

HPG

Humanitarian
Policy Group

Annual Report 2017–18



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 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 Integrated Programme. The current 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, the Swedish International Development Agency (SIDA), the Swiss Federal Department of Foreign Affairs (FDFA), the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and World Vision International.

Cover photo: On International Women's Day in Cox's Bazar, Bangladesh, Rohingya women refugees at UN Women's Multi-Purpose Women's Centres fly kites inscribed with their demands and wishes.
© UN Women/Allison Joyce.

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Welcome

From the Head of HPG



Dear colleagues,

It is with great pleasure that I present to you HPG's Annual Report 2017–2018. As you will see from what follows, we have had a productive and impactful year. We embarked on a two-year Integrated Programme of research on local humanitarian action, informed by the conversations around the World Humanitarian Summit (WHS) and the Grand Bargain and inspired by the drive we saw among local organisations and groups to be proactive and vocal responders in their own right. We felt we needed to help document what was happening across the sector, and delve further into concepts like 'local capacity', 'dignity' and 'complementarity' to better inform how international and local organisations, people and interests might work in mutually supporting ways.

In doing so, and in line with our own 'local humanitarian action' agenda, HPG has been working as much as possible with research institutions and individuals in our case study countries to formulate the right research questions, and to make sure that our evidence and ideas resonate with them and their issues.

Outside of the Integrated Programme, we continued to interrogate humanitarian system reform through our evaluation of the second year of the Grand Bargain, and by analysing the impact of major cash assistance programmes. We developed a robust series of case studies on the chilling effects of measures to counter terrorist financing on humanitarian action in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, Somalia, Syria and Yemen, looked at migration out of Darfur and provided real-time humanitarian policy analysis and advice to inform the response to the Rohingya refugee crisis.

We continued to expand our communications offering, promoting our work through more targeted use of social media, animations and infographics.

I hope you have found HPG's contributions to humanitarian policy and practice thought-provoking, useful and engaging. We continue to see ourselves as a public good for the humanitarian sector, and hope you read our work in that spirit.

Christina Bennett
Head of HPG

The year in numbers



18

public events,
roundtables
and conferences
in 4 countries

11 ODI public events



827

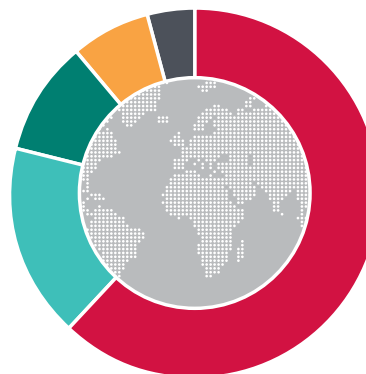
people registered
to attend in-person



2,864

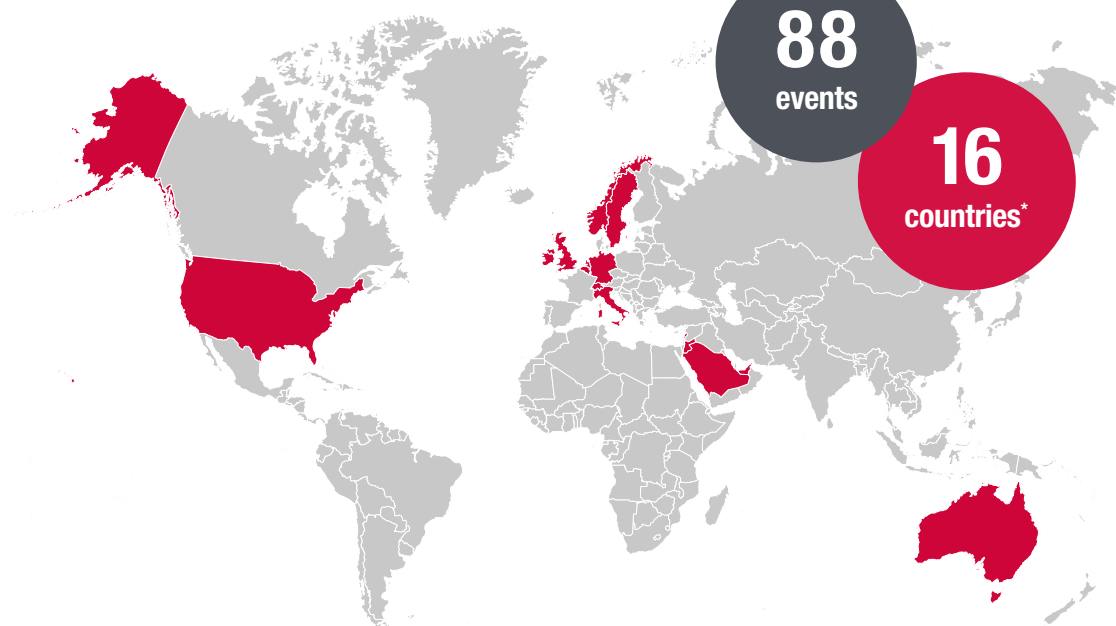
people watched
online across
72 countries

Website users in 2017–18



- Europe 62%
- Americas 17%
- Asia 10%
- Africa 7%
- Oceania 4%

External speaking events



12,000

people reached
through our
Facebook page



10,800

Twitter followers
that we engage
with daily

*Australia, Belgium, Fiji, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Jordan, Lebanon, Netherlands, Norway, Saudi Arabia, Sweden, Switzerland, United Arab Emirates, the United Kingdom and the United States.



22

Blogs, op-eds,
infographics and
multimedia

Our most downloaded publications in 2017–18



A design
experiment:
imagining
alternative
humanitarian
action



From Grand
Bargain to
beneficiary:
an analysis of
funding flows
through the
humanitarian
system



The Jordan
Compact:
lessons
learnt and
implications for
future refugee
compacts



Exploring
the links
between Chinese
foreign policy
and humanitarian
action: multiple
interests,
processes and
actors



Beyond
donorship:
UK foreign
policy and
humanitarian
action

The year in review

This report summarises HPG's principal research and non-research work for the period April 2017–March 2018.



Policy research and analysis

Achieving a more local, devolved response to humanitarian crises has risen up the policy agenda in recent years as one possible answer to the problems besetting international humanitarian response. Proponents argue that a more local approach to assistance enhances flexibility and efficiency, is more responsive to contexts and needs and involves local aid actors and communities much more meaningfully in decisions affecting humanitarian programming. At the same time, however, there is little

Above: Ongoing fighting in Yemen keeps displaced people trapped in a dire humanitarian crisis.
© UNHCR/Mohammed Hamoud.

consensus around what a genuinely local response actually means, either in theory or in practice, and there are very few incentives to promote it within a system structurally and culturally inclined towards centralisation.

In 2017–2018, HPG initiated a two-year Integrated Programme (IP) of research, 'From the ground up: understanding local response to crises' to critically analyse four key aspects of this debate. In doing so, we aimed to adopt a more ground-level view of important issues within the humanitarian sector, while also drawing out their systemic and strategic implications.

Despite significant policy attention in recent years on the role of local organisations in humanitarian response, very little is known about the capacities that exist within the humanitarian system, and how local capacity can be harnessed in conjunction with the efforts of the international humanitarian enterprise. Our IP project 'As local as possible, as international as necessary: understanding capacity and complementarity in humanitarian response' explores the incentives and power structures that promote or discourage deeper collaboration and partnership between local and international actors. Research mapping out capacities and complementarities is under way in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) and Bangladesh.

Our IP project entitled 'Tip of the iceberg: understanding non-traditional sources of aid financing' examines formal and informal sources of assistance, and documents areas of potentially inappropriate or duplicative aid. Through case study work in northern Uganda (South Sudanese refugees) and in flood-affected southern Nepal, conducted during the year, the project aims to point to ways in which the international system can better recognise and engage with non-traditional flows and funders.

The third project, 'Informality and protection: understanding the role of informal non-state actors in protecting civilians', builds on the conceptualisation and operationalisation of protection as articulated in international law and previous research on community protection. The project explores the rules and codes communities and local protection actors use, how they enforce them and how these actors, structures and codes interact with the formal humanitarian system. Case studies are exploring communal loyalty and cross-border protection in Libya, with a focus on Libyans in Tunisia, and cross-border protection strategies in Myanmar's Kachin state and neighbouring Yunnan province in China.

HPG researchers travelled to Cox's Bazar in Bangladesh for the project 'Dignity in displacement: from rhetoric to reality'. In collaboration with local partner organisations, the work has enabled a deeper understanding of what dignity means to different people in different cultural contexts. These local partnerships will be key in planning, preparing, conducting and following up the fieldwork research, including validating the final analysis. A final case study visit is planned in Lebanon in 2018.

Throughout the IP research, and in line with our own 'local humanitarian action' agenda, HPG has been working as much as possible through research organisations and individual local researchers. We have documented our experience in short policy briefs, publishing a think piece in December 2017 entitled 'Upending humanitarianism: questions emerging "from the ground up"' highlighting insights emerging from

The work of ODI's Humanitarian Policy Group is of great value to FAO ... we find your publications highly relevant, well researched, informative and forward-looking in their recommendations, pushing for more effective humanitarian action.

Dominique Burgeon,
Director, Emergency and
Rehabilitation Division, FAO

the early stages of the research. A second policy brief will document our experience with conducting 'local' humanitarian research, and a final synthesis report will wrap up the IP work in mid-2019.

Outside of the IP, we continued to contribute to the evidence base for cash assistance, documenting the impact and effectiveness of different cash transfer mechanisms and documenting user experiences with cash transfers in Iraq and Kenya. We continued our work on humanitarian system reform with a six-month experiment to redesign the humanitarian system from scratch, using Design Thinking. We also began work as the official evaluations team of the second year of the Grand Bargain. We partnered with the Humanitarian Forum and the London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE) on a series of case studies on counter-terrorism and bank de-risking in the occupied Palestinian territories (OPT), Somalia, Syria and Yemen. We demonstrated that humanitarian policy can inform emergency responses through a series of public and closed-door events and policy briefs on the Rohingya refugee crisis.



