

## **ABBY STODDARD**

International humanitarian policy analyst  
Partner, Humanitarian Outcomes

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### **Summary**

- Over 20 years of experience in applied research and policy analysis in humanitarian affairs, including leading research teams for major multi-stakeholder evaluations and studies
- Specialization in humanitarian access, financing, coordination, and security risk management
- Creator of the Aid Worker Security Database, the Global Database of Humanitarian Organisations, and other unique data assets supporting the humanitarian sector
- Ten years of practical experience directing programs and managing operations in humanitarian NGOs (CARE USA and Médecins du Monde USA)
- Author of *Necessary Risks: Professional Humanitarianism and Violence Against Aid Workers* (Palgrave Macmillan, 2020), *Humanitarian Alert: NGO Information and its Impact on US Foreign Policy* (Kumarian Press, 2006) and numerous published studies, articles, and book chapters on humanitarian action

### **Education**

Ph.D. in Politics (International Relations) NEW YORK UNIVERSITY	2005
Master of International Affairs School of International and Public Affairs COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY	1990
Bachelor of Arts, Political Science BARNARD COLLEGE, COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY	1988

### **Professional Experience – Applied Research and Policy Consulting**

**HUMANITARIAN OUTCOMES** **2007-Present**  
**Partner/Director**

Co-founder of Humanitarian Outcomes, a research consultancy that provides analysis and policy advice to inform and improve humanitarian action. Undertake independent and commissioned studies for United Nations agencies, governments, and nongovernmental organizations. Conceived and designed the Aid Worker Security Database (AWSD); the Global Database of Humanitarian Organisations (GDHO); Survey of Coverage,

Operational Reach, and Effectiveness (SCORE); and other data streams providing empirical evidence to underpin analysis within the humanitarian sector. Developed Humanitarian Outcomes research methodology system and tools.

**Consultancies, commissioned research and evaluations have included:**

- **US Agency for International Development (USAID)**
  - Team lead, Research Programme on Humanitarian Coverage, Operational Reach and Effectiveness (CORE) (2018-present)
  - Team lead, study on Humanitarian Financing Efficiency (2018)
  - Study on Supporting Security for Humanitarian Action for Montreux International Donors Conference (2010)
  - Review and Comparative Assessment of International Humanitarian Financing Mechanisms for the Good Humanitarian Donorship Initiative (2008)
  
- **UK Government (FCDO/DFID)**
  - Team member and lead on methodology, UKHIIH Humanitarian Rapid Research Initiative (2022-2024)
  - Team member, QA and methodology design: UK Humanitarian Diplomacy: Options for Maximising the Effectiveness of UK Political Engagement to support Humanitarian Access and the Protection of Civilians in Somalia (2022)
  - Research Coordinator: Study on Secure Access in Volatile Environments (SAVE), leading research on quantifying humanitarian access and coverage (2013-2016)
  - Team member, Study on Strengthening the Monitoring and Evaluation Framework for the Humanitarian Action plan in DR Congo (2010/11)
  - Team member: Financial analysis for External Review for DFID Evaluation Approach Paper on Humanitarian Policy (2009)
  - Team lead, Monitoring and Evaluation of Common Funds for Humanitarian Action in Sudan and the Democratic Republic of Congo (2006)
  
- **International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC)**
  - Team lead, Review of the Safer Access Framework and its operational impact on National Red Cross/Crescent Societies' access, acceptance, and security (Phase 1: March-June 2020, Phase 2: June-November 2021)
  - Team lead, technical consultancy for ICRC's Diversity and Inclusion in Security Risk Management project (December-April 2021)
  
- **UNICEF**
  - Team member, Formative Evaluation of the Implementation of UNICEF's Procedure on Linking Humanitarian Action and Development Programming (December 2020-February 2021)
  - Team lead, UNICEF's Engagement with Peacekeeping and Peace Support Operations: Assessment study and drafting of organizational policy and operational guidance (2006/07)
  - Co-lead: Coordination in Humanitarian Response: Lessons Learned for UNICEF's Role (2005/06)
  - Review of UNICEF's Evaluation Function in Humanitarian Response (2005)
  - Assessment of UNICEF's Contribution to UN Reform and its Impact on UNICEF in the Humanitarian Sector (2004)[Enter your work phone number here]

- **Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs:**
  - Team lead, Project on tracking delivery of the commitments made at the Oslo Conference on Ending Sexual and Gender-Based Violence in Humanitarian Crises (January 2020-December 2022)
  - Team member, Feasibility Study on a Thematic CAP for National Disaster Preparedness (2009)
  
- **World Bank**
  - External consultant for study on tracking humanitarian funding through and outside government structures in Sub-Saharan Africa (2017)
  
- **ALNAP, Overseas Development Institute**
  - Team lead, Organisational mapping and descriptive statistics on the humanitarian sector for the State of the Humanitarian System study (2022 and 2018)
  - Team lead, State of the Humanitarian System study (2015)
  - Team member, State of the Humanitarian System study (2010 and 2012)
  
- **UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA):**
  - Study on Activity-Based Costing for Humanitarian Appeals (2014)
  - Team member, Independent Review of Program Criticality (2014)
  - Team lead, Evaluation of OCHA’s Role and Activities in Preparedness (2012)
  - Scoping study on the Prospects for Implementing a Programme-Based Approach in the Common Appeal Process and the Common Humanitarian Funds (2011)
  - Team member, “To Stay and Deliver” study on operating in complex security environments (2010/11)
  - Team lead, Evaluation of the Cluster Approach to humanitarian coordination (2007)
  - Team member, External Review of the Inter-Agency Standing Committee on Humanitarian Affairs (2003)
  
- **Consortium of British Humanitarian Agencies (CBHA) – Desk Review of CBHA’s Emergency Response Fund’s performance and prospects for expansion (2011)**
  
- **Australian Government (AUSAID)**
  - Team member, Scoping study to determine priorities for Australian humanitarian assistance to Africa (2011)
  - Team member, Study on the use of remote management for humanitarian operations in insecure areas (2010)
  
- **Humanitarian Practice Network, Overseas Development Institute:** Co-edited revised edition of the *Good Practice Review 8: Operational Security Management in Violent Environments* (ODI: 2010) and co-managed revision research process
  
- **UNESCO:** Study on Emergency Education Programming in Conflicts (2010)
  
- **UN Development Programme:** Background paper for UNDP’s Human Development Report 2005 on security, humanitarian action and post-conflict recovery (2004)

## **CENTER ON INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION, NYU**

**Non-resident Fellow, Humanitarian Action**

**2007-2019**

**Research Associate**

**2000-2007**

As Senior Program Advisor for Humanitarian Action, consulted on CIC projects pertaining to international humanitarian assistance, including practical and institutional aspects of operations and policy, evaluation methodologies, and the nexus of aid and peace operations. As a resident Research Associate from 2000 to 2007, coordinated CIC's research program on international humanitarian action and post-conflict transitional assistance. Designed and led research projects in collaboration with policy-makers, scholars, practitioners, and other research institutions in the United States and abroad. Responsibilities included: conceptualization and design of research plans, recruiting, managing, and overseeing the work of research consultants in the field; producing reports, policy papers, articles, and other material for publication; performing statistical analysis; synthesize research findings; and develop concrete policy recommendations.

## **Other Professional Experience – International Humanitarian Aid**

**DOCTORS OF THE WORLD (Médecins du Monde–USA)**

**1993 - 1999**

### **Program Director (1996-1999)**

Directed the design, implementation, evaluation, and daily management of all Doctors of the World's humanitarian and development operations, international and domestic. Supervised the headquarters Program Department staff and senior expatriate staff in the field. Developed and implemented a multi-year strategic planning process, and formulated regional and functional strategies for programming. Critically reviewed and approved new project concepts and proposals. Negotiated grants and cooperative agreements with the United States Government, other governments, United Nations agencies, and donor institutions. Traveled overseas regularly to monitor and evaluate projects. Oversaw budgeting and financial management of programs based on planning objectives. Assisted in formulating annual budgets and plans for the organization. Assisted in the development of organization-wide policies, management systems, and procedures. Created Doctors of the World's Needs Assessment and Project Design Guidelines. Consulted with legal representatives and maintained financial authority as an officer of the organization.

### **International Program Manager (1993 – 1996)**

Developed and managed Doctors of the World's international assistance projects. Over the course of two years, enlarged the overseas project portfolio from two initial projects to nine long-term projects in six countries. Performed on-site needs assessments, designed projects, and wrote grant proposals. Secured project funding from donors, including grant agreements totaling over \$2 million from the Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance (OFDA), in the organization's first acquisition of public funding. Recruited, deployed, and supervised expatriate field staff. Traveled overseas to provide supervision and monitoring of projects. Coordinated logistics for material humanitarian aid shipments. Wrote reports and publicity materials. Assisted in the development of organizational policies, management systems and procedures.

**CARE – USA**

**1991-1993**

### **Desk Officer for Russia and the Newly Independent States (1992-1993)**

Provided management oversight, logistics coordination and administrative support for all of CARE's relief and development operations in Russia and the NIS, encompassing a staff of 200 in twelve cities throughout the former Soviet Union. Represented CARE's program to the U.S. Government and counterpart organizations. Framed recommendations for the formulation of organizational strategy on CARE's role in the former Soviet Union. Assisted in the development

of proposals for funding and new program activities. Performed additional role of Acting Emergency Information Officer during the summer of 1992, monitoring and reporting weekly on events in countries with CARE missions that were undergoing natural disasters or complex emergencies.

### **Administrative Manager, Moscow Regional Headquarters (Spring 1992)**

Three-month overseas assignment as part of the six-member CARE team initiating humanitarian assistance programs in Russia and eight other republics of the former Soviet Union. Assisted in the opening and start-up operations of the first CARE mission in the region. Established and managed the administrative and personnel systems for the Moscow headquarters and regional sub-offices of CARE CIS. Recruited, trained, and supervised Russian national staff. Oversaw administrative and logistical support to field teams and sub-offices. Participated in the field-testing of a nutritional needs assessment survey for elderly populations in urban areas.

### **Special Assistant to Senior Vice President, Program Division (1991-1992)**

Assisted Senior Vice-President in the daily operations related to the direction of CARE's overseas relief and development operations in over 40 developing countries. Wrote executive reports, issue papers, and speeches. Drafted policy statements on organizational and political matters. Functioned as coordinator for communications and collaborative efforts between CARE USA and the nine other CARE organizations in Europe and Asia.

## **Publications**

### **Books:**

*Necessary Risks: Professional Humanitarianism and Violence Against Aid Workers*, Palgrave Macmillan, 2020.

*Humanitarian Alert: NGO Information and its Impact on US Foreign Policy*, Kumarian Press, 2006.

### **Book chapters (partial):**

- “Collateral damage: Internationalized counterinsurgency and its toll on humanitarian action,” Caroline Abu-Sada, Ed., *In the Eyes of Others*, Medecins Sans Frontieres, 2011
- “International Humanitarian Cooperation: Aiding war's victims in a shifting strategic environment,” Bruce Jones, Ed., *Cooperating for Peace and Security*, Cambridge University Press, 2009.
- “International Assistance,” in *The State of Nonprofit America*, Lester M. Salamon, Ed., Brookings Institution Press, Washington, D.C., forthcoming 2012 (second edition) and 2002 (first edition).
- “Donor-driven Disparity: IDPs, Refugees, and the Politics of Aiding the Displaced,” in *The International Politics of Forced Migration: Conceptual, Legal and Operational Dilemmas* Nitzza Nachmias and Rami Goldstein, Eds., PublishAmerica, 2004.

### **Articles (partial):**

- “Mosul” Lives Saved, Credibility Lost?” *The New Humanitarian*, 21 March 2018  
[www.thenewhumanitarian.org/opinion/2018/03/21/mosul-lives-saved-credibility-lost](http://www.thenewhumanitarian.org/opinion/2018/03/21/mosul-lives-saved-credibility-lost)
- The New Humanitarian, 18 March 2018, “Out of Reach: How Insecurity Prevents Humanitarian Aid from Accessing the Neediest” (lead author) *Stability: International Journal of Security and Development*. 6(1), p.1. DOI: <http://doi.org/10.5334/sta.506>
- “Red Cross killings in Afghanistan reveal the limits of aid access” IRIN, February 13, 2017  
[www.irinnews.org/opinion/2017/02/13/red-cross-killings-afghanistan-reveal-limits-aid-access](http://www.irinnews.org/opinion/2017/02/13/red-cross-killings-afghanistan-reveal-limits-aid-access)

- “The View from the Foxhole: How Risk and the Fragmented Perspective of Agencies Limits the Reach of Humanitarian Aid” ATHA/Harvard Humanitarian Initiative December 20, 2016, <http://www.atha.se/blog>
- “Data are not Dangerous: A response to recent MSF CRASH critiques” with Adele Harmer and Katherine Haver, Humanitarian Practice Network blog, May 11, 2016 <http://odihpn.org/blog>
- “A Practical Response to MSF’s Report Where is Everyone?” *The Guardian* [www.theguardian.com](http://www.theguardian.com), July 23, 2014.
- “Why Aid Workers Are Targets” *The Globalist*, May 14, 2013, [www.theglobalist.com](http://www.theglobalist.com).
- With Adele Harmer and Victoria DiDomenico, “Aiding education in conflict - The role of international education providers operating in Afghanistan and Pakistan,” UNESCO *Education for All Global Monitoring Report 2011*, UNESCO, 2011.
- With Adele Harmer, “Little Room to Maneuver: The Challenges to Humanitarian Action in the New Global Security Environment” *Journal of Human Development: Alternative Economics in Action*, Volume 7 Number 1 March 2006.
- “Too Good to be True? US Engagement in the GHD Initiative” *Humanitarian Exchange*, No. 29, March 2005.
- “You Say You Want a Devolution: Prospects for Remodeling Humanitarian Assistance” *Journal of Humanitarian Assistance*, [www.jha.ac/articles/a154.pdf](http://www.jha.ac/articles/a154.pdf), November 2004.
- “With Us or Against Us? NGO Neutrality on the Line” *Humanitarian Exchange*, No. 25, November/December 2003.
- “Ethnonationalism and the Failed State: Sources of Civil State Fragmentation in the International Political Economy” *e-merge: A Graduate Journal of International Affairs*, Vol. 3, January 2000.

Published reports and studies available at [www.humanitarianoutcomes.org/publications](http://www.humanitarianoutcomes.org/publications)

## Special Training, Research, And Awards

### InterAction/OFDA Training Course: Health in Complex Humanitarian Emergencies

Certified for successful completion of intensive course covering emergency epidemiology, environmental health, reproductive health, communicable diseases, mental health, management, training, and other topics pertaining to health interventions in complex emergency settings. May/June 1997.

### Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance: Disaster Assessment Training Course

Certified for successful completion of this course in needs assessment techniques and relief intervention planning in the fields of health, shelter, nutrition, water/sanitation, and logistics for natural disasters and complex humanitarian emergencies. March 1996.

## Board Memberships and Professional Associations

### Doctors of the World (Médecins du Monde–USA)

Board of Directors, Executive Committee

December 2011 – 2017

### Humanitarian Accountability Partnership (HAP)

Member of the HAP Certification and Accreditation Board

January 2012 - 2014

## Languages

English: native speaker, Russian: Intermediate (B1), French: Advanced basic (A2)