

HPG

Humanitarian
Policy Group

Annual Report

2018–2019



About HPG

The Humanitarian Policy Group (HPG) at the Overseas Development Institute (ODI) is one of the world's leading independent research teams working on humanitarian issues. We are dedicated to improving humanitarian policy and practice through a combination of high-quality research, dialogue and debate.

Our analytical work is directed by our Integrated Programme (IP), a body of research grounded in field studies that span a range of countries and emergencies. IP projects cast a critical eye over the pressing issues affecting humanitarian policies and operations.

Our dynamic communications and public affairs programme promotes and disseminates HPG's research findings, links our research to current humanitarian debates and works with local and global media outlets to bring humanitarian concerns to the wider public.

We provide a critical link between policy and operations on the ground through the Humanitarian Practice Network (HPN), an

independent forum for humanitarian practitioners to share and disseminate information and experience.

Learning and academic engagement are also central areas of our work. We edit *Disasters* journal and offer annual courses for senior policy-makers and practitioners in the sector.

We also offer consultancy services, policy advice and bespoke research and analysis related to our core themes and objectives.

Our donors provide the funding that enables us to pursue the research projects of our IP. The donors to HPG's 2017–2019 IP are: the Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT), the British Red Cross, the IKEA Foundation, Irish Aid, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Denmark, the Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Oxfam GB, the Swedish International Development Agency, the Swiss Federal Department of Foreign Affairs, the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), Office for Foreign Disaster Assistance and World Vision International.

Cover photo: Maison Dorcas Women's Singing Group, DRC. The Maison Dorcas music therapy program reaches into the Bukavu neighborhood to provide psychological support and community for vulnerable women. © The People's Portfolio.

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Welcome

From the Head of HPG



Dear colleagues,

I am delighted to present HPG's Annual Report for 2018–2019, documenting the impressive body of work we have achieved in a difficult year for humanitarian action, and at a time when independent evidence and analysis is needed more than ever.

During the year HPG/HPN issued 56 publications and published 21 blogs, op-eds, infographics and multimedia products, including our first podcast series. We hosted and spoke at 89 events in 18 countries and worked closely with major media outlets to disseminate our research and analysis, with 665 media hits in global and local news sources. Close to 40,000 people engage with us on social media.

As part of the Integrated Programme (IP), HPG researchers have carried out fieldwork across the world, including in Bangladesh, the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), Pacific island states and Northern Iraq, gathering evidence and examples and providing insights into the limits and opportunities of a more localised approach to humanitarian action.

Outside of the IP, we undertook a major study on migration from Darfur, analysing Sudan as a country of origin, documenting the journeys Sudanese make to Europe and the policy and aid environment they face once they arrive. We took our findings to the UK Parliament and the global media to focus government and public attention on a country that receives little attention, and an issue that requires more scrutiny.

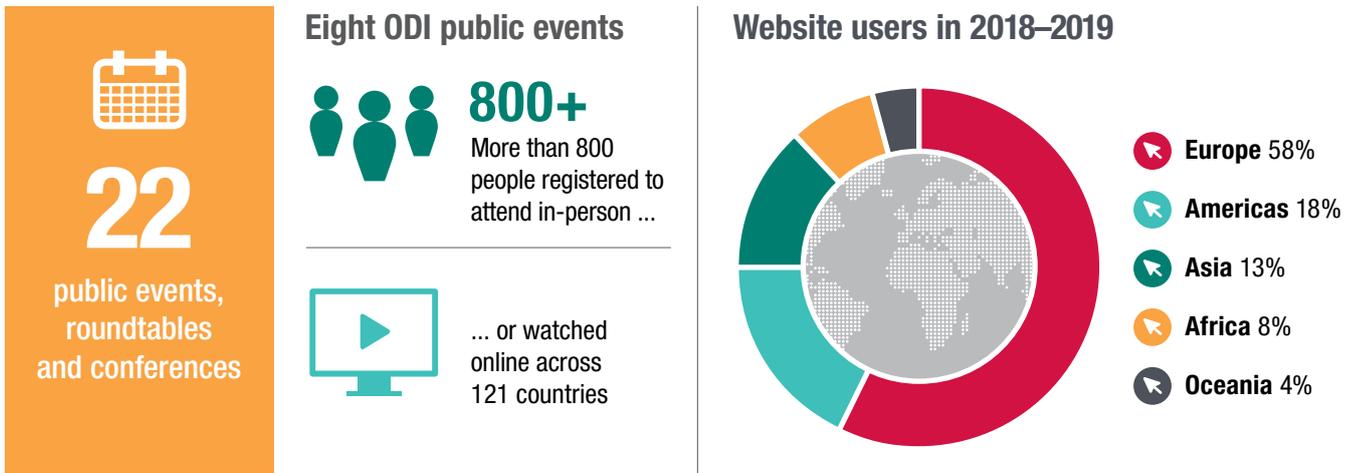
We documented the tangible ways in which counter-terrorism legislation is impeding humanitarian operations in some of the world's most severe crisis contexts. We analysed how bank de-risking in particular is leading to the very behaviour it is trying to avoid – wasted aid money and supplies, corruption and reliance on unregulated channels – to get funds to aid organisations and people.

We evaluated the second and third year of the Grand Bargain and turned our ideas for a reimagined humanitarian system into a publications series, a design tool and a podcast series to communicate these abstract ideas in more accessible formats.

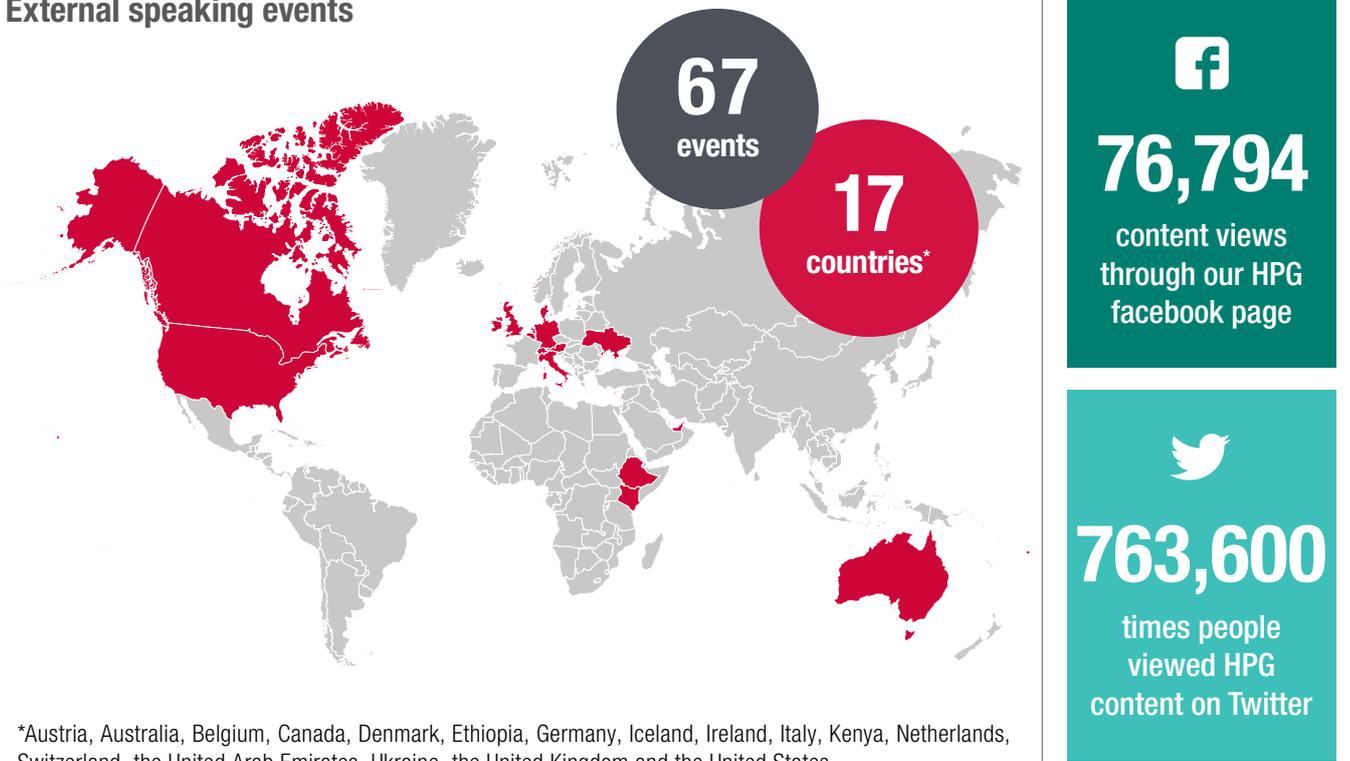
Across all of our initiatives, we explored the issues humanitarians care most about, and provided the analysis they find most useful to their work. A global stakeholder survey on HPG's impact found that 82% of respondents said they were 'extremely likely' or 'likely' to think of HPG first for independent analysis of the sector, and 50% of respondents have used our research to inform their work over the past year. Our annual report for 2018–2019 is a testament to our continued commitment to improve humanitarian policy and practice in the service of crisis-affected people around the world.

Christina Bennett
Head of HPG

HPG in numbers 2018–2019



External speaking events



The year in review

This report summarises HPG’s principal research and non-research work for the period April 2018–March 2019.

Policy research and analysis

This year marked the conclusion of the 2017–2019 Integrated Programme (IP) of research under the title ‘From the ground up: understanding local response to crises’. The research – a response to growing interest in the sector in the ‘localisation’ of humanitarian aid – explored key aspects of this proposed shift in the governance, management and implementation of assistance, covering capacity and complementarity, sources of aid financing outside of standard international channels, the role of local communities, networks and actors in the protection of civilians and ‘local’ understandings of dignity in displacement. Taken together, these research strands constitute a critical analysis of a debate whose growing prominence within the sector does not appear to be supported by adequate empirical evidence around what localisation actually means in practice, its benefits and risks and the changes – and, perhaps more importantly – the sacrifices and compromises the international humanitarian system would need to make to achieve genuinely localised assistance. As noted in last year’s annual report, we made a deliberate effort to partner with local researchers across all four IP projects, both to add granular detail to the findings and to test the possibilities and challenges of a more ‘localised’ approach to research in the field.

Understanding local responses to crises first means understanding what local capacities exist, and how and whether they can work in complement with the international response architecture. The first project, ‘As local as possible, as international as necessary: understanding capacity and complementarity in humanitarian response’, sought to answer these questions. Field research in Cox’s Bazar in Bangladesh reflected on how local capacity had evolved to meet the challenges of a large-scale refugee crisis. The research

also looked at the obstacles to more meaningful complementarity between local and international efforts stemming from the different objectives and accountabilities of the actors involved. A complementary study in the DRC explored how capacity to respond to humanitarian crises is understood and assessed, how levels of capacity of different actors are perceived and how (or whether) gaps in capacity are being addressed.

