

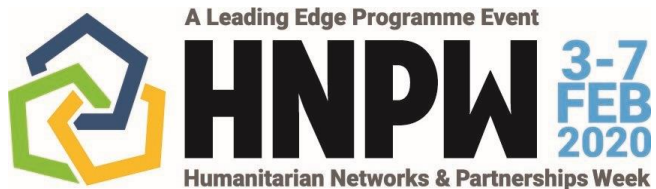


# EVENT SUMMARY

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**Humanitarian Networks and Partnerships Week (HNPW)**  
**3-7 February 2020**

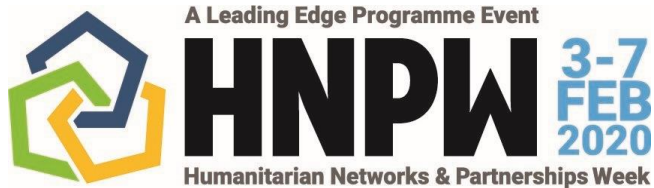




## Humanitarian Networks & Partnerships Week (HNPW) 2020

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## Humanitarian Networks & Partnerships Week (HNPW) 2020

### Event Summary

The sixth Humanitarian Networks and Partnerships Week (HNPW) was held from 3 to 7 February 2020 at the International Conference Centre in Geneva, Switzerland. The event was organized by the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs and hosted by the Swiss Government.

The HNPW is the flagship event of the Leading Edge Programme (LEP), a year-round collaborative platform for humanitarian expert networks and partnerships with the aim of developing sustainable solutions to recurring, cross-cutting issues in emergency preparedness and response. Launched in February 2017 and replacing the Consultative Group for Emergency Preparedness and Response (CG), the LEP acts as a global community of practice and offers a unique space for inter-network collaboration by bringing together a wide range of stakeholders united by common goals to improve effectiveness in crisis preparedness and response.

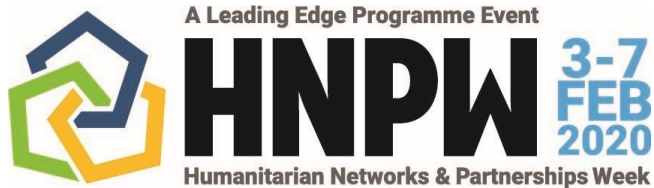
The HNPW 2020 was attended by more than 2,300 participants from 100 Member States and 450 organizations, representing UN agencies, funds and programs, Governments, military and civil protection, NGOs, the Red Cross and Red Crescent movement, private sector and academia. The 37 networks and partnerships that attended the HNPW 2020 organized more than 260 meetings and sessions including Briefing Sessions, Technical Meetings and Annual Network Meetings.

Side events included 35 stands in the Exhibition Area, the Speakers' Corner and Speed-Networking sessions.

Wednesday 5 February was designated an Inter-Network Day, during which networks hosted joint interactive sessions on topics of strategic relevance across the sector. These sessions were open to all participants, aimed at fostering collaboration on specific problems, ideas and activities. More than 1500 participants engaged actively in the five strategic discussions, the outcomes of which were summarized at the closing ceremony of the day. The day's Opening and Closing Ceremonies provided also an opportunity to reflect on today's challenges faced by the humanitarian sector and to reiterate the importance of collaboration among all actors to identify and develop sustainable solutions. The Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator Mark Lowcock, Assistant Secretary-General and Deputy Emergency Relief Coordinator Ursula Mueller and Head of Swiss Humanitarian Aid at the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation Manuel Bessler were among the guest speakers.

Information about the next HNPW (10-14 May 2021) will be available at [www.hnpw.org](http://www.hnpw.org) shortly.

*Geneva, February 2020*



## Humanitarian Networks & Partnerships Week (HNPW) 2020

The HNPW 2020 was attended by 37 Networks and Partnerships that held their annual meetings and consultations at the event. Below are the summaries of their sessions, including links to the final reports along with additional information about the networks and partnerships.

### Active Learning Network for Accountability and Performance (ALNAP)

The ALNAP annual meeting served as an opportunity to engage with the ALNAP Secretariat, hear updates on the ALNAP workplan and network with other members on issues of shared concern. The ALNAP Secretariat provided a short briefing to its members on: the Meeting paper for the 32nd Annual Meeting (held in Berlin 2019), plans for the 33rd Annual Meeting, and an update on M&E and research workstreams and opportunities for engagement in 2020.

### Communicating with Disaster Affected Communities (CDAC) Network

The CDAC Network event on systematizing communication and engagement with communities looked at government-led preparedness platforms in countries where the majority of disasters are caused by natural hazards. It was noted that while communicating and engaging with communities in situations of armed conflict or violence is incredibly complex; the sector continues to struggle with how best to communicate with communities in situations of natural disasters. Next steps include:

- Documentation of lesson learned and evidence on the impact of national platforms on communicating and engaging with communities are key to enable scale up of systems level change on this thematic area.
- Drawing from the learning, pre-position locally-relevant structures and relationships to enable a more systematic and coherent participatory response in any small, medium or large-scale disaster.

For a more detailed summary, click [here](#).

### Communication and Community Engagement Initiative (CCEI)

At the last HNPW, sessions of the Communication and Community Engagement Initiative, the need to have more predictable surge capacity to support collective accountability approaches at country level, to have stronger leadership support for such approaches, to build up the evidence of what works (or not) at country level, and to include the work of the CCEI in the humanitarian architecture for more systematic and predictable approaches were highlighted as key priorities. Much of this work is currently embedded in the IASC Results Group on Accountability and Inclusion. This 4th session of CCEI sought to review the progress that has been achieved so far and proposed a roadmap for the coming two years.

### Conflict Analysis Network (CAN)

Throughout the week, CAN held several meetings including an analysis of power dynamics and an annual network meeting. Participants discussed the network's involvement in the Inter-Network Day as well as collaborations, such as with the Geneva Centre for Security Policy (GCSP) to incubate the Network. Next steps include:

- 🌐 Build bridges with partners, in HDP (humanitarian, development and peace & security), and in military, academia, climate change, through conflict analysis that links with decision-making.
- 🌐 Work with wider audience, using open source and de-classifying available analyses.
- 🌐 Promote cultural change through understanding power dynamics and information sharing.

For a more detailed summary, click [here](#).

