

Communities|Protecting|Communities

How STAND's Community Partners can STANDFast for Darfur & Burma



Genocide
Intervention Network

The Genocide Intervention Network's (GI-NET) Civilian Protection Program, the only one of its kind in Darfur and Burma, works to protect civilians in cases of genocide and mass atrocity. In Darfur, the Government of Sudan recently renewed its attacks on villages, displacing thousands more civilians in 2008 alone. Women and girls in internally displaced person's camps are forced to wander in search of firewood for cooking, exposing them to rape and attack from militias. In Burma, the military regime has launched counter-insurgency campaigns that have led to widespread mass atrocities against civilians of ethnic minorities, with more than 650,00 displaced. Current humanitarian aid projects and peacekeeping efforts in Darfur and Burma have been unable to protect civilians.

GI-NET's Civilian Protection Program addresses the need of ensuring safety for civilians through funding firewood patrols to improve the security of displaced women in Darfur, and in Burma, through working to build a civilian radio network that will enable villages to send and receive warnings of attacks, giving civilians the means to protect themselves and evade their attackers.

On December 3rd, students around the world will invite their peers, families, and communities to join them in STANDFast by fasting from one luxury item for one day and donating to the Civilian Protection Program. Less than three dollars— less than the cost of a latte— can provide the protection to allow a woman to safely collect firewood for one week in Darfur. Less than five dollars can provide five minutes of satellite phone coverage to communicate urgent warnings of an impending attack in Burma.

And they welcome support of their communities to protect as many civilians as possible.

How can you get involved?

Join GI-NET and STAND

1. Support

by emailing your community's STAND Regional Outreach Coordinator (<http://standnow.org/about/team/outreach>) to find out about STANDFast events in your area. This is a great opportunity to build a relationship with your local STAND chapters!

2. Plan

a STANDFast fundraising event in your community. You can have a film screening, a benefit dinner, a bar night, a fundraising walk, a matching program, or a community competition. For more ideas e-mail the Regional Outreach Coordinator.

3. Participate

by fasting yourself and asking others to join you. When every dollar can save a life, every dollar counts.

*\$3 allows a woman in Darfur to safely collect firewood for a week
\$5 enables urgent warnings of an attack to reach villages in Eastern Burma*

For more information on STANDFast, visit, www.standnow.org. For more information on GI-NET's Civilian Protection Program, visit <http://www.genocideintervention.net/protection>. For more information on how to get involved, e-mail your Regional Outreach Coordinator or info@standnow.org.