



**Title: Trends in Humanitarian Funding: Where are we now and what lies ahead**

**Sponsors and Organizers: Sweden, Spain, ICRC, OCHA**

This is one of the side-events to be convened during the ECOSOC Humanitarian Affairs Segment, in keeping with this year's theme: *Restoring humanity, respecting human dignity and leaving no one behind: working together to reduce people's humanitarian need, risk and vulnerability.*

**Background and objectives**

Globally, humanitarian appeals are reaching \$30 billion this year to meet the needs of over 150 million people. The success of each individual plan in the Global Humanitarian Overview (GHO) is inextricably linked to the level of funding received towards activities planned and appealed for. In spite of the complexity and enormity of humanitarian needs and of the underlying causes, donors and humanitarian organizations must come to a joint understanding of how resource mobilization and funding allocations will best enable effective humanitarian response, and help reduce the risk of humanitarian needs and alleviate the consequences.

Flexible and multi-year funding is increasingly recognized as an important means to address a range of challenges faced by humanitarian actors. Unearmarked funding allows humanitarian agencies to prioritize their activities according to assessed needs. Multi-year planning and funding can facilitate more predictable humanitarian response. It can also help achieve a closer connection between humanitarian and development programmes.

**Discussion points**

This event will highlight the key findings of Development Initiatives' 2018 Global Humanitarian Assistance (GHA) report; a data-driven retrospective on collective humanitarian response in 2017. It will also provide an opportunity to present the Global Humanitarian Overview (GHO) Status Report. This is a real-time overview of the number of people in need across 40 countries covered by UN-coordinated plans and of funding gaps and neglected crises as they stand in mid-2018. Donors and humanitarian actors will share their perspectives on the advantages and challenges of flexible and multi-year funding for humanitarian response.

Meanwhile, given limited resources, donors are facing increasing pressure to respond to the most visible crises. There have been increasing challenges in meeting the growing needs to ensure that chronic and under-funded crises are not forgotten.

### Intended outcomes/conclusions/recommendations

The event is designed to:

- Provide an overview of humanitarian funding trends and current funding status
- Raise awareness of increasing humanitarian needs, funding gaps and least-funded appeals.
- Examine existing resource mobilization practices for humanitarian plans and pooled funding mechanisms, and promote improvements and better coordination.
- Promote flexible and multi-year funding.
- Reflect on the need for a coordinated approach on forgotten and underfunded crises.

### Format

This event will consist of two mini-sessions: 1) presentations 2) moderated panel discussion (Davos style). The event will adopt a participatory approach enabling broad exchange of good practices and diagnosis of challenges to resource mobilization.

### Draft agenda:

- Opening remarks by **Mr. Niklas Wiberg, Emergency Director, Sweden**
- Two presentations:
  - Summary of DI findings to be presented in GHA 2018 report by **Ms. Harpinder Collacott, Executive Director, Development Initiative**
  - Presentation on the GHO Status Report covering number of people in need and funding status of UN-coordinated plans at mid-year by **Ms. Ursula Mueller, Assistant Secretary-General and Deputy Emergency Relief Coordinator, UN OCHA**
- Panel discussion moderated by **Mr. Yves Daccord, Director-General, ICRC**
  - **Mr. Jorge Moragas, Permanent Representative of Spain to the UN**
  - **Ms. Kelly Clements, Deputy High Commissioner, UNHCR**
  - **Ms. Carla Haddad Mardini, Director, Public Partnerships Division, UNICEF**
- Interaction between speakers and audience/Q&A
- Summary and closing remarks by **Mr. Yves Daccord, Director-General, ICRC**

## **Social Media**

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## **Contact**

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