MUNDI FRANCE INTERAIDE INITIATIVE DEVELOPPEMENT ESSOR EUROPACT INTERVENIR SOLIDARITES ENFANTS DU MONDE/DROITS DE L'HOMME COMITE D'AIDE MEDICALE ET DE PARRAINAGE SANS FRONTIERES AIDE MEDICALE INTERNATIONALE SOLIDARITE PROTESTANTE FRANCE ARMENIE ASSOCIATION POUR L'ACTION HUMANITAIRE JEUNESSE SANS FRONTIERE ATLAS LOGISTIQUE ACTION D'URGENCE INTERNATIONALE	CCP 0080 CCP 0087 CCP 0087 CCP 0087 CCP 0087 CCP 0095 CCP 0096 CCP 0100 CCP 0104 CCP 0108 CCP 0112 CCP 0114 CCP 0122 CCP 0126 CCP 117	NORGES RØDE KORS (CROIX ROUGE NORVEGE)	CCP 0128
NETHERLANDS			
NET NEDERLANDSE RODE KRUIS CARITAS NEERLANDICA MEDECINS SANS FRONTIERES/ARTSEN ZONDER GRENZEN STICHTING DECMENISCHE HULP (Dutch Interchurch Aid) MEMISA MEDICUS MUNDI NEDERLAND			CCP 0001 CCP 0011 CCP 0013 CCP 0022 CCP 0080
PORTUGAL			
CRUZ VERMELHA PORTUGUESA AMI - Fundação Assistência Médica Internacional OROS Cooperacao et desenvolvimento C.I.C. Associação para a Cooperacao, Intercambio e Cultura UNIAO DES CIDADES CAPITAIS LUSO-afro-AMERICo-ASIATICAS (U.C.C.I.A.) ASSOCIACAO DE BENEFICENCIA LUSO-ALEMA			CCP 0001 CCP 0016 CCP 0035 CCP 0066 CCP 0076 CCP 0113
UNITED KINGDOM			
BRITISH RED CROSS SOCIETY SAVE THE CHILDREN FUND CATHOLIC FUND FOR OVERSEAS DEVELOPMENT CARE INTERNATIONAL UK CHRISTIAN AID FEED THE CHILDREN OXFAM UK HELPAGE INTERNATIONAL TEAR FUND MEDICAL AID FOR PALESTINIANS MERLIN CONCERN UNIVERSAL WOMEN AID INTERNATIONAL SCOTTISH EUROPEAN AID WORLD VISION UK			CCP 0001 CCP 0003 CCP 0009 CCP 0015 CCP 0017 CCP 0025 CCP 0052 CCP 0059 CCP 0069 CCP 0070 CCP 0083 CCP 0086 CCP 0093 CCP 0097 CCP 0133
SWEDEN			
DIAKONIA SWEDISH COMMITTEE FOR AFGHANISTAN ERIKSKÅLPEN SVENSKA RÖDA KORSET (CROIX ROUGE SUEDE) PMU INTERLIFE INTERNATIONAL AID SWEDEN			CCP 0018 CCP 0121 CCP 0125 CCP 0128 CCP 0129 CCP 0134
SWITZERLAND			
MEDECINS SANS FRONTIERES LUTHERAN WORLD FEDERATION HEKS (SWISS INTERCHURCH AID) CARITAS SUISSE TERRE DES HOMMES MEDICUS MUNDI SCHWEIZ			CCP 0013 CCP 0023 CCP 0045 CCP 0047 CCP 0051 CCP 0080
INTERNATIONAL HUMANITARIAN ORGANISATIONS			
INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT SOCIETIES (I.F.R.C.) INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE OF THE RED CROSS (I.C.R.C.) ORDRE SOUVERAIN ET MILITAIRE DE ST.JEAN DE JERUSALEM, RHODES ET DE MALTE			CCP 0001 CCP 0002 CCP 0065
UNITED NATIONS AGENCIES AND OTHERS			
UNITED NATIONS HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR REFUGEES (UNHCR) INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATION FOR MIGRATIONS (IOM) PAN AMERICAN WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION (PAHO) WORLD FOOD PROGRAMME (WFP) UNITED NATIONS CHILDREN'S FUND (UNICEF)			CCP 0064 CCP 0073 CCP 0078 CCP 0127 CCP 0130

a year of hopes and fears



‘Everywhere I went, I was impressed by the courage and dedication of both local and international aid workers financed by ECHO, and ultimately, the European Union’s taxpayers. ECHO’s work is about people in need, who have nowhere else to turn. The European Union’s commitment to helping them does it credit, and gains it enormous sympathy.’

When I took this job in 1995, I did not dare hope that I would be writing with a note of optimism a year later. My responsibilities as Commissioner in charge of humanitarian aid seemed desperately daunting. Calls for help were coming in non-stop, resources were limited, and peace elusive in theatres of war all over the world.

But by the latter part of the year, we saw the warring parties in ex-Yugoslavia meeting to give peace a chance at last. The lifting of the siege of Sarajevo and the signing of a peace agreement in Paris were major landmarks on the road to peace in a war happening in our own back yard. No-one is under the illusion that the process of reconciliation and reconstruction will be easy, but the European Community Humanitarian Office (ECHO) will be standing by to support the civilian victims of this conflict in practical ways as they try to resume everyday lives.

A day on the spot brings home the realities of a situation like nothing else. Seeing a situation at first hand also helps with formulating what needs to be done. That is why I decided to find out what was happening for myself in places where ECHO was supporting relief work — in Sarajevo and Mostar at the start of 1995, then in Tuzla in July, shortly after the fall of Srebrenica. At the end of August, I went to Croatia, to visit those newly displaced from Bihac in their camps. Unfortunately, ECHO’s activities span the four corners of the globe. To get the full picture, I went to Rwanda, Burundi and Zaire in March, then to Cuba and Haiti in May.

Everywhere I went, I was impressed by the courage and dedication of both local and international aid workers financed by ECHO, and ultimately, the European Union’s taxpayers. ECHO’s work is about people in need, who have nowhere else to turn. The European

