



CONCEPT NOTE

Global Humanitarian Overview 2020, Brussels Launch

4 December 2019, 10:00 – 12:00, Centre Albert Borschette (room 0D), Rue Froissart 36, Brussels

1. Background

On 4 December 2019, the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) and the European Commission (Directorate-General for European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations, DG ECHO) will co-host one of five simultaneous launches to present the Global Humanitarian Overview (GHO) 2020 in Brussels.

The GHO is the world's most comprehensive, authoritative and evidence-based overview of the current state and future trends in humanitarian action and is published by OCHA. It is the result of an important worldwide consultative process that collects and analyses data related to the identification of the affected persons (who and where are they); their needs (what do they need); and the general context affecting the crisis (root causes, resilience, access, etc.) that feed into planning, programming and monitoring mechanisms.

This event will take place as part of a global strategy to:

- Engage decision-makers and humanitarian actors in highlighting the key themes covered in the 2020 GHO;
- Amplify the voices of affected people;
- Encourage partners to contribute generously to humanitarian operations.

2. Global Humanitarian Overview Launch Event

The Brussels launch of the GHO 2020 will be chaired by Ms. Monique Pariat, Director-General of the European Commission's Directorate-General for European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (DG ECHO).

The event will begin with opening remarks by Mr. Janez Lenarčič, European Commissioner for Crisis Management (recorded message) and Mr. António Vitorino, Director General of IOM, followed by a recorded message of the UN Secretary-General and a short film on the efforts of the International Community to respond to crises over the last year.

Next, Ms. Reena Ghelani, OCHA Director of Operations and Advocacy Division, will present the latest trends, analysis, challenges and opportunities in humanitarian action as well as an overview of the coordinated plans for humanitarian response in 2020.

This will be followed by a lively and engaging discussion on *Meeting people's needs, enhancing accountability*, moderated by Ms. Monique Pariat, Director-General of DG ECHO, which will include interventions from the floor and a Q&A session.

Mr. Tomas Tobé, the Chair of the European Parliament Committee on Development (DEVE), will provide conclusions from the European Parliament's perspective.

Mr. David Beasley, the Executive Director of WFP (TBC) will deliver the official concluding remarks on the GHO 2020 launch and inform of coming pledging conferences.

3. Key elements of the discussion

The theme of the discussion, *Meeting people's needs, enhancing accountability*, encompasses two main subjects of the GHO 2020: the enhanced Humanitarian Program Cycle, and Accountability to Affected Population. The discussion will be structured along three pillars.

To what extent can we rely on the data in the GHO and the individual appeals?

Data collection is complex and challenging: which approach we should use to obtain a clear picture of the needs; the difficulties to reach the affected populations; coordination and cooperation with the country authorities; the large variety of actors (humanitarians, local representatives, authorities, etc.) and how we ensure their participation. Data sharing is also challenging vis-à-vis protection of the affected populations. The discussion will look for answers in a multilateral, coordinated and prioritized approach to allow for reliable information to be provided to donors and agencies via the GHO. Mr. Vitorino, IOM DG, will present on challenges of data collection and Ms. Reena Ghelani, Director Operations & Advocacy Division, OCHA, will present the enhanced Humanitarian Programme Cycle and its people-centered approach.

Participation and perceptions of affected populations:

How can we identify and measure the impact of our aid actions, justifying our interventions towards the affected populations, especially in difficult contexts, in complex humanitarian emergencies, where access is often difficult? How do we ensure the participation of and our accountability to the affected populations? Field experience will be shared by Mr. Dominic Crowley, President of VOICE and Mr. Aydrus Daar, Executive Director of WASDA (Kenya).

And the role of the donors?

Without funding, effective humanitarian action is not possible. How and on what basis do donors allocate their funding to maximize their capacity to reach as many beneficiaries as possible? What tools do they use in their planning process to ensure people-centered response, and where does the Humanitarian Programme Cycle feed into this? Mr. Claus Lindroos, Chair of COHAFA will share their perspectives of people-centered funding allocations.

4. Panel composition and participation

Moderator:

Ms. Monique Pariat; Director General, DG ECHO – European Commission

Panelists:

Mr. Antonio Vitorino, Director General, IOM

Ms. Reena Ghelani, Director of Operations and Advocacy Division, OCHA

Mr. Claus Lindroos, Chair, COHAFA and Director for Humanitarian Assistance and Policy, MoFA of Finland

Mr Dominic Crowley, VOICE President (Concern Worldwide)

Mr. Aydrus Daar, Executive Director of WASDA (Kenya)

Conclusions and Closing remarks

Mr. Tomas Tobé, Chair of the European Parliament Committee on Development (DEVE)

Mr. David Beasley, Executive Director of WFP

Government officials, Parliamentarians, humanitarian and aid agencies, diplomatic representatives, civil society, academia and media will be invited to the event and have the opportunity to engage with the panel speakers on the topic.

Join the conversation online! Follow #InvestinHumanity for all the latest updates on the 2020 GHO!

For more information, please visit: <https://www.unocha.org/global-humanitarian-overview-2020>