

# GOOD HUMANITARIAN DONORSHIP

2013 – 2014

FINLAND – MEXICO

## Annual Progress Report 2013/2014

In implementing the *work plan* endorsed on 19th November 2013, the co-chairs Finland and Mexico organized a series of formal and informal meetings in Geneva, including three plenary meetings (19th November 2013; 11st March 2014 and 21nd May 2014) and one ad hoc thematic meeting (6<sup>th</sup> May 2014) on the needs of persons with disabilities in humanitarian action. The conclusive High Level Meeting was held in New York (June 26, 2014).

**I. The priority themes proposed by the co-chairs for the period 2013 – 2014 were the following:**

**a) The private sector as a humanitarian actor: public - private partnerships in natural disasters**

Mexico proposed a study aimed at analyzing the aspects that have facilitated the coordination between governments and the private sector involved in disaster-related activities. The study took the form of a survey with the participation of large, medium and small enterprises that have performed some kind of assistance during emergencies. The survey was conducted by Universidad Anahuac.

Preliminary results of the study on Public-Private Partnerships in natural disasters show that participation of all sectors is relevant for the establishment of collaborative mechanisms in the humanitarian field. The report also identifies government as the actor with the best capacity to coordinate response in its initial stage. All stakeholders have the ability to propose policies and programs oriented to affected communities. It is important to involve the Chambers of Commerce. These associations should continue to be discussed within the GHD. Mexico will explore the possibility of including this issue in the program of work of the next co-chairs, including a proposal to host a seminar/workshop.

**b) Enhancing implementation and aid quality/effectiveness through standards: a study on the integration of environmental aspects in humanitarian planning**

The study on the integration of environmental aspects in humanitarian planning was undertaken by the Joint UNEP/OCHA Environment Unit, with the support of the Government of Finland, seeking to review the current state of integration of environmental considerations in humanitarian operations and to recommend collective action to improve the effectiveness, accountability, and sustainability of humanitarian action. The terms of reference and the preliminary findings of the study were presented at the GHD Plenary meeting in February 2014.

The GHD concluded to continue the work during the next co-chairmanship, with Finland volunteering to take the lead and in collaboration with the next co-chairs, look for ways to integrate the work to the next GHD work plan. This could include providing updates on the theme to the group, as appropriate.

### **c) Contribution of the GHD to the World Humanitarian Summit**

The GHD survey on the World Humanitarian Summit resulted in a report containing a compilation of comments and views on the expectations of the Summit submitted by GHD members.

GHD expressed support for OCHA in the preparations of the Summit, and took note of the final report on the survey undertaken by the Co-chairs among the GHD members on their expectations on the World Humanitarian Summit. The members concluded that the questions and the main findings of the report could assist individual GHD members for their preparations for the Summit and that the report will be shared, as appropriate.

## **II. Ad-hoc GHD lunch meeting/panel discussion on “Addressing the Needs of Persons with Disabilities in Humanitarian Action”, May 6, 2014 in Geneva.**

Presentations were made by Abilis Foundation and World Vision Finland, and comments by WHO, UNHCR and ICRC.

## **III. Report of work-streams activities during 2013-2014**

**Indicators and Peer to Peer Review update.** Belgium and Ms. Rachel Scott, OECD/DAC expert, collaborated on the possible means for implementation of a GHD peer-to-peer review. Liechtenstein volunteered to undertake a peer-to-peer review on a pilot basis if the GHD group decided that it is necessary. Belgium will remain work stream facilitator.

**Finance.** Equitable humanitarian financing work stream (led by Sweden) was concerned with improving humanitarian financing. Two meetings dedicated to appeal funding and Humanitarian Programme Cycle (HPC) discussions were held. The two meetings focused specifically on the status of CAP financing but also on other issues regarding humanitarian financing such as different Pooled Fund mechanism and innovations meant to improve humanitarian financing. Issues related to monitoring and implementation were also discussed. The two meetings provided a very useful platform for exchange of information

and views amongst donors and between donors and OCHA. Sweden will continue to lead this work stream during 2014-2015.

**Needs assessment.** The ~~Office of Humanitarian Affairs of the~~ European Commission (DG ECHO) ~~liaised with various mentioned that the working model of various actors (multistakeholder) continues during the year, including on the integration of coordinated needs assessment within the broader humanitarian programme cycle and within cluster/inter-cluster coordination. Updates were given, for instance in all-Member States briefings or in the framework of the humanitarian program cycle information was provided to donors as part of the OCHA Donor Support Group OCHA, especially highlighting the beginning of crisis the scheme clusters at the country level. The group will continue working with the support of UN agencies.~~ The facilitator reported that it aims to continue to engage on the issue and liaise with lead the GHD group.

The **GHD SHARE** mentoring process led by Romania convened three meetings. On September 16, 2013, Japan presented its experience in integrating disaster risk reduction (DRR) in its overseas assistance, including the impact of investments in DRR, which was complemented by a brief overview from the UN Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNISDR) on the current trends in DRR and the lead-up to the post-Hyogo Framework of Action.

**Safety and Security.** The Safety and Security work stream had not met during the reporting period but the chair US intended to reactivate the work in the near future.

#### IV. GHD webpage

Co-chairs made the decision of changing the website to a local provider. This movement represent not only savings but entails advantages of hiring a local bilingual service. The new address is [www.ghdinitiative](http://www.ghdinitiative). Also, during the Mexican-Finish co-chairmanship a twitter account was open in order to contribute to the work of spreading the GHD opened was reported (@ghd).

#### V. Upcoming co-chairmanship

GHD welcome Canada and the United States as new co-chairs for an exceptional biannual period (2014-2016).

#### VI. Other related activities

During the High Level meeting, the GHD met with the Inter-Agency Standing Committee Members and Standing Invitees. The meeting consisted of four agenda items: preparations for the World Humanitarian Summit, study on "Environment and Humanitarian Action – Increasing effectiveness, sustainability, and accountability", survey on "Public-Private Partnerships", and a short presentation of the Global Humanitarian Assistance Report 2013.



PERMANENT MISSION OF FINLAND  
GENEVA



Ms ~~Qwi~~Gwi Yeop-Son, ~~Head~~Director of Corporate Programmes of OCHA gave a presentation on the preparations of the WHS, in particular the results of the first regional consultation held in Abidjan. A discussion followed, including on issues on how the GHDI can contribute to the Summit. GHD members shared information on their activities in support on the Summit preparations.

Ms. Sophia Swithern, The GHA Programme Leader, on the Global Humanitarian Assistance (GHA) Programme presented the draft report on recent trends in humanitarian financing. The session was open to GHD members, IASC and GHA. Questions and answers followed, included on the reporting of data on humanitarian assistance.