

## Voluntarism, Disaster Relief and Israeli International Humanitarian Aid:

### Mapping the Field from an Israeli-Jewish Perspective

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## Topics

- Tikkun Olam – A core value of the Jewish culture
- An introduction note to International Aid Strategies
- A four phase model for mapping and understanding the field of Israeli International Aid (IIA)
- Mapping the Israeli International Humanitarian and Aid Arena
- Highlighting interventional, organizational, social, cultural and policy issues
- A case study “Eyes to Gori” – Humanitarian relief operation for the victims of the war in Georgia

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## World Map



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## International Aid Strategies

### The Interconnections Between:

- Volunteering
- Relief
- Development
- Capacity Building (Human Resource Development)
- And: The Jewish world and Israel – Tikkun Olam Values

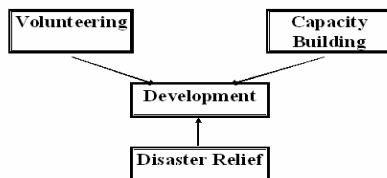
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## International Development

### International Development

#### The Interconnections and Dynamics of Development



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### A four phase model for mapping and understanding the field of Israeli International Aid (IIA)

- (a) *The Formative Period* - International development as a socio – economical and political strategy: early 50 – early 70:
- (b) *Abie Nathan's Humanitarian Epos – from Biafra and Guatemala to Zaire and Rwanda*: 1966 – mid 90.
- (c) *The Emerging Civil Society Period*: the late 90 and the early years of the 3rd millennium.  
  
The fourth phase which is developing gradually since the early 2000 could be defined as the
- (d) *Jewish – Israeli People Hood Phase* – bringing together Israeli spirit of voluntarism with Jewish - Cultural "Tikkun Olam" values.

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## Mapping the Israeli International Humanitarian and Aid Arena

- (a) Disaster Relief Organizations:
  - (a.1.) PTSD Intervention Institutions and Organizations
- (b) International Development Organizations
  - (b.1.) Exporting Israeli social expertise organizations.
- (c) Capacity Building institutes and Organizations
- (d) Volunteer mobilization organizations and programs.
- (e) General support organizations and coordinating bodies
- (f) Jewish National and International Organizations
- (g) Organizations Focusing on African Refugees in Israel

## Highlighting interventional, organizational, social, cultural and policy issues

- (a) *Understanding the intersections* between international development strategies, disaster relief operations, international voluntarism and capacity building programs.
- (b) *Inter and intra sectorial dimensions* of International Israeli Aid (the Israeli ministry of foreign Affairs, the Israeli civil society and the Israeli business sector – especially Israeli export).
- (c). *Advantages and drawbacks of coalition and partnership intervention strategies among Israeli civil society associations* – collaboration during relief operations and development programs , and
- (d) *Israeli distinctive potential in advancing cross cultural transfer of knowledge and best practices.*

## Nathan - I Relief – The Israeli Coalition for Disaster Relief A case study “Eyes to Gori” – Humanitarian relief operation for the victims of the war in Georgia

### Partners in the “Eyes to Gori” operation :

- Brit Olam - The International Israeli-Jewish Volunteer Movement
- The National Council for Volunteering in Israel
- The International Histadrut Center, Beit Berl, the General Federation of Laborers in Israel
- The Humanitarian Foundation of the Kibbutzim Movement
- Magen David Adom – the coordination unit for the international Red Cross
- Sapir College, the School for Social Work
- Tel Hai College
- Matan – your way to give
- Topaz – Leading Social Innovations
- The Georgian Embassy in Israel
- Affiliates: The Residence of the Israeli President, the Israeli Foreign Office, JDC Russia, the Israeli Embassy in Georgia, the Georgian Red Cross, WFP

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The volunteers provided humanitarian relief through four main areas of operation:

- Implementation of a wide variety of programs in the field of psycho-trauma for the refugees who reside in the camp, as well as in the Gori area in schools and in educational, health and social welfare institutions, while providing training to local therapists whose communities have been affected by the war.
- Implementation of programs for refugee children and youth in an improvised youth center set up by the volunteers in cooperation with local agents.
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- Granting of medical assistance through international medical units operating in the field, including the recruitment of equipment and resources for a women and children's hospital in the Gori area.
- Granting of humanitarian aid and basic means for survival through a special relationship built with the central market in Gori, the Jewish Agency's delegates to Georgia, and others

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