Interest in a more local approach to humanitarian response stems in large part from an acknowledgement that the funds available to the international system are inadequate to meet needs, and an (untested) belief that closer engagement with actors outside of that system may open the way to new sources of finance. The second research project, ‘The tip of the iceberg? Understanding non-traditional sources of aid financing’, analysed funding flows to humanitarian crises outside of the usual international channels. Fieldwork in northern Uganda, Nepal and Iraq generated a detailed picture of the volume and relative importance of ‘informal’ resources to people affected by crises, and pointed to ways in which the international system can better recognise and engage with these non-traditional resource flows. Complementary research, focusing specifically on the scale and role of remittances in helping people withstand and recover from crises, highlighted the essentially private, transactional nature of these resource flows, and cautioned against assuming that these funds necessarily go to the most vulnerable.

Building on HPG’s long-standing interest in protection, the third project, ‘Understanding the role of informal non-state actors in protecting civilians’, explored approaches to protection among groups and networks outside of the formal protection architecture of the UN system and international non-governmental organisations (INGOs). The research focused on



communities living Kachin State in Myanmar and crossing into China and the situation of Libyans in Libya and neighbouring Tunisia, with a particular emphasis on communal loyalty and cross-border networks and connections, including family, kinship and trading links. The project also produced a review summarising academic and policy literature on local protection and related fields, including human rights, peacekeeping and peacebuilding.

One of the main arguments in favour of a more local approach to aid is that local actors closer to crisis-affected communities will necessarily have a better understanding of what constitutes a dignified response to their needs. The final project, ‘Dignity in displacement: from rhetoric to reality’, mapped different conceptions of dignity from the perspective of displaced people, and what dignity means in practice for local populations and humanitarian actors. The research team reviewed the available literature on dignity across a range of fields, including philosophy and medical ethics, conducted case studies on displaced Rohingya in Bangladesh and Syrians in Lebanon and produced an edited collection of case studies on dignity for displaced people in Afghanistan, Colombia, the Philippines and South Sudan. The research highlighted the cultural and contextual specificity of dignity, and its function as both an individual and a social concept. We also found that dignity is less about *what* aid is provided than *how* it is given. Significantly, in terms of the debate around localisation, the research found that localised aid does not in itself ensure a more dignified response.

Outside of the IP, we continued our work on system-level issues, including as the official evaluation team for the second independent evaluation of the Grand Bargain (HPG was also commissioned to produce the third iteration, published in June 2019). Continuing work on system reform begun under the previous IP, we developed and prototyped ‘ReliefWatch’, a new mechanism for aid accountability through a system of reviews by affected people.

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 Above: View of the sprawling Kutupalong refugee camp near Cox's Bazar, Bangladesh.
 © Russell Watkins/Department for International Development.

We also maintained our interest in cash programming, with work on user experiences of cash assistance in Iraq and a preliminary market consultation for European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (ECHO).

Research on humanitarian financing outside the IP looked at innovative approaches and instruments to private finance, such as bonds and equity investments, building on work with the World Economic Forum (WEF). Innovation was also a theme in our work for the Global Alliance for Humanitarian Innovation (GAHI) on the possibilities and risks of the use of blockchain technologies in humanitarian contexts. Ground-breaking field research in Afghanistan looked at the role of the Taliban as a system of governance and justice, and its implications for aid providers and governments. We also produced a major study on Darfuri migration to Europe, exploring what motivates Darfuris to leave Sudan, the decisions they take along their journey and the challenges they face en route and in their destination countries.



Influencing humanitarian practice

In partnership with ALNAP, and with funding from the IP and ECHO, the Humanitarian Practice Network (HPN) finalised a new Good Practice Review (GPR) on responding to humanitarian needs in urban contexts, which will provide practical guidance and good practice for practitioners in designing, implementing and monitoring programmes. HPN also published and launched three editions of *Humanitarian Exchange* magazine on the humanitarian response to Rohingya refugees in Bangladesh, on mental health and psychosocial support in humanitarian

crises, and on communication and community engagement. Online articles included the Grenfell Tower fire disaster in London, the humanitarian #MeToo crisis, parenting programmes in humanitarian action and the ‘first mile’ of warning systems.

Academic engagement

HPG co-hosted the annual senior-level course on conflict and humanitarian response in London, taught in conjunction with the London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE). As in previous years, the course attracted an esteemed group of lecturers and panelists as well as participants with extensive humanitarian experience in a range of contexts and organisations. It was also a productive year for *Disasters* journal, with four regular issues and a supplementary special issue on disasters in conflict areas. Global downloads of the journal for the year exceeded 100,000.

Communications, policy advice and public affairs

Communications, policy advice and public affairs remained a core component of our work. HPG researchers spoke at more than 80 ODI-hosted and external events around the world, including the Secretary-General’s High-Level Meeting on Peacebuilding and Sustaining Peace at the UN General Assembly in New York, the ECOSOC Humanitarian Affairs Segment and the WEF in Davos. We provided policy advice to key donor governments and received close to 700 pieces of media coverage.



Above: Head of HPG Christina Bennett speaks at MSF Congress, Vienna. © ODI.
 Above, left: Research Officer Kerrie Holloway, presenting at the Dignity in displacement launch, Geneva. © ODI.

Principles, politics and the international humanitarian system

In 2018–2019, our work under this theme critically analysed key aspects of the ‘localisation’ debate, with a particular focus on the implications of current trends for capacity and financing within crisis response.

Integrated Programme projects

As local as possible, as international as necessary: understanding capacity and complementarity in humanitarian action

This research sought to examine how capacity can be better understood and applied to support more complementary and collaborative humanitarian response. It also analysed the opportunities for and obstacles to more effective complementarity among local, regional and international responders responding to humanitarian crisis. In the second year of the project, the research team focused on finalising the analysis and publishing two case studies on the response in Bangladesh and in the DRC. Unpublished desk-based studies examined positive examples of complementarity in Kenya and Myanmar and with different styles and combinations of responders and responding organisations to inform the final report.

The research in Bangladesh reflected on how local capacity evolved to respond to the large-scale refugee response in Cox’s Bazar, the factors that affected the deployment of humanitarian capacity and how different objectives and accountabilities made complementarity difficult between local and international aid organisations and individuals. A study in the DRC explored people’s perceptions of capacity and different understandings of capacity among local and international actors. The study found that international responders did not systematically value complementarity with local actors, leading to low levels of collaboration and coordination.

In the second half of the year, the research team focused on a series of workshops to inform the project’s final report. The workshops provided an opportunity to disseminate the findings of the case studies, gather further examples of innovative thinking around capacity and complementarity and test the recommendations. The research team also participated in a number

[The DRC case study] is one of the best studies on the subject [of localisation] which I have read in a long time ... There are some real gems of information and examples.

Anne M. Street, Head of Humanitarian Policy and Advocacy, CAFOD

of external workshops, roundtables and events, including the International Humanitarian Studies Association Conference, a workshop organised by the International Council of Voluntary Agencies (ICVA) in Bangkok and a public event and one-day workshop organised by a group of Danish NGOs in Copenhagen. The research team presented its findings at the UK Department for International Development (DFID) and have supported the development of a guidance note by the IFRC as part of the Grand Bargain localisation workstream.

The tip of the iceberg? Understanding non-traditional sources of aid financing

The project completed its analysis of resource flows to humanitarian crises outside of formal, recognised channels, including the private sector, philanthropy and non-traditional organisations. These ‘local’ and ‘unofficial’ sources of assistance are difficult to track and not typically factored into international responses, but can be significant in both monetary terms, and in how they are valued by recipients.

HPG published a working paper *Measuring the iceberg: the opportunities and limits of better tracking of resources beyond international humanitarian assistance* during the project’s second year. The paper considered existing

evidence and identified important themes around the opportunities and limits of tracking resource data. HPG researchers also completed fieldwork with South Sudanese refugees in northern Uganda, flood-affected people in Nepal and people experiencing conflict and displacement in Mosul, Iraq. Working with local research partners in each country, the study team undertook household surveys, in-depth interviews and focus group discussions to generate snapshots of the resources that matter to people in crisis, and how they compare in volume and relative importance. A global study of available resourcing data and a thematic study on remittances in humanitarian crises complemented the field research. HPG hosted a webinar with participants based in crisis-affected countries and held workshops with policy and research experts and practitioners in London and The Hague to further analyse and discuss the findings.

The findings, conclusions and recommendations from the various study components will be brought together in the project’s final report, to be published in mid-2019. Continuing dissemination and policy engagement with key stakeholders in the donor, policy and research community will aim to raise awareness of the importance of considering a wider range of resource flows and encourage the development and uptake of practical tools to assess not just needs, but also the capacities, vulnerabilities and resources of people affected by crisis.



Above: Community representatives come to visit a family in the outskirts of Beni, North Kivu region, in the Democratic Republic of Congo to raise awareness about Ebola – 2019. © World Bank/Vincent Treameau.

Commissioned work



Independent evaluation of the Grand Bargain

During the first quarter of 2018, HPG conducted the second Grand Bargain independent report, covering the 2017 calendar year. The report, commissioned by the Grand Bargain Facilitation Group, concluded that, while some results against specific commitments had been achieved, progress was uneven. The evaluation also concluded that the initiative was both under-governed and over-structured, creating a significant bureaucratic burden on signatories. HPG presented the report at the Grand Bargain annual meeting in New York in June, focusing on six areas of recommendations. The Grand Bargain’s Eminent Person and lead political champion, Kristalina Georgieva, and its signatories expressed their appreciation for the report’s analysis and endorsed the recommendations in full. In November 2018, HPG collaborated with the Inter-agency Working Group (IAWG) and the Somalia NGO Consortium to organise and moderate a meeting in Nairobi to present the report and gather field perspectives on the Grand Bargain process. More than 50 people, including representatives from five local organisations from South Sudan, Somalia and Kenya, participated in the meeting. HPG also presented on the Grand Bargain report to ICVA and the Humanitarian Advisory Group (HAG) ahead of a workshop of local actors in December 2018 during the Asian Disaster Risk Reduction Network (ADRRN) annual conference in Bangkok.

The Grand Bargain Facilitation Group also commissioned HPG to prepare an informal proposal to streamline the Grand Bargain into 10–11 priority commitments, and to lead a workshop in Geneva in September 2018 at which the commitments were agreed. HPG was also commissioned to revise the self-reporting template and guidance and conduct the 2018 (third) annual report, which was published in June 2019 and presented at the Grand Bargain annual meeting in Geneva.

We had many participants who appreciated the panel discussion [Looking beyond the Bargain: localisation and where to next?] and indicated how important and crucial the localisation agenda is and will continue to be in the future!

Participant feedback from ICVA’s 2019 Annual Conference on Translating Commitments to Action, Geneva

Above: Luscie and her eight children arrived at Lusenda refugee camp in DRC after fleeing Bujumbura province in Burundi during the 2015 political crisis. © UN Women/Catianne Tijerina.

Life under the Taliban 'shadow government'

Based on interviews with more than 160 Taliban fighters and officials, as well as civilians, this paper examined how the Taliban govern the lives of Afghans living under their rule. The research revealed that Taliban governance is more coherent than ever before: high-level commissions manage finance, health, education, justice and taxation, with clear chains of command and policies, from the leadership based in Pakistan down to villages in Afghanistan.

