



Title of Side Event: Shocks to the system: Humanitarian financing, quality funding, and transparency in the face of rising needs

Sponsors and Organizers: Development Initiatives (DI) and UN OCHA

Date and Time:

23 June, 8:30-10:00 EST

This is one of the virtual side events to be convened on the margins of the 2022 ECOSOC Humanitarian Affairs Segment (HAS), which builds on this year's HAS theme: *“Strengthening humanitarian assistance: good practices and mobilizing action in the application of international humanitarian law, the recovery from the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic and in response to the climate crisis.”*

Background and objectives of event:

Humanitarian needs and the financial resources to meet them have once again reached a record high – more than \$46 million is currently required to assist more than 200 million of the 300 million people in need. While still experiencing the impacts of the pandemic, the humanitarian system is attempting to sustain delivery in the face of sudden and pressing new needs. For example, the sudden manifestation of the crisis in Ukraine has implications for multiple other crises, including food shortages in regions of Africa that are already experiencing drought. This, along with other complex crises, such as the ones currently being experienced in Afghanistan, Yemen, creates pressure on a system that is not only recovering from the pandemic but also responding to increased numbers of people in need from conflict and natural and other disasters.

Discussion points or guiding questions:

The gap between resources and needs has been increasing for several years, but how does the system respond when it is faced with sudden and significant new needs and crises that are having a global impact? What are the implications for sustaining delivery and maintaining important and unfinished reform processes around localization and quality funding? What key changes do we want to see before we reconvene in one year?



This event will present an update of the Global Humanitarian Overview (GHO), including the number of people in need across the 69 countries covered by UN-coordinated plans and funding gaps as of mid-2022. Development Initiatives will present a preview of their 2022 Global Humanitarian Assistance (GHA) report, a data-driven retrospective on collective humanitarian response. The presentation will include key trends in global humanitarian assistance, including how funding is being channeled in ways which allow effective, flexible response to crises.

The event will then explore the challenges and opportunities going forward. Donors and humanitarian agencies will share their experiences and perspectives on 1) defining priorities, 2) compounded crises, and 3) the ability to mobilise sufficient levels of resources given the current international and national constraints.

Key concrete action points and recommendations/take away messages:

This event will:

- Provide a retrospective of humanitarian funding trends, as well as an update of the current funding status of coordinated inter-agency plans to raise awareness of continually high humanitarian needs, funding gaps and urgent priorities.
- Examine existing opportunities in the humanitarian funding landscape for adaptation and collective advocacy for humanitarian plans, pooled funding mechanisms, and best practices to fund humanitarian crises; and promote system improvements and better coordination for funding to meet and reduce humanitarian needs.
- Reflect on the need for a strategic and coordinated approach to advocate for more quality funding, including cascading to local partners, speed and flexibility. In this regard, this discussion will also cover some of the key points related to humanitarian funding that are being discussed in Grand Bargain political caucuses will be presented.
- Highlight the importance of coordinating different types of financing (humanitarian and development) to address crisis needs, particularly given the risk of decreases in Overseas Development Assistance in the current context.
- Show how increased pressures on the system affect the ability to achieve long-needed reforms.

Format of the side event:

The side event is a fully virtual structured webinar on Zoom.

Moderator and panelists:

Moderator: Christina Bennett, Chief Executive Officer, Start Network



Presentations and panel composition:

- Ms. Joyce Msuya, Assistant Secretary-General, UN OCHA
- Mr. Angus Urquhart, Crisis and Humanitarian Lead, Development Initiatives
- H.E. Ms. Ameirah Al Hefeiti, Deputy Permanent Representative, Permanent Mission of the United Arab Emirates in New York
- H.E. Mr. Ariel Rodelas Penaranda, Ambassador Deputy Permanent Representative, Permanent Mission of the Philippines in New York
- Ms. Amal Syam, Director, Women's Affair Center, occupied Palestinian territory
- Mr. Adessou Kossivi, Regional Director, Global Network of Civil Society Organisations for Disaster Reduction
- Ms. Farida Ben, Director of Humanitarian Policy and Advocacy, International Rescue Committee

Background Material:

The Global Humanitarian Overview will be posted on Reliefweb the day of the event.

The Global Humanitarian Assistance Report will be distributed the week beginning 11 July.

Connection details to join the event

Details for the event and registration instructions are here: https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_d-CnhPO1S6yxUqixia1bnw

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