

OVERVIEW

There are currently 35 field humanitarian leaders coordinating humanitarian response in 33 countries. This includes 11 Deputy Special Representatives of the Secretary-General/Resident Coordinators/Humanitarian Coordinators (DSRSG/RC/HC) and Deputy Special Coordinators/RC/HC, 1 Regional HC (RHC) and 17 RC/HCs. This also includes 6 Deputy HCs (DHCs).

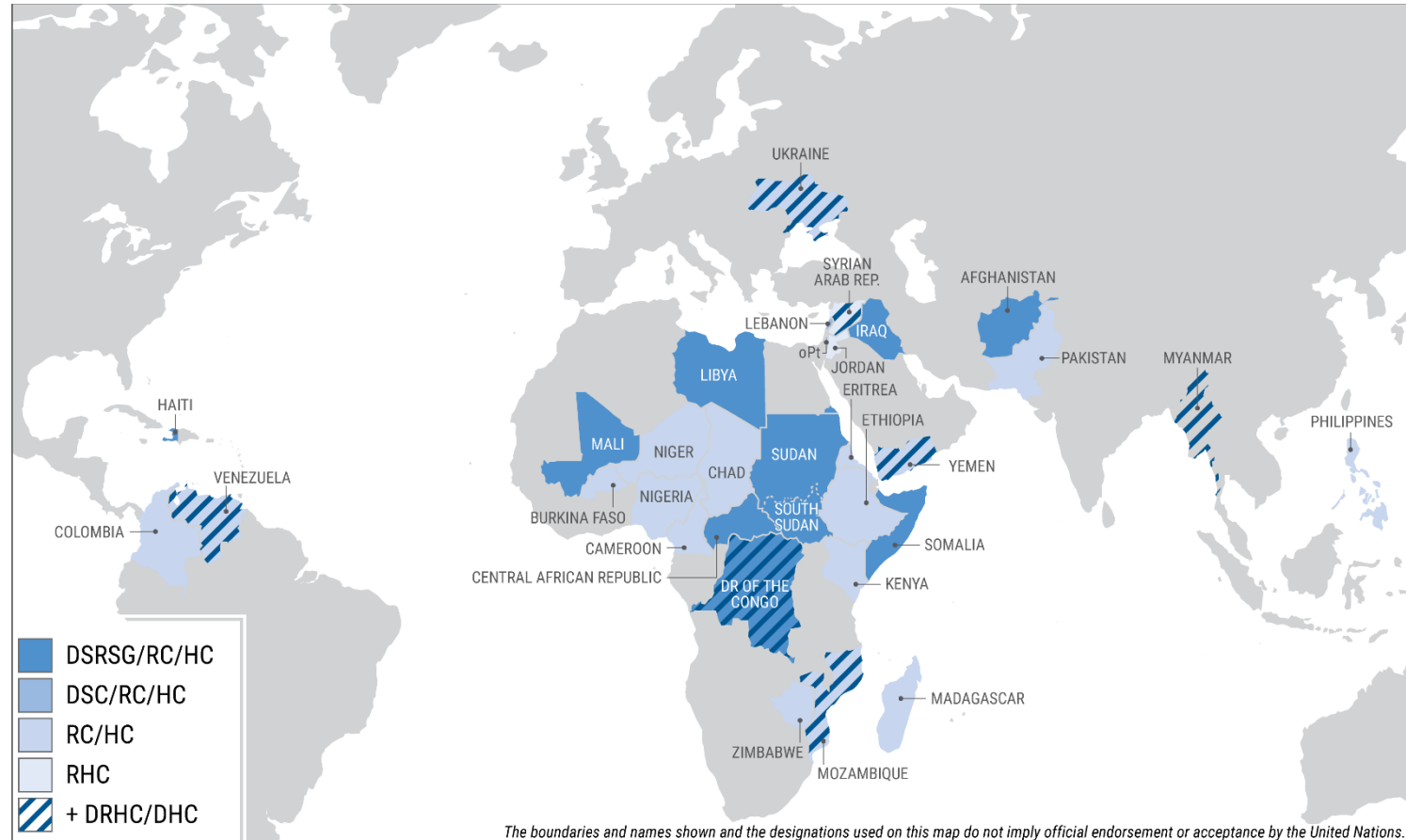
HUMANITARIAN COORDINATORS ON THE MOVE

Afghanistan: Mr. Francisco Equiza completed his assignment as DHC.

Burkina Faso: Mr. Charles Bernimolin completed his assignment as DHC.

Ethiopia: Mr. Andrew Mbogori completed his assignment as DHC.

Kenya: Mr. Stephen Jackson was designated as HC.