### Connective Business initiative (CBi)

The CBi Annual Event was structured around two thematic sessions – one titled “Leveraging private sector capacities in disaster management in the 2020s” and one titled “Strengthening Community Resilience through Business Continuity and Risk Transfer”. Collective outcomes included:

- 🌐 Language barriers, structural and operational differences as well as lack of understanding of private sector's capacities and capabilities post disaster period often inhibit private sector active engagement in humanitarian assistance.
- 🌐 Further knowledge needs to be developed to understand the return of investment for private sector involvement in humanitarian action.
- 🌐 Private sector's agility compared to public and humanitarian sectors can be instrumental for response efforts.
- 🌐 The relationship between the humanitarian community and the private sector needs transitioning from a philanthropic partnership to an operational one that is based on mutual understanding and shared values.

- 🌐 Business continuity planning is fundamental to a company's, especially MSME's long term sustainability.
- 🌐 A large portion of businesses who have not taken preparedness action fail following disasters, and when they do, they also have detrimental socio-economic impacts in their communities.
- 🌐 On the other hand, incentivizing the business continuity planning agenda for an MSME is challenging due to the business' lack of awareness, resources and capabilities. Leveraging supply chains of large companies and insurance sector has been identified as potential catalysts for promoting uptake of business continuity planning in MSMEs.

For a more detailed summary, click [here](#).

### Early Action Focus Task Force (EAFTF)

During the EAFTF Technical Meeting, participants had the opportunity to review and update the current draft Terms of Reference which include strengthening coherence of anticipatory action, provision of technical expertise and advancing normative guidance and joint advocacy. Moreover, A draft 2020 workplan for the early action Focus Task Force was developed based on following a review of the group's capacity and efforts since its inception in 2018 and emerging opportunities in the coming year (eg COP 26) was created. Next steps for implementing solutions include:

- 🌐 The Early Action Focus Task Force will finalise the TOR and may expand membership/partnership over the course of 2020 based on priorities and capacity.
- 🌐 Implement priority areas of the workplan which include developing and disseminating communication material, update mapping and details of anticipatory action coverage, supporting member initiatives such as the Anticipation Hub and Catalogue of Anticipatory Action Models.

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For a more detailed summary, click [here](#).

### Emergency Medical Team (EMT) Initiative

The EMT Strategic Advisory Group meeting represented the opportunity to set the priorities and next steps of the initiative's governance and technical working groups as well as receiving an update from each Member State with regard to their status of preparedness to send and receive EMTs. The Core Support Group meeting provided a forum for key partners and donors interested in supporting the Emergency Medical Team (EMT) Initiative, to express their ideas and concerns direct to the WHO EMT secretariat and wider WHO emergency risk management and humanitarian response section. Finally, participants had the opportunity to hear about:

- 📍 Capacity strengthening of national and international Emergency medical teams (EMTs) and national health authorities for an efficient, timely and coordinated EMT response, based on minimum quality standards.
- 📍 An update on the WHO Emergency Medical Team Initiative.
- 📍 The progress on capacity strengthening and training, standard setting, mentorship and classification, response operations, and partnerships, policy and governance for Emergency Medical Teams across the globe.

### Emergency Supply Prepositioning Strategies (ESUPS)

Following up on our progresses in 2019, the Emergency Supplies Prepositioning Strategy (ESUPS) project is looking at opportunities to extend the project beyond 2020. The half-day ESUPS session provided a summary of their 4 pillars of activities, (Coordination, Data collection, Data Analysis and Communication & Advocacy) and seek your active participation in defining the ways forward. Next steps include:

- 📍 Trigger and progress the Stock data collection platform and introduce the tool to countries of ESUPS engagement.

- 📍 Finalize, through identified academics partners, the integration of the 2 variables Replenishment and Absorption capacities into the Model & Metrics tool used to defined optimum national pre-positioning strategies.
- 📍 Finalize the research study undertaken with Academic partners in Turkey and Canada and aimed at demonstrating the time and cost added value of stock loan & borrowing between agencies, as well as of the postponement of branding.

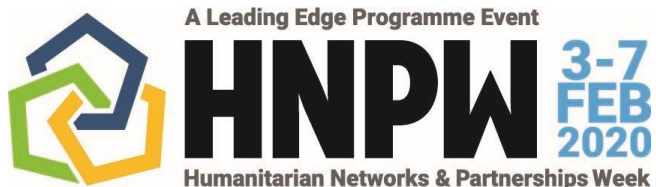
For a more detailed summary, click [here](#).

### Environment and Humanitarian Action Network (EHAN)

The annual Environment and Humanitarian Action Network (EHAN) meeting shared news and updates regarding implementation of environmental and climate change policies in humanitarian organizations and decide on the network's work plan for 2020. Next steps include:

- 📍 Continue developing and promoting best practices for environment/climate change policies for humanitarian action, with help from the extended network.
- 📍 Attend EHAN meetings every two months to continue discussing and finding solutions for the issues raised as well as contribute to tailored projects.
- 📍 Implement the EHAN work plan, communication and donor outreach strategies.

For a more detailed summary, click [here](#).



### Expert Group on Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Response in Aviation (HADRA)

The Expert Group on Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Response (HADRA) convened its meeting at the HNPW 2020. A scenario for a “Serious game”, led by TU Delft, was developed on the basis of the findings of a study conducted at St-Maarten, after hurricane Irma. Participants were invited to develop an airport schedule, based on a range of changing parameters in order to illustrate the physical and operational constraints faced by humanitarian and aviation stakeholders. Based on the constraints identified, a range of aviation stakeholders was invited to present their activities and explain how it could facilitate the effective coordination with humanitarian stakeholders. Defining what happens from an airport’s perspective when a disaster occurs and what infrastructure and services have to be put in place to the service of humanitarian support. Next steps to implementing solutions include:

- 🌐 Develop guidance material on airport preparedness for effective humanitarian assistance and disaster response
- 🌐 Develop a real-time information sharing tool about the availability of airports and their services in the initial phase of the response
- 🌐 Ensure lessons learned are captured systematically

For a more detailed summary, click [here](#).

### Geneva-based Cash Working Group

The GbCWG will connect cash and voucher actors at the Geneva level to support higher quality programming, foster collaboration and increase accountability and support to field colleagues. The group shared information on key cash-related developments and map and harmonize members’ ongoing work, including bringing together the clusters’/ sectors’ work on cash.

### Global Cluster Center Network (GCCN)

The purpose of the GCCN meeting was to take stock of progress made and to define concrete steps to make the GCCN ready for efficient use in emergencies. Next steps for implementing solutions include:

- 🌐 A schedule for GCCN exercises to be compiled and shared to allow the early engagement of GCCN participants in the exercise preparations.
- 🌐 Dedicated GCCN exercises should be considered to practice related coordination procedures in a variety of scenarios in disaster-prone countries.
- 🌐 Develop pre-exercise learning material (guidelines, manuals) and offer remote training for disaster prone countries, regional organizations and other GCCN stakeholders.