The Taliban's influence on services and everyday life extends far beyond the areas they can be said to control or contest. That the Taliban set the rules in vast swathes of Afghanistan is a reality with which few in the international community are willing to engage. While the project has significant implications for any future peace deal, the paper also provided recommendations for aid agencies and donors on what can be done now to preserve humanitarian work in the country.

The paper was released in June 2018, and was followed up with extensive outreach and public and private briefings in London, Washington and Kabul. HPG continues to be seen as an authority on these issues, and our expertise has been quoted by Foreign Affairs, The Wall Street Journal, Reuters, The Economist and others.

**An excellent read ...
about how the Taliban
has become a population-
friendly insurgency.**

Michael Kugleman, Deputy Director of
the Asia Program and South Asia Senior
Associate at The Wilson Centre



Understanding informal justice in Afghanistan

This project, funded by the Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC), examines Taliban justice systems in Afghanistan, and the challenges of supporting access to justice in areas beyond state control. The research involves extensive fieldwork in Afghanistan with people living under Taliban influence, with a view to informing humanitarian and development responses. The research will be published later in 2019.

Above: Taliban fighter in Logar province.
© Andrew Quilty 2018.

New financing partnerships for humanitarian impact

Building on HPG’s work with the WEF on humanitarian investing, this study, commissioned by the IKEA Foundation and produced in partnership with a social impact consultancy, Numbers for Good, provided an introduction to innovative financing approaches in humanitarian action. There is growing appetite and interest among bilateral donors, foundations and aid agencies in the use of financial instruments such as bonds, equity investment and insurance to complement the grant-based humanitarian system. The report highlighted that such financial instruments cannot on their own plug the humanitarian financing gap, though they could help solve specific problems around timeliness, efficiency and short-termism.

The study, which was launched at the WEF Annual Meeting in Davos in January 2019, has attracted significant interest and engagement by a wide spectrum of actors in the humanitarian system. We will continue research on this theme through further engagement and strategic commissioned work as part of ODI’s membership of the WEF High Level Group on Humanitarian Investing.

Funding to local humanitarian actors in South Sudan and Somalia

Commissioned by the Network for Empowered Aid Response (NEAR) on behalf of its membership, this study analysed levels of funding received by local and national humanitarian actors in South Sudan and Somalia in 2016–2017. The research found that funding fell far short of the 25% global target to which Grand Bargain signatories have committed. The report also discussed the non-financial challenges faced by local and national humanitarian actors in the two study countries, relating to partnerships, power dynamics and the role of national authorities. The lead researcher co-moderated a panel with Oxfam at the ICVA Annual Conference in Geneva in March 2019, presenting and exploring the study’s findings and its wider implications for the ‘localisation agenda’.

ReliefWatch: prototyping alternative approaches to accountability in aid

Building on the findings of HPG’s 2016–2018 IP project, ‘Constructive deconstruction: rethinking the global humanitarian architecture’, HPG continued to employ design thinking to propose an alternative, ‘people-centred’ humanitarian system. Funded by Humanity United and in partnership with human design consultancy Sonder Collective, the ‘ReliefWatch’ project is prototyping a new approach to accountability in the humanitarian sector, combining a technical review platform with a community engagement service.

Following initial research and prototyping, HPG conducted a proof-of-concept study in northern Iraq in April 2019, testing the viability of ReliefWatch with humanitarian practitioners and agencies, internally displaced people (IDPs) and refugees. The concept has been enthusiastically received by potential users, reflecting growing recognition that the sector needs to be more responsive, user-focused and accountable. HPG will continue to refine the design, returning to Iraq later in 2019, and will develop a prototype to be piloted by the end of the year.

[HPG] researcher Badra Yusuf said national staff [in Somalia] often feel excluded. ‘They also seem to take the burden of all the field challenges which often amounts to outsourcing workload and problems.’

The Guardian, 15 April 2019

Understanding the impact of counter-terrorism policies and bank de-risking on humanitarian response

Following the events of 11 September 2001, many countries adopted strict Anti-Money Laundering and Combatting the Financing of Terror (AML-CFT) regulations for fund transfers. This process – known as ‘de-risking’ – has increased the costs of meeting regulatory requirements, with potentially significant penalties for non-compliance. While preventing or stemming flows of funds to designated terrorist organisations is in the interest of the states that have adopted these measures, they have made banks increasingly wary in their dealings with humanitarian organisations; accounts have been closed, and transactions delayed or blocked.

HPG, in partnership with LSE, conducted four studies looking at the operation and implications of bank de-risking measures for humanitarian NGOs in the occupied Palestinian territory (OPT) and Syria, as well as a synthesis report. A separate paper on counter-terrorism policies and Arab philanthropy was published in Alliance magazine, a magazine for philanthropy and social investment. Findings were also featured in news and media outlets including The Guardian, The New Arab and Devex, and the lead researcher was approached for advice by a company that carries out due diligence for international financial institutions. At a time when the UK was discussing its own counter-terrorism and border security bill in late 2018, HPG published a hard-hitting blog on the bill’s potential for criminalising humanitarian assistance.

Below: Farmers in eastern Aleppo, Syria sell their goods for Ramadan. © Ali Yousef/ICRC.



Engaging companies in man-made disasters – a guidance toolkit for private sector networks

Working with the UN’s Connecting Business initiative (CBI), a global network of private companies engaged in emergency preparedness and response, and with the support of a multidisciplinary expert group, HPG developed a practical toolkit for CBI member firms operating in countries affected by fragility and conflict. The toolkit provides an accessible introduction to engaging in man-made disasters. By setting out guidance rooted in research and case study evidence, it aims to help businesses analyse their context, assess risks, develop strategies for working in crisis contexts and navigate the risks for engaging in man-made disasters and navigating the risks of operating in such contexts.

Localising emergency preparedness and response through partnerships

Islamic Relief Worldwide commissioned HPG to review their Strengthening Response Capacity and Institutional Development for Excellence project (STRIDE). The aim of the study was to consider the challenges, successes and lessons from STRIDE and reflect on the broader implications of the project for the wider humanitarian sector as it grapples with the localisation of humanitarian aid. The study found that STRIDE was unique in a number of ways, notably in its focus on building partnerships and strengthening the capacity of local organisations. The STRIDE study also documents how international organisations such as Islamic Relief can move away from direct delivery and support more local humanitarian action. The study was launched in London at a public event held by Islamic Relief and was presented at an HPG workshop on capacity and complementarity.

Blockchain and distributed ledger technologies in the humanitarian sector

In June 2018, the GAHI commissioned HPG to analyse where and how humanitarian organisations are using blockchain and distributed ledger technologies (DLTs). The study aimed at identifying knowledge and evidence gaps and point to the potential risks and benefits of blockchain for the sector.

Blockchain and the wider category of DLTs promise a more transparent, accountable, efficient and secure way of exchanging information. The study found that

the most common uses in the humanitarian sector relate to process improvements that reduce paperwork, remove intermediaries and improve auditing. The report offers lessons and recommendations to address the challenges that must be overcome before DLTs can be ethically, safely, appropriately and effectively scaled up in humanitarian contexts.

The report was published in February 2019 and publicised via social media. It has generated inquiries and invitations to present or participate in discussions about the applications of blockchain in the humanitarian sector.

Improving user journeys for humanitarian cash transfers

In 2018, HPG and Ground Truth Solutions collaborated on a study commissioned by DFID to examine how recipients of humanitarian cash transfers experience cash assistance and related delivery mechanisms. The study, which featured qualitative and quantitative case studies in Kenya and Iraq, used design thinking and user journeys as a way of tracking and documenting user experiences. Its findings were highlighted at a roundtable discussion at ODI, which aimed to establish an open dialogue between humanitarian cash transfer experts and the sector more broadly about how to optimise delivery mechanisms for cash assistance. The roundtable also provided an opportunity to critically engage with the user journey methodology adopted in the research project.

Cash preliminary market consultation

ECHO commissioned HPG through the Groupe URD-led INSPIRE consortium to undertake a preliminary market consultation (PMC) for humanitarian cash transfers. This assessed the feasibility of ECHO directly contracting payment services providers through a regional or global tender, to provide payments to beneficiaries in large-scale, ECHO-funded humanitarian cash-transfer programmes. The report, delivered to ECHO in September 2018, analyses the extent to which different types of service providers could deliver cash effectively and efficiently. Although the paper is not in the public domain, it provided important information and analysis for Directorate-General (DG) for ECHO to consider should it decide to pursue regional- or national-level tenders.



Baseline study: Centre for Humanitarian Data

In December 2017, the UN Secretary-General officially launched the Centre for Humanitarian Data. Its aim is to ensure that people involved in humanitarian crises have ‘access to the data they need, when and how they need it, to make responsible and informed decisions’. In 2018, HPG worked with the Centre to review its three-year results framework and develop baselines for three outcome indicators. An independent evaluation of the Centre will take place in July 2019, two years into its three-year framework, and it is expected that the Centre will use the indicators developed by HPG in the evaluation.

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Above: Halima counts Somali Shillings at her small kiosk where she sells vegetables at El-Jale Campe for the IDPs in Beletweyne, Somalia 2017.
© AMISOM Photo.

Civilian security and protection

Under this theme we explored protection from the ground up, looking at how informal codes and practices provide or undermine protection, and how these structures interact with formal frameworks of protection under international law.



Above: Amazigh women line up at the funeral for a young Libyan killed while fleeing to Tataouine, Tunisia in 2011. © Magharebia.

Integrated Programme projects

Understanding the role of informal non-state actors in protecting civilians

Humanitarian protection often begins with the assumption that third parties must intervene to protect affected populations, rather than recognising and acknowledging the ways in which communities protect themselves. This project explored the strengths and weaknesses of local protection and identified the overlaps and differences between local and international concepts of protection. During the project's second year, HPG published a review summarising academic and policy literature on local protection and related fields, including human rights, peacekeeping and peacebuilding.

A case study on cross-border protection from Kachin State in Myanmar and China's Yunnan province was published in December 2018. Based on nearly 70

interviews and focus group discussions, it explored conflict dynamics in Kachin State and the strategies of local protection actors both in Myanmar and as civilians cross the border into China, identifying the challenges they face and how other actors are contributing to or obstructing their efforts. During the reporting period, HPG conducted field research and further developed a second case study on communal loyalty and cross-border protection in Libya and Tunisia. This case study focuses on the situation of Libyans displaced since 2011, including people who sought refuge in neighbouring Tunisia. The research considers what local capacities or social capital displaced Libyans have drawn on to mitigate threats, including family, tribal or other affiliations.

Commissioned work

Roundtable on sexual violence in Somalia

In June 2018, HPG convened a closed-door roundtable on sexual violence in Somalia. The objective was to raise awareness of issues related to conflict-related sexual violence in Somalia and to discuss the landmark Sexual Offences Bill adopted in May 2018. Speakers included Deqa Yasin Hagi Yusuf, Minister of Women and Human Rights Development, and Antonia Mulvey, Founder and Executive Director of Legal Action Worldwide (LAW), a non-profit network of human rights lawyers. LAW drafted the Bill in close collaboration with the government. The Bill's passage marked an important shift in attitudes towards sexual violence in Somalia and could potentially be a model for other conflict-affected countries grappling with high levels of such abuse.