FINANCIAL DECISIONS FOR HUMANITARIAN AID BY REGION

1994

1995

As per: 01/01/96

COUNTRY/REGION	DECISION IN ECU	Number of CONTRACTS	COUNTRY/REGION	DECISION IN ECU	Number of CONTRACTS
EX-YUGOSLAVIA	269 376 000	419	EX-YUGOSLAVIA	234 670 000	223
ACP TOTAL	324 106 962	480	ACP TOTAL	212 017 820	212
AFRICA: Burundi Refugees	13 500 000	14	AFRICA: Food Aid	8 570 000	1
AFRICA: Burundi & Rwandan Refug.	168 500 000	112	AFRICA: Burundi & Rwandan Refug.	107 000 000	17
ANGOLA	24 000 000	57	EASTERN & CENTRAL AFRICA	20 595 000	10
BURUNDI	21 000 000	34	IVORY COAST	1 950 000	5
DIBOUTI	355 000	3	KENYA	581 000	4
ERITREA	1 000 000	3	LIBERIA	6 125 000	13
ETHIOPIA	60 000	1	NIGERIA	400 000	1
GHANA	1 000 000	2	NIGER	565 000	4
GUINEA	300 000	1	SIERRA LEONE	6 420 000	8
GUINEA-BISSAU	100 000	1	SOMALIA	6 010 000	20
HAITI	18 010 000	55	SUDAN	21 400 000	49
KENYA	1 204 163	3	ANGOLA	17 000 000	39
LIBERIA	7 473 550	18	HAITI	11 580 000	25
MADAGASCAR	1 170 000	5	CAPE VERDE	440 720	5
MALAWI	300 000	1	GUINEA	540 000	3
MAURITANIA	400 000	3	CARIBBEAN Region	1 905 000	2
MAYOTTE	500 000	1	ETHIOPIA	236 100	1
MOZAMBIQUE	1 188 000	3	Floods : Congo, Benin, Mauritania	700 000	5
NIGER	70 900	1			
NIGERIA	340 250	1			
PAPUA NEW GUINEA	123 440	1			
RWANDA	15 500 000	23			
SIERRA LEONE	2 773 200	7			
SOMALIA	8 338 359	35			
ST. LUCIA	125 800	1			
SUDAN	26 507 000	68			
TANZANIA	1 810 000	3			
CHAD	447 000	2			
TOGO	200 000	1			
UGANDA	500 000	1			
ZAIRE	7 320 000	18			
CIS ¹	91 010 000	228	CIS ¹	137 491 000	225
ARMENIA	19 080 000	53	ARMENIA	23 955 215	42
AZERBAIJAN	18 850 000	57	AZERBAIJAN	26 831 010	47
GEORGIA	17 806 000	55	GEORGIA	27 469 772	54
BELARUS	3 520 000	4	BELARUS	2 735 000	3
KIRGYZSTAN	6 250 000	17	KIRGYZSTAN	8 850 000	11
MOLDOVA	2 500 000	2	MOLDOVA	320 000	1
RUSSIA FED	9 870 000	17	RUSSIAN FED	29 525 000	38
TAJIKISTAN	9 825 000	16	TAJIKISTAN	16 105 000	28
UKRAINE	3 300 000	7	UKRAINE	500 000	1
EASTERN EUROPE	2 679 000	9	EASTERN EUROPE	2 900 000	5
ALBANIA	1 675 000	6	ALBANIA	1 150 000	4
BULGARIA	1 004 000	3	Baltic States	1 000 000	1
			ROMANIA	500 000	1
			TURKEY	250 000	1
IRAQ	22 515 000	49	IRAQ	24 873 500	24
ASIA ²	25 826 000	67	ASIA ²	39 464 578	86
AFGHANISTAN	12 315 000	34	CAMBODIA	5 960 000	9
BANGLADESH	500 000	3	NEPAL	950 000	4
CAMBODIA	2 236 000	5	LEBANON	1 875 000	9
LAOS	1 500 000	2	AFGHANISTAN	12 695 000	26
MONGOLIA	1 000 000	2	BANGLADESH	2 100 000	3
MYANMAR	240 000	1	SRI LANKA	3 125 000	9
PALESTINE/ISRAEL	4 700 000	7	ISRAEL	5 350 000	8
PAKISTAN	200 000	2	PHILIPPINES	2 619 578	6
PHILIPPINES	550 000	3	THAILAND	2 320 000	7
SRI LANKA	615 000	2	YEMEN	200 000	1
VIETNAM	750 000	2	INDONESIA	100 000	1
YEMEN	1 220 000	4	NORTH KOREA	290 000	2
			PAKISTAN	200 000	1
			LAOS	1 180 000	3
			VIETNAM	500 000	1
NORTH AFRICA	3 565 000	13	NORTH AFRICA	5 000 000	5
ALGERIA	2 935 000	10	ALGERIA	5 000 000	5
EGYPT	630 000	3			
LATIN AMERICA	21 509 500	49	LATIN AMERICA	27 385 000	55
BOLIVIA	1 115 000	3	PERU	1 730 000	9
BRAZIL	600 000	3	NICARAGUA	1 990 000	5
COLOMBIA	700 000	3	BOLIVIA	1 150 000	2
CUBA	14 054 500	25	COLOMBIA	2 320 000	5
EL SALVADOR	340 000	2	GUATEMALA	2 770 000	8
GUATEMALA	830 000	2	ECUADOR	450 000	1
MEXICO	1 050 000	2	CUBA	15 000 000	21
NICARAGUA	560 000	1	MEXICO	1 225 000	3
PERU	2 320 000	8	EL SALVADOR	750 000	1
General Studies	100 000	1	Coordination & Monitoring	4 200 000	30
Disaster Preparedness	3 481 962	20	Disaster Preparedness	4 000 014	30
GRAND TOTAL	764 169 424	1 335	GRAND TOTAL	692 092 512	865

FOOTNOTE
¹ COMMONWEALTH OF INDEPENDENT STATES
² APART FROM IRAQ AND EX-USSR

SOURCE: ECHO/BUDGET



European Community Humanitarian Office

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