

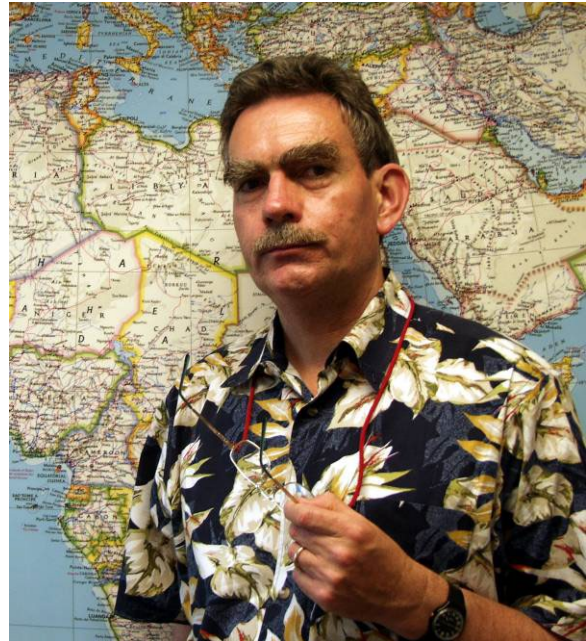
## ALDO A. BENINI

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### SUMMARY

Over twenty years in assistance for victims of war (with the International Committee of the Red Cross), management of large-scale rural development, and in research, funding, and consultancy for partnerships in development and humanitarian aid. 6 years in South Asia, 4 years in Africa, 7 years in Europe. Short missions in the Middle East. Advanced survey design, data analysis and modeling, particularly in the humanitarian and poverty alleviation fields. Swiss citizen, based in Washington DC.



### EDUCATION

1979 Ph.D.: Social Sciences, University of Bielefeld, Germany  
(Community Development in A Multi-Ethnic Society, based on field research in West Africa)

### WORK

#### Consultancies

**1996 to current**

##### *Cluster 1 : Humanitarian data analysis*

- Conceptual work and data analysis in human security, relief logistics, rapid needs assessments, Humanitarian Information Centers, decision support (see publications)
- Coordinating social science inputs for the Global Landmine Survey, a multi-country survey of the socio-economic impacts of explosive remnants of war. Protocols, training and analysis templates. Training, data analysis, reporting in eight countries
- Analyzing a large database on the correlates of violence in Cambodia, for the Peace Research Institute of Oslo, Norway
- Rapid needs assessment data management and analysis templates for the Assessment Capacities Project (ACAPS), Geneva
- Short missions for, among others, the United Nations, the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, Small Arms Survey and the ICRC, in the Sudan, Congo, Bosnia, Jordan, Iraq, Afghanistan and East Timor

### ***Cluster 2 : Rural development***

- Community empowerment and organizations of the poor: focus on Bangladesh, minor work in Cambodia, Tanzania and Nepal
- Complex statistical analysis of large microfinance database
- NGO impact surveys, monitoring system reform, studies on social organization, data management training
- Lutheran World Federation, RDRS Bangladesh, Swiss Red Cross, the UK Department of International Development, and the German EED (Church Development Service)

### **California Polytechnic State University**

(Social Sciences Department, San Luis Obispo)

1995 - 1998 Visiting Research Scientist

- Projects on computer simulation for relief agencies, biological hazards (Ebola virus), organizations of poor people, mechanisms of ethnic violence, Switzerland
- Courses on Ethnic Relations in World Perspective
- Authored "Modern Switzerland", a volume in the McGraw-Hill Comparative Societies Series

### **International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC)**

1998 Evaluator, earthquake response, Afghanistan  
1993-1994 Specialist dissemination Red Cross principles, South Africa  
1992-1993 Operational Desk, West Africa, headquarters  
1990-1991 Team leader Sudan, Iraq, Mali  
1987-1989 Delegate, Pakistan and Afghanistan

- Organized humanitarian law and Red Cross information campaigns during critical transition in South Africa
- Held out one year inside besieged town, Sudan, developed computer scenarios for food distribution strategy
- Identified casualty evacuation routes from deep inside Afghanistan, negotiated access and set up first cross-border post

### **Lutheran World Federation**

(apex organization of Lutheran churches worldwide)

1983-1986 Program Coordinator, rural development program, Bangladesh

- Coordinated multi-sector program (small-farmer support, health care, public works) totaling over 1,700 staff working with the poorest segments of a 7 million population
- Adapted systems for planning, budgeting and monitoring
- Initiated structural change in organization after 10 years of additive growth. Continuing cooperation with successor organization "RDRS Bangladesh" since 1997

## **Church Development Service (Evangelischer Entwicklungsdienst - EED)**

(funding agency of the German Protestant churches)

1987, 1997 Consultant for financial instruments, internal reorganization

1979 - 1983 Sector Head for South Asia and the Middle East

- Helped develop new instruments of financial cooperation
- Drafted country and sector guidelines, participated in project evaluations

## **INTERNATIONAL EXPERIENCE**

### **Countries and regions with significant work and life experience:**

Switzerland, Germany - South Africa, Sudan, West Africa - Pakistan, Afghanistan, Bangladesh - USA

### **Languages:**

English, German, French: Fluent in speech and writing. Publications in English

Bengali: Advanced conversational

## **PUBLICATIONS AND PAPERS**

### **Books**

2006 “A Shelter for the Poor. The long-term viability of NGO-supported local associations”. Rangpur, RDRS Bangladesh and North Bengal Institute

1998 “Modern Switzerland”, New York, McGraw-Hill

1980 “Community Development in a Multi-Ethnic Society: The Upper River Division of The Gambia, West Africa”, Saarbrücken - Fort Lauderdale

### **Peer-reviewed articles**

2010 (With several others:)  
Managing humanitarian information in Iraq. In: Carlton-Ford, S. and M. G. Ender (ed.). The Routledge Handbook of War and Society. London and New York, Routledge

2009 (With several others:)  
“Survivor Needs or Logistical Convenience? Factors shaping decisions to deliver relief to earthquake-affected communities, Pakistan 2005-06”, Disasters, January

- 2008 (With Taylor Owen and Håvard Rue:) "A Semi-Parametric Spatial Regression Approach to Post-War Human Security: Cambodia, 2002-2004". Oslo, Centre for the Study of Civil War (CSCW), International Peace Research Institute, Oslo (PRIO), Asian Journal of Criminology, September
- 2007 "A Monitoring System for Numerous Local Organizations of Poor People – A Case from Bangladesh", The Electronic Journal of Information Systems in Developing Countries, July
- 2007 (With Charles E. Conley:) "Rapid Humanitarian Assessments and Rationality: A Value-of-Information Study of a Recent Assessment in Iraq", Disasters, March
- 2004 (With Lawrence Moulton:) "Civilian Victims in an Asymmetrical Conflict: Operation Enduring Freedom, Afghanistan", Journal of Peace Research, July
- 2003 (With several others:) "Integration of Different Data Bodies for Humanitarian Decision Support: An Example from Mine Action", Disasters, December
- 2003 (Principal author: Lawrence Moulton) "Community-level risk factors for numbers of landmine victims in Chad and Thailand", Journal of Epidemiology & Community Health
- 2002 (With Lawrence Moulton and Charles Conley) "Landmines and Local Community Adaptation", Journal of Contingencies and Crisis Management, June
- 1999 (With Janet Benini:) "Computer Simulation of Humanitarian Scenarios, Tools for Training and Field Management in Relief Agencies", International Journal of Public Administration
- 1999 "Network Without Center? - A Case Study of an Organizational Network Responding to an Earthquake", Journal of Contingencies and Crisis Management, March
- 1998 (With Anthony Minnaar and Sam Pretorius:) "Persistent Collective Violence and Early Warning Systems: The Case of KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa", Armed Forces and Society, August
- 1997 "Uncertainty and Information Flow in Humanitarian Agencies", Disasters, December

- 1996 (With Janet Benini:) "Ebola Virus: From Medical Emergency to Complex Disaster?", Journal of Contingencies and Crisis Management, March
- 1993 "Simulation of the Effectiveness of Protection and Assistance for Victims of Armed Conflict: An Example from Mali, West Africa", Oxford: Journal of Contingencies and Crisis Management, December
- 1992 "Armed Conflict, Access to Markets and Food Crisis Warning: A Note from Mali", London: Disasters, September
- 1991 "Computer Simulation as a Means of Dialogue between Relief Agencies and Local Committees", London: Disasters, December

### Others

- 2012 (With Wasima Samad Chowdhury:) "It takes a village to put a child through school - Can community literacy substitute for parental literacy?", Sylhet, Friends in Village Development Bangladesh (FIVDB)
- 2011 (With Paul von Büнау, Mozammel Haque and Bhabatosh Nath:) "RDRS and the Poor: Microfinance as Partnership. Twenty years of microfinance in RDRS Bangladesh", Dhaka and Rangpur, RDRS Bangladesh and North Bengal Institute
- 2010 "Text Analysis under Time Pressure. Tools for humanitarian and development workers", Technical paper with MS Excel macros
- 2009 "Tracking violence in Timor-Leste: A sample of emergency room data, 2006–08" [Timor-Leste Armed Violence Assessment (TLAVA) Issue Brief Number 4, October 2009], Small Arms Survey and ActionAid
- 2009 (With Bhabatosh Nath:) "Knowledge Management in an Organization of the Poor. The Thetrai Union Federation in northern Bangladesh", Dhaka and Washington DC, RDRS Bangladesh
- 2009 "Is Empowerment Efficient? A Data Envelopment Analysis of 260 Local Associations in Bangladesh", Rangpur, RDRS Bangladesh and North Bengal Institute
- 2008 "Efficient linking of lists in humanitarian data management", Technical note
- 2008 "Does Empowerment Work? Underlying concepts and the experience of two community empowerment programs in Cambodia and Tanzania", Washington DC (a study for the Lutheran World Federation)

- 2007 (With several others:) “Resilience and Vulnerability in Long-Term NGO Clients. Findings from an RDRS Bangladesh panel survey”. Rangpur, RDRS Bangladesh and North Bengal Institute
- 2006 (With several others:) “Survivor Needs or Logistical Convenience? – Factors shaping decisions to deliver relief to earthquake-affected communities, Pakistan 2005-06”. Navigating Post-Conflict Environments series. Washington DC, Vietnam Veterans of America Foundation
- 2006 (With several others:) “Landmine Impact Survey. Republic of Armenia”. Report, Vietnam Veterans of America Foundation (VVAF), Washington DC
- Other Landmine Impact Survey involvements (year report published, some by the Survey Action Center, Takoma Park MD, and country):
- |      |                          |
|------|--------------------------|
| 2005 | Vietnam *                |
| 2004 | Azerbaijan               |
| 2004 | Bosnia and Herzegovina * |
| 2004 | Lebanon *                |
| 2003 | Somaliland (Somalia) *   |
| 2002 | Thailand *               |
| 2001 | Chad *                   |
| 2000 | Yemen *                  |
| 2000 | Kosovo *                 |
- (\* = with in-country missions)
- 2005 (With Jasim Uddin Ferdous:) “The Incomes and Participant Careers of the Poor. Insights from the RDRS Bangladesh 2003 Impact Survey”. Rangpur and Dhaka, RDRS Bangladesh
- 2005 “Putting the Pieces Together: Follow-up of persons with disabilities using multiple indicators”. Hanoi, VVAF Bach Mai Hospital, Research note, January
- 2004 (With Charles Conley:) “Data Fusion for Mine Action Decision Support: An Example from Lebanon”. Journal of Mine Action, 8/2. <http://maic.jmu.edu/journal/8.2/rd/benini.htm>, November
- 2004 (With Taylor Owen:) “Correlates of Violence: Modeling Human Security in Post Conflict Cambodia”. Paper presented at the Fifth Pan-European International Relations Conference, The Hague, September 9-11, 2004
- 2003 “Landmines, War and Victim Dynamics. Contamination Assessment in Afghanistan”. Vietnam Veterans of America Foundation, Washington DC

- 2003 (With Andrew Ross:)  
“Humanitarian Information Center for Iraq: Results of the Rapid Assessment Process (RAP)”, Report for the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, Amman, October
- 2002 (With several others:)  
“Decision Support for Humanitarian Mine Action”, Vietnam Veterans of America Foundation, Washington DC, November
- 2001 Chapter 2 “Assessing the impact of mine contamination”, in: UNDP/ Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining, “A Study of Socio-Economic Approaches to Mine Action”, Geneva, March 2001
- 1999 “Bright Pattern on Dark Cloth. RDRS' Self-Evaluation”, RDRS Bangladesh, Dhaka and Washington DC
- 1997 (With Janet Benini:)  
“Federations: A Shelter for the Poor?” A report for RDRS Bangladesh, December
- 1996 (As relief economist of the review team:)  
“OLS - Operation Lifeline Sudan - A Review”, United Nations, Department of Humanitarian Affairs, Geneva
- 1994 “Disseminating the International Humanitarian Law to the Armed Forces in South Africa”, Chapter 1 in: “Public International Law and the SA Defence Act”, Pretoria
- 1994 (With Janet Benini:)  
“The Slime Disaster: A South Africa Experience”, United Nations Department of Humanitarian Affairs: DHA News, May/August

## KEYWORDS

Ph.D. sociology Training Research Survey design Computer simulation Monitoring, evaluation Word, Excel, STATA (advanced), Access, SPSS, ArcView (basic) Community development Humanitarian action Humanitarian information management Refugees Armed conflict Landmines Red Cross Decision support systems Public speech Conceptual and analytical ability Self-managing Will travel Fluent in English, German, and French Over twenty years' experience in Europe, Asia, Africa, USA Cultural diversity