Roundtable series on protection of civilians

2019 marks the 20th anniversary of the landmark UN Security Council resolution on the protection of civilians in armed conflict. While the international

community has come a long way since 1999 in improving protection, civilians continue to account for the majority of casualties in armed conflicts.

HPG used this anniversary milestone to push for more robust policies and practice in this area by convening a number of roundtable discussions with InterAction and Save the Children UK.

The first roundtable, in September 2018, provided an overview of recent legislative developments on casualty recording in the US and explored opportunities for peer exchange and lesson-learning to advance parallel discussions in the UK. A second roundtable, in December 2018, focused on the role civil society organisations can play in informing the revision of the UK government's protection of civilians' strategy, which is expected to be finalised by the end of 2019. A third roundtable to be convened in May 2019 will include representatives from the UK government, including the Foreign and Commonwealth Office, DFID and the Ministry of Defence, as well as serving and former military personnel.



Fostering local partnerships in remote management and high-threat settings: emerging lessons from child protection programming in Syria

This commissioned study documented lessons from child protection activities focusing on psychosocial interventions in southern and central Syria, implemented through a partnership between an international NGO (INGO) and a network of Syrian organisations. The study found that partnerships with local actors offer the only viable option for delivering child protection interventions in many parts of Syria. INGOs have invested significant efforts and resources in strengthening the technical and organisational capacities of Syrian partners to ensure that they can effectively, safely and accountably deliver child protection activities and increase their reach, collaborate better with INGOs and meet donor reporting requirements. Despite being on the frontline of the response, local partners receive inadequate financial support, and high staff turnover makes it difficult to retain capacity and organisational knowledge. The report concluded with a series of recommendations around child protection, partnerships, capacity-building and risk management.

Below: New arrivals at the Protection of Civilians (PoC) site in Wau, South Sudan, put up basic structures for shelter in 2017. © UN Photo/ Nektarios Markogiannis.

Resilience, livelihoods and food security in crises

HPG research under this theme looked at livelihoods, food security and health in situations of conflict and crisis, and ways of improving analysis and response at local and global levels.

Commissioned work

Independent evaluation of the 2017 pre-famine crisis in Somalia

In January 2018, the Somalia NGO Consortium commissioned HPG to evaluate the pre-famine response in Somalia in 2017, document lessons and provide immediate and longer-term suggestions to improve future responses. The research highlighted specific examples of good practice, analysed common challenges and produced operational and system-level recommendations. The Somali Minister of Humanitarian Affairs and Disaster Management launched the study in Mogadishu in early February 2019 as part of a wider debate around current and future humanitarian responses in Somalia. The event brought together panelists from the Prime Minister's Office, the UN and local NGOs and representatives from NEAR and Ground Truth Solutions, which also published studies on the 2017 response. The study's findings were covered by The Guardian, which published an article in April 2019 on accusations by Somali organisations that international actors were ignoring local people's knowledge and expertise and promoting foreigners to senior jobs.

Thematic study on multi-year humanitarian funding

As part of a four-year thematic study of the potential contribution of multi-year humanitarian funding (MYHF) towards building resilience, we worked with Valid Evaluations to undertake primary research in Pakistan, the DRC, Ethiopia and Sudan to better understand the factors that determine how well people cope with crises and difficulty. Working with displaced communities in Peshawar District, the Pakistan study showed how the lives of women and girls were limited in the Federally Administered Tribal Areas (FATA), where they were from, and how the experience of displacement had shifted gender roles and relations. In eastern Ethiopia, the project sought to understand whether early humanitarian aid and previous resilience funding had helped to avoid loss of life and assets in the drought in 2015–2016. The two studies in West Darfur, Sudan, and North Kivu, DRC, sought to quantify the costs of ill-health, and the impacts on poverty and vulnerability. A final report summarised learning from the studies, and identified the factors shaping people's resilience, and how far humanitarian aid was addressing those factors with MYHF.



Forecast-based early action

HPG worked with ODI’s Risk and Resilience programme on a DFID commission to study the potential for taking forecast-based early action (FbA) to scale. The research team included the University of Sussex, the Red Cross Climate Centre and the START Network. HPG co-authored two of the three case studies (published as one report) on Kenya and Bangladesh. For the Bangladesh case study, HPG piloted a new approach to assessing the impact and value-for-money of early response.

A review of ECHO’s 2016–2017 drought response in the Horn of Africa

HPG worked with its partner in the INSPIRE consortium, Groupe URD, to review ECHO’s response to the droughts in Ethiopia, Somalia and Kenya in 2016–2017. The report found some significant improvements in humanitarian response, including in nutrition and the use of cash transfers. However, the study also concluded that ECHO’s internal processes did not enable timely response, and that a fundamental review of its bureaucracy would be needed if ECHO wished to be able to respond early.

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 Above: Girls line up at a feeding centre in Mogadishu, Somalia, 2017. © UN Photo/Tobin Jones.

Displacement, urbanisation and migration

Under this theme we continued HPG's long-standing interest in analysing refugee movements and forced displacement, particularly in protracted crises. We assessed the changing dynamics of displacement, with a particular focus on urbanisation, and explored the factors that affect forced displacement. Displacement and migration are cross-ODI priorities, and HPG coordinated its work in this area closely with other researchers across the Institute.

Integrated Programme projects

Dignity in displacement: from rhetoric to reality

This project aimed to shed light on different conceptions of dignity in the humanitarian sector, both by developing a better understanding of dignity from the perspective of displaced people, and by exploring what dignity means in practice for local populations and humanitarian actors. The research, which concluded in 2018–2019, produced five publications: a review of the literature, cases studies on displaced Rohingya in Bangladesh and Syrians in Lebanon, an edited collection of case studies on Afghanistan, Colombia, the Philippines and South Sudan and a final synthesis report, published in March 2019. The research highlighted how dignity is culturally and contextually specific, can be an individual concept, a social concept or both and is more about *how* aid is given, rather than *what* is given. The project also found that localised aid is not inherently more dignified, even if understandings of what dignity means are more closely aligned between local and affected populations compared with affected populations and international actors. The project set out a series of recommendations for how the humanitarian community can make aid more dignified. HPG presented the final synthesis paper at the ICRC Humanitarian in Geneva in March 2019.

The most exciting and well-written humanitarian text that I have read for a long time. A must-read for ALL humanitarian workers.

Hugo Slim, Head of Policy and Humanitarian Diplomacy, International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC)



Commissioned work

Darfuri migration to Europe

In November 2018, HPG published a joint study with the Research and Evidence Facility of the European Commission, led by the School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS), on Darfuri migration from Sudan to Europe. The study aimed to raise awareness of the specific challenges Darfuris face in their migration journeys, with a view to informing and influencing policy debates and policy-making within European governments and UN agencies in Sudan, and contributing to the wider debate and literature on migration and displacement.

With fieldwork in Darfur, Khartoum, Italy, France, Belgium and the UK, the study follows the entire migrant journey. It takes account of historical patterns of migration and the political and economic context in Sudan and Darfur to understand the causes of migration, the journeys that Darfuris make and their experiences along the way and at their destination, as well as the many influences on migration strategies and decision-making.

The study concludes that addressing Darfuri migration requires that both the aid community and policy-makers take a hard look at the complex set of challenges facing Darfur after years of conflict and a protracted humanitarian crisis, focus on more robust and meaningful efforts to assist and protect Darfuri's needs along the migration journey, and increase the opportunities for regular migration and legal pathways for Darfuris to claim asylum once they arrive in Europe.

Above: Destitute Sudanese man by the river bank in Ventimiglia, Italy. © Samer Mustafa/Refugee Rights Europe.

Public narratives on refugees and migrants

This two-year project, funded by the IKEA Foundation and co-led with the Human Mobility Initiative (HMI) at ODI, aims to support public and private funders and investors interested in working with refugees and other migrants. The goal is to ensure that funders and investors have an accurate understanding of the nature of public attitudes and narratives on refugees and migration and to help them devise effective strategies and actions that take these into account. It also aims to help them engage with these attitudes and narratives in ways that benefit refugees and other migrants, as well as host communities. The ongoing project features a series of activities, dialogues and innovative communication and outreach initiatives, drawing on ODI's extensive experience on forced displacement and migration issues. During the reporting period, HPG and HMI conducted research on public attitudes and narratives in the UK and Germany and hosted a roundtable in January 2019 with key actors and influencers.

Long-term responses to the Rohingya refugee crisis

HPG consolidated its work on the Rohingya crisis through a study commissioned by Global Affairs Canada in partnership with the International Rescue Committee (IRC). The research examined the aspirations of Rohingya refugees in Bangladesh, and their perceptions of what would be most helpful in reaching these goals. The project was inspired by HPG's work on the lives and livelihoods of refugees in protracted displacement from a previous Integrated Programme, as well as the experience of the Jordan Compact.

Below: A women Rohingya refugee chops firewood for cooking in Kutupalong megacamp. © European Union 2018.



Older people and humanitarian response

HPG launched two reports on older people with ODI's Gender Equality and Social Inclusion (GESI) programme, looking at older people's roles and vulnerabilities in drought in East Africa. A second stream of work focused on older people in displacement in South Sudan. HPG launched the reports at three roundtables in London, Nairobi and Addis Ababa. Findings from these reports have informed the development of the 2019–2021 IP, which aims to support a more inclusive humanitarian response.

Forum on refugee and migration policy

Following a roundtable on the economic dimensions of displacement and migration in May 2018 co-hosted with Chatham House, HPG/ODI published a briefing paper on the economic dimensions of mobility and the barriers to accessing jobs and sustainable livelihoods in September 2018. The paper

explored the barriers to the economic integration of migrants and new global initiatives for job facilitation and skills transfer targeted at migrants.

OPM Innovation Lab

In September 2018, the Centre for Global Disaster Protection (CGDP) and IRC co-convened an innovation lab to identify innovative financial solutions to refugee crises, with a focus on risk-based instruments. The lab aimed to harness the momentum generated ahead of the adoption of the Global Compact on Refugees (GCR) and global awareness of refugee crises. The lab also aimed to capitalise on advances in innovative financing to craft new instruments, products and vehicles and identify financing options. HPG co-designed, developed and facilitated the innovation lab, which brought together 50 participants from the UK government, private financial institutions, aid organisations and academic institutions. Post-event follow-up and reporting included designing a twin innovation lab in New York.