Influencing humanitarian practice

In 2017–18, the Humanitarian Practice Network (HPN) published three issues of *Humanitarian Exchange* magazine – on the humanitarian consequences of violence in Central America, the crisis in the Lake Chad Basin and humanitarian responses in urban areas – and a network paper on volunteer movements in the refugee response in Europe. Work is also under way on developing a good practice review (GPR) on urban responses. Through the network coordinator, HPN has continued its active networking and convening role, moderating and participating in a large number of events and steering groups. HPN also published a steady stream of online blogs and articles.

Academic engagement

HPG co-hosted the annual senior-level course on conflict and humanitarian response in London, taught in conjunction with LSE. As in previous years, the course attracted participants with extensive humanitarian experience in a range of contexts and organisations. We marked the fortieth anniversary of our journal *Disasters* with a one-day conference in September 2017, bringing together founding and current editors and global academic experts in disaster research. Global text downloads within the reporting period totalled just under 75,000.



Communications, policy advice and public affairs

HPG's international influence is reflected in the range of its policy engagement and public affairs work. In the last year we held 19 public events, roundtables, webinars and conferences in four countries. We continued to expand our partnerships through stewardship of the Regional Organisations Humanitarian Action Network (ROHAN) and through new partnerships with the Humanitarian Advisory Group (Australia) and the Muslim Charities Forum (UK).

Above: Senior Research Fellow Barnaby Willits-King addresses ROHAN delegates in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. © ODI.

Above left: HPN coordinator Wendy Fenton speaks at the third thematic discussion on meeting needs and supporting communities for the Global Compact on Refugees, Geneva. © ODI.

Principles, politics and the international humanitarian system

In 2017–18, 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 response

Capacity strengthening for humanitarian preparedness and response has been recognised as a critical component of humanitarian action for more than two decades, featuring in General Assembly resolutions and inspiring major reform initiatives. It was a central theme of the 2016 World Humanitarian Summit, with the Secretary-General’s report asserting that ‘international engagement should be based on trust and a good understanding of existing response capacity and critical gaps, to arrive at a clear assessment of comparative advantage and complementarity with national and local efforts’. The resulting Grand Bargain pointed to responses that factor in and build on the capacity of local organisations and work in complement with international counterparts based on an effective division of labour.

Crucially, this discussion is taking place in the absence of an adequate picture of precisely what capacity there is in the humanitarian system, where and what kind of capacity is needed and how to make use of what capacity exists. Even basic terms and concepts such as ‘capacity’, ‘localisation’ and ‘complementarity’ all require clarification; important power dynamics, and presumptions that capacity flows only in one direction, also require challenge and discussion. This project aims to analyse how capacity is understood by various stakeholders in the humanitarian sector; what capacity is needed versus what exists among local, national and international actors in specific contexts; and what incentives and power structures promote or inhibit better collaboration and complementarity.

HPG does good action-oriented research and is good at working locally to identify what's needed and bringing in different perspectives.

Participant via anonymous
HPG Stakeholder Survey

In early 2017, the research team finalised the research framework in consultation with internal and external stakeholders, including a steering group set up to guide the project, drawn from members of donor governments, international NGOs, national NGOs and academics. The team developed the methodology and tools to conduct the research, including a case study methodology on models of complementarity and a country case study methodology, including focus group discussions with affected populations and an interview tool. The team also initiated a review of the literature and a perceptions survey on capacity and complementarity, both to inform the research project and to serve as the foundation for a think piece analysing current discourse, agendas and issues related to capacity and complementarity among local and international humanitarian actors.

During the study's first year, the team made significant progress on the country case studies in the DRC and Bangladesh. In DRC, the team is comparing capacity and complementarity in the response to the protracted conflict in South Kivu and the emergent conflict in Kasai. The project is being conducted in partnership with a local NGO, the Comité de Développement et Assistance

Humanitaire (CODEVAH), and a local research institute, Research Initiatives for Social Development (RISD). A first field visit in Bukavu, South Kivu, was completed in late February, during which HPG worked closely with CODEVAH and RISD to contextualise and test the methodology. Following the visit, local researchers conducted focus group discussions with affected communities in Kasai and South Kivu, as well as interviews with local NGOs, local authorities, faith-based actors, the local private sector, international NGOs, UN agencies and donors. A second field visit was undertaken in late March, after which HPG, RISD and CODEVAH met for three days to analyse the findings of the fieldwork and identify remaining research gaps.

In Bangladesh, the team is focusing on the Rohingya refugee situation in Cox's Bazar with an additional focus on natural disasters. The project is being conducted in partnership with a local NGO, Jago Nari Unnayan Sangsta (JNUS), and a local research institute, Research Initiatives Bangladesh (RIB). As with the DRC study, HPG undertook a first visit in late February to carry out training, contextualise the methodology tools and test the methodology. Local researchers conducted



Above: Noor Nahar lives in a camp in Cox's Bazar, Bangladesh. She has decided to support other Rohingya women refugees by teaching them tailoring and motivating them to learn new skills. © UN Women/Allison Joyce.

focus group discussions with affected communities, as well as interviews with local and international actors in the refugee response. The researchers met with HPG in London in April 2018 to discuss and analyse findings.

In the second year of the project, the two case studies will be finalised and published. To inform the analysis in the project's final report, the two country case studies will be complemented by a series of smaller desk-based studies looking at contexts where better complementarity between local and international actors was achieved, to identify the factors that can support complementarity, and that tend to challenge or undermine it. Based on the country case studies and what we are calling 'models of complementarity', we will hold a series of consultations and workshops to further identify how capacity can be better harnessed and complementarity achieved when responding to humanitarian crises.

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

Growing pressures on the international humanitarian system have focused increased attention on the range of assistance people in crisis receive 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 are typically not factored into international responses. Studies have estimated volumes of local, informal and non-traditional funding flows at global level, but there has been little analysis at the crisis level to develop a detailed understanding of the scale of these resources and how they are received, what they are used for and how they complement – or may work at cross-purposes to – formal international flows.

The result of this lack of information, and the disconnect between formal and informal sources of assistance, is potentially inappropriate or duplicative aid, undermining the humanitarian aim of providing impartial needs-based assistance. By developing a much more fine-grained understanding of how people in crisis experience different sources of aid, including but not limited to international assistance, this study will explore how the international system can better recognise non-traditional flows and incorporate them into its planning.

The main focus of the project's first year was finalising the preparations for the first two case studies, in northern Uganda and Nepal. In Uganda, the fieldwork focused on South Sudanese refugees, as an example of where humanitarian approaches were insufficient to

capture the breadth of refugee experiences, particularly given the relatively supportive Ugandan government policy towards refugees. The scoping fieldwork and preliminary survey design, with a local research partner, AFARD, was undertaken in November 2017. Researchers presented preliminary observations at HPG's annual advisory group meeting in December. The lead researcher also facilitated a workshop with Oxfam's International Global Humanitarian Team on emerging findings from the research.

The scoping visit for Nepal took place in February 2018, in flood-affected Terai communities near the border with India. The diverse range of inputs other than international assistance was clearly evident, including from the diaspora, youth volunteers and non-DAC donors including China. The two field visits informed the development of detailed research implementation plans and survey/interview questionnaires for second-phase visits later in 2018. A literature review mapped out existing research from academic and policy publications, as well as data sources, alongside a background paper commissioned from Development Initiatives on approaches to tracking resources. This work will inform the first outputs from the project, to be published as two policy briefs later in 2018.

The second year of the IP will focus on finalising the country case studies, including an additional case study on northern Iraq, and drawing out implications and recommendations through a series of workshops and consultations.

Upending humanitarianism: questions emerging 'from the ground up'

This paper is the first of several synthesis products from the 2017–19 IP intended to influence ongoing discussions about local humanitarianism in the aftermath of the WHS and related initiatives designed to reflect local perspectives on humanitarian response. While few oppose the logic underpinning a shift to more local humanitarian action, the paper identifies significant obstacles to its implementation, including powerful vested interests in the current system, and precious little agreement on what 'localisation' and 'locally led' humanitarianism means in practice, and how best to achieve it. The paper identifies two key questions for further study under the IP and related work: first, have we predetermined the outcome by setting the parameters of the debate?; and second, have we misdiagnosed the problem by setting up a false dichotomy of the local versus the international?



Constructive deconstruction: rethinking the global humanitarian architecture

As part of our IP project on reform of the humanitarian architecture, HPG focused its work this year on a design experiment to reimagine what a more effective humanitarian system would look and act like if we truly ‘put people at the centre’ and designed the system from the perspective of its users. For this we used Design Thinking, a collaborative tool that combines empathy with systems design to develop more user-friendly human systems. We came together in groups in Asia, Africa, North America and Europe to test the validity of our conclusions and the viability of our ideas. We published *Design experiment: reimagining alternative action*, a set of ideas and early prototypes for remaking the humanitarian actor as a more adaptable, accountable system that recognises people affected by crisis as agents of change in their own lives.

Beyond donorship: state-led humanitarian action

HPG published three country case studies as part of the project on how foreign policy and humanitarian action interact. The studies on China, Saudi Arabia and the UK found widely varying systems of managing humanitarian action, and teased out the ways in which national interests and values sometimes align and are sometimes in tension with humanitarian policies. HPG’s researchers highlighted the risks to the UK’s global reputation as a humanitarian donor inherent in a more security- and economy-driven foreign policy as the UK leaves the European Union (EU). The China paper has been welcomed by donors including DFID as a useful primer on a rising global donor that remains little-known to the international community, while also helping to establish HPG’s credibility in China as a recognised source of expertise on the international humanitarian system, and China’s changing relationship with it.

Felt so inspired after the days we spent together, and so did the rest of the team! Really thought-provoking and invaluable insights. Lately we have started work with the new humanitarian strategy ... pulled out the presentation you gave in Oslo as one of our main background readings for the analysis/context chapter.

Mette Tangen, Senior Adviser,
Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Above: Community health volunteers with Ebola prevention kits walking through West Point in Monrovia, Liberia. © Morgana Wingard/ UNDP.

