**ECOSOC Humanitarian Affairs Segment**

**24-26 June 2014, New York**

**Trends in humanitarian financing: do resources meet the needs?**

***Concept:***

Financial resources for humanitarian response are increasingly stretched. In order to know how to use resources more effectively, to fill the gaps and meet the needs of affected people, we need better data on what the needs are and the scale and nature of the funding flows.

Using trends-based reporting, the session aims to stimulate discussion on the extent that current humanitarian resources are meeting the needs of affected people and identify ways that resources can be better channelled to where and how they are needed through greater aid effectiveness and coordination.

This discussion will be informed by evidence and data on humanitarian financing and needs presented by panellists. The Global Humanitarian Assistance (GHA) Programme of Development Initiatives will present an exclusive preview of the key findings from their 2014 report, providing an up-to-date and comprehensive picture of global humanitarian financing. OCHA will present data and initiatives that reflect needs, mostly based on material from World Humanitarian Data and Trends 2013.

The impact of these global financing trends on specific humanitarian responses will be explored by an operational humanitarian agency, who will assess how response agencies are affected by humanitarian funding modalities gaps, the impact this has on meeting needs and innovative solutions to overcome these.

***Expected outcomes:***

* The session will identify options for ensuring that humanitarian financing can be better channelled to where and how it is needed in the future
* The session will serve to show how a common baseline, created by evidence-based trend reporting, can be used to facilitate discussion – and how better data is needed to truly understand resource gaps and needs.
* The session will inform future discussions and recommendations on humanitarian aid effectiveness and coordination.
* The session will help generate awareness of data-based reports, namely, the Global Humanitarian Assistance and World Humanitarian Data and Trends.

***Format:***

The hour-long event will feature three panelists and one chair/moderator. The chair/moderator will set the scene and introduce the topic of humanitarian financing in response to need. Each panelist will then do a presentation, touching on a different aspect of humanitarian financing. The GHA Programme will open the session, presenting a detailed overview of humanitarian financing. OCHA will follow this, assessing the extent that humanitarian financing is meeting the requirements globally. Support to Life, representing an operational humanitarian actor, will then explore what these discussions mean at the delivery level. At the completion of the presentations, the chair/moderator will open the floor for an interactive discussion between the panelists and the audience.

***Chair:*** H.E. Ms. Lana Nusseibeh, Permanent Representative of the United Arab Emirates to the United Nations

***Panelists:***

* Sophia Swithern, Programme Leader, [Global Humanitarian Programme](http://www.globalhumanitarianassistance.org/) of [Development Initiatives](http://devinit.org/)
* Hansjoerg Strohmeyer, Chief, Policy Development and Studies Branch (OCHA)
* Sema Genel, Director, Support to Life (Turkey)

***Date and location:*** Tuesday 24 June, 3pm, Conference Room C