For a more detailed summary, click [here](#).

### Global Disaster Alert and Coordination System (GDACS)

The purpose of the GDACS Advisory Group meeting was to review latest developments of the GDACS Multi-Hazard Early Warning System, scientific impact estimations, web-based coordination platforms, and satellite mapping. Next steps include:

- 🌐 Pursue the development of flood and forest fire impact estimations as well as comprehensive multi-hazard alert levels based on the effects of recent and simultaneous events.
- 🌐 Develop user manuals and guidance material for the use of GDACS tools and services in disasters and organize (remote) training to introduce these widely.
- 🌐 Further develop the Satellite Mapping Coordination System (SMCS version 2.0) and introduce it to relevant stakeholders in exercises and disasters.

7 For a more detailed summary, click [here](#).

## Humanitarian Civil-Military Coordination (UN-CMCoord)

The Consultative Group on Humanitarian Civil-Military Coordination (UN-CMCoord CG) is the major multi-stakeholder platform for exchange and networking on distinct and shared questions and concerns in the field of civil-military coordination and the appropriate and most effective use of foreign military assets in disasters in peacetime and in conflict settings.

For their “Counter-Terrorism and Humanitarian Action: Operational Realities” meeting, the next steps for implementing solutions include:

- 🌐 Explore the development of case studies in partnership with the academe and other relevant operational partners to build on the outcomes and key highlights of the session to inform steps 2 and 3.
- 🌐 Incorporate the analysis of CT operating environments in relevant UN-CMCoord learning events, including supporting relevant Access and Protection learning events.
- 🌐 Explore the need to update relevant global UN-CMCoord Guidelines, incorporating the ground realities in CT operating environments.

During the “What Future for Humanitarian Notification Mechanisms” meeting, the panel discussed, among other things:

- 🌐 What does an “effective notification mechanism” look like?
- 🌐 What defines a “humanitarian location” and a “humanitarian movement”?
- 🌐 Is there a risk of parties to the conflict abusing a notification mechanism, for example by positioning military objectives near notified objects in order to shield them from attack, or by intentionally directing attacks?
- 🌐 Is there a risk of humanitarian notification mechanisms contributing to humanitarian access constraints? How can we make sure that notification mechanisms do not transform into approval systems or become overly bureaucratic?

For a more detailed summary, click [here](#).

## Humanitarian Logistics Association (HLA)

During the “Humanitarian Transport and Logistics” meeting, participants were introduced to:

- 🌐 An understanding of the value of developing, or compiling, universally agreed high-level principles and associated standards for humanitarian transport and logistics.
- 🌐 Awareness of gaps in current technical guidelines or commercial standards related to humanitarian transport and logistics.
- 🌐 Opportunity to engage in the Universal Logistics Standards project consultation process.

The “Humanitarian Logistics: Looking to the Future” meeting focused on the changing humanitarian landscape. Outcomes included:

- 🌐 Identifying what the shape and scope of humanitarian logistics should be over the next decade.
- 🌐 How can global private sector and other non-profit logistics (including aviation) resources support improved national resilience and preparedness in fragile and disaster-prone states?
- 🌐 What opportunities exist for the private sector to strategically engage to support local, environmentally sustainable, humanitarian and emergency supply chains? (For example, private sector logistics’ efforts to build world-class warehousing facilities in Africa).

## H2H Network

Annual General Meeting of the H2H Network to:

- 🌐 Update members on progress
- 🌐 Discuss plans for the coming year
- 🌐 Gather feedback from members on priorities and needs
- 🌐 Review H2H Fund activations and lessons learned



## Importation and Customs in humanitarian relief operations (IMPACCT Project)

During the HNPW 2020, the IMPACCT Working Group held 5 open sessions to discuss the challenges that humanitarian operators face with the importation and Customs clearance of relief consignments during humanitarian emergencies.

### Session 1: Customs Tariff Classification for Relief Items

The absence of Customs tariff classification for relief items result in relief not being identified and prioritized throughout the Customs clearance process. There are several options for the classification of relief at international and national levels for which proposals were discussed.

### Session 2: Importation of Medicines and Medical Equipment During Disease Outbreaks

Humanitarian healthcare operators are often impeded by bureaucratic impediments while responding to disease outbreaks.

These actors need further information on the procedures in the country where they are responding in order to prepare themselves and facilitate the importation of medicines. Additionally, the importing countries should anticipate and manage disease outbreaks with exceptional procedures.

### Session 3: Bureaucratic Impediments During Complex Emergencies

Similarly to disease outbreaks, humanitarian operators face detrimental bureaucratic impediments for the cross-border movement of relief during complex emergencies. To facilitate the work of humanitarian operators, these impediments should be addressed at the advocacy, legislation and operational capacity building levels.

### Session 4: The Ripple Effect of Lengthy Border Clearance Processes

Lengthy border clearance processes can cause significant bottlenecks and financial burdens for humanitarian operators. 5 consultants from the London School of Economics, who are undertaking research on this using the case study of Bangladesh, presented their work so far. This provided the opportunity to develop this research using the inputs from various participants in the room.

### Session 5: From 'Business as Usual' to 'Prioritization' of Relief Consignments

Despite international conventions and provisions providing the mechanisms for the prioritization of relief items, they are not necessarily implemented at national level. Therefore, during times of emergencies, relief is not prioritized and 'business as usual' processing takes place. It is essential that Customs administrations implement prioritization processes and all national stakeholders as well as humanitarian actors are aware of these procedures.

For a more detailed summary, click [here](#).

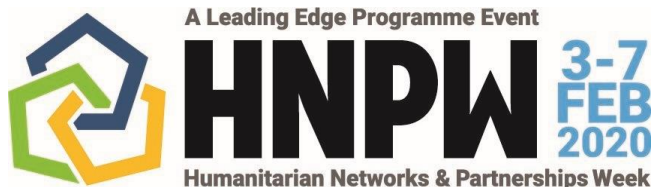
## Inclusion of persons with disabilities in humanitarian action

The Inclusion of people with disabilities in humanitarian action network held several different meetings, among which the "Geneva Launch of the IASC Disability Guidelines" and "Towards disability-inclusion: what the IASC Guidelines offer". From the first meeting, the identified next steps to implementing solutions include:

- 🌐 There is a strong sense that humanitarian action must become a full part of the UNDIS accountability framework.
- 🌐 Progress outside of the humanitarian sector must continue.
- 🌐 Training and capacity-building were consistently mentioned as important next steps, be it internally to raise awareness or in the work with external partners.