Commissioned work

Studies on humanitarian financing

Building on the ‘Tip of the iceberg’ IP project, HPG continued its research and engagement on humanitarian financing, with a particular focus on efficiency, the role of ‘new’ actors such as the private sector and local organisations, approaches to tracking resources and more holistic approaches to crisis financing. We completed two studies commissioned by European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (ECHO) and the US Office of Foreign Disaster Assistance (OFDA) focusing respectively on the efficiency of the transaction chain and different funding modalities. Both were well received by the financing community, and ECHO is using the methodology we developed in a number of its programme evaluations. HPG participated in a major cross-ODI study for the World Bank and the UN Multi-Partner Trust Fund Office on financing for fragility, which looked at the financing flows for humanitarian, development and peace activities in different contexts, from active conflict, such as Iraq, to post-conflict situations such as Liberia.

A complementary project to the IP financing research, commissioned by the Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs, focused on tracking resource flows to people affected by crisis beyond just international humanitarian assistance, and what different systems and tools are needed to enable a better response by the international community based on a more comprehensive understanding of funding flows to different crises.

The capacity of UN agencies, funds and programmes to sustain peace: an independent review

The UN Development Programme commissioned ODI to conduct an independent review of the capacities of the UN’s Agencies, Funds and Programmes (AFPs), with a view to recommending how they might be augmented to enhance the wider UN System’s primary mandate to sustain peace. Researchers conducted interviews in Colombia, Kyrgyzstan, Lebanon, Liberia and the Philippines. A briefing paper and accompanying blog, released ahead of the UN General Assembly in 2017, drew on the research findings to propose four areas for action by UN Member States: ensuring stronger mutual accountability for the implementation of the sustaining peace agenda; enabling appropriate operational autonomy for the UN System to deliver its activities and programmes aimed at sustaining peace;

ensuring that UN capacities and resources are adequate to the task of sustaining peace; and affording the UN System the political support and space it needs to act effectively. The UN Secretary-General referenced the study in his report on peacebuilding and sustaining peace to the Security Council and General Assembly (<http://undocs.org/a/72/707>) (18 January 2018). The 97-page report was released in February 2018, supported by an extensive engagement strategy, a digital campaign (in partnership with UNDP and the Peacebuilding Support Office) and a blog series in the lead-up to the President of the UN General Assembly’s High-Level Meeting on Peacebuilding and Sustaining Peace in April 2018. The findings were also presented at the Planetary Security Conference (12–13 December 2017), the Fragility Forum (5–7 March 2018) and a public event and roundtable on Somalia with SRS Michael Keating (14 March 2018). The web stream of the event was viewed over 2,600 times.

Grand Bargain independent assessment

In January 2018, the Grand Bargain Facilitation Group commissioned HPG to conduct the second Grand Bargain independent assessment covering the period January–December 2017. HPG is expected to finalise and publish the report in early June 2018 in time for its launch at the Grand Bargain annual meeting on 18 June, in the margins of the ECOSOC Humanitarian Affairs Segment. Once the report is published, HPG will identify other opportunities to encourage critical dialogue on key areas of progress and challenge, and to further action the report’s recommendations to ensure more appropriate and effective implementation of the Grand Bargain commitments.

Ground Truth cash user journey

HPG worked with Ground Truth Solutions to implement a DFID-funded research project on users’ experience of humanitarian cash transfer technology and delivery models. Using a methodology that combined a standardised quantitative survey with in-depth, qualitative user journeys, the research sought to better understand and empathise with the subjective experience – comprising thoughts, attitudes, expectations, motivations, impulses and behaviours – of receiving cash assistance. A desk review was finalised, to be followed by two case studies in Kenya and Iraqi Kurdistan.



Above: A money exchanger counts Somali shilling notes on the streets of Mogadishu, Somalia. © AU/UN IST/Stuart Price.

Report on the DFID/ECHO joint approach in Lebanon

In mid-2017, DFID commissioned ODI to critically analyse the development of and response to the DFID/ECHO joint approach to multi-purpose cash assistance for Lebanon's protracted refugee crisis. The paper was published at the end of September 2017, and its neutral and impartial approach was noted and appreciated by the various stakeholders involved. Alongside ODI colleagues, HPG was subsequently part of a successful NGO bid to undertake independent third-party monitoring and evaluation of a large two-year DFID-funded multi-purpose cash transfer programme for Syrian refugees being implemented by the World Food Programme (WFP) in Lebanon.

ECHO INSPIRE consortium preliminary market consultation for the cash transfer payments market

Through the INSPIRE consortium, ECHO contracted HPG in February 2018 to conduct a Preliminary Market Consultation with potential financial services providers that might be able to deliver humanitarian cash transfers globally or regionally. The objective of the Consultation is to provide a detailed analysis of the

cash transfer payments market, and the feasibility of procuring such services through an open international tender. Building on the recommendations of the report of the High-level Panel on humanitarian cash transfers published during the previous reporting period, and its own considerable experience of funding large-scale humanitarian cash transfer programmes, ECHO is interested in exploring the delivery of cash through a group of preferred global financial services providers, to increase the efficiency and effectiveness of humanitarian cash transfer programming in protracted crises.

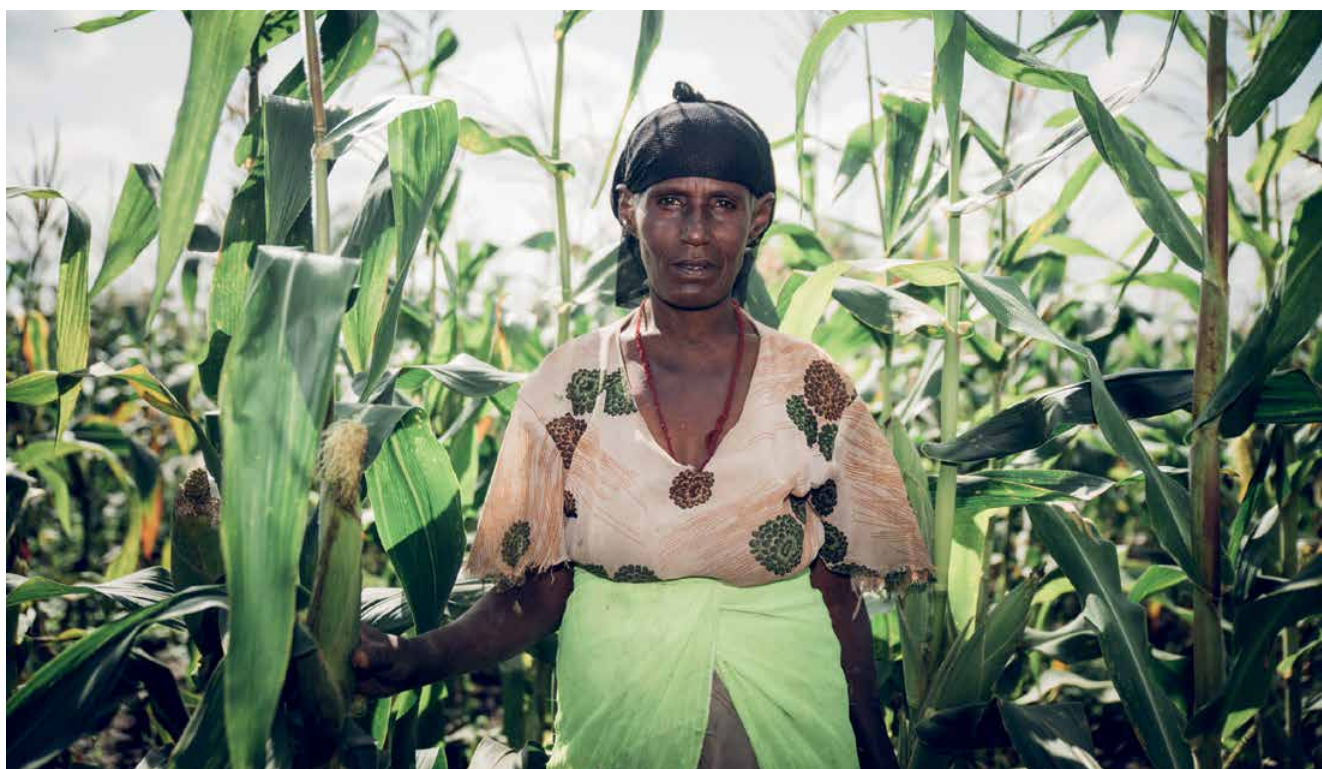
Understanding the impact of bank de-risking strategies on humanitarian work

Over recent years, growing concerns around terrorism and a desire to combat financial crime have seen some banks close the accounts of customers or withhold services from people or regions that they associate with high risks related to funding terrorism, money laundering or other forms of financial crime. HPG, in partnership with the Humanitarian Forum and LSE, documented the impact of bank de-risking on local organisations involved in the humanitarian response in Yemen, Somalia, Syria and the occupied Palestinian territory (OPT). The case studies on Yemen (launched at ODI in February 2018) and Somalia were published during the reporting period. The Syria and OPT studies will be published later in 2018, alongside a synthesis paper drawing out the key findings and implications.

HelpAge partnership

HelpAge International approached HPG to support research alongside its operational work in order to inform its learning, practice and advocacy. The project comprised two streams of work. In the first, HPG worked with ODI's Gender Equality and Social Inclusion (GESI) team to look at older people's roles and vulnerabilities in drought in East Africa. The study aimed to examine both how older people themselves responded to the drought, and how the drought affected them. The study also looked at the extent to which the drought response had taken into account and addressed the specific needs of older people. A second stream of work focused on older people in displacement resulting from the conflict in South Sudan. The study concluded that, alongside the more general consequences of forced displacement, older people felt that their situation had stripped them of their traditional roles. The study found that older people's authority and status were linked, not to their age, but much more to their socio-economic status, which tends to erode in displacement. Both studies concluded that, while some progress has been made, the aid sector is still not effectively including older people in their interventions.

Below: This community in Meja, Ethiopia has benefited from a borehole rehabilitation project implemented by HelpAge International.
© Konrad Stoehr/HelpAge Deutschland.



Baseline study: Centre for Humanitarian Data results framework

In November 2017, the Centre for Humanitarian Data commissioned HPG to conduct research to ensure that its three-year results framework is appropriate and robust, and that its indicators, outputs and outcomes are measurable. The aim of the research was to assess the framework, finalise outcome indicators and develop baseline measurements. In addition to the report, which we presented to the funder, a blog summarising the results was posted on the Centre's website (<https://centre.humdata.org/how-the-centre-will-measure-results/>).

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.



Integrated Programme projects

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

The concept of ‘protection’ is rooted in international law, with the assumption that third parties intervene to protect civilians rather than an acknowledgement of the ways that civilians protect themselves. This project builds on the traditional conceptualisation and operationalisation of protection as articulated in international law and existing research on community protection to examine protection through the lens of crossing boundaries, whether conceptual or disciplinary, as well as national or communal borders. It explores the informal rules, codes and relationships of communities and local protection actors, how crossing boundaries changes them and how these actors, structures and codes interact with the formal humanitarian system.

During the reporting period, the research advisory board met and provided guidance on direction and case study selection. HPG developed a literature review summarising the academic and policy literatures related to local protection and related fields of human rights, peacekeeping and peacebuilding. Insights from the review were presented at the Third Northern European Conference on Emergency and Disaster Studies in Amsterdam in March 2018.

A first case study on communal loyalty and cross border protection in Libya addresses the role played by Libyans in Tunisia in contributing to the protection of civilians. Forty in-depth interviews were conducted by local researchers and the research lead, and preliminary findings were shared at an academic conference in January 2018 in Naples. A second case study of cross-border protection in Myanmar/China (Kachin state and Yunnan province) was delayed until the summer of 2018 due to insecurity and renewed fighting.

Holding the keys: who gets access in times of conflict?

We finalised our IP research on access with the publication of a working paper and policy brief on local actors and humanitarian access in Ukraine, along with a final report looking at the implications of the research in Syria and Ukraine. The research concluded that humanitarian organisations broadly face similar access challenges regardless of whether they are international or local. The difference lies in how local organisations address these challenges, and their flexibility and proximity to people in need. The final report was launched at an event in Geneva hosted by the ICRC.

Commissioned work

Study on remote management and child protection

Partnerships with local actors are at the core of remote management arrangements, and in many instances are the only viable way to deliver child protection interventions in many parts of Syria. This study documents lessons from child protection activities focusing on psychosocial interventions in southern and central Syria. The research highlights the importance of dedicated programme focal points in maintaining open communications and building trust, as well as the significant effort and resources dedicated to strengthening the technical and organisational capacity of Syrian

partners. Limited communication and multi-layered remote management arrangements also serve to insulate frontline responders, and as such constitute an important risk management measure. Challenges and complications for local Syrian partners include the reporting burdens of interacting with multiple donors, high staff turnover, extremely difficult working environments and inadequate or unpredictable financial support. The study concludes with a series of recommendations on child protection, partnerships, capacity-building and risk management.

Previous page: Children play in Al-Aser collective shelter. The camp hosts around 300 families displaced from Afrin, Syria. © UNICEF/Khudr Al-Issa.

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

Conflict and hunger discussion series and report

HPG worked with the governments of the Netherlands and Switzerland in their respective roles as Chairs of the Group of Friends on Food Security and the Group of Friends on Protection of Civilians at the UN. Three events held over the course of 2017 sought to develop a better understanding of the links between conflict and hunger, and to identify potential courses of action for the international community to address and prevent hunger. The events took place in New York (co-organised by Switzerland, the Netherlands and the International Peace Institute), Rome (co-organised by the Netherlands, Italy, Switzerland and the Rome-based agencies) and Geneva (co-organised by Switzerland, the Netherlands and the Humanitarian Policy Group at the Overseas Development Institute). A paper based on the discussions – *Conflict and hunger: breaking a vicious cycle* – was published in December 2017, and the main findings were presented at a high-level meeting at the UN in New York. As a follow-up to the series, the Netherlands organised a briefing on conflict and hunger during its presidency of the Security Council. HPG also published an article on the intersection of food security and conflict in the Swiss foreign affairs journal *Politboris*.

I would like to extend my gratitude to the Humanitarian Policy Group, which has provided substantive input and guidance.

Amb. Valentin Zellweger,
Permanent Representative of
Switzerland to the United Nations

Public health interventions in humanitarian crises

HPG contributed to a special issue of *The Lancet* on 'Evidence on public health interventions in humanitarian crises' (vol. 390, no. 10109) published in November 2017. Contributors noted that, despite the clear need for evidence-based interventions to help improve the effectiveness and efficiency of humanitarian responses, little is known about the depth or quality of evidence on health interventions in crises.



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Above: Abdala Abdalmaula Harum and Salma Adam Al Tahir work land run by a group of young farmers, as part of the Livelihood and Food Security Programme sponsored by UNAMID, in Forobaranga, West Darfur. © Albert González Farran/UNAMID.

Displacement, migration and urbanisation

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 aims to shed light on the different understandings and uses 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 project explores whether and how international and local humanitarian actors differ in ensuring the dignity of displaced people, thereby interrogating the emerging common wisdom on aid localisation that greater funding to local actors will of itself put dignity at the centre of humanitarian responses. The study aims primarily to listen to the perspectives of aid recipients and to showcase their perceptions and examples of good and bad practice on how dignity has been upheld (or not) in displacement contexts. The ultimate objective of the research is to draw out key lessons for both local and international responses on how to better incorporate the perspectives of affected people in policies and programmes.

HPG researchers completed a comprehensive literature review, starting with a philosophical and historical exploration of the concept in the humanitarian sector, human rights discourse and moral philosophy. Two country case studies are in progress, on the Rohingya in Bangladesh and Syrians in Lebanon. Fieldwork took place in Bangladesh in April–May 2018, and was planned in Lebanon in June–August 2018. Four smaller case studies are under way in the Philippines, Afghanistan, South Sudan and Colombia.

Livelihoods in protracted displacement: harnessing refugees' aspirations, skills and networks

The final case study paper for this IP project – on Cameroon – was published in August 2017, followed by a final report in September 2017. The research found that livelihoods interventions have largely failed to integrate the perspectives of refugees into their

programming, and concluded by identifying the different ways in which the lives and livelihoods of refugees residing outside camps in protracted displacement can be better supported. Opportunities to disseminate the research findings to the academic community and practitioners included a co-authored piece with the Oxford Refugee Studies Centre and participation on a panel on displacement at the British Red Cross.

The Jordan Compact: lessons and implications for future refugee compacts

HPG worked closely with ODI's migration team to pull together research and analysis from across ODI on Syrian refugees in Jordan to draw out key lessons from the Jordan Compact experience and to identify implications for future refugee compacts. Set out in an ODI policy brief, published in February 2018, the analysis concluded that, while the Compact had led to considerable improvements in education and labour market access for Syrian refugees, it had done little to improve day-to-day life: large numbers of Syrian children remain out of school due to financial barriers and the quality of services provided, and critical employment sectors and self-employment remain closed to refugees. As similar models are being proposed in Ethiopia, Lebanon and Turkey, the policy brief argues that, if they are to be successful, they must start with what refugees need and want, and be realistic about what such arrangements can achieve.

Below: Migrants and refugees land at the Port of Messina in Sicily. © UNHCR/Patrick Russo.



Commissioned work

Study on migration from Darfur

This study, carried out jointly with the School of African and Oriental Studies (SOAS) in London and funded by the Netherlands government and the European Union Trust Fund Development Cooperation DG, with in-kind support from Oxfam, is one of the very few to look at the process of migration for a particular population group – ethnic Darfuris – from their place of origin to their final destination. Drawing on extensive documentary research and interviews with individual migrants in Sudan, Libya and a range of European countries, the study explored the drivers of migration, the experiences of migrants along the route, and the legal and policy framework surrounding the migration and settlement process.

Regional Development and Protection Programme for refugees and host communities

HPG collaborated with the Nordic Consulting Group to support the Danish government in the formulation of the second phase of its Regional Development and Protection Programme (RDPP) for refugees in host communities in Syria and countries affected by displacement from Syria. The project aimed to identify how the programme should adapt based on lessons from the first phase and ongoing analysis of the situation. We provided insights from our IP research project on the livelihoods of refugees in long-term displacement, and a study, funded by the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ), on Syrian refugees in Turkey and Jordan, which highlighted the importance of policies that integrate the perspectives of refugees, the links between economic and social integration and the need to adopt a wider livelihoods lens that incorporates protection analysis and a rights-based approach.

World Commission on Forced Displacement

Organised by the Chumir Foundation for Ethics in Leadership, the World Commission on Forced Displacement is a diverse group of high-level policy and political figures drawn from around the globe. It is advised by a global Steering Committee of scholars and practitioners in the area of forced displacement. HPG was invited to be part of the Steering Committee. To inform the Commission's thinking, we also produced a series of conceptual and policy papers on refugees

and forced displacement. A set of related case studies explored the legal and policy frameworks and political, economic and social impacts of displacement and opportunities for integration in Canada, Germany, Jordan and Kenya. An additional background paper for the Commission set out a ten-point strategy for progress beyond the Refugee and Migration Compacts, including more equitable burden-sharing between refugee-hosting states and the establishment of a Merchant Bank to encourage private sector investment in host countries.

Forum on refugee and migration policy

With funding from GIZ, ODI and Chatham House convened a series of meetings between November 2016 and May 2018 on refugee and migration policy. 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. One of the key outputs of the forum was a literature review published in June 2017 on public attitudes towards refugees and migration. Also funded by GIZ, the paper was based on a desk review of over 160 articles and interviews with 20 experts in this area. The study found that engaging effectively with public attitudes towards refugees and migrants requires understanding the real-world concerns, emotions and values around which attitudes are formed. We also found that traditional approaches to public engagement, such as 'myth-busting', may have exacerbated negativity and are unlikely to resonate beyond those who are already supportive. Emotive and value-driven arguments may have more traction than facts and evidence. HPG has subsequently received grants from the IKEA and Chumir Foundations to conduct a multi-year project to better understand what influences public attitudes towards refugees and migrants globally.

The Urban Crises Learning Partnership

The Urban Crises Learning Partnership was a two-year initiative (2015–17) designed to generate knowledge and evidence on preparing for and responding to crises in urban areas. Funded by DFID as part of the Urban Crises Learning Fund, it was a collaboration between Habitat for Humanity GB, Oxfam GB, University College London (UCL) and ODI. As part of the project, ODI researchers produced a working paper on informality in urban crisis

response and contributed to a special issue of *Humanitarian Exchange* on urban crisis response (HE71, March 2018). The paper found that informal actors and activity are a significant feature of urban crisis response in disasters, conflict and violent urban settings, performing a wide range of functions including governance, security and the provision of financial and material assistance. However, existing practices of assessment and engagement in urban crises mean that humanitarian agencies may

overlook, undervalue or denigrate these informal sources of support. While agencies are beginning to adapt their assessment and targeting tools to urban conditions, these activities are piecemeal, and it remains to be seen how effective new approaches and tools will be in complex urban environments.

Below: Rohingya refugees who were living in shelters at risk from landslides wait to be moved between camps at the Kutupalong settlement in Cox's Bazar, Bangladesh. © UNHCR/Adam Dean.



Protracted crises and transitions

Many of today's key humanitarian contexts are lengthy protracted crises undergoing social, economic and political or security transitions, with significant implications for humanitarian action. During the year we saw consistent demand for our expertise on a wide range of protracted crises, including in Syria and South Sudan.

Commissioned work

Syria

HPG was asked by the Office of the Special Envoy for Syria to second a senior research fellow to provide technical and policy support to the Special Envoy on detainee/abductee/missing persons issues. The Special Envoy is tasked with providing high-level diplomatic support to help bring an end to violence and human rights violations in Syria, and promote a peaceful solution to the crisis there.

South Sudan

The United States Institute of Peace (USIP) commissioned HPG to produce a paper on humanitarian policy in South Sudan. The paper set out to encourage debate and discussion about whether the current humanitarian paradigm is fit for purpose in South Sudan, particularly given the long-standing and well-documented trade-offs involved in delivering assistance. We looked at both historical patterns and recent trends, including how the humanitarian operation interacts with political and conflict dynamics, as well as issues around patronage and political legitimacy. We conducted a series of briefings and discussions with policy-makers at the highest levels working on South Sudan in the United States, the EU, the UK and the UN, both leadership at headquarters and in country, and the wider NGO and humanitarian community.



Above: Conflict in Mouadamieh, Syria forced thousands to flee and left vast destruction in its wake. © Ali Yousef/ICRC.

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 distilling and disseminating practice.

Humanitarian Practice Network

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 distilling and disseminating practice. HPN's primary activity is the production and dissemination of specialist resources (*Humanitarian Exchange* magazine, network papers and good practice reviews). These are distributed through HPN's website, social media and humanitarian information websites and news providers such as ReliefWeb, Alertnet and IRIN, and at conferences and events.

During the reporting period, HPN published and launched three editions of *Humanitarian Exchange*: HE 69, on the humanitarian consequences of violence in Central America; HE 70, on the crisis in the Lake Chad Basin; and HE 71, on humanitarian responses in urban areas. Future editions will focus on mental health and psychosocial response in humanitarian crises (July 2018), the Rohingya crisis (October 2018) and communication and community engagement (February 2019). HPN also published a number of

online articles covering a range of issues, including cash transfers and social protection programming in Zimbabwe, Lebanon, the DRC and Jordan, an introduction to block chain, gender in emergencies and enhancing physiotherapy practice standards.

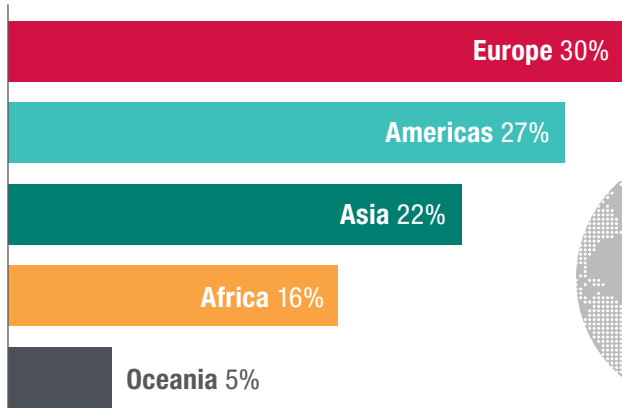
Network paper 81 on responses to mixed migration in Europe, published in December 2017, analysed the timeliness and effectiveness of the humanitarian response to refugee and migrant influxes, focusing on how different humanitarian actors have decided whether or not to intervene, what approaches they have taken, the extent to which principles and standards have figured in the response and how effective responses have been in meeting humanitarian needs.

In partnership with ALNAP and with funding from the IP and ECHO, HPN commissioned David Sanderson of the University of New South Wales to write a new good practice review (GPR) on responding to humanitarian needs in urban contexts. Work on the GPR will be guided by an advisory group of 15 international experts. Publication is planned for the first quarter of 2019.

Following page: International Medical Corps psychiatrist supervises Ministry of Health staff at Bria Hospital, Central African Republic on the identification and treatment of mental disorders. © Patrick Meinhardt/International Medical Corps.



Over 200,000 visits to the HPN website in 2017–18



7,100 

people reached through
our HPN Facebook page

7,000 






HPN Twitter followers that
we engage with daily

“

It has been a great pleasure to read the HE on the humanitarian crisis in Lake Chad Basin ... it really sheds light on a number of very interesting and overlooked issues related to this crisis.

Virgine Roiron,
Humanitarian and development professional

HPN's most popular publications in 2017–18

-  The humanitarian consequences of violence in Central America
-  Blockchain for humanity
-  The Lake Chad Basin: an overlooked crisis?
-  Cash transfers for Syrian refugees in Jordan: bridging the gap between short-term assistance and long-term social and economic integration
-  Responses to mixed migration in Europe: implications for the humanitarian sector

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

Between April 2017 and March 2018 HPG co-edited four regular quarterly issues of *Disasters* (volume 41, issues 2, 3, 4, and volume 42, issue 1), one special issue and two virtual issues. The special issue, on gender, sexuality and violence in humanitarian crises, published in January 2018, was a collaboration between HPG, the Institute of Social Studies at Erasmus University, LSE and the Secure Livelihoods Research Consortium (SLRC). The issue provided key research for the humanitarian community on issues of gender and sexuality in crises. The first of the two virtual issues, published in July 2017, published papers in *Disasters* authored or co-authored by Enrico Quarantelli, who has since sadly passed away.

Congratulations on your 40th year. *Disasters* remains a leading light in the field, and I am so thankful for the extraordinary scholarship that you continue to encourage from scholars around the globe.

Lori Peek, Professor in the Department of Sociology and Director of the Natural Hazards Center, University of Colorado-Boulder



Left: *Disasters* journal celebrated its fortieth anniversary with a one-day conference at ODI.
© ODI.

In September 2017, *Disasters* celebrated its fortieth anniversary with a one-day conference at ODI (which produced a second virtual issue, covering key research papers over the journal's life). The conference brought together founding and current editors and global academic experts in disaster research. There were over 80 attendees and 900 online viewers, making it one of the most successful live-streamed events held at ODI. The journal's impact factor, which reflects the number of citations in relation to recent articles, remains at 1.255, solidifying its ranking (28th out of 55) in the planning and development category. Global text downloads within the reporting period were just under 75,000.

Below: Participants in discussion during the senior-level course on conflict and humanitarian response, taught by HPG in collaboration with LSE. © ODI.



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. Designed to foster peer-to-peer learning, the course features lectures by distinguished academics and practitioners, alongside group discussions and exercises.

Twenty-three participants attended this year's course, with extensive experience in countries including Afghanistan, Mozambique, Somalia, South Sudan, Sudan, Syria, Ukraine and Yemen. Organisations represented on the course included UNICEF, the World Health Organisation, the International Committee of the Red Cross, CARE International, DFID, Médecins Sans Frontières and Mott MacDonald. Speakers included Sir John Holmes (former director of the Ditchley Foundation and former UN Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator), Mary Kaldor (Professor of Global Governance at LSE), Mohammad-Mahmoud Ould Mohamedou (Professor of International History at the Graduate Institute in Geneva) and Jemilah Mahmood (Under Secretary General – Partnerships, IFRC). Students delivered presentations for Mark Lowcock just prior to him taking up his official duties as Emergency Relief Coordinator at OCHA.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you again for having involved me in the course. It was an eye-opening and inspiring journey for me.

Guo Yang, Senior Political Adviser, ICRC, Beijing

Communications, public affairs and policy advice

Communications and public affairs remained a core part of our work in order 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.



Left: Head of HPG Christina Bennett moderates the HPG Annual Lecture on 'Aid and multilateralism in an era of populist politics' with guest speaker Gayle Smith, President and CEO of the ONE Campaign. © ODI.

Catalysing debate

HPG remains at the forefront of major debates and discussions around humanitarian action. Over the year we hosted 19 conferences, courses, roundtables and public events, and HPG researchers spoke at 88 external events in 16 countries (for a full list of public events see page 36). Highlights included hosting a lunch with 20 MPs and peers in the UK parliament to discuss the UK's foreign and humanitarian policy; leading conversations at the World Humanitarian Action Forum on counter-terrorism and the impacts of bank de-risking on humanitarian organisations; and co-hosting a one-day conference with the Arab Foundations Forum on foreign policy and humanitarian action in the UK, China and Saudi Arabia.

Our IP project on ‘Constructive deconstruction’ garnered HPG several speaking engagements, with practitioners in Fiji and Australia, government officials in Oslo, Brussels and London and academic institutions including the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine and Goldsmith’s design and technology school at University College London. HPG researchers also spoke at a panel discussion at the Royal United Services Institute (RUSI) in London in September 2017 on refugee and migration issues, and at an International Stakeholder Dialogue on financial services for non-profit organisations in The Hague in February 2018.

Drawing on our research on Rohingya refugees in Malaysia, we responded immediately to the outbreak of the Rohingya refugee crisis by convening a public event with frontline responders in Cox’s Bazar in Bangladesh to discuss immediate humanitarian needs, and how the international community should respond. Ahead of the six-month mark of the crisis, HPG organised a high-level, closed-door roundtable discussion to examine the ongoing protection challenges in the response, with high-level attendees including diplomats, government officials, representatives of the UN and NGOs and actors involved in the refugee diaspora. The purpose of the roundtable was to provide a structured forum in which experts could speak openly on key issues of protection, human rights and citizenship, the assistance and protection response and advocacy with the government of Myanmar. The discussion was summarised and communicated to participants in a meeting note, to support influencing efforts and wider policy dialogue. The roundtable discussion also informed a policy brief on the Rohingya response published in March 2018 (*The Rohingya crisis: making the transition from emergency to longer-term development*).

We continued our active public engagement around cash in humanitarian response. HPG was invited to present and discuss the report of the High-level Panel on humanitarian cash transfers, published during the previous reporting period, and the follow-on case studies on the role of cash in the humanitarian responses in the DRC, Iraq, Mozambique, Nepal and Ukraine at a number of meetings and public events throughout the course of the year.¹ We also hosted the launch of the Cash Learning Partnership (CaLP)’s first *State of humanitarian cash* report at ODI, fielding an ODI expert on the panel. The event was very well attended, both in the room and online, and was accompanied by a lively Twitter discussion.

Innovations and challenges in protecting children in armed conflict formed the basis for a public event on International Children’s Day in November 2017 organised by HPG, ODI’s Gender Equality and Social Inclusion team (GESI), GAGE and War Child. The event brought together a panel of academics and practitioners, who provided examples of creative strategies and platforms to tackle the impacts of conflict on children and young people. Immediately following the event, ODI hosted a closed-door roundtable focused on four key themes: access, risks and assumptions, learning and ethics. Participants included practitioners, academics, NGOs and donors. The discussion, held under the Chatham House Rule, highlighted that, while issues such as child protection, psychosocial support and mental health and education are closely linked, they are rarely discussed together, something that the roundtable had achieved. A report highlighting the main discussion points and presenting recommendations was published in February 2018.

ECHO Away Day

The ODI Managing Director spoke on the future of humanitarian aid at the ECHO Away Day in Brussels in September 2017. Drawing on current and past HPG research on the humanitarian system, the presentation covered key issues facing the sector, including the changing nature of crises and crisis response, and the obstacles in the way of more effective and inclusive humanitarian action.

I was out in Beijing for DFID ... The ODI publication on the links between Chinese foreign policy and humanitarian action was a life-saving primer on the plane on the way over.

Helen McElhinney, Senior Humanitarian Advisor, DFID

¹ Although the DRC and Iraq case studies and the synthesis report were published in early April 2017, we included them in last year’s annual report.

Based on our work on conflict and hunger (reported on above), HPG researchers were invited to speak at a parliamentary event in London to mark the one-year anniversary of the UN's Call to Action on famine threats in Nigeria, Somalia, South Sudan and Yemen. The event, hosted by Action Against Hunger, was intended to draw attention to the direct connections between conflict, instability and weak governance on food insecurity and famine, and generate renewed political commitment to responding to and preventing hunger crises.



Left: ODI Managing Director Sara Pantuliano speaks at the World Economic Forum Annual Meeting in Davos. © ODI.

HPG acts as the informal secretariat of the ROHAN. We convened the third annual meeting in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, in November 2017, hosted by the African Union Commission Department of Political Affairs. We also co-coordinated the launch of the Humanitarian Grand Challenge, an initiative between the US Agency for International Development (USAID), DFID and Grand Challenges Canada to identify, support and transition to scale humanitarian innovation and harness the power of new technologies. At the Sixth HPG Annual Lecture in December, Gayle Smith, President and CEO of the ONE Campaign and former Administrator of USAID, delivered the keynote speech on the future of humanitarian aid and multilateralism.

Public events remained a core component of HPN's work over the year. HE 69, which was also translated into Spanish, was launched at a livestreamed public event in Washington DC, hosted by the Wilson Center, and at an event in Panama City, involving Stephen O'Brien, the former UN Under Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator (29 May 2015–September 2017). The edition was also discussed at an ODI-hosted webinar moderated by the HPN coordinator, which attracted over 600 participants, the largest ODI webinar audience ever. HEs 70 and 71 were launched at public events at ODI. Jan Egeland recorded a special video message for the HE 70 event, and Toby Lanzer, DSRSG/RC/HC for UNAMA in Afghanistan, who wrote the lead article for the edition, participated in the event via video link from Kabul. Eighty copies of the publication were subsequently distributed at an event on the protection crisis in Nigeria at the Norwegian mission to the UN in New York. The HE 71 launch featured David Sanderson, the lead researcher and author for the forthcoming good practice review on responding to humanitarian crises in urban contexts, and other article authors.

HPG at the World Economic Forum (WEF) Annual Meeting in Davos

HPG was invited to attend the humanitarian programme of the World Economic Forum Annual Meeting in Davos in January 2018. We participated in a press conference on the global humanitarian outlook for 2018 in the lead-up to a co-hosted event with IRIN, which was one of the most followed non-economic items at the meeting. We also moderated a high-level meeting on humanitarian financing and participated in a televised event on how new technologies and partnerships can help connect refugees in contexts of large-scale displacement.

The HPN coordinator presented at external events on HPG's case studies on cash transfer programming, including at a Grand Bargain cash workstream meeting in Rome; a Good Humanitarian Donorship meeting in Geneva; in London at a CARE International event on risk and innovation in humanitarian delivery; and at the launch of IARAN's report 'Future of aid'. The coordinator also spoke at the Urban Humanitarian Response Symposium at RIBA in London and on how evidence informs practice at the R2HC (Research on Health in Humanitarian Crises) conference at Royal Holloway, University of London, and moderated a session for DanChurchAid at ECHO headquarters in Brussels on participation and accountability. The HPN coordinator also serves as the HPG representative for ALNAP, is a member of the CARE UK Programme and Policy Committee, an honorary vice president of RedR, a board member of the International Humanitarian Studies Association (on behalf of HPG), the acting chair of the new Enhancing Learning and Research for Humanitarian Assistance (ELRHA) board and the chair of the LEGS Steering Group.

Policy advice and representation

HPG staff continued to provide targeted policy advice to a range of actors, including aid agencies, academic institutions, donors, governments, regional organisations and UN agencies. This includes formal advisory roles, informal closed-door briefings and formal presentations at external events. We were invited to speak at the Third Thematic Discussion of the UNHCR Global Compact on Refugees on the development of cash-based interventions to promote dignity and self-reliance in humanitarian settings. We were also part of the T20 Task Force on Forced Migration, where we led a discussion on ways to disseminate the Task Force's findings to the wider public. HPG staff delivered presentations at the World Food Programme's Annual Partnership Consultation on the digital revolution and its impact on humanitarian action.

HPG researchers spoke at the Aid and Trade Development Conference and at Wilton Park on progress made against the Grand Bargain's commitments one year on. We delivered presentations at Whitehall on counter-terrorism, de-risking and the humanitarian response in Yemen, and to the All-Party Parliamentary Group on Yemen to mark the second anniversary of the conflict. HPG also engaged in discussions with ActionAid and the Canadian High Commission on women in humanitarian action. We presented the results of our work on public attitudes towards refugees to policy-makers in Spain (March and July in Valencia and

Madrid); to Save the Children's advocacy advisors in Brussels (October); and to the World Refugee Council in Berlin (November), and an associated blog was published in October. We provided expertise to the Swedish government on local humanitarian action and access in conflict zones, presented to the government of Switzerland on UN reform and its implications for humanitarian action and took part in the Tenth Annual High Commissioner's Dialogue on Protection Challenges.

As part of the IP, HPG researchers met with donors at headquarters to provide updates on our work. Over the past year, senior HPG staff visited the Australian Department of Foreign Affairs, the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Swedish Development Cooperation Agency and the Swiss Federal Department of Foreign Affairs. HPG also responded to two parliamentary inquiries in the UK on violence in Rakhine State and DFID's operations in Bangladesh and Myanmar around the Rohingya refugee crisis.



Media engagement

During the past year, HPG received over 300 pieces of media coverage. Our researchers used their engagement with the media to respond to topical crises, highlight ongoing research and issues facing the humanitarian sector and raise awareness of under-reported emergencies. Coverage spanned a range of issues, including the Yemen crisis, DFID's record on humanitarian aid, Hurricane Irma, the politics of food aid, China's foreign policy and protests in Iran. HPG researchers responded to breaking news in key crisis-affected countries, including Libya, Syria and North Korea. HPG's work and experts featured in multiple media outlets, including BBC News, *The Myanmar Times*, *New Delhi Times*, *The New Nation*, News Deeply, CTV, Thomson Reuters Foundation News and *The Guardian*.

Above: HPG Research Fellow Sherine El Taraboulsi-McCarthy appears on Al Jazeera to discuss the war in Yemen. © Al Jazeera.

Summary of IP budget and income spent (GBP)

Project number	Project detail	2017–2019 revised budget as per interim report (sent June 2018)	Revised budget as per interim report (June 2018)		Actual final IP income spent	Carry forward of income to 2018–2019
			Financial year 2017–2018	Financial year 2018–2019	Income spent up to 31/3/2018	
CD000032	Constructive Reconstruction: Rethinking the Global Humanitarian Architecture	£214,483	£214,483	–	£214,483	–
CD000033	Holding the Keys: Who Gets Access in Times of Conflict?	£48,006	£48,006	–	£48,006	–
CD000034	Beyond Donorship: State-Led Humanitarian Action	£53,273	£53,273	–	£53,273	–
CD000035	Livelihoods in Protracted Displacement: Harnessing Refugees' Aspirations, Skills and Networks	£40,585	£40,585	–	£40,585	–
CD000044	'As local as possible, as international as necessary': understanding capacity and complementarity in humanitarian response	£341,048	£158,049	£182,999	£158,049	–
CD000045	The Tip of the Iceberg? Understanding Non-traditional Sources of Aid Financing	£328,204	£148,263	£179,940	£148,263	–
CD000046	Informality and Protection: Understanding the Role of Informal Non-state Actors in Protecting Civilians	£377,662	£172,604	£205,058	£159,334	£13,270
CD000047	Dignity in Displacement: From Rhetoric to Reality	£375,971	£154,185	£221,785	£146,385	£7,800
CD000048	Synthesis Paper	£156,309	£35,935	£120,375	£35,935	–
CD000049	Humanitarian Practice Network (HPN)	£428,452	£196,557	£231,895	£195,307	£1,250
CD000050	Policy Engagement and Representation	£464,086	£222,176	£241,910	£222,175	–
CD000051	Public Affairs and Rapid Response	£345,554	£165,202	£180,352	£165,202	–
CD000052	Senior-Level Course on Conflict and Humanitarian Response (LSE)	£20,000	–	£20,000	–	–
CD000053	Master's Course (Center for Conflict and Humanitarian Studies, Doha Institute)	£10,000	–	£10,000	–	–
D03470S	Disasters	£12,000	£2,000	£10,000	–	£2,000
CD000054	Reprinting	£10,000	£5,000	£5,000	£4,558	£442
Total		£3,225,632	£1,616,317	£1,609,314	£1,591,555	£24,761

IP income in 2017–2018 (GBP)

Project number	Funder details	Income in advance for 2017–2018 (carried forward from 2016–2017)	IP grants in the year 2017–2018	Income in advance for 2018–2019 (carried forward from 2017–2018)
D0000	Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade	£0	£174,068	£12,047
	British Red Cross	£0	£5,000	–
	Irish Aid	£0	£132,117	–
	IKEA Foundation	£127,339	£220,604	£40,000
	Ministry of Foreign Affairs Denmark	£0	£147,947*	£73,974
	The Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs	£0	£100,000	–
	Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency	£17,736	£0	–
	Swiss Federal Department of Foreign Affairs	£256,596	£280,000	–
	United States Office of Foreign Disaster Assistance	£11,143	£312,422	£75,122
	World Vision International	£0	£7,726	
Total grants		£412,814	£1,379,884	£201,143
Senior level course fees			£57,474	
Total income received in 2017–18			£1,437,359	

*Total income received and allocated in 2017–2018 was £73,974.

Publications

Reports and working papers

Electronic transfers in humanitarian assistance and uptake of financial services: a synthesis of ELAN case studies, HPG commissioned report. Sarah Bailey, April 2017

From Grand Bargain to beneficiary: an analysis of funding flows through the humanitarian system, HPG commissioned report. Tasneem Mowjee, Lydia Poole and Barnaby Willits-King, June 2017

Supporting Central African refugees in Cameroon: policy and practice in response to protracted displacement, HPG working paper. Veronique Barbelet, August 2017

Beyond donorship: UK foreign policy and humanitarian action, HPG working paper. Barnaby Willits-King, Jim Drummond, Victoria Metcalfe-Hough and John Bryant, September 2017

A kingdom of humanity? Saudi Arabia's values, systems and interests in humanitarian action, HPG working paper. Sherine El Taraboulsi-McCarthy, September 2017

Humanitarian access and local organisations in Ukraine, HPG working paper. Veronique Barbelet, September 2017

Markets in crises: the implications for humanitarian action, HPG report. Simon Levine, August 2017

Livelihoods in displacement: from refugee perspectives to aid agency response, HPG report. Veronique Barbelet and Caitlin Wake, September 2017

Holding the keys: humanitarian access and local organisations, HPG report. Eva Svoboda, Veronique Barbelet and Irina Mosel, January 2018

Humanitarian Policy Group Brochure 2017-2019, HPG Team, December 2017

A design experiment: imagining alternative humanitarian action, HPG toolkit. Christina Bennett and John Bryant, January 2018

Exploring the links between Chinese foreign policy and humanitarian action: multiple interests, processes and actors, HPG working paper. Miwa Hirono, January 2018

Counter-terrorism, de-risking and the humanitarian response in Yemen: a call for action, HPG working paper. Sherine El Taraboulsi-McCarthy with Camilla Cimatti, February 2018

Policy briefs and briefing notes

Electronic transfers in humanitarian assistance and uptake of financial services: a synthesis of ELAN case studies, HPG policy briefing. Sarah Bailey, April 2017

The anatomy of local negotiations, Humanitarian access and local organisations in Syria, HPG policy brief. Eva Svoboda, July 2017

Beyond donorship: UK foreign policy and humanitarian action, HPG policy brief. Jim Drummond, Victoria Metcalfe-Hough, Barnaby Willits-King and John Bryant, September 2017

Beyond donorship: UK foreign policy and humanitarian action, parliamentary briefing. Jim Drummond, Victoria Metcalfe-Hough, Barnaby Willits-King and John Bryant, September 2017

Upending humanitarianism: questions emerging 'from the ground up', HPG briefing note. Larissa Fast, December 2017

Humanitarian access and local organisations in Ukraine, HPG policy brief. Veronique Barbelet, January 2018

Holding the keys: humanitarian access and local organisations, HPG policy brief. Eva Svoboda, January 2018

The Rohingya crisis: making the transition from emergency to longer-term development, HPG policy brief. Caitlin Wake and Brenda Yu, March 2018

ODI and external publications

Humanitarian cash transfers in the Democratic Republic of Congo, ODI working paper. Sarah Bailey, April 2017

Countering Violent Extremism, topic guide, GSDRC Applied Knowledge Services. Mareike Schomerus, Sherine El Taraboulsi-McCarthy and Jassi Sandhar, April 2017

Evidence on public health interventions in humanitarian crises, journal article, *The Lancet*. Karl Blanchet, Anita Ramesh, Severine Frison, Emily Warren, Mazeda Hossain, James Smith, Abigail Knight, Nathan Post, Christopher Lewis, Aniek Woodward, Maysoon Dahab, Alexander Ruby, Vera Sistench, Sara Pantuliano, Dr Bayard Roberts, June 2017

The DFID/ECHO approach to cash assistance for refugees in Lebanon: documenting the process, ODI working paper. Sarah Bailey and Paul Harvey, November 2017

Integrating gender equality in WASH Emergency Response in the Central African Republic. Water Security Across the Gender Divide, book chapter in *Water Security Across the Gender Divide*. Beatrice Mosello, Virginie Le Masson, Gladys Le Masson, Elena Diato and Veronique Barbelet, November 2017

Efficiency and inefficiency in humanitarian financing, report in *Humanitarian Outcomes*. Abby Stoddard, Lydia Poole, Glyn Taylor, Barnaby Willits-King, December 2017

The Jordan Compact: lessons learnt and implications for future refugee compacts, ODI policy brief. Veronique Barbelet, Jessica Hagen-Zanker and Dina Mansour-Ille, February 2018

Conference report: innovations and challenges in protecting children in armed conflict, ODI conference report. Veronique Barbelet, Nicola Jones and Aneeta Williams, February 2018

Conflict, hunger and system change: the Grand Bargain and beyond, journal article, *Politorbis*. Christina Bennett and Eva Svoboda, February 2018

Informality in urban crisis response, ODI working paper. John Twigg and Irina Mosel, March 2018

Conference papers

Regional Organisations Humanitarian Action Network conference paper 2017, HPG conference paper. Barnaby Willits-King, January 2018

Disasters journal issues

Volume 41, Issue 2, *Disasters* journal. April 2017

Volume 41, Issue 3, *Disasters* journal. July 2017

Disasters Virtual Issue, Enrico Quarantelli's Writing in *Disasters*. July 2017

Volume 41, Issue 4, *Disasters* journal. October 2017

Disasters Virtual Issue, 40th Anniversary Virtual Issue. September 2017

Volume 42, Issue 1, *Disasters* journal. January 2018

Volume 42, Issue S1, *Disasters* journal. January 2018

HPN publications

Humanitarian Exchange magazine

The humanitarian consequences of violence in Central America, *Humanitarian Exchange* 69. June 2017

The Lake Chad Basin: an overlooked crisis?, *Humanitarian Exchange* 70. October 2017

Humanitarian response in urban areas, *Humanitarian Exchange* 71. March 2018

Online articles

Cash transfers for Syrian refugees in Jordan: bridging the gap between short-term assistance and long-term social and economic integration, Martina Ulrichs, Jessica Hagen-Zanker and Rebecca Holmes, July 2017

Market monitoring and trade analysis in Darfur: 'localisation' in practice, Margie Buchanan-Smith, October 2017

Blockchain for humanity, Kate Dodgson and Dilek Genc, November 2017

Cash transfers and vouchers for conflict-affected households in the Democratic Republic of the Congo: evidence from UNICEF's ARCC II program, Sarah Bailey, Juan Bonilla, Kaitlin Carson, Gilbert Kiggundu, Mitchell Morey, Eleonora Nillesen and Hannah Ring, November 2017

Improving peace and security for women in areas affected by Boko Haram: lessons from Nigeria's Stability and Reconciliation Program, Eleanor Ann Nwadinobi, November 2017

Delivering cash transfers in Zimbabwe's liquidity crisis: persisting with a market-based approach, Cristy McLennan and Mira Gratier, January 2018

Four ways to make sure gender in emergencies includes men and boys, Toral Pattni and Delphine Brun, February 2018

From fragile to sustained physiotherapy practice: improving quality of care and patient outcomes through enhanced standards of practice, Liz Holey and Barbara Rau, February 2018

Public engagement

HPG and co-hosted events

HPG held 18 events in a total of 4 countries
3 conferences and courses
4 roundtables
11 public events

Ethiopia

2017 ROHAN Conference, conference co-hosted with the African Union. Addis Ababa. November 2017

Lebanon

States, aid and counter-terrorism: case studies from Europe, Asia and the Arab Region (MENA), roundtable co-hosted with the Arab Foundations Forum. Beirut. September 2017

Switzerland

Humanitarian access in armed conflicts: the key role of local actors, co-hosted public event with the ICRC. Geneva. September 2017

United Kingdom (London unless otherwise stated)

Twitter chat: are we doing enough for refugees? Public event. June 2017

Beyond assistance: how to support refugees' aspirations, public event. June 2017

Senior level course on conflict and humanitarian response, co-hosted course with the London School of Economics (LSE). June 2017

Frontline stories: risks faced by health workers, public event. August 2017

Disasters Conference: learning from the past 40 years, closed-door conference. September 2017

Ending the Rohingya crisis: what will it take? Public event. September 2017

UK foreign and humanitarian policy, parliamentary luncheon. November 2017

The impact of de-risking on humanitarian organisations, roundtable co-hosted with the World Humanitarian Action Forum and LSE. November 2017

Aid and multilateralism in an era of populist politics, public event. December 2017

Rohingya protection crisis, closed-door roundtable. January 2018

Cash transfer programming: taking stock and looking ahead, public event. February 2018

Yemen's economic future: from survival to reconstruction, public event. February 2018

HPN events

United Kingdom (London unless otherwise stated)

The humanitarian consequences of violence in Central America, webinar. July 2017

Lake Chad Basin: an overlooked crisis? Public event. October 2017

Urban humanitarian response: challenges and opportunities, public event. March 2018

External speaking events

88 in 16 countries

Australia

Humanitarian System Change, roundtable with the Humanitarian Advisory Group. Melbourne. October 2017

Refugee livelihoods and the Global Compacts on Refugees and Migration, presentation to DFAT, Australia High Commission. Canberra. October 2017

Change in the Humanitarian Sector, presentation to DFAT, Australia High Commission. Canberra. October 2017

Belgium

Economic Integration of Refugees in Countries of First Asylum: Mission Impossible?, CEPS, EMNES, MEDAM. Brussels. June 2017

Panel: The future of the humanitarian system, ECHO Africa Regional Seminar, Brussels. June 2017

Beneficiaries' participation: making peoples voices heard, ECHO, Brussels. September 2017

The future of humanitarian aid: still fit for purpose?, ECHO Away day, Brussels. September 2017

PeaceTech: Data and new technology for conflict prevention, Brussels. November 2017

Fiji

Operationalising reform commitments in the Pacific, Pacific humanitarian partnership meeting. Suva. October 2017

Germany

T20 Germany and beyond: Stock-taking and next steps for the Task Force on Forced Migration, T20 Summit. Berlin. May 2017

EAG meeting, State of the World's Volunteerism Report 2018. Bonn. February 2018

Crises in the Middle East: humanitarianism, religion and diplomacy 1860-1970, Conference at the Leibniz Institute of European History. Mainz. February 2018

Ireland

Humanitarian history: reflections on Somalia, workshop at NUI. Galway. June 2017

Alliance 2015 Resilience, Hunger and Poverty, roundtable at Irish Aid. Dublin. December 2017

Collective Call towards Innovation in Humanitarian Financing, presentation at Irish Aid. Dublin. May 2018

Italy

Humanitarian cash transfers and Grand Bargain commitments, DFID-WFP Grand Bargain cash workstream meeting. Rome. June 2017

Digital revolution: what impact on humanitarian action?, WFP Annual Partnerships Meeting. Rome. October 2017

Libya between history and revolution: resilience and new narrations of Berber identity, conference at L'Orientale. Naples. January 2018

Jordan

Middle East and North Africa Summit, World Economic Forum. Dead Sea. May 2017

Lebanon

State, aid and counterterrorism: case studies from Europe, Asia and the Arab Region (MENA), roundtable at the Arab Foundations Forum. Beirut. September 2017

Norway

Humanitarian Innovation, presentation at the Norwegian Refugee Council. Oslo. April 2017

Saudi Arabia

Riyadh International Humanitarian Conference, panel discussion on **Humanitarian Assistance** at The King Salman Humanitarian Aid and Relief Center. Riyadh. February 2018

Sweden

Local humanitarian action with a specific emphasis on access, presentation at the Government of Sweden. Stockholm. February 2018

Switzerland

Future of the humanitarian system, World Economic Forum. Geneva. April 2017

Measuring Cash, Good Humanitarian Donorship Cash Workstream meeting. Geneva. June 2017

Looking to the future, CaLP Global Forum on Cash. Geneva. June 2017

Presentation to students at Melbourne Law School on Humanitarian action in a challenging world, University of Geneva. Geneva. June 2017

Meeting needs and supporting communities, conference at UNHCR Third Thematic Discussion. Geneva. October 2017

Civil-military coordination for protection outcomes, roundtable at Global Protection Cluster. Geneva. October 2017

Protecting healthcare in armed conflict: legal challenges, Day of Public International Law. Geneva. November 2017

Conflict and Hunger series workshop, Geneva. November 2017

Café humanitaire, HERE Geneva.
Geneva. December 2017

The 10th annual High Commissioner's
Dialogue on Protection Challenges,
UNCHR. Geneva. December 2017

Participation to Power, Humanitarian
Response Steering Committee meeting.
Geneva. January 2018

Davos Annual Meeting, World Economic
Forum. Davos. January 2018

UN Reform and Implications for
Humanitarian Action, presentation at
the Government of Switzerland. Bern.
February 2018

The Netherlands

Cash task force, meeting at the
Dutch Relief Alliance. The Hague.
August 2017

International stakeholder dialogue:
ensuring financial services for non-profit
organisations, conference at the Dutch
Ministry of Finance and Human Security
Collective. The Hague. February 2018

The real working of localisation and
the co-governance of humanitarian
aid, presentation at the 2018 NEEDS
conference. Amsterdam. March 2018

IP Presentation, IKEA Foundation.
Leiden. March 2018

United Arab Emirates

WEF summit, World Economic Forum.
Dubai. November 2017

As Developmental as Possible, As
Humanitarian As Necessary: The
Humanitarian Development Nexus,
presentation at the Office for the
Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs.
Dubai. March 2018

Emergency Aid; Development &
Conflict Prevention, panel discussion
at DIHAD. Dubai. March 2018

United Kingdom (London unless otherwise stated)

Learning from Syria: health, crises,
conflict and displacement, meeting at
the Partnership for Quality Medical
Donations European Forum with Direct
Relief. April 2017

Protection of human rights and
development in Eritrea, meeting at RS
Collaboration. April 2017

Exploring the pervasive use and
rhetorical force of humanitarian
statistics, presentation at Humanitarian
and Conflict Response Institute,
University of Manchester. Manchester.
May 2017

Change is in action: changing world,
change the world, Aid and Trade
Development Conference. May 2017

Women in humanitarian action:
protection and gender-based violence,
Canadian High Commission and Action
Aid. May 2017

Women's protection and the
humanitarian and development nexus,
ActionAid Women in Humanitarian
Action Conference. May 2017

Refugee Self-Reliance Workshop,
at Oxford Refugee Studies Centre.
Oxford. June 2017

Humanitarian cash transfers,
DFID Humanitarian Advisor Cadre
Conference. June 2017

Refugee Self-Reliance in Cities:
Challenges and Opportunities, The
Migration Lab, University of Manchester.
Manchester. June 2017

Localisation: what's happening now?
What can be achieved?, The Grand
Bargain and localisation: one year on.
Wilton Park. June 2017

Cash: creating a climate for risk and
innovation in humanitarian delivery,
reception at CARE June 2017

Area based approaches, Urban
Humanitarian Response Symposium.
June 2017

Second anniversary of the escalation
of the conflict, panel session at
All-Party Parliamentary Group for
Yemen. July 2017

Cash: creating a climate for risk and
innovation in humanitarian delivery,
Care International. July 2017

The future of aid: INGOs in 2030,
Action against Hunger. July 2017
Family Planning Summit, Gates
Foundation. July 2017

Humanitarian aid workers memorial
event. August 2017

Food and Security in Syria: Pathways
to Stability, panel session at
Oxford University and WFP. Oxford.
September 2017

How do humanitarian principles relate
to security risk management?, podcast
session with European Interagency
Security Forum. September 2017

Oxford HIP-RUSI Pandemic Civil-
Military Coordination, workshop
at RUSI. Oxford. September 2017

Improving humanitarian outcomes with
evidence: research to impact, Research
for Health in Humanitarian Crises
Conference. Surrey. September 2017

Role of local actors, Protracted
Conflict conference Research council.
October 2017

Isolation, fusion or confusion?
Rethinking the relationship between
aid & development to be fit for the
protracted conflicts of the 21st century,
Protracted conflict, aid and development:
research policy and practise, UK Global
Challenges Research Fund. October 2017

Livelihoods in displacement: from
refugee perspectives to aid agency
responses, panel session at the Refugee
Studies Centre, Oxford University.
Oxford. October 2017

Change in the Humanitarian Sector –
Looking Forward, European Interagency
Security Forum. October 2017

Do exogenous shocks derail ex-
combatant reintegration?, University of
Essex Interdisciplinary Working Group
on Development. Exeter. October 2017

Market-based solutions and innovative
finance: New approaches to addressing
humanitarian needs, World Economic
Forum. November 2017

UCL Lancet Commission: Simulation
Session on Responding to Forced
Migration, Birkbeck University London.
November 2017

The impact of de-risking on
humanitarian organisations,
World Humanitarian Action Forum.
November 2017

Parliamentary Lunch, with The Rt Hon Andrew Mitchell MP.
November 2017

Winning back the human race,
Chatham House. November 2017

Forum on Refugee and Migration Policy, Chatham House.
November 2017

ICAI Syria review, roundtable at the Independent Commission for Aid Impact. