

Investing in Humanity – Addressing Global Humanitarian Needs

Topline narrative

- Millions of people around the world are affected by conflict and disaster. They urgently need our support, solidarity and help to survive and be protected
- The UN and partners are ready to provide urgent, life-saving assistance and protection in 2017
- Our humanitarian response plans are complete, prioritised and ready to implement. They are reliable, effective and efficient investments, the best way to get help to people who need help now. Humanitarian actors are ready to deliver more and better humanitarian assistance to people affected by crisis
- 2017 will be the highest funding appeal ever. We ask all Member States, private enterprise, individuals and others to fully respond and collectively invest in humanity
- Expressions of solidarity with people in need - and the commitments made at the World Humanitarian Summit - must be turned into meaningful action. The humanitarian community is already transforming to ensure a better, faster and more effective delivery of aid, including through the Grand Bargain and the New Way of Working

Key Messages on the GHO

- **The world is facing its worst state of humanitarian crisis since the Second World War: 128.6 million people are affected by conflict, violence and disaster.** The United Nations and partners are ready to provide urgent and life-saving assistance for 92.8 million who need humanitarian relief and protection in 2017.
- **The UN and partners are launching their largest funding appeal ever,** asking for US\$22.2 billion in 2017 to help 92.8 million people. This is an increase of 10 per cent since last year, and of 700 per cent since 1992. We ask all Member States, private enterprise, individuals and others to provide their fair share and collectively invest in humanity.
- **Global solidarity with people in need is being tested like never before.** More money was committed by donors in 2016 than any other year - a record \$11.4 billion was received. However, faced with ever-growing caseloads, the funding gap remains a staggering \$10.7 billion. This gap threatens vital operations in some of the world's worst crises, risking the lives, well-being and dignity of millions.
- **The funding requested for 2017 will support vital humanitarian operations in 33 countries.** This will translate into life-saving food assistance to people on the brink of starvation in the Lake Chad Basin and South Sudan. It will provide protection for the most vulnerable people fleeing violence and terror in Syria, Iraq and Yemen. It will enable education for children whose schooling was disrupted by El Niño.

- **Humanitarian Response Plans are strong, effective and strategic.** They represent reliable investments and the best ‘value for money’ if we are to meet the needs of people affected by crisis over the next year. They represent the common voice of the humanitarian community.
- **In spite of daunting challenges, assistance is reaching more people** with more support and at a higher standard than ever before. In 2016, thanks to our Humanitarian Response Plans and generous donors, inter-agency operations in Syria reached over 1.2 million civilians trapped in besieged, hard-to-reach and other priority locations. In Fiji, after Tropical Cyclone Winston, 130,000 people received emergency shelter. In South Sudan, 27 million square metres of land have been freed from the threat of mines and explosive remnants of war in 2016. In the Democratic Republic of Congo, 5.8 million yellow fever vaccine doses were delivered. The humanitarian community is ready to deliver ever better, more timely and more effectively to those who need us the most.
- **Together, we must make a determined effort in 2017 to close the growing gap** between the increasing number of people who need basic aid and the resources available to help them. At the World Humanitarian Summit, all stakeholders recognized the key role of Humanitarian Response Plans. We know what is needed: we all have an essential role to play and we are counting on the entire international community to help ensure there is adequate funding for the 2017 Humanitarian Response Plans and Regional Response Plans and more support for unearmarked, timely, multi-year funding.

Annex I

Realizing the commitments made at the World Humanitarian Summit can bring about the changes needed to transform people's lives and reduce their suffering.

Q&A: Invest in Humanity

Q. How will implementing the 'Agenda for Humanity' accelerate efforts to meet and reduce humanitarian needs?

A. Through five core responsibilities, the Agenda charts a collective course to address human suffering and more effectively deliver to help people in crisis. By developing 'New Ways of Working,' we aim to meet people's immediate needs while at the same time reducing risk and vulnerability. To 'Invest in Humanity' means reducing funding gaps and shifting the ways we do humanitarian financing. We must invest more in risk and preparedness, and boost local response through increasing funding to pooled funds and national NGOs. Under the **Grand Bargain**, aid agencies must step up efficiency and transparency, and donors must increase flexibility including through longer-term finance mechanisms.

Q. The key role of multi-year Humanitarian Response Plans (HRPs) was explicitly recognized at the Summit and in the 'Agenda for Humanity': how can these help?

A. Among the core priorities of the UN Secretary-General's Agenda for Humanity presented at the World Humanitarian Summit is the 'new way of working' towards collective outcomes between humanitarian, development, and other actors. This is so that we not only meet needs, but that we reduce risk, vulnerability and overall levels of need over a three to five year time frame. In addition to broadening and diversifying financing tools to achieve this, making progress in protracted crises cannot be achieved without life-saving humanitarian assistance and support for multi-year Humanitarian Response Plans, which are being adopted in 2017 in Chad, Cameroon, Niger, Nigeria, Mali, Somalia and Sudan.

Q. The World Humanitarian Summit called for wide-reaching changes in the humanitarian system. How are these being implemented on the ground?

A. Many of the commitments made at the WHS can be found on the ground:¹

- i. For example, the "communes de convergence" initiative in Niger aims to strengthen resilience at the community level. It provides an opportunity for the Government and the UN Country Team to provide humanitarian assistance in a way that reduces chronic vulnerabilities.***

¹ N.B. these examples should not be read as direct results of WHS, but rather as illustrations of some transformations included in the Agenda for Humanity that are already taking place.

- ii. *In Pakistan, the Humanitarian Country Team has granted between 87 and 100 per cent of the Pakistan Humanitarian Pooled Fund to national civil society over the last four years, and has trained national NGOs in project application and design.*
- iii. *In Somalia, humanitarian actors have strategically engaged with national and development actors to catalyse durable solutions and reduce risk, particularly through the development of Somalia's National Development Plan. Humanitarian Country Teams in the Sahel, Somalia, DRC, and CAR are also working to adopt multi-year plans in 2017.*
- iv. *In Nigeria, the Nigerian Economic Summit Group, a platform for public-private sector cooperation on economic development, is implementing a social-inclusion strategy that provides internally displaced people in the north-east with professional skills and job opportunities.*

We must build on and learn from these examples in order to continue delivering on our commitment to the Agenda for Humanity. This work will require sustained and long-term efforts from all of us so that we can achieve lasting change for those who need it most.

Annex II

Country-specific messages

Nigeria: The requirements for Nigeria have risen by 118 per cent. It is projected that in 2017, 8.5 million people in north-east Nigeria's Borno, Adamawa and Yobe States will require humanitarian assistance. Famine-like conditions are forecast for 120,000 people and 5.1 million people in all are expected to be food insecure by mid-2017.

Haiti: The requirements for Haiti have risen by 91 per cent. Underlying vulnerability and the adverse effects of El Niño on food insecurity were exacerbated by the devastating effects of Hurricane Matthew. Immediate humanitarian assistance is a necessity for more than 1.4 million people.

Afghanistan: The requirements for humanitarian response in Afghanistan for 2017 have increased by 67 per cent. With over 1 million people on the move, Afghanistan is on the verge of a humanitarian crisis. The convergence of internally displaced persons (IDPs) and large-scale returns in overstretched urban centres has taken a toll on host communities, as capacity to absorb and extend essential services to new arrivals is limited.

Cameroon: The requirements for Cameroon have risen by 33 per cent. As many as 3 million people will need humanitarian assistance and protection in 2017. Boko Haram-related violence has displaced around 200,000 Cameroonians internally and led to an influx of some 74,000 Nigerians in the Far North region. Some 274,000 Central African refugees have sought refuge in the East, Adamaoua and North regions. In total, 2.6 million people in the country are food insecure to the point of crisis or emergency levels.

Ethiopia: Although the overall financial requirements are anticipated to go down by 44 per cent, the Government and humanitarian partners are recalibrating the nationally-led response to address residual and emerging needs, including new symptoms of drought in Eastern and

Southern Ethiopia. It is anticipated that 5.6 million people will require food assistance; 1.2 million children and pregnant and lactating mothers will require supplementary feeding; 9.2 million people will be without safe drinking water and 2.4 million households will need livestock support. Partners also estimate that 300,000 children will become severely malnourished in 2017.

Somalia: The country is facing severe drought conditions following four successive seasons of below normal rains and ongoing rains are already performing poorly. This is happening in the midst of new and existing vulnerabilities due to conflict, displacement, refugee returns, food insecurity, malnutrition and lack of basic services. Overall, 5 million people, some 41 percent of the population, now require humanitarian assistance. About 320,000 children under age 5 are acutely malnourished; more than 50,000 of whom are severely malnourished.

Annex III

2016 Achievements

DRC:

- 5.8 million doses of yellow fever vaccine delivered in Kinsasha and provinces bordering Angola
- 3.8 million people received health assistance
- 2.2 million people received water and sanitation assistance
- More than 710,000 people received food and livelihood support during the first three quarters of 2016
- Over five million people received explosive hazard risk education

Chad:

- Over 130,000 children with severe acute malnutrition admitted for therapeutic care
- Over 600,000 people received food assistance

Cameroon:

- 722,000 people received humanitarian assistance
- 405,000 people received food assistance
- Health services were provided to 263,000 people
- Nutritional support was given to over 100,000 people
- Over 266,000 people were reached with humanitarian assistance in the Far North region despite dangerous operational environment

Mali:

- Over 560,000 people received humanitarian assistance in 2016
- Over 306,000 received food and nutritional support
- Some 537,000 people received health care
- 559,000 IDPs, returnees and repatriated refugees were registered and assisted

- Non-food items were distributed to 5,600 households
- 177,000 people gained access to permanent sources of drinking water

Sudan:

- More than 2.9 million people were reached with health services
- Over 2.8 million people were reached with food assistance
- Over 142,000 children received treatment for severe acute malnutrition

Syria:

- Food assistance was provided to 6.5 million people per month
- Over 4 million people were provided with essential household items
- Over 10.7 million people underwent medical procedures and more than 9.2 million received medical treatment
- Over 8 million people benefited from direct water and sanitation support
- Over 1.3 million children had access to learning programmes

Ukraine:

- Food assistance was provided to over 387,000 people
- 270,000 people were provided with health support
- 280,996 people received shelter/non-food items
- 2.7 million people were provided access to safe water
- 150,000 people received protection-related support
- 160,000 people received multi-purpose cash assistance

Niger:

- Over 600,000 acutely malnourished children were admitted into therapeutic centres, including 301,038 children who were treated for Severe Acute Malnutrition
- Over 450,000 people received agricultural support
- Almost 300,000 people in the Boko Haram-affected region of Diffa received food assistance on a monthly basis
- 18,261 children, including 8,782 girls, had access to emergency education in spontaneous IDP sites

Yemen:

- More than 5.1 million people were reached with humanitarian assistance despite the challenging operational environment

South Sudan:

- More than 4.2 million people reached with humanitarian assistance in 2016

Ethiopia:

- 10.2 million people received food assistance
- 2.7 million people received trucked water and 2.6 million people received water treatment chemicals
- 2 million cases of Moderate Acute Malnutrition and more than 217,000 cases of Severe Acute Malnutrition were treated
- 1.5 million households received seeds
- More than 15,000 households benefited from emergency livestock health interventions
- 34,500 internally displaced households received emergency shelter and non-food items
- 76 temporary warehouses were established to enable the response