Influencing humanitarian practice

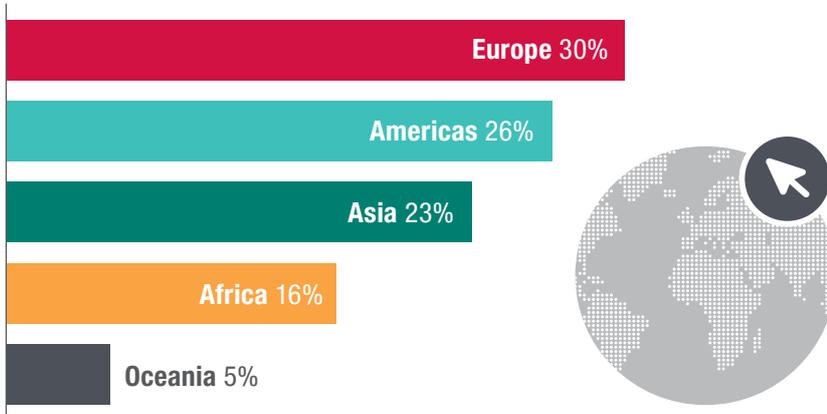
The Humanitarian Practice Network (HPN) is a global forum for policy-makers, practitioners and others working in the humanitarian sector to share and disseminate information, analysis and experience. HPN publications and online articles are written by and for practitioners and play an important role in examining policy developments and in distilling and disseminating practice.



Above: Hundreds of community-based volunteers and staff, the majority of whom are women, make up the core of BRAC's team on the ground, ensuring that no one gets left behind. © BRAC/Munem Wasif.

HPN in numbers 2018–2019

More than 200,000 visits to the HPN website in 2018–2019



134,074

content views through the HPN Facebook page

233,200

times people viewed HPN content on Twitter

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It was really great to hear the different perspectives [at the launch event for the Humanitarian Exchange on mental health] and to think about how they relate to our own research ... the other articles in the special edition will further stimulate our thinking about the challenges and potential solutions that are common to many mental health and psychosocial support humanitarian crises projects.

Dr Fiona McEwen,
Postdoctoral Researcher and Study Coordinator,
Queen Mary’s University, London

HPN’s most popular publications in 2018–2019

- The impact of refugees on the environment and appropriate responses **23,337** page views
- Military responses to natural disasters: last resort or inevitable trend? **8,071** page views
- Typhoon Haiyan: lessons from the response and how to prepare for the future **7,660** page views
- Corruption in the NGO world: what it is and how to tackle it **7,621** page views
- Assessing early warning efforts for Typhoon Haiyan in Leyte **7,032** page views

HPN published and launched three editions of *Humanitarian Exchange* magazine: HE 72, ‘Mental health and psychosocial support in humanitarian crises’; HE 73, ‘Rohingya refugees in Bangladesh: the humanitarian response’; and HE 74, ‘Communication and community engagement’, which was launched in Geneva at the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) Humanitarian Partnerships and Networking Week in February 2019. HE 72 and HE 73 were both launched at well-attended public events at ODI. HPN published and promoted 10 online articles over the year, fostering greater interest and engagement with the website. Future *Humanitarian Exchange* themes include the humanitarian crisis in Yemen and disability and inclusion. Potential Network Papers in the pipeline for 2019–2020 include issues on supporting survivor-

and community-led crisis response and the findings of a multi-agency project on disability data collection in humanitarian response.

In partnership with ALNAP, and with funding from the IP and ECHO, HPN commissioned a new GPR on responding to humanitarian needs in urban contexts. The GPR provides practical guidance and good practice for practitioners in designing, implementing and monitoring programmes in urban response. In 2019, HPN and ALNAP, with support from the 15-member GPR advisory group and the Global Alliance for Urban Crises (GAUC), will focus on dissemination through events at ODI in London and in Dhaka, Nairobi, Canberra and Suva; distribution of hard copies; creation of a dedicated microsite; and production of a whiteboard animation.

Academic engagement

Engagement with the academic community remains a core component of HPG's work, with activities ranging from collaborating with academic institutions to delivering courses on conflict and humanitarian response to editing and managing a leading academic journal.

Disasters journal

Disasters is a major, peer-reviewed quarterly journal reporting on all aspects of disaster studies, policy and management. It provides a forum for academics, policy-makers and practitioners to publish high-quality research and practice concerning natural catastrophes, anthropogenic disasters, complex political emergencies and protracted crises around the world.

This was a particularly productive year for *Disasters* journal. Alongside the four regular journal issues (Volume 42, Issues 2, 3, 4 and Volume 43, Issue 1), the journal also published a supplementary special issue on disasters in conflict areas, edited by Ayesha Siddiqi. This issue argues that, despite 50 years of research, relatively little is understood about how disasters interact with conflict, and furthermore that disasters in conflict areas are constructed and maintained in the pursuit of political goals. *Disasters* continues to improve year on year in terms of its reach and relevance. Global text downloads for this reporting period were 100,630, a significant increase on the previous year's 75,000. The journal's impact factor (which reflects the number of citations in relation to recent articles) has also seen a marked increase, from 1.255 to 1.596, and *Disasters* is now available in 5,770 institutions (up from 4,257 in 2016). We are also seeing a consistent increase in the number of Open Access papers published each year.

HPG/LSE senior-level course on conflict and humanitarian response

The senior-level course on conflict and humanitarian response, taught by HPG in collaboration with LSE, provides an opportunity for senior professionals in the sector to learn and reflect on critical issues in humanitarian response. The course features lectures by distinguished academics and practitioners, alongside group discussions and exercises.

I thoroughly enjoyed the course and learned a lot ... I loved the focus on specific countries and the futurist thinking.

Course participant via anonymous course assessment feedback analysis

Seventeen participants attended this year's course, with extensive experience in countries including Haiti, Sierra Leone, South Sudan, Syria, Venezuela and Yemen. Organisations represented on the course included Save the Children, the British Red Cross, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Netherlands, World Vision and Oxfam. Speakers included Mary Kaldor (Professor of Global Governance at LSE), Mohammad-Mahmoud Ould Mohamedou (Professor of International History at the Graduate Institute in Geneva), Degan Ali (Executive Director, Adeso) and Helen Alderson (ICRC Head of Regional Delegation to the UK and Ireland). Participants delivered presentations to Sir John Holmes, former UN Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator and former Director of the Ditchley Foundation.



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Left: ODI Acting Executive Director Sara Pantuliano presenting to participants during the senior level course taught by HPG in collaboration with LSE.
© HPG/ODI.

Communications, public affairs and policy advice

Through a vibrant communications programme, we continued to promote and disseminate our research findings, encourage debate among policy-makers and practitioners and influence perceptions and understanding of humanitarian issues among the wider media and public.

Catalysing debate

HPG remains at the forefront of key debates in the humanitarian world. During the reporting period, we hosted 22 conferences, courses, roundtables and public events, and HPG researchers spoke at 67 external events in 17 countries. Highlights of the year included speaking on the importance of sustainable financing at the Secretary-General's High-Level Meeting on Peacebuilding and Sustaining Peace at the UN General Assembly in New York, a side event on innovative financing at the ECOSOC Humanitarian Affairs Segment, held jointly with ECHO, and a strong presence at the WEF in Davos in January 2019. In December we hosted Alex de Waal, Executive Director of the World Peace Foundation and Research Professor at the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy at Tufts University, who delivered HPG's Annual Lecture on 'Mass starvation: tackling the political causes of famine'.

Our work on refugees and displacement continued to attract substantial interest. HPG researchers spoke at a roundtable co-convened with Chatham House on refugee and migration policy, concluding a two-year forum project funded by GIZ. The forum acted as a platform for dialogue among a diverse, high-level group of experts, including humanitarian, development, security and foreign policy communities, foundations, civil society and the private sector. We showcased our work on refugee compacts at a roundtable with the IRC in July 2018 and spoke on the lives and livelihoods of Syrian refugees at New York University in Abu Dhabi in March 2019. Our study on Darfuri migration to Europe was supported by a robust communications plan, including a launch at ODI in September, featuring the former UK Ambassador to Sudan, Rosalind Marsden, alongside a prominent member of the Sudanese diaspora, a submission to the UK parliament's International

I've been listening to the ODI/HPG 'Constructive deconstruction' podcasts – they've been fascinating!

Madiha Raza, Muslim Aid

Development Committee and briefings to governments and aid organisations in Khartoum and at European donor headquarters. The study was picked up by the BBC World Service as part of a wider piece on European migration policy. In October we launched *Humanitarian Exchange 73* on the Rohingya response in Bangladesh with a high-level panel including Mark Bowden, a Senior Adviser with the Centre for Humanitarian Dialogue and a Senior Research Associate with HPG and Nurul Islam, a human rights lawyer and the Chairman of the Arakan Rohingya National Organisation (ARNO). Findings from the IP project on dignity in displacement were shared at the International Humanitarian Studies Association (IHSA) annual conference in The Hague in August, at a British Red Cross Middle East regional workshop in September and at a public event at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine in October. The final report was launched at the ICRC Humanitarium in Geneva in March 2019.

Below: Head of HPG Christina Bennett on a high-level panel on humanitarian access at the US Senate in Washington DC. © ODI.



Work on localisation prompted invitations to speak in Melbourne on disasters in the Pacific, hosted by the HAG and the Australian Red Cross, and in Copenhagen, with Save the Children Denmark. Findings from the research were also presented in the opening keynote conversation at the 20th Annual Humanitarian Congress in Berlin in October 2018, at the IHSA conference in The Hague and at the ICVA Annual Conference in Geneva in March 2019. Drawing on our work on the independent evaluation of the Grand Bargain, and our long-standing interest in cash programming, we reported on progress on the Grand Bargain's cash workstream at the workstream's annual meeting in Rome in June. With the IAWG and Somalia NGO Forum we co-hosted a discussion in Nairobi on field perspectives on the Grand Bargain.

Drawing on IP work on humanitarian financing, researchers spoke at a series of workshops, roundtables and events, including at the WEF in Davos, the Humanitarian Congress in Vienna and at the IHSA. We also deepened our links with investors and the private sector. At Davos, we co-hosted a meeting with the IKEA Foundation and impact investment firm KOIS to launch our report on financing partnerships for humanitarian impact. Discussions with 35 investors and foundations demonstrated a growing appetite to increase investment in the hardest-to-reach places – including the most fragile and conflict-affected – using grant money to de-risk and catalyse private finance. We also engaged closely with the CBI over the year, with consultations and workshops in Nairobi in September and November. HPG researchers also spoke on private sector engagement in man-made disasters at the CBI’s annual meeting in Geneva in February 2019.



Our work on inclusion in humanitarian response continued to attract interest, with speaking engagements at the Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre in Geneva and roundtables on older people in humanitarian crises in London and Addis Ababa, with HelpAge and Age International. HPG researchers also spoke on humanitarian reform in Somalia, sexual violence and aid worker mental health, protection of civilians in conflict, the role of intermediaries in humanitarian response, the Ebola outbreak in the DRC, bank de-risking and the securitisation of UK aid and accountability in armed conflict. At the WEF in New York, HPG researchers presented on new approaches to addressing humanitarian needs and spoke on the New Way of Working at the OCHA Policy Forum. The Head of HPG was a selected member of the CSIS High-Level Task Force on Humanitarian Access, sponsored by two US Senators in Washington DC.

As part of HPG’s aim to support the strengthening of international humanitarian action and improve the effectiveness, efficiency and timeliness of the international humanitarian system globally, HPG, in partnership with the HAG, developed a series of publications related to local humanitarian action in the Asia-Pacific, including analysis of capacity and complementarity in Cox’s Bazar as part of the Rohingya response and a joint practice paper series developed with the HAG on local humanitarian protection in the Pacific. A corresponding series of events was organised with the Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade and the Australian Red Cross in Canberra and Melbourne.

HPG at Davos

HPG Senior Research Fellow Barnaby Willitts-King participated in the Annual Meeting of the WEF in Davos in January 2019 to launch the commissioned report ‘New financing partnerships for humanitarian impact’ with the IKEA Foundation, Deputy UN High Commissioner for Refugees Kelly Clements, and a wide range of investors. Barnaby also participated in ODI’s activities as a partner of the Sustainable Impact Hub: Barnaby (pictured) was on a panel with the private sector, IOM and GAHI chaired by the Editor-in-Chief of Devex, Raj Kumar, to discuss how to motivate better public–private partnerships for aid impact.

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Above left: HPG Senior Research Fellow Barnaby Willitts-King participating in the Annual Meeting of the World Economic Forum in Davos in January 2019. © HPG/ODI.

HPG continued to support the Regional Organisations Humanitarian Action Network as its informal secretariat, liaising with members at key humanitarian meetings and continuing to seek resources to expand this important forum for cooperation between 13 regional organisations.

Policy advice

HPG staff continued to act as a source of high-quality policy advice for the sector. We worked closely with the Australian government, advising on humanitarian reform, protection of civilians, humanitarian financing (at an all-staff seminar at the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade) and the future of Australian humanitarian aid, as well as presenting findings from the IP project on dignity in displacement. We participated in a high-level panel on gender-based violence in emergencies, part of European Development Days in June 2018, and at a donor coordination meeting on South Sudan in Brussels. In March 2019 HPG researchers were in Bern to brief officials from the Swiss Federal Department of Foreign Affairs on the Rohingya refugee response. We were invited to Dublin to present findings of our work on innovative humanitarian financing to staff at Irish Aid. In London, we continued to engage closely with DFID. With the Royal United Services Institute (RUSI) and DFID we co-organised a roundtable on Chinese and UK aid in June 2018, ran a seminar for DFID officials on the next steps in humanitarian reform, spoke on resilience in protracted crises at the DFID Humanitarian Cadre Conference and participated in DFID's 4K Thematic Session, on food systems in protracted crises. Drawing on our work with Valid Evaluations, we also advised DFID on the potential of multi-year humanitarian funding in supporting livelihoods and resilience in crises.

World Humanitarian Day and Humanitarian memorial

World Humanitarian Day commemorates aid workers who have lost their lives in humanitarian service. In 2018, HPG organised the annual World Humanitarian Day event at Westminster Abbey. In addition, during the last four years, HPG has supported the commission of a memorial honouring past and present humanitarian workers from the UK and around the world. It is hoped that the memorial will be unveiled in 2020.

Media engagement

Engagement with the media remains a core part of our work in bringing insights and expertise around key humanitarian issues to the wider public. During the year HPG received close to 700 pieces of media coverage, a substantial increase of the previous period's 300 media hits. Drawing on ongoing research, researchers responded to topical crises and issues facing the humanitarian sector. Coverage spanned a range of issues, including the crisis in Venezuela, counter-terrorism legislation, the Yemen crisis, our research on Taliban governance in Afghanistan and Darfuri migration to Europe, Davos, and the Rohingya refugee situation in Bangladesh. HPG's work and experts featured in multiple media outlets, including BBC News, Reuters, the Gulf Times, the Daily Star (Lebanon), Voice of America, ABC News Radio and the BBC World Service.

Summary of IP budget and income spent (GBP)

Project detail	2017–2019 revised budget as per annual report	Revised budget as per annual report (July 2018)		Actual final IP income spent up to 31/3/2019		Carry forward of income to 2019–2020
		Financial year 2017–2018	Financial year 2018–2019	Income spent up to 31/3/2018	Income spent up to 31/3/2019	
Constructive Reconstruction: Rethinking the Global Humanitarian Architecture	£214,483	£214,483	£0	£214,483	£7,189	£0
'As local as possible, as international as necessary': understanding capacity and complementarity in humanitarian response	£341,048	£158,049	£182,999	£158,049	£185,591	£0
The tip of the iceberg? Understanding non-traditional sources of aid financing	£328,204	£148,263	£179,940	£148,263	£212,100	£0
Informality and protection: understanding the role of informal non-state actors in protecting civilians	£377,662	£172,604	£205,058	£159,334	£109,404	£0
Dignity in displacement: from rhetoric to reality	£375,971	£154,185	£221,785	£146,385	£187,615	£0
Synthesis paper	£156,309	£35,935	£120,375	£35,935	£17,047	£0
Humanitarian Practice Network (HPN)	£428,452	£196,557	£231,895	£195,307	£187,657	£0
Policy engagement and representation	£464,086	£222,176	£241,910	£222,175	£189,266	£0
Public affairs and rapid response	£345,554	£165,202	£180,352	£165,202	£77,515	£0
Senior-level course on conflict and humanitarian response	£20,000	£0	£20,000	£0	£0	£0
Master's Course (Center for Conflict and Humanitarian Studies, Doha Institute)	£10,000	£0	£10,000	£0	£0	£0
Disasters	£12,000	£2,000	£10,000	£0	£0	£0
Reprinting	£10,000	£5,000	£5,000	£4,558	£1,848	£0
	£3,083,769	£1,474,453	£1,609,314	£1,449,692	£1,175,232	£0

IP income in 2018–2019 (GBP)

Funder details	Income in advance for 2018–2019 (carried forward from 2017–2018)	IP grants in the year 2018–2019	Income in advance for 2019–2020 (carried forward from 2018–2019)
Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade	£12,047	£178,321	£63,175
British Red Cross	£0	£5,000	–
IKEA Foundation	£40,000	£222,323	£79,479
Oxfam UK	£0	£15,000	–
The Ministry of Foreign Affairs Denmark	£73,974*	£150,482*	–
The Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs	£0	£64,330	–
Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency	£0	£171,524**	£83,489
Swiss Federal Department of Foreign Affairs	£0	£280,000	–
United States Office of Foreign Disaster Assistance	£75,122	£109,287	–
World Vision International	£0	£7,700	–
Total	£201,143	£1,203,966	£226,142

*Total income received and allocated in 2018–2019 was £224,456.

**Total income received in 2018–2019 £342,701. Payment of £171,177 was made in advance and deferred to 2019–2020.

Publications

Reports and working papers

Constructive deconstruction: imagining alternative humanitarian action, HPG working paper, May 2018, Christina Bennett

The new humanitarian basics, HPG working paper, May 2018, Marc DuBois

Network humanitarianism, HPG working paper, May 2018, Paul Currian

The humanitarian anchor: a social economy approach to assistance in protracted displacement situations, HPG working paper, May 2018, Tahir Zaman

The challenge of informality: counter-terrorism, bank de-risking and financial access for humanitarian organisations in Somalia, HPG working paper, June 2018, Sherine El Taraboulsi-McCarthy

Dignity in displacement: a review of the literature, HPG working paper, June 2018, Kerrie Holloway with Francesca Grandi

Crossing boundaries in protecting civilians: mapping actors, insights and conceptual spaces, HPG working paper, July 2018, Larissa Fast

The impact of bank de-risking on the humanitarian response to the Syrian crisis, HPG working paper, August 2018, Stuart Gordon, Alice Robinson, Harry Goulding and Rawaad Mahyub

'A humanitarian sector in debt': counter-terrorism, bank de-risking and financial access for NGOs in the West Bank and Gaza, HPG working paper, August 2018, Sherine El Taraboulsi-McCarthy

Dignity and the displaced Rohingya in Bangladesh, HPG working paper, August 2018, Kerrie Holloway and Lillianne Fan

Humanitarian Policy Group Annual Report 2017–18, August 2018

Protection in local response to disaster: challenges and insights from the Pacific region, HPG working paper, October 2018, Larissa Fast and Kate Sutton

Dignity and displaced Syrians in Lebanon, HPG working paper, November 2018, Francesca Grandi, Kholoud Mansour and Kerrie Holloway

As local as possible, as international as necessary: understanding capacity and complementarity in humanitarian action, November 2018, Veronique Barbelet

Humanitarian action and foreign policy: balancing interests and values, HPG research report, November 2018, Barnaby Willitts-King, Sherine El Taraboulsi-McCarthy and John Bryant

Measuring the iceberg: the opportunities and limits of better tracking of resources beyond international humanitarian assistance, HPG working paper, November 2018, Barnaby Willitts-King, Lydia Poole and John Bryant

Capacity and complementarity in the Rohingya response in Bangladesh, HPG working paper, December 2018, Caitlin Wake and John Bryant

Protecting civilians in the Kachin borderlands, Myanmar: key threats and local responses, HPG working paper, December 2018, Ashley South

The refugee response in northern Uganda: resources beyond international humanitarian assistance, HPG working paper January 2019, Lydia Poole

Dignity in displacement: case studies from Afghanistan, Colombia, the Philippines and South Sudan, HPG working paper, March 2019, Gloria Miranda Angel, Maria Carmen (Ica) Fernandez, Wali Mohammad Kandiwal, Leben Moro, Kerrie Holloway (ed.)

Local humanitarian action in the Democratic Republic of Congo: capacity and complementarity, HPG working paper, March 2019, Veronique Barbelet with Paulin Bishakabalya Kokere, Emmanuel Kandate, Pacifique Makuta Mwambusa, Antoine Mushagalusa Ciza and Sanctus Nkundamwami Namahira

La capacité et la complémentarité dans l'action humanitaire locale en République démocratique du Congo, HPG working paper (French), March 2019, Veronique Barbelet avec Paulin Bishakabalya Kokere, Emmanuel Kandate, Pacifique Makuta Mwambusa, Antoine Mushagalusa Ciza et Sanctus Nkundamwami Namahira

Dignity and humanitarian action in displacement, HPG report, March 2019, Irina Mosel and Kerrie Holloway

Remittances in humanitarian crises, HPG working paper, March 2019, John Bryant

Policy briefs and briefing notes

Counter-terrorism, bank de-risking and humanitarian response: a path forward, Policy brief, August 2018, Stuart Gordon and Sherine El Taraboulsi-McCarthy

Funding to local humanitarian actors: evidence from Somalia and South Sudan, Policy brief, October 2018, Barnaby Willitts-King, Nisar Majid, Mo Ali and Lydia Poole

ODI and external publications

Improving user journeys for humanitarian cash transfers: Kenya case study, HPG commissioned report, July 2018, Elias Sagmeister, Maximilian Seilern, Ledia Andrawes, Andrew Nzimbi, Paul Harvey, Anna Kondakhchyan and Sara Pavanello

Older people in displacement: falling through the cracks of emergency responses, HPG commissioned report, July 2018, Veronique Barbelet

The role and vulnerabilities of older people in drought in East Africa: progress, challenges and opportunities for a more inclusive humanitarian response, HPG commissioned report, July 2018, Veronique Barbelet and Fiona Samuels with Georgia Plank

Fostering local partnerships in remote management and high-threat settings: emerging lessons from child protection programming in Syria, HPG commissioned report, July 2018, Sara Pavanello with Larissa Fast and Eva Svoboda

Darfuri Migration from Sudan to Europe: from displacement to despair, HPG commissioned report, September 2018, Susanne Jaspars and Margie Buchanan-Smith

Funding to local humanitarian actors: South Sudan case study, HPG commissioned report, October 2018, Mo Ali, Lona Loduro, Victor Lowilla, Lydia Poole and Barnaby Willitts-King

Funding to local humanitarian actors: Somalia case study, HPG commissioned report, October 2018, Nisar Majid, Khalif Abdirahman, Lydia Poole and Barnaby Willitts-King

Refugia: A Place Where Refugees Survive, But Do Not Thrive' in Migration and Society: Advances in Research 1 (2018): 186–189. Berghahn Books: London. Veronique Barbelet, Christina Bennett,

Improving user journeys for humanitarian cash transfers: Iraq case study, HPG commissioned report, December 2018, Elias Sagmeister, Maximilian Seilern, Ledia Andrawes, Paul Harvey, Anna Kondakhchyan and Sara Pavanello

Improving user journeys for humanitarian cash transfers, HPG commissioned report, December 2018, Elias Sagmeister, Maximilian Seilern, Ledia Andrawes, Paul Harvey, Anna Kondakhchyan and Sara Pavanello

New financing partnerships for humanitarian impact, HPG commissioned report, January 2019, Barnaby Willitts-King, Roshni Assoumull, John Bryant, Clare McCartney, Tej Dhami and Dominic Llewellyn with Sarah Adamczyk

The 2017 pre-famine response in Somalia: progress on reform?, HPG commissioned report, January 2019, Maxine Clayton, Ahmed Abdi Ibrahim and Badra Yusuf

Blockchain and distributed ledger technologies in the humanitarian sector, HPG commissioned report, February 2019, Giulio Coppi and Larissa Fast

Comprehensive Review of 2016-17 ECHO Horn of Africa Drought Response, HPG commissioned report, March 2019, François Grünewald, Valérie Léon and Simon Levine

The impact of displacement on gender roles and relations: the case of IDPs from Fata, Pakistan, HPG commissioned report, March 2019, Simon Levine with Zaki Ullah, Saeed Ullah Khan, Mushtaq Ahmad, Shazia Ghulam, Rahat Iqbal and Saeed Uddin

Can't afford to be sick: assessing the cost of ill-health in North Kivu, Eastern Democratic Republic of Congo, HPG commissioned report, March 2019, Simon Levine and Agata Kusnierek

Counting the cost: assessing the cost of ill-health in West Darfur, Sudan, HPG commissioned report and studies, March 2019, Simon Levine and Agata Kusnierek

Blogs, op-eds, infographics and multimedia

High-level meeting on sustaining peace: can the UN deliver?, ODI blog, April 2018, Sara Pantuliano

Constructive deconstruction ODI podcats, May 2018, Christina Bennett, Paul Currión, Marc DuBois and Tahir Zaman

The Grand Bargain at two: collapsing under its own weight?, ODI blog, June 2018, Christina Bennett

The Grand Bargain in 2017, ODI infographics and multimedia, June 2018, Victoria Metcalfe-Hough and Lydia Poole with Sarah Bailey and Julie Belanger

Imagine a humanitarian system based on humans, IRIN op-ed, June 2018, Christina Bennett

Professional standards for protection work International Committee of the Red Cross video, July 2018, Larissa Fast

The Rohingya crisis, one year on, ODI blog, August 2018, John Bryant, Kerrie Holloway and Caitlin Wake

'A Europe that protects' should protect migrants and refugees, ODI blog, Margie Buchanan-Smith

World Humanitarian Day: it's time to break the silence on aid worker mental health, London International Development Centre op-ed, August 2018, Merryn Lagaida

Governments are starving Yemenis, fuelling black markets through anti-terror legislation, Thomson Reuters Foundation op-ed, October 2018, Christina Bennett

Rohingya want to return, but only if rights and safety are guaranteed, Refugees Deeply op-ed, November 2018, Caitlin Wake

UK counterterrorism travel ban could criminalise humanitarian assistance, ODI blog, November 2018, Sarah Adamczyk

How to ensure Ethiopia's 'jobs compact' works for refugees, ODI blog, December 2018, Veronique Barbelet, Jessica Hagen-Zanker, Eva Ludi, Freddie Carver, Dirk Willem te Velde

Can the humanitarian system change fast enough?, ALNAP infographics and multimedia, December 2018, ALNAP, Christina Bennett, Veronique Barbelet

How can innovative financing help address the funding challenges facing the humanitarian system?, HPG GIF, infographic and multimedia, January 2019, Barnaby Willitts

Globalisation 4.0 must provide for the poorest, or it risks causing chaos for everyone, World Economic Forum op-ed, January 2019, Sara Pantuliano

2019's biggest challenge: the humanitarian sell-out, ODI blog, January 2019, Christina Bennett

Four priorities for Bangladesh's new government in 2019, ODI blog, January 2019, Heiner Salomon, Caitlin Wake, Nicola Jones, Maria Quattri

Davos 2019: four reasons for optimism despite the gloom, ODI blog, January 2019, Sara Pantuliano

Brussels Conference on Syria: four issues donors must prioritise next week, ODI blog, March 2019, Susan Nicolai, Maria Stavropoulou, Kerrie Holloway, Sarah Adamczyk

Disasters journal issues

Volume 42, Issue 2. *Disasters journal*. April 2018.

Volume 42, Issue 3. *Disasters journal*. July 2018.

Volume 42, Issue S2 Special issue: **Disasters in conflict areas**. *Disasters journal*. October 2018.

Volume 42, Issue 4. *Disasters journal*. October 2018.

Volume 43, Issue 1. *Disasters journal*. January 2019.

HPN publications

Humanitarian Exchange magazine

Mental health and psychosocial support in humanitarian crises, *Humanitarian Exchange* 72, July 2018

Rohingya refugees in Bangladesh: the humanitarian response, *Humanitarian Exchange* 73, October 2018

Communication and community engagement in humanitarian response, *Humanitarian Exchange* 74, February 2019

Online articles

Safeguarding in humanitarian organisations: a practical look at prevention and response - part one, Kelsey Hoppe and Christine Williamson, April 2018

Safeguarding in humanitarian organisations: a practical look at response - part two, Kelsey Hoppe and Christine Williamson, July 2018

The new humanitarian basics, Marc DuBois, July 2018

Living memory of famine in South Sudan: using local knowledge to inform famine early warning, Chris Newton and Katie Rickard, October 2018

Recommendations for innovative GBV service delivery: results of a study of mobile and remote programming in Myanmar, Burundi and Iraq, Leah E. James, Courtney Welton-Mitchell, Betsy Laird, Ami Neiman and Meghan O'Connor, October 2018

The first mile of warning systems: who's sharing what with whom?, JC Gaillard and Ilan Kelman, November 2018

Implementing parenting programmes in humanitarian crises, Sophie Feintuch, November 2018

The humanitarian #MeToo crisis: the really hard work is just beginning, Yves Daccord, November 2018

Women responders: placing local action at the centre of humanitarian protection programming, Helen Lindley-Jones and Toral Pattni, November 2018

The Grenfell Tower disaster in London: exploring parallels with international emergency response and recovery, John Plastow, December 2018

Blogs

Ebola in DRC: four things to consider ahead of a response, Caitlin Wake, May 2018

Public engagement

HPG and HPN co-hosted events

HPG held 22 events in a total of four countries
Two conferences and courses
12 roundtables
Eight public events

Somalia

Humanitarian reform in Somalia: progress and prospects, HPG roundtable with the Somalia NGO Consortium and Ground Truth Solutions, Mogadishu, February 2019

Switzerland

Beyond emergency relief: how innovative finance can deliver lasting solutions, HPG roundtable, World Economic Forum, Davos, January 2019

United Kingdom (London unless otherwise stated)

Being accountable to people affected by armed conflicts, HPG public event with ICRC, April 2018

Forum on refugee and migration policy: livelihoods, employment and development, HPG roundtable with ODI and Chatham House, May 2018

Senior-level course on conflict and humanitarian response with the LSE, June 2018

Chinese and UK aid: collaborating for a more prosperous, secure and inclusive world, HPG roundtable with ODI, RUSI and the Department for International Development (DfID), June 2018

Sexual violence in Somalia, HPG roundtable, June 2018

Towards a refugee compact in Bangladesh: the role of regional actors, HPG roundtable with the International Rescue Committee, July 2018

Inclusive aid: older people in humanitarian crises, HPG roundtable with ODI, HelpAge and Age International, July 2018

Breaking the silence: promoting action on aid worker mental health, HPG public event, August 2018

Causes and consequences of Darfuri migration to Europe, HPG public event, September 2018

Influencing national level policy and practice on the protection of civilians in armed conflict, HPG roundtable, September 2018

Mapping the middle space: Understanding the role of intermediaries in humanitarian response, HPG roundtable, November 2018

Mass starvation: tackling the political causes of famine, HPG public event, December 2018

UK policy on the protection of civilians, HPG roundtable, December 2018

Tackling Ebola in the DRC, HPG roundtable, December 2018

Improving user journeys for humanitarian cash transfers, HPG roundtable with Ground Truth Solutions, December 2018

Rethinking capacity assessment for a more local humanitarian action, HPG public event, March 2019

United States

ECOSOC Humanitarian Affairs Segment side event on innovative financing, With European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (ECHO), June 2018

HPN events

United Kingdom (London unless otherwise stated)

Improving mental health care in humanitarian crises, HPN public event, July 2018

The Rohingya crisis: voices from the field, HPN public event, October 2018

Communication and community engagement: *Humanitarian Exchange 74* Launch, OCHA Humanitarian Partnership and Networking week, Geneva, February 2019

External speaking events

67 external speaking events in 17 countries

Australia

Innovations and opportunities for humanitarian finance, Humanitarian Congress, Vienna, March 2019

Belgium

Donor coordination meeting on South Sudan, Brussels, May 2018

High-level panel on gender-based violence in emergencies, European Commission, European Development Days, Brussels, June 2018

Canada

Beyond local and international: humanitarianism at the margins, ISA Toronto, March 2019

Denmark

Localising Humanitarian Responses - Exploring Perceptions and Practice, Save the Children Denmark, Copenhagen, February 2019

Ethiopia

Inclusive aid; older people in humanitarian action, HelpAge International, Addis Ababa, August 2018

Germany

Opening keynote conversation: a locally led humanitarian response, 20th Annual Humanitarian Congress, Berlin, October 2018

Advocating for human dignity, 20th Annual Humanitarian Congress, Berlin, October 2018

The future of humanitarian action: reflections on impartiality, Centre for Humanitarian Action, Berlin, October 2018

Iceland

Women Leaders Global Forum, Reykjavik, November 2018

Ireland

Collective call towards innovating in humanitarian financing, Presentation at Irish Aid, Dublin, May 2018

Italy

Humanitarian convening retreat, The Rockefeller Foundation, Belaggio, April 2018

Grand Bargain: cash workstream progress, Grand Bargain cash workstream annual meeting, Rome, June 2018

Kenya

Inclusive aid: older people in humanitarian action, HelpAge International, Nairobi, August 2018

Consultation on business in complex emergencies, Connecting Business Initiative, Nairobi, September 2018

Field perspectives on the Grand Bargain, Inter-agency Working Group and Somalia NGO Forum, Nairobi, November 2018

Connecting Business initiative workshop for East African business networks, Connecting Business initiative, Nairobi, November 2018

The Netherlands

Money talks: exploring funding solutions for localised humanitarian response, Oxfam/International Humanitarian Studies Association (IHSA), The Hague, August 2018

What is holding us back? Humanitarian reform and shift to locally-led response, IHSA, The Hague, August 2018

Dignity and the problems of 'localisation': Rohingya refugees in Bangladesh, IHSA, The Hague, August 2018

As local as possible, as international as necessary: a critical review of capacity and complementarity, IHSA, The Hague, August 2018

Book presentation and launch: crisis management beyond the humanitarian-development nexus, IHSA, The Hague, August 2018

Switzerland

Inclusion of vulnerable groups in response, Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre, Geneva, October 2018

Working-level meeting on the Humanitarian Investing initiative, World Economic Forum, Geneva, November 2018

Exploring private sector engagement in man-made disasters, Connecting Business initiative Annual Event, Geneva, February 2019

Presentation on Good Practice Review on Urban Humanitarian Response, Global Alliance for Urban Crises session at Humanitarian Partnership and Networking week, Geneva, February 2019

The Rohingya Response, Federal Department of Foreign Affairs, Government of Switzerland, Bern, March 2019

Looking beyond the Grand Bargain - localisation and where to next? ICVA Annual Conference, Geneva, March 2019

Dignity in Displacement: From Rhetoric to Reality, ICRC Humanitarian, Geneva, March 2019

United Arab Emirates

Lives and livelihoods of Syria Refugees, New York University in Abu Dhabi, Abu Dhabi, March 2019

Ukraine

Humanitarian access in Ukraine, NATO/Harvard Humanitarian Initiative, Kiev, May 2018

United Kingdom (London unless stated otherwise)

Humanitarian Directors' Forum, World Vision, April 2018

Civil society under attack, University of Portsmouth, Portsmouth, April 2018

Bank de-risking and humanitarian action, Consultation with The Humanitarian Forum, May 2018

Securitisation of UK aid and impact on the Red Cross, Roundtable with ICRC UK, May 2018

The resilience challenge, Sahel Working Group, June 2018

Next steps on humanitarian reform, Seminar with DfID, June 2018

BOND Humanitarian Policy Working Group, Meeting at ActionAid, July 2018

Ditchley Annual Lecture, Ditchley Foundation, Oxford, July 2018

Adaptive programming and humanitarian action, ALNAP, September 2018

Cash in conflict, British Red Cross, September 2018

Dignity and displaced Syrians in Lebanon, British Red Cross MENA regional workshop, September 2018

Resilience in protracted crises, DfID Humanitarian Advisor Cadre Conference, September 2018

The future of cash, CaLP Cash Week, October 2018

Dignity and the displaced Rohingya in Bangladesh: 'ijjot' is a huge thing in this world, London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, October 2018

Food systems in protracted crises, DfID K4D Thematic Session, October 2018

Concern Worldwide's 50th anniversary, Panel with Concern Worldwide, October 2018

Practice of fieldwork: designing and managing research projects, University of York, York, November 2018

Religion and humanitarian aid: what is the role of religion in humanitarian aid, Midlands International Development Conference, Birmingham, December 2018

Capacity and complementarity, ICVA and HAG Bangkok Partnership Week, Online, December 2018

Engagement with non-state armed groups: challenges and obligations, Chatham House, January 2019

The cost of ill-health in protracted crises, DFID Health Advisers, January 2019

Change in the humanitarian sector, London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, February 2019

Non-material dimensions of protracted displacement, King's College London, March 2019

Is multi-year humanitarian financing the answer? DFID, March 2019

United States

Secretary-General's high-level meeting on peacebuilding and sustaining peace, The United Nations General Assembly, New York, April 2018

Presentation of the Grand Bargain annual independent report, Annual meeting of the Grand Bargain, New York, June 2018

New approaches to addressing humanitarian needs, World Economic Forum, New York, July 2018

Innovative financing coalition, Roundtable with the World Economic Forum, Concordia Annual Summit, New York, September 2018

Taking stock of the New Way of Working: Achievements and next steps, OCHA Policy Forum, New York, December 2018

High-Level Task Force on Humanitarian Access, United States Senate, Washington, March 2019

HPG commissioning partners

Commissioning partner	
Australian Department for Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT)	Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Care International	Network for Empowered Aid Response (NEAR)
Chatham House	Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC)
Chumir Foundation	Oxfam Great Britain
Embassy of Denmark Kabul	Oxford Policy Management
European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (ECHO)	Research and Evidence Facility (REF)
Global Affairs Canada	Royal United Services Institute (RUSI)
Global Alliance for Humanitarian Innovation (GAHI)	Somalia NGO Consortium
Ground Truth Solutions	Swiss Federal Department of Foreign Affairs
Humanity United	The Humanitarian Forum
IKEA Foundation	UK Department for International Development (DFID)
International Rescue Committee (IRC)	United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)
Islamic Relief	United States Office of Foreign Disaster Assistance (USAID)
La Caixa	War Child

HPG Advisory Group members

As of 31 March 2019

Advisory Group member	Organisation	Position and Department
Abdurahman Sharif	Federal Government of Somalia	Senior Special Advisor, Development & International Relations, Office of the Prime Minister
Alexander Matheou	British Red Cross Society	Executive Director of International
Ambassador Hesham Youssef	Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC)	Assistant Secretary General for Humanitarian Affairs
Colum Wilson	United Kingdom Department for International Development (DFID)	Group Head – CHASE Humanitarian and Protracted Crisis Policy
Dennis McNamara	Centre for Humanitarian Dialogue	Senior Humanitarian Adviser
Ewen MacLeod	United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)	Special Adviser to the High Commissioner
Hansjoerg Strohmeyer	United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA)	Chief, Policy Development and Studies Branch
Hany El-Banna	The Humanitarian Forum	Founder and President
Helen Young/Daniel Maxwell (alternate years)	Tufts University	Research Director for Nutrition, Livelihoods and Conflict/Professor in Food Security
Henrike Trautmann	European Commission Humanitarian Aid Office (ECHO)	Head of Unit, Humanitarian Aid and Civil Protection
Jehangir Malik	Muslim Aid	Chief Executive Officer
Jelte van Wieren	Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs	Director the Stabilisation and Humanitarian Aid Department
John Mitchell	Active Learning Network for Accountability and Performance (ALNAP)	Director
Katherine Mimiilidis	Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT)	Assistant Director, Humanitarian Reform and Performance Section
Klaus Schreiner	Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ)	Head of Unit Competence Centre Peace and Emergency Aid
Luca Alinovi	PP Sherpas Ltd	CEO and Founder
Margie Buchanan-Smith	Independent Consultant	Independent Consultant
Marielle Mumenthaler	Swiss Federal Department of Foreign Affairs	Programme Officer, Humanitarian Policy and Migration, Directorate of Political Affairs, Human Security Division
Markus Geisser	International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC)	Senior Humanitarian and Policy Adviser
Mia Beers	U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID)	Director, OFDA Humanitarian Policy and Global Engagement Division
Myeonjoa Kim	South Korea International Cooperation Agency (KOICA)	Humanitarian Assistance Specialist (Emergency relief and DRR) / Second Secretary
Nigel Timmins	Oxfam	Humanitarian Director
Patrick Haughey	Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Ireland	Director, Humanitarian Unit
Per Heggenes	IKEA Foundation	Chief Executive Officer
Reidun Otteroy	Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs	Policy Director, Humanitarian Affairs Section
Roger Zetter	University of Oxford	Emeritus Professor of Refugee Studies, Refugees Studies Centre
Stephen Salewicz	Global Affairs Canada	Director-General
Sultan Barakat	The Doha Institute	Director of the Centre for Conflict and Humanitarian Studies
Susanne Mikhail	Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA)	Head of Humanitarian Aid
Thomas Thomsen	Danish Ministry of Foreign Affairs	Chief adviser, Humanitarian Section
Valerie Guarnieri	World Food Programme (WFP)	Assistant Executive Director
Vickie Hawkins	Médecins Sans Frontières UK (MSF UK)	Executive Director

HPG staff



Christina Bennett
Head of HPG



Sarah Adamczyk
Research Fellow



Dr Veronique Barbelet
Senior Research Fellow



Hannah Bass
Communications Officer
(Publications Lead)



John Bryant
Research Officer



Sarah Cahoon
Programme Officer



Dr Sherine El Taraboulsi-McCarthy
Research Fellow



Dr Larissa Fast
Senior Research Fellow



Wendy Fenton
HPN Coordinator



Dr Matthew Foley
Managing Editor and Senior Research Fellow



Katie Forsythe
HPG Editor



Katy Harris
Communications Manager



Dr Kerrie Holloway
Research Officer



Merryn Lagaida
Communications Officer
(Digital Lead)



Cat Langdon
Programme Manager



Simon Levine
Senior Research Fellow



Irina Mosel
Senior Research Fellow



John Nesbitt
Disasters Journal and Course Coordinator



Sarah Phillips
Disasters and DPR Journals Coordinator



Dr Caitlin Wake
Senior Research Officer



Barnaby Willitts-King
Senior Research Fellow



Natasha Wright
Programme Administrator



Brenda Yu
Senior Communications Officer



Dr Sara Pantuliano
Managing Director/
Acting Executive Director



Emily Maynard
PA to the Managing Director

HPG Research Associates

Sarah Bailey
Research Associate

Nicholas Crawford
Senior Research Associate

Lydia Poole
Research Associate

John Borton
Senior Research Associate

Jim Drummond
Senior Research Associate

Naz Khatoon Modirzadeh
Research Associate

Mark Bowden
Senior Research Associate

Lilianne Fan
Research Associate

Sorcha O'Callaghan
Research Associates

Margie Buchanan-Smith
Senior Research Associate

Dr Ashley Jackson
Research Associate

Sara Pavanello
Research Associate

Dr Sarah Collinson
Research Associate

Victoria Metcalfe-Hough
Research Associate

HPG

**Humanitarian
Policy Group**



Humanitarian Policy Group

ODI

203 Blackfriars Road

London SE1 8NJ

United Kingdom

Tel. +44 (0) 20 7922 0300

Fax. +44 (0) 20 7922 0399

Email: hpgadmin@odi.org

Website: www.odi.org/hpg

Twitter: [@hpg_odi](https://twitter.com/hpg_odi)

Facebook: [HumanitarianPolicyGroup](https://www.facebook.com/HumanitarianPolicyGroup)