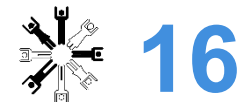
Number of countries with presence of field humanitarian leaders



Number of field humanitarian leaders currently supporting operations



Number of field humanitarian leaders who are female – 33% of total



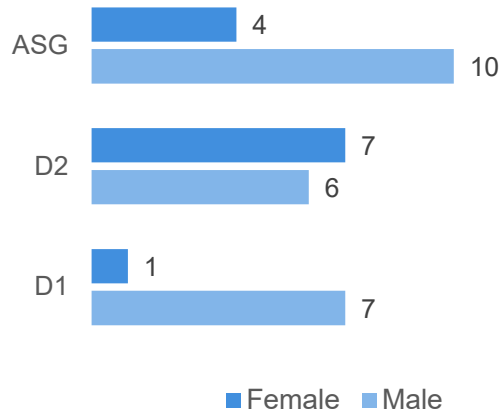
Number of field humanitarian leaders who originate from countries historically underrepresented – 45% of total



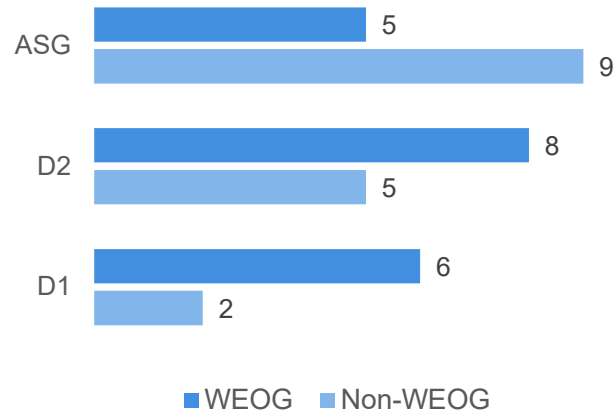
Number of Deputy Humanitarian Coordinators