For the second meeting, next steps include:

- 🌐 Activation of the Reference Group on Inclusion of Persons with Disabilities in Humanitarian.



- 🌐 Outlining a work-plan for the Reference.
- 🌐 Encourage and support mainstream humanitarian actors to realize disability-inclusion in their activities from planning to implementation, coordination, monitoring and evaluation.

For a more detailed summary, click [here](#).

### Information Management Working Group (IMWG)

During their briefing session on data assessments and analysis work underway at the global level, the IMWG aimed at:

- 🌐 Comprehending of where the humanitarian system is moving when it comes to data, assessments, and analysis
- 🌐 Understanding of the specificity of each initiative and how they complement each other
- 🌐 Networking opportunity around these initiatives

The IMWG also held two meetings - with the GCCG and Stand-By-Partners - to provide an annual review of collaboration to date.

### International Humanitarian Partnership (IHP)

The IHP's annual network meeting split in two parts: in the first half, IHP's focal points had the opportunity to take part in a roundtable to discuss updates from members. In the second half, participants received a briefing on services provided by IHP as well as an update from IHP Partners.

### International Search and Rescue Advisory Group (INSARAG)

INSARAG held its Steering Group Meeting, which was attended by all three INSARAG Regional Chairs, Troikas and members from Classified teams.

Participants discussed the endorsement of the INSARAG Strategic Objectives, of the 2020 reviewed version of the INSARAG Guidelines; and the Preparation for the INSARAG 3<sup>rd</sup> Global Meeting, to be held in October 2020 in Warsaw, Poland. Next steps include:

- 🌐 Regional Chairs will lead consultations on the topic of Flexible Response, and report back during the INSARAG 3rd Global Meeting. Moreover, they will be in charge of leading discussions regarding the Warsaw Declaration before 31 July
- 🌐 This year, two new Working Groups will be created within the INSARAG Network on the INSARAG National Accreditation (INAWG), as well as on the revision of the Earthquake Response Exercise (ERE). Furthermore, a transitional Guidelines Review Group (GRG) will be established
- 🌐 The INSARAG Steering Group recommends to the Member States to adopt and apply the INSARAG Guidelines version 2020 and translate them to other languages for broader dissemination

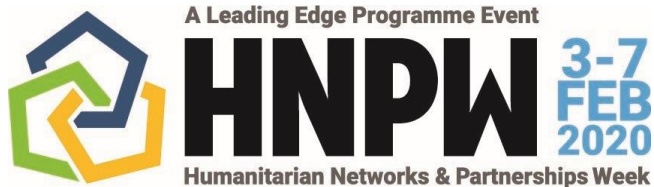
For a more detailed summary, click [here](#).

### Risk-Informed Early Action Partnership (REAP)

The REAP partnership aims to bridge the nexus between the climate, humanitarian and development communities. The main outcomes of the discussion include the necessity of National Governments to be the “front and centre” of REAP and how REAP should be used to convene different (relevant) stakeholders at a country level. Besides, the strongest ask/recommendation from participants is for REAP to draft and circulate a Concept Note ASAP so that current and potential members can better understand where and how to engage. Next steps include:

- 🌐 Continue to grow REAP partnerships – Organizations interested in joining REAP or participating in future discussion please join the REAP distribution list by emailing [reap.secretariat@ifrc.org](mailto:reap.secretariat@ifrc.org).

10 For a more detailed summary, click [here](#).



## Strategic Advisory Group on Environmental Emergencies (SAGEE)

During its annual meeting, SAGEE reviewed the JEU 5-year strategy and endorsed it subject to modest revisions and agreed on the JEU's operational plan. Next steps for implementing solutions include:

- 🌱 SAGEE members to step up efforts to advocate and raise awareness on JEU readiness and response services
- 🌱 SAGEE to support mission follow-up and monitoring, joint training programmes and advocacy in relevant international fora
- 🌱 SAGEE members to actively suggest other opportunities for JEU's participation and contribution as they may arise throughout the year.

For a more detailed summary, click [here](#).

## Simulation and Training Network (STN)

The purpose of the Simulation and Training Network (STN) Core Group meeting at the HNPW 2020 was to take stock of STN achievements so far and to draw out best practices, challenges and concrete steps for further improving the quality of emergency response/coordination simulation exercises. Next steps include:

- 🌱 The STN Knowledge base to be revised to provide a user-friendly interface.
- 🌱 Develop guidance for the design of comprehensive and inclusive simulation exercises, including definition of terminology and an exercise categorization standard to facilitate the distinction between different types of exercises.
- 🌱 Pre-exercise learning modules to be developed for exercise objectives of all "actors" in the exercise.

For a more detailed summary, click [here](#).

## Stand-By Partnership Programme (SBBP)

The SBBP provides surge capacity support to UN agencies responding to humanitarian emergencies, through the deployment of standby personnel. During their annual consultations, participants endorsed the 2020-2022 strategic framework; identified chairs and volunteers for the new SBBP working group; and collected action points for the SBPP Network work plan. Next steps include:

- 🌱 SBP duty of care will continue, with areas for further discussion prioritized.
- 🌱 Establish SBP MEAL working group.
- 🌱 Establish SBP training working group.

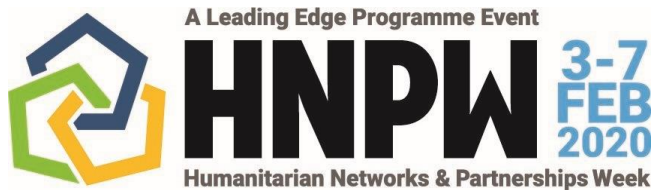
For a more detailed summary, click [here](#).

## United Nations Disaster Assessment and Coordination (UNDAC) Mechanism

The overall aim of the UNDAC Advisory Board meeting was for the board members to provide operational and strategic guidance to improve the effectiveness and efficiency of the UNDAC system, which must remain fit for purpose at global and regional levels as a rapid response tool and cooperation mechanism of the UN. Next steps for implementing solutions include:

- 🌱 OCHA will continue strengthening the implementation of a regionalized and localized approach in UNDAC emergency deployments.
- 🌱 Provide emergency management related advisory services to Governments and key stakeholders through support to training and exercises, emergency management capacity assessments and CADRI capacity diagnosis missions.
- 🌱 Ensure versatility and quality of response missions through roster review and profile analysis, providing professional development opportunities and impact evaluation.

For a more detailed summary, click [here](#).



## Inter-Network Day Summary

The 2020 Inter-Network Day was centered around five priority areas. During their workshop in September 2019, the LEP Strategic Group prioritized the following topics for discussion.

- 🌐 Humanitarian Coordination and Localization
- 🌐 Anticipatory Action
- 🌐 Nexus Environments
- 🌐 Accountability to Affected Populations (AAP)
- 🌐 Climate Crisis

The day was devoted to the 17 thematic, interactive sessions which took place in the CICG. These sessions are summarized below:

### Humanitarian Coordination and Localization

The “Humanitarian coordination and localization” theme was organized in three separate sessions, whereby each session built on the outcomes of the previous one.

The purpose of the first session for this topic was to take stock of experience, best practice and vision related to localization in cluster coordination, to identify opportunities and challenges, and to recommend concrete action to strengthen localization in international coordination of humanitarian crisis on the global scale, building on previous initiatives and developments.

The session was divided in two parts:

- 🌐 experienced panel framed around unpacking challenges and best practices of humanitarian coordination and localization.
- 🌐 5 teasers by spokesperson introducing their deep-dive breakout discussion happening during session 2.

At the closing ceremony of the Inter-Network Day, Ms. Dear Nugra Bestari (Communication and Partnership Manager, Humanitarian Forum Indonesia) summarized the outcomes of the discussion as follows.

“From the Localization Humanitarian Coordination priority team, we see the progress of coordination takes place in humanitarian response setting and/or in preparedness, in terms of numbers of participation in cluster system. Meanwhile, there are 3 priority things that need to be undertaken to better improve participation, which are:

- 🌐 Localization is understood and implemented in different ways amongst humanitarian players. Regardless, acknowledge and trust the local leadership, capacities/competencies, mechanism, practices, and resources is the key success to ensure those various practices of localization are still meeting the essence of the agenda itself, which are fulfilling the needs of affected people and ensuring that no one is left behind.
- 🌐 International communities need to link more with existing national/sub-national coordination system, for example in the case of the Central Sulawesi’s response: international actors, including the Humanitarian Country Team, engage with existing national clusters, and command system on disaster emergency response at a provincial level.
- 🌐 Capacity strengthening to have better effective ownership and leadership of local actors, including existing local consortia/network, in the coordination and decision-making process.”

For more information on the individual breakout sessions, click [here](#).

## Anticipatory Action

The “Anticipatory Action” topic was covered in two individual sessions, the first one titled “A Stitch in Time: Anticipatory Action – expanding the context, experience the approach” and the second one titled “Anticipatory Action: how do we better anticipate food crisis?”

Mr. Lars Peter Nissen, Director of ACAPS, summarized the outcomes of both discussions at the closing of the Inter-Network Day:

“Over this week there has been a number of sessions where we have looked at anticipatory action and it’s been a very rich discussions we have had. And it’s clear that this really is a matter of “How do we get ahead of the hazard”: it’s a topic that has come to the center of the stage for the community and we really need to keep it there.

It’s clear, it’s critical, that we get ahead of the hazards, as we will, because of climate change, experience more and more frequent sudden onset disasters and at the same time we have to acknowledge the driving of better and better focus, so that we actually have a real chance for action in these crises. And so, it’s a key issue that we need to face in this time of climate change, we need to make that last mile our first mile. So, we need to get out there and use technology to forecast and predict and anticipate action at the local level. In order to do this, we need a system-wide holistic approach to increase awareness or continue to increase awareness. We need to build capacity and we need to learn together. So, we can’t let this, we don’t have the capacity as it is, and we simply haven’t fully yet penetrated the system with the thinking.

And finally, we have to grow partnerships, we have to have ecosystem of actors involved in anticipatory action that expands and goes way beyond the humanitarian sector, to involve academia and the scientific community. We have to think not only about needs analysis, we have to think about the political analysis and really leverage a number of professional community representatives that we don’t engage with today if we are to be successful with this.

For more information on the individual sessions, click [here](#).

## Nexus Environments

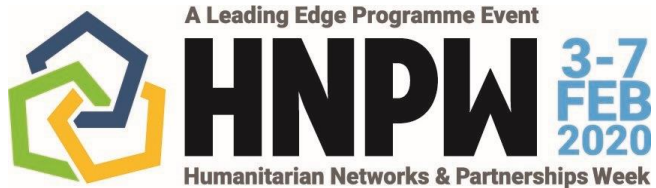
The discussion on “Nexus Environments” included the range of intervention types and the different lenses needed to understand those environments. In protracted crises, different types of intervention co-exist, including humanitarian, development, peace & security, human rights, etc. In these “nexus environments”, different lenses of local actors, military, climate change, academia, economy, etc. need to be applied. The main objectives of this discussions were to expose the largely humanitarian audience to the different actors they need to interact with or to understand the nexus environments and to learn what enablers these different actors currently have and where they see the need to strengthen.

A summary of this discussion was presented by Mr. Matthew Seventy, Consultant, at the closing ceremony of the Inter-Network Day. His speech is reported below:

“The end of a very interesting day! One of the key things that came out for me was that we know how to do it, but we don’t really know how to do it together. Part of the solution is of course days like today where we discover the importance of new ways of working together. Because the importance of the networks that joined today and the different coordination fora and the interconnection between those networks is really central for developing our joined-up approach.

The first session focused on conflict analysis within Nexus Environments and we saw that there was a need for rebranding or reflagging in the demystifying of the processes involved. Rather than any necessary change to the nuts-and-bolts of what we are doing, we should be thinking more about doing it together.

The second session, based on experiences in Cameroon, took it down-to-the-local-level, where it was about the importance of the nexus on a municipality level. We are sitting here at the global level, we’re thinking of these as global issues, but they’re not: they’re people issues and there’s people at a very micro-level.



So, as a final thought is that we are thinking about culture change. A lot of what we talked about was culture change, and what we have to remember when talking about culture change is that we are part of that culture and so we, as individuals, have to be part of the change as well.”

For more information on the individual sessions, click [here](#).

### Accountability to Affected Populations (AAP)

To better understand the importance of AAP, three different sessions were set-up, respectively looking at best practices in AAP, AAP in 2020 and the future of AAP. Throughout the 3 sessions, it was agreed that the concept of ownership should be part of AAP going forward as well as that trust between responders/humanitarian actors and affected populations is necessary and should be a bigger focus in programming. Finally, participants concluded that AAP should be integrated into all other discussion, as it is the way forward for humanitarian action.

Ms. Rebecca Petras, Humanitarian Advisor, H2H Network, summarized the outcomes of the discussions at the closing ceremony of the Inter-Network Day. Read her speech below:

“We had three sessions on AAP today: the first one looking at best practices, the second one looking at where we are today and where the gaps are, and the third sort of looking at the future and the solutions.

