

Global Task Force for Humanitarian Work Psychology

The GTF is a Steering Committee of I/O practitioners, academics and students with a broad representation of low- to high-income countries ushering in a new era of greater practical application of I/O expertise to the humanitarian arena.

GTF Co-Chairs

Stuart C. Carr

Mary O'Neill Berry

Leo Marai



GTF Members

Paul Anand, Open University, England

Steve Atkins, Otago Polytechnic, New Zealand

Peter Baguma, Makerere University, Uganda

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Harry Hui, University of Hong Kong, China

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HUMANITARIAN WORK PSYCHOLOGY



GET INVOLVED.....

Network for Humanitarian Work Psychology

- Website (www.humworkpsy.org)
- Povia-intranet for HWP - email sympa@lists.massey.ac.nz with the subject of your email "Subscribe Povia"
- Facebook - group HWP Network
- HWP Rep: 301-300-7463, iohumanist@gmail.com



Network for Humanitarian Work Psychology

The Network for Humanitarian Work Psychology (HWP) is an international, non-partisan organization for anyone interested in practicing, promoting, developing, or learning more about HWP: the application of Organizational Psychology to the humanitarian arena. The organization's mission is to foster the practice, promotion and development of HWP by unifying an international community focused on aligning prosocial agendas and decent work with local needs. Guided by its Steering Committee, the Global Task Force for Humanitarian Work Psychology, the organization will work to:

1. Promote a paradigm shift with a socially responsible agenda in the field of I/O psychology.
2. Unify the international community of I/O psychologists and other professionals in addressing humanitarian issues.
3. Increase awareness that I/O psychology has a presence in the humanitarian arena, and publicize its past, present, and future contributions.
4. Articulate (in layman terms) research and project results as a means for influencing policy and practical application of development and aid efforts.
5. Lobby for a presence and voice where humanitarian policy decisions are made (e.g., UN, World Bank).
6. Provide a resource for effective development and aid suggestions.
7. Encourage new and collaborative projects, case studies, and research with a practical focus.
8. Provide career development suggestions and opportunities that coincide with and expand the traditional I/O approach.
9. Increase the representation and opportunities for I/O psychologists from lower- and middle-income countries.
10. Offer data-sharing of past and present research from projects around the world – increasing the positive application of data to local communities – to whom the data truly belongs.



Practicing HWP

I-O Psychologists in Aid and Development

HWP practitioners work with aid and development organizations by focusing internally on the employees and the organization, and externally on alignment with the local community. Examples include selection, training and development, leadership, organizational structuring and needs analysis, local and global impact and perception analysis, cultural integration.

HWP and Intergovernmental Organizations

I/O psychologists practicing HWP work with intergovernmental organizations to make sure humanitarian aid and development policies focus on and result in decent work and are aligned with local needs.

HWP and Other Disciplines

As the relationships and understanding grow between disciplines such as Economics, Sociology, Anthropology, Political Science, and Psychology, collaborative research and data-sharing opportunities will arise, and new vantage points will emerge from which to view one's own discipline and research.



“Where contributions can be made opportunities abide! And this has never been truer than right now in HWP.” (Carr, 2009)

Contributions & Opportunities

HWP has a lot of room for growth, and the potential for new and exciting research, projects and opportunities seems infinite. Below are just a few examples of how people, organizations and businesses can get involved by contributing and creating opportunities. Check out www.humworkpsy.com for a more in-depth list.

Students, Practitioners, Academics

- Work on socially responsible agendas and projects with the UN, ILO, and other intergovernmental organizations, as well as Government (public policy, development sector), and the private sector
- Engage in NGO internal and external consulting
- Internships with the above mentioned organizations
- Internships with HWP or similar organizations (PsySR, SPSSI, etc.)

Aid/Development Organizations, Governments, IGOs, Public and Private Businesses

- Join the different HWP networks
- Use students and HWP practitioners as interns, employees and consultants
- Review HWP research for practical application
- Challenge HWP practitioners for solutions to old and new issues in the humanitarian/ development arena
- Collaborate with I/O Psychologists from countries at all income levels

Universities

- Offer funding (TA, RA) towards HWP-related projects
- Offer students courses on the topic (GTF is currently exploring options for video-linked seminars) and encourage dissertations, theses, research projects and articles on HWP
- Offer scholarships for students with HWP focus
- Offer exchange programs between Universities in low- to high-income countries.



Research and Project Examples

Project AddUp - poverty.massey.ac.nz/index.htm#addup

Project AddUp explores the effects of aid salary discrepancies in the health, education and business sectors of six countries: the landlocked economies of Malawi and Uganda; the transition economies of India and China; and the island economies of the Solomon Islands and Papua New Guinea.

The Centre for Socio-Eco-Nomic Development - CSEND.org

CSEND's mission is to serve as a centre of knowledge and innovation in socio-economic research and development. Its objective is to facilitate the advancement and practical application of socio-economic theory to support sustainable development and social change.

Centre for Global Health - medicine.tcd.ie/global-health/

The Centre for Global Health endeavors to strengthen health systems through a multidisciplinary and multi-country approach to critical analysis, research-in-action and capacity building by creating a network of experts that systematically develops and implements a research agenda that addresses some of the key problems in Global Health.