FIELD HUMANITARIAN LEADERSHIP CHARACTERISTICS

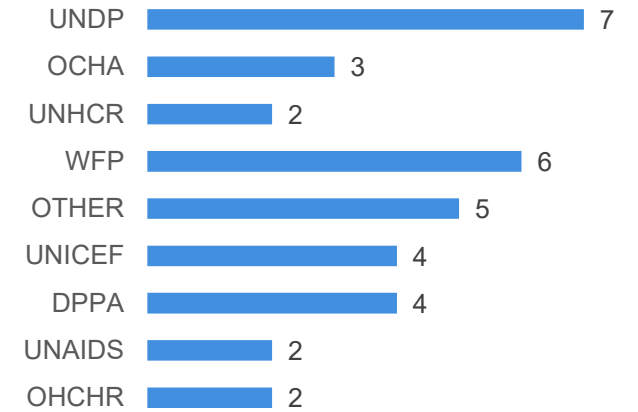
Grade and Gender



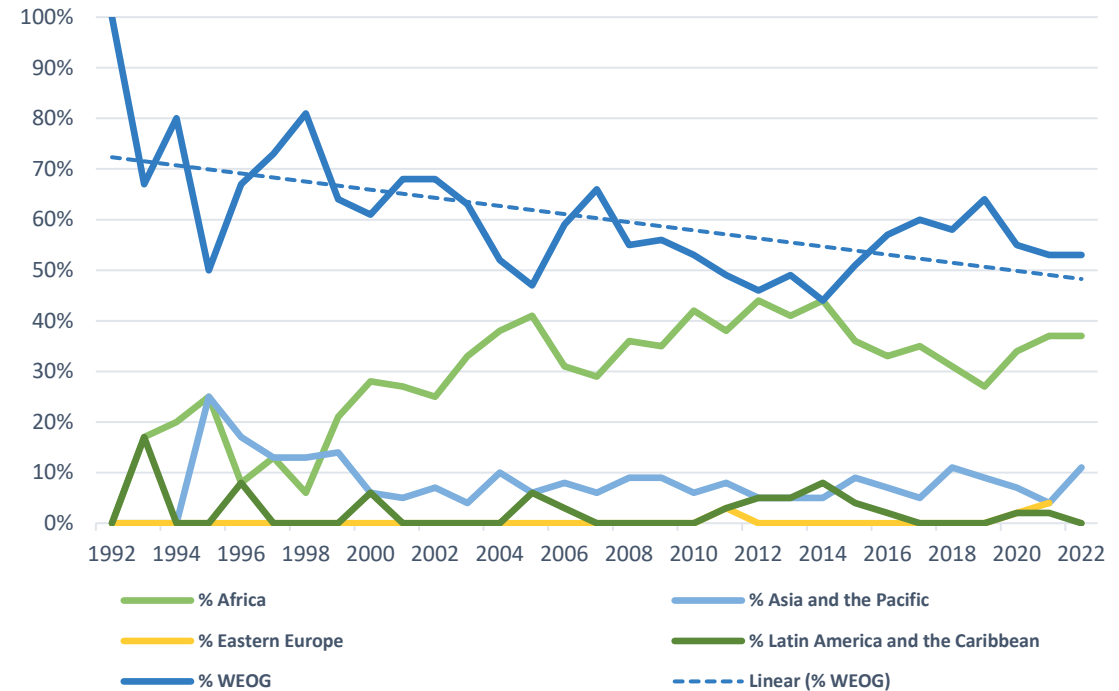
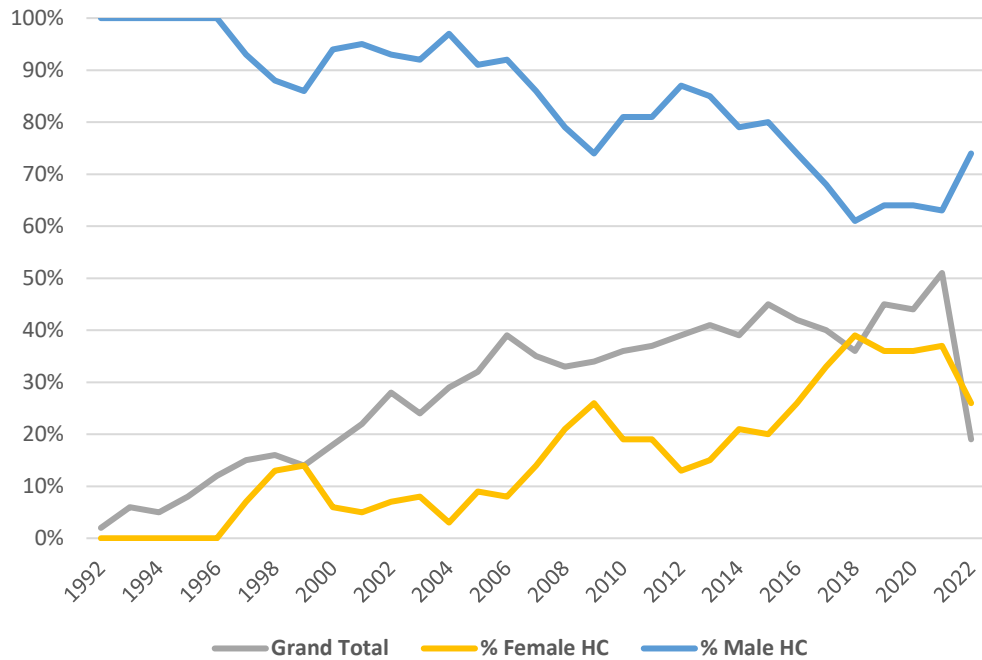
Country of origin



Agency of origin



FIELD HUMANITARIAN LEADERSHIP TRENDS



“I Was There’ – The Evolution of Humanitarian Response System from the Eyes of Former Humanitarian Leaders”

Background

OCHA, through its Humanitarian Leadership Strengthening Section (HLSS) has launched a new project named “I Was There’ – The Evolution of Humanitarian Response System from the Eyes of Former Humanitarian Leaders”.

Since early 1970s, there have been several key events to strengthen the coordination of humanitarian assistance. From the adoption of the United Nations General Assembly Resolution 46/182 and the 2005 Humanitarian Reform to the launch of the Agenda for Humanity in 2016, this process included normative frameworks and policies, as well as practical mechanisms to increase the effectiveness of humanitarian response. At the core of these changes were the humanitarian coordinators, international and national experts as well as ordinary men and women in field locations and in Headquarters. They carry with them invaluable experience, personal stories, and profound institutional memory, as they witnessed or experienced firsthand these processes.

Purpose

The project aims to produce an audiobook and written material with key soundbites and quotes from the former leadership. These stories will have a strong focus on leadership skills with contextual perspectives. They will also highlight the specific roles of former humanitarian staff across various contexts and during key events in the past.

The purpose of the project is to pass on this experience to the current and future humanitarian coordinators and other colleagues involved in the sector. The stories will be part of the learning package offered to the RC/HC Talent Pipeline members, and more broadly to current humanitarian staff. The materials maybe also be provided to the new RC/HCs as part of the induction package and to sitting leadership upon interest.

Participation and Timeframe

The project includes two phases: the interviews, which run until July 2023 and production, planned until December 2023. Participation depends on the unique experience the former humanitarian leaders as well as other colleagues have had during their service around the key events affecting the humanitarian response system over the last 40 years. Several interviews have already been recorded, with more planned as part of the first phase of the project.

HLSS welcomes suggestions on participation, which can be sent via email: hlss@un.org



“It was de-facto [appointment]. The only person UN had on the ground was me. I was already doing my best to make the operation run” – David Bassiouni describes the moment he was designated as the first ever HC in the system while he was leading humanitarian response in Somalia in early 1990s.

“There was a huge gap in needs that we had to urgently address, and we did it because this was an emergency” – Ameerah Haq on the expulsion of INGOs in Sudan in the late 2000s and her efforts to strengthen coordination.



“None of us is going to speak all the languages of the countries we work in, but it is important to try. It makes you closer to the people you work with” – Matthew Kahane, on his relationship with host governments and the people as former HC in Nepal and Tajikistan in late 1990s and early 2000s.

LIST OF FIELD HUMANITARIAN LEADERS

DSRGS/RC/HC, DSC/RC/HC, RC/HC

	Country	Duty Station	Name	Position
1	Afghanistan	Kabul	Ramiz Alakbarov	DSRSG/RC/HC
2	Burkina Faso	Ouagadougou	Abdouraouf Gnon-Konde	RC/HC OiC
3	Cameroon	Yaoundé	Matthias Naab	RC/HC
4	Central African Republic	Bangui	Mohamed Ag Ayoya	DSRSG/RC/HC
5	Chad	N'Djamena	Violet Kakyomya	RC/HC
6	Colombia	Bogota	Mireia Villar Forner	RC/HC
7	Democratic Republic of the Congo	Kinshasa	Bruno Lemarquis	DSRSG/RC/HC
8	Eritrea	Asmara	Aeneas Chuma	RC/HC <i>a.i.</i>
9	Ethiopia	Addis Ababa	Catherine Sozi	RC/HC
10	Haiti	Port-au-Prince	Ulrika Ulfsdotter Richardson	DSRSG/RC/HC
11	Iraq	Baghdad	Ghulam Isaczai	DSRSG/RC/HC
12	Kenya	Nairobi	Stephen Jackson	RC/HC
13	Lebanon	Beirut	Imran Riza	DSC/RC/HC
14	Libya	Tripoli	Georgette Gagnon	DSRSG/RC/HC
15	Madagascar	Antananarivo	Issa Sanogo	RC/HC
16	Mali	Bamako	Alain Noudéhou	DSRSG/RC/HC
17	Mozambique	Maputo	Myrta Kaulard	RC/HC
18	Myanmar	Yangon	Ramanathan Balakshrinan	RC/HC OiC
19	Niger	Niamey	Louise Aubin	RC/HC

20	Nigeria	Abuja	Matthias Schmale	RC/HC <i>a.i.</i>
21	oPt	Jerusalem	Lynn Hastings	DSC/RC/HC
22	Pakistan	Islamabad	Julien Harneis	RC/HC
23	Philippines	Manila	Gustavo Gonzalez	RC/HC
24	Somalia	Mogadishu	Adam Abdelmoula	DSRSG/RC/HC
25	South Sudan	Juba	Sara Beysolow Nyanti	DSRSG/RC/HC
26	Sudan	Khartoum	Mandeep O'Brien	RC/HC OiC
27	Syrian Arab Republic	Damascus	EI-Mostafa Benlamlih	RC/HC <i>a.i.</i>
28	Ukraine	Kyiv	Denise Brown	RC/HC
29	Venezuela	Caracas	Gianluca Rampolla del Tindaro	RC/HC
30	Yemen	Sana'a	David Gressly	RC/HC
31	Zimbabwe	Harare	Edward Kallon	RC/HC

REGIONAL Humanitarian Coordinators

	Country	Duty Station	Name	Position
32	Syrian Arab Republic	Amman	Muhannad Hadi	RHC

DEPUTY Humanitarian Coordinators

	Country	Duty Station	Name	Position
33	Democratic Republic of the Congo	Goma	Suzanna Tkalec	DHC
34	Mozambique	Cabo Delgado	Silvia Caruso	DHC
35	Myanmar	Yangon	David Carden	DHC
36	Ukraine	Dnipro	Marco Rotelli	DHC
37	Venezuela	Caracas	Samir Elhawary	DHC
38	Yemen	Aden	Diego Zorrilla	DHC

RESOURCES

[Inter-Agency Standing Committee](#)

[OCHA Humanitarian Leadership Strengthening](#)

[Leadership in Humanitarian Action Handbook for the UN Resident and Humanitarian Coordinator](#)

[LEADING AN EMERGENCY RESPONSE: A Concise Guide for the UN Resident Coordinator](#)

[RC/HC Talent Pipeline](#)

[Humanitarian Leadership stories](#)

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ⁱ Charts and lists on leadership characteristics include DSRSG/RC/HCs, RC/HCs, RHCs, DRHCs, DHCs, HCs and ad interim HCs designated by the ERC. Myanmar, Burkina Faso and Sudan are not part of this analysis as the function is covered by an HC OIC.

CREDITS

The Humanitarian Leadership Snapshot is maintained by OCHA's Humanitarian Leadership Strengthening Section (HLSS).

The report is circulated on a monthly basis.

CONTACTS

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