What we found was: we’ve made progress in accountability, we can pat ourselves in the back, we are no longer talking about the fact that we should have data, we actually do have data now, we just don’t know how to use it. And we’ve gone beyond the concept of participation and coming to ownership: the community owns its response and it owns the data. So, I think we have come a long way in that regard, but we are not there.

So, come of the solutions, some of the areas we discussed having to focus on going forward: we need to have adaptive programming; we need to action what we say we need to do and do more than just collect data and make sure that it’s being used;

and then we need to do that again. We need to address the trust issue and trust goes both ways: that’s trust in the community as well as communities thrusting us and so making sure that we build that into our programming more. And then we need to incentivize AAP and that’s on all levels and in an equal way.

And then we just had some final thoughts in terms of AAP for HNPW. Two thoughts:

1. We were in a really big room talking to people that really believed in AAP and often there are the same faces, and we need to change that up. We need to infiltrate all of the themes and we need to not be a side-load. AAP needs to be in every room.
2. The final thought being that there are a lot of local initiatives to be celebrated and we need to have meaningful discussions about AAP at a local level, not just in Geneva.

For more information on the individual sessions, click [here](#).

## Climate Crisis

The “Climate crisis” topic was addressed in three sessions focusing on different frameworks and approaches to address climate risk in humanitarian action. In the first session, participants engaged with current humanitarian tools, learning how technology, data and digital innovations is supporting climate-resilient humanitarian action. The second session focused on the need for nature-based solutions in humanitarian contexts, exploring how to strengthen collaboration between environmental and humanitarian actors. The final session was a practical workshop on extreme weather events and climate security, which provided participants with a hands-on approach in responding to the humanitarian consequences of the climate crisis.

At the closing ceremony of the Inter-Network Day, Ms. Catherine Watson, Head of Programme Development from World Agroforestry (ICRAF)) summarized the outcomes of these discussions as follows.

““We don’t have time to do slow and steady”, Andrew Harper, UNHCR. “Climate Crisis is real and worse than we could ever imagine” said our Finnish colleagues. To better understand resilience and vulnerability we’ll use tools like NEAT, developed by the Joined Environment Unit (JEU) and NRC, and Earth observation like that done by NASA.”

“Tree planting is not always successful, but it is essential” observes Ms. Phosiso Sola, World Agroforestry. In Africa most refugees are natural resource dependent. “Nature is just too big to fail” says Marie-Claire, the Greta Thunberg of Switzerland, “But if you just prioritize flora and fauna” observed IUCN, “you end up just safeguarding nature and nature-based solutions are essential for human development.” Scientists are welcome, we listen to people at the back of the tent, and humanitarians and environmentalists will henceforward work together for full systemic transformation. We can and we will bend the curve.”

For more information on the individual sessions, click [here](#).



## Technical Meetings Summary

**Monday, 3 February 2020**

### Collective Outcomes: Planning and implementing the triple nexus in contexts of protracted crisis – IASC Guidance

The notion of “collective outcomes” has been placed at the centre of implementing the Humanitarian-Development-Peace Nexus and is recognized as a key driver for making it a reality. While progress has been made on defining a conceptual framework for what collective outcomes are alongside implementation in certain contexts, there remains demand for concise and practical guidance on how to articulate and implement them. The IASC, through its Result Group 4, has recently developed practical Guidance on Collective Outcomes, which aims at articulating the choices that must be made by teams in the field to formulate and implement collective outcomes. This session, which was structured in the form of a discussion panel, revolved around key themes critical to formulating and implementing collective outcomes and making the Triple Nexus a reality; such as, for example, “Leadership” and “Financing the Nexus”. Next steps include:

- 📌 Endorsement of the Light Guidance on Collective Outcomes by IASC Results Group 4 and subsequently by the Operational Policy and Advocacy Group (OPAG).
- 📌 Socialize the guidance with humanitarian, development and peace actors both at the policy-making levels as well as field levels.
- 📌 Involve donors and link-up the guidance to the OECD DAC recommendations.

For a more detailed summary, click [here](#).

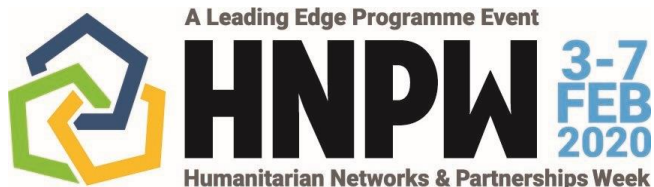
### Towards Grand Bargain Commitment 4: Harmonising donor assessments & CHS Verification

This meeting set out to investigate whether CHS Verification can support the achievement of Grand Bargain Commitment 4.2 and enable a more efficient approach to donor partner capacity assessments and due diligence process. Participants were made aware of donor due diligence trends and milestones towards simplification and harmonization, so that stakeholders could become able to differentiate between then CHS Verification options and understand the benefits of each. Next steps for implementing solutions include:

- 📌 The CHS Alliance has launched a review of how the CHS supports Grand Bargain Commitments. The review will inform the sector on the specific role of the CHS in achieving harmonization and simplification of donors’ partners assessments.
- 📌 The CHS Alliance and HQAI will continue to support donors and funding mechanisms who wish to use the CHS in their partner assessments. Both organizations will also continue to contribute to initiatives on the harmonization and simplification of donors’ assessments.
- 📌 Donors and funding mechanisms that already use the CHS will explain and promote the advantages of the CHS with other donors.

For a more detailed summary, click [here](#).





Tuesday, 4 February 2020

### Climate, humanitarian action and collective advocacy

This technical meeting led by the IASC Results Group 3 on Collective advocacy was divided in 3 sessions. The first one explored climate science and what the effects are on the most vulnerable populations. The second session laid the groundwork for the development of a workplan regarding humanitarian action and climate change in the sense that it allowed a stock taking of current discussions and what positions individual agencies have taken. In the third and final session the IASC Results Group 3 on Collective Advocacy sub-group on climate change and humanitarian action conducted extensive consultations amongst their members and created an ambitious workplan, which is currently being reviewed. Next steps to implementing solutions include:

- 🌐 The sub-group has been created and currently, feedback on the workplan that was developed during the HNPW is being collected. Interested members and participants that connected to the group during the HNPW are being added to the group.
- 🌐 The specific activities and deliverables as laid out in the workplan will be assigned to agencies and the responsibility to deliver will be assigned.
- 🌐 collective messaging and further specification of the activities will be taken forward in the framework of the refined workplan. The sub-group will develop advocacy, information sharing and policy dialogue. The work plan sets goals for the next 3-year period and regular follow-up will be conducted.

For a more detailed summary, click [here](#).

### Conflict analysis and anticipatory action – the imperative to act!

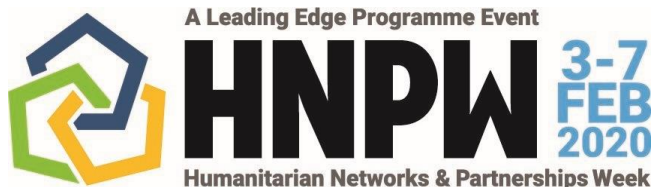
In this joint meeting held by the Early Action Focus Task Force (EAFTF) and the Conflict Analysis Network (CAN), members of the networks gained better understanding of the capacity, scope and aims of the respective networks through a very constructive dialogue. Participants recognized the importance of conflict analysis in anticipatory approaches, however, the distinction was made between humanitarians acting early before anticipated hydro-meteorological hazards in conflict situations and, humanitarians acting early before anticipated violence or conflict (where humanitarians have a very limited role in mitigation or prevention). Next steps include:

- 🌐 The Early Action Focus Task Force and Conflict Analysis Network will continue to engage at global level while better mapping and understanding coverage of both networks and potential areas of complementarity.
- 🌐 Red Cross and Red Crescent Climate Center and GPPi research on Forecast-based Action in Situations of Conflict and Violence supported by both networks.

For a more detailed summary, click [here](#).

### EO4HA: Moving from satellite data dissemination to co-development and collaboration

The session provided an opportunity to learn of current activities relating to the integration of Earth Observations and Remote Sensing into Humanitarian decision making. Presentations were provided by IOM, UN Environment, MSF, UNOSAT and NASA. New approaches for better connecting humanitarian needs and data production were explored. Specifically, the ability to “ground truth”, or validate, data through the use of humanitarian actors on the ground to make data more operational. The session also provided the ability for humanitarian and space agency (and other data providers) to better interact and discuss data needs and limitations in the field.



Specifically, greater dialogue around what successful humanitarian interventions was requested – can remote sensing be used to understand if a particular humanitarian project was successful? Next steps include:

- 🌐 The EO4HA initiative will work closely with IFRC, American Red Cross, and the Red Cross Climate Centre, as well as the Early Action Protocol Task Force in order to develop a methodology/framework for engagement that can be shared with data providers and humanitarian actors interested in replicating EO4HA work into their own projects.
- 🌐 Pilot activities are being planned with the Red Cross family, IOM, and UNDP to provide additional application contexts and lessons learned to bolster the EO4HA initiative.
- 🌐 Ideally the data, data products, and methodologies can be picked up by others working in this space, including, inter alia, UNOSAT, the OCHA Centre for Humanitarian Data, and the OCHA Information Management Working Group.

For a more detailed summary, click [here](#).

### How can we collectively address the impact of counter-terrorism measures on humanitarian action and partnership?

This technical meeting investigating the impact of counter-terrorism measures on humanitarian action and partnership was structured as an open, solution-oriented discussion among humanitarian practitioners and donors on lessons learned and practical solutions on risk sharing and enabled partnerships to ensure the delivery of principled humanitarian assistance in areas where designated terrorist groups operate. Thoughtful insights and multifaceted perspectives on the impact of counter terrorism on principled humanitarian assistance have been shared among panelists and with the audience, creating a great platform for networking and connections on the matter.

Next steps include:

- 🌐 Development of the IASC RG3 collective advocacy strategy on the impact of counter-terrorism on principled humanitarian assistance. The strategy will enrich the roadmap traced by IASC Principals in December 2020 and the inputs collected during the event will form part of it as well.
- 🌐 Follow up on networking and proactively seeking opportunities of organizing similar events with other humanitarian actors.

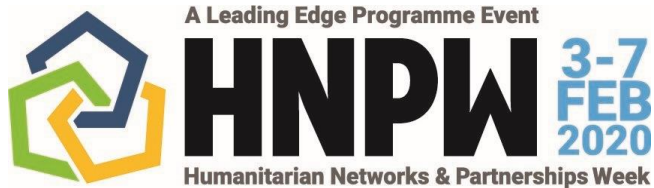
For a more detailed summary, click [here](#).

### Media's influence on humanitarian donors

In this technical meeting, researchers from the Humanitarian Journalism Research Project presented early findings from their ongoing research into the influence of news coverage on humanitarian donor's decision-making. Panelists discussed how the influence of the news media differs between donors and for different kinds of crises and the significance of different sources of news. Participants had the opportunity to learn about the researchers' key findings within the humanitarian community and debate the implication of the research. Next steps include:

- 🌐 Potential presentation to UN Communications Group
- 🌐 Potential presentation to the OCHA Donor Relations team
- 🌐 Write-up presentation into a report and academic article

For a more detailed summary, click [here](#).



## Words into Action Guidelines Launch Event

This session presented the Words into Action guidelines, in support of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction (2015-2030). A community of preparedness experts worked together over the last 3 years to complete these concise guidelines on preparedness and a companion guide on simulation exercises. Participants raised important questions related to transboundary disasters, displaced populations and how the guidelines address these and showed interest in similar guidelines as pocket size book. Next steps include:

- 📍 Collect new cases on best practices in preparedness and update the web-based Guidelines as possible.
- 📍 Work on developing a companion guide on other relevant topics.
- 📍 Approach government authorities (NDMOs) to explore what specific topics they would like to see in the guidelines.

For a more detailed summary, click [here](#).

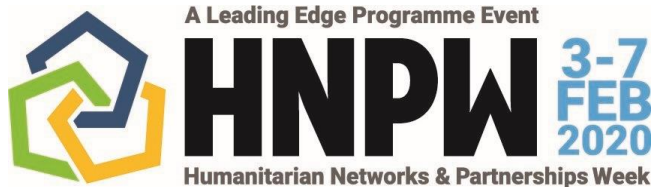
## Friday, 7 February 2020

### Asbestos and Humanitarian Response – A Life-Threatening Humanitarian Challenge

The Asbestos and Humanitarian Response session explored the challenges posed in safely managing asbestos following disasters as well as approaches to reduce risks to responders and the general population before disasters. Participants learned about the challenges and constraints humanitarians face when operating in emergency contexts with exposure to asbestos in unsafe conditions. It was recognized that existing guidance on asbestos management is often derived from best practices in developed countries and may not properly capture operational constraints in emergency situations, particularly in countries where asbestos is not banned and minimum safety measures for handling it may thus not be in place. Next steps for implementing solutions include:

- 📍 Best practices and key actions to reduce asbestos-related risks for humanitarian actors operating in emergency contexts will be compiled, peer-reviewed and disseminated to raise awareness on the issue.
- 📍 The risk posed by asbestos to possible humanitarian operations should be assessed, focusing on defining the presence or not of asbestos in locations where humanitarian operations are likely, e.g., an overlay of current and past asbestos use and disaster frequency.
- 📍 Information on asbestos risk awareness, protection and removal should be included in preparedness plans, training for emergency responders and pre-deployment briefings as well as disseminated to field staff.

For a more detailed summary, click [here](#).



## Enabling humanitarian action by leveraging mine action information management systems

This session was proposed under Strategic Objective 4 of the Mine Action AoR Work Plan to ‘promote and enable sharing of data on mine action, including victim assistance, and other protection issues with Global Protection Cluster partners to improve analysis and protection strategies.’ During the meeting, a connection between the mine action and humanitarian IM communities was established and awareness of mutual data holdings between mine action and humanitarian communities was raised. Next steps to implementing solutions include:

- 🌐 Conducting a mapping of humanitarian data sources against the MA analytical framework
- 🌐 Conducting a mapping of the high-level analytical frameworks that govern overall humanitarian response in a given country and that the mine action sector should be systematically contributing to
- 🌐 Conducting a mapping of information required by the humanitarian sector from the mine action sector and propose a few information services that the MA sector could provide through HDX (e.g.: regular/systematic publishing of vulnerability layers) – include stock taking of current good practice in information provision from the MA sector to the humanitarian sector

For a more detailed summary, click [here](#).

## Tackling the challenge of humanitarian plastics & packaging waste

The session engaged stakeholders operating across the humanitarian sector to consider the challenges surrounding plastics and excess packaging waste management associated with the procurement and delivery of humanitarian assistance. The session presented the key findings and recommended intervention areas characterized in the multi-institutional scoping effort spearheaded by USAID and WFP. Accordingly, the session then discussed and sought to further define specific next steps for an effective, collaborative, and coordinated approach to both minimizing packaging waste, and developing and implementing waste management solutions, across the humanitarian sector. Working under the USAID coordinated Humanitarian Packaging Waste Scoping study, next steps include:

- 🌐 Compiling best practices, lessons learned and information on plastics packaging waste management in humanitarian operations to share these across clusters and organizations.
- 🌐 Increase collaboration and engagement of private sector logistics and suppliers by raising awareness on this topic in negotiations and promote inter-division discussions on waste management issues within humanitarian organizations, including logistics and procurement divisions.

For a more detailed summary, click [here](#).



A Leading Edge Programme Event

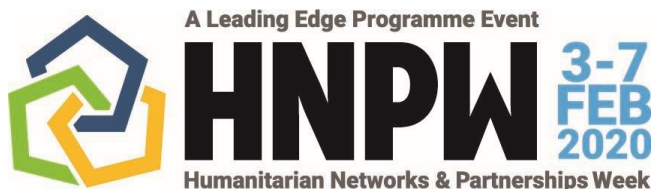
# HNPW

3-7  
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Humanitarian Networks & Partnerships Week

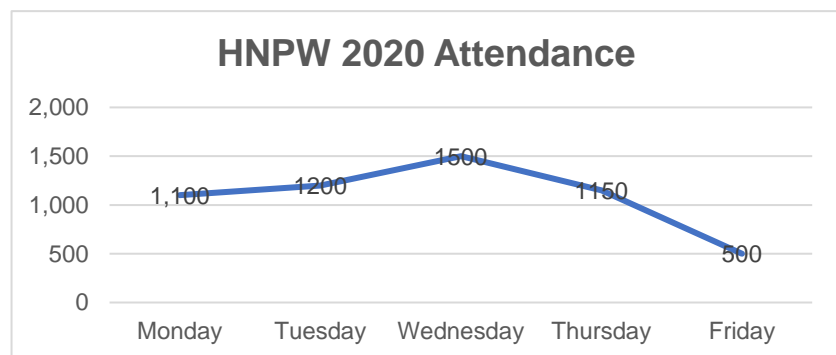
## HNPW 2020 – Pictures



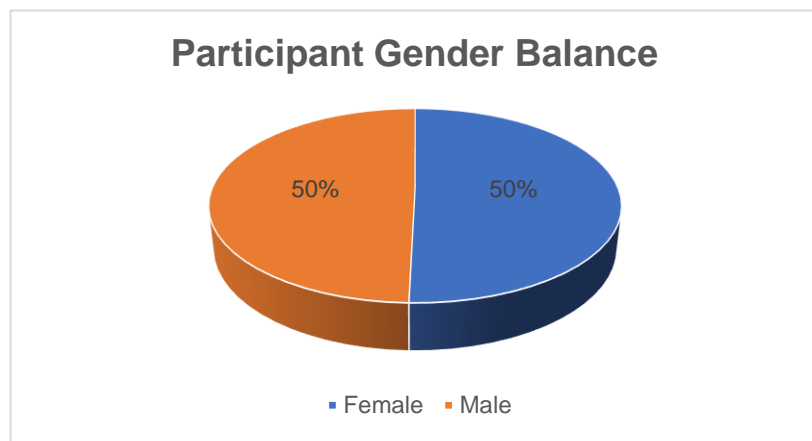


## HNPW 2020 – Figures

The sixth HNPW was attended by more than 2,300 participants from 100 countries and 450 organizations.



For the first time since its inception in 2015, the HNPW reached close to complete gender balance, with 1,145 female and 1,123 male attendees.



## HNPW 2020 – Behind the scenes

The HNPW is organized by OCHA's Response Support Branch (RSB), in close collaboration with and funding from the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation.

The Humanitarian Networks and Partnerships Week is the annual event of the Leading Edge Programme (LEP), which is governed by a Strategic Group comprising “champions” of the Networks and Partnerships that attend the HNPW, providing strategic guidance for the collaboration among them. The third meeting of the LEP Strategic Group was held at the HNPW, to reflect on progress made over the last year and to identify key points for discussion in 2020. The next meeting of the LEP Strategic Group is scheduled in Spring 2020 to discuss the way forward and determine concrete action to be taken to implement the outcomes of the HNPW 2020.

Updates about the networks and partnerships that participated in the event, as well as information about upcoming LEP activities and the next HNPW (10-14 May 2021) will be made available at [www.hnpw.org](http://www.hnpw.org).

The Leading Edge Programme and the Humanitarian Networks and Partnerships Week can also be found on social media. Follow us on Facebook and Twitter to receive regular updates about progress made throughout the year:

