



Innovative and Empowering Partnerships

When: Tuesday, October 27, 2020

What time: 02:00 PM (CET)

Where: Networktables – To register [click here](#)

Language: English

How long: 90 minutes

Who is it for: Humanitarian and development practitioners working with NGOs, INGOs, UN agencies & academic institutes

Format: Presentation & Discussion

Panelists will make a five-minute presentation that will be followed by questions and answers, providing a space for participants to ask questions.

Background and Purpose:

KUNO, the Platform for Humanitarian Knowledge Exchange in The Netherlands, and A4EP, the Alliance for Empowering Partnership, organize during the Impact-Fest an NGO-donor dialogue on systemic innovations of the humanitarian sector for better responses.

The current COVID crisis shows (again) the relevance of local organizations in humanitarian responses. And that an open exploration of true local leadership in humanitarian responses is both relevant and urgent.

After a disaster, local humanitarian actors are always first responders and they are well informed of the context, the needs and appropriate response. However, often local actors are (or at least feel) overruled and sidelined by international actors whenever a disaster response is scaled up.

In 2016 'The Grand Bargain' promised to strengthen the role and position of local actors in humanitarian response. In 2020, when discussions over a new Grand Bargain have been started, local NGOs still feel their position in humanitarian responses has not changed substantially. Representatives of local NGOs are expressly invited to participate in this exchange of good practices, bottlenecks and innovations needed.

The Webinar will help to explore:

- What innovations of 'the humanitarian system' are needed to strengthen local leadership?
- How could a new Grand Bargain enhance these systemic innovations?
- What changes do donors need to make in the funding mechanisms to encourage equitable partnerships and address the power imbalance?
- What do local actors need to do to build trust and address risks?

Webinar Speakers:

1. Ms Fatima Imam - Founder Executive Director, Rehabilitation Empowerment and better Health Initiative (REBHI)- Nigeria
2. Ms Shaheen Anam – Director, Manusher Jonno Foundation (Bangladesh)
3. Ms. Regina Gujan – Deputy Head, Multilateral Affairs Division, Swiss Development and Cooperation, & Co-conveners of Localisation workstream, Switzerland
4. Ms Samar Muharab – Executive Director – Arab Renaissance for Democracy and Development (ARDD) Jordan
5. Mr Roland Thomann - Director Swiss Solidarity, Switzerland
6. Ms Christina Bennett – Chief Executive Officer, Start Network, UK
7. Mr Tirtha Prasad Saikia – Executive Director, North-East Affected Area Development Society (NEADS), Assam, India

To register for the webinar, please follow this link: [Innovative and Empowering Partnerships](#)