



RedR UK

250a Kennington Lane, SE11 5RD

www.redr.org.uk

Training in International Relief Notes from a discussion with Claire Privett (Marketing Officer) and Megan Price (Learning & Development Manager)

Jeff Riley, The Careers Group, University of London. May 5th 2009

RedR – is the leading training and recruitment charity working in the area of international disaster relief. They provide training, consultancy and support to relief organisations and their staff in the UK and around the world, improving emergency response and assisting people affected by natural disaster and conflict. They recruit experienced relief workers following major global emergencies and advise potential new relief workers, ensuring skilled professionals are always available to respond.

- **Internships** – like many NGOs RedR run an internship programme that run for six months on an expenses only basis. Interns can design their programme around other commitments such as study. They work on areas of RedR's work such as learning and development, international programmes and RedR's contribution to the sector 'cluster'. Many interns use their experience to move into work on relief and development programmes rather than in training as such but nevertheless find the time as an intern valuable for building up their knowledge, sector experience and contacts.
- **Emergency relief and entry levels** – for a number of reasons it has become more difficult for people to enter the sector, namely: the existence of more in-country skills, the increased numbers of applicants finishing courses and wanting to work in the sector and the increased concerns from organisations around safety and security and a reluctance to deploy inexperienced staff. In emergency relief there is an additional premium on technical skills – consequently people with a specific skill such as engineering, sanitation, logistics, IT are at an advantage. However, even those with technical skills would benefit from having some international experience through organisations such as MSF, Engineers without borders and VSO
- **Courses** RedR UK provide an extensive range of courses aimed at both those exploring the sector and experienced professionals.

Entry level courses include 'So You Think You Want To Be A Relief Worker?' a one day course from £70 and 'Essentials of Humanitarian Practice', a five day course from £375. RedR also run credit rated courses that contribute towards a post graduate degree.

- **Talks** – RedR have linked up with Architecture Sans Frontieres to run a series of talks covering topics such as post-traumatic urbanism, Gaza reconstruction and Cities and War
[www.redr.org.uk/en/What We Do/UK training/asf-and-redr-talk-series.cfm](http://www.redr.org.uk/en/What_We_Do/UK_training/asf-and-redr-talk-series.cfm)
- **Events** - you can also see RedR at [Forum 3](#) on September 10th-11th 2009 where they will be exhibiting and running seminars that highlight the practical training on offer