

Jeff Eames Bio

Jeff has alternated from being a professional contracting engineer to an active humanitarian aid worker and has just celebrated 52 years of international work. After several years in the British Army, mainly on active service in Africa and the Middle East he has traveled and worked in nearly every country in the world beginning in the early 60's with a 3 year stint in East Africa running food for work projects. In 1987 to 1990 he was in Cambodia working for Oxfam on a ferry refurbishment project, the water treatment plant in Phnom Penh, a college rebuilding programme and re-commissioning several factories. Being one of the few engineers in country he also acted as advisor to several agencies on technical aspects. Additionally as one of the few people with any security background was able to advise the "in country" teams on security issues and anti personnel mines. It was at this time he met his Canadian wife who has now brought him back "home" to Ontario.

In 1995 he went to Afghanistan as Oxfam programme manager in Kabul and later as a water consultant for the UN. He was in overall charge of a major water equipment installation project in Kabul during which time the Taliban took the city. Being responsible for team security he had a steep learning curve in a very hostile environment. Working with a consortium of agencies a basic format for security was developed similar to what is now considered to be a sound basis of NGO security policy and procedures. During this time he was also head of a multi agency water consultancy group which acted as advisors to the then Afghan government. He was responsible for investigating the water resources in other major towns in country and supporting UN projects throughout Afghanistan. Jeff witnessed the changes brought about by the Taliban.

On his return to the UK he worked as a technical and procurement advisor to CARE UK developing and setting up purchase and shipping links for emergency response kits. At this time was more formally involved in the development of security guidelines and training for the NGO community.

He was also one of the members of the advisory panel for SPHERE standards.

Following this he was in the RedR London office as recruitment and placement manager.

Jeff is an experienced and accredited trainer and for 3 years set up and led the RedR Canada Training Team. He is also an independent consultant to Humanitarian Agencies. As such he was deployed to Banda Ache in Indonesia in early January 2005 to carry out an assessment after the Tsunami and has completed many more deployments in Sri Lanka, Africa and Haiti and has recently returned from Darfur, Sudan.

He now heads up TARA International, a not for profit association of NGO trainers, is president of the London Branch Council of the Canadian Red Cross, is a member of the Board of Directors of the Aeolian Hall and the London Multicultural Community Association.

Jeff is trained in child psychology and was a registered counselor.

Jeff is the recipient of the Queen Elizabeth II Jubilee Medal for his volunteer work and the General Service Medal for his active military service in the Middle East and Africa.

Jeff currently leads a security networking group for Ontario Council for International Cooperation (OCIC).

On the commercial side of his career he was an engineering consultant to the

*Ministry of Defense UK, working in key the areas of Whitehall, Sandhurst, and Horse Guards.

*Senior Engineer Doha, Qatar, Water Treatment.

*Senior Engineer and Management Team member of Whitbread Breweries,

*Chief Engineer, Hilton International London England.

Some of the agencies Jeff has trained and consulted for include, CIDA, OCIC, Aga Khan Foundation, YMCA, Save the Children, Canadian Military "DART" Team, American Red Cross, Right to Play, World Relief, World Vision, Americares, CARE, Impacts, US Dept. of State, Human Rights First, Columbia University, Johns Hopkins, George Washington University, Simon Fraser University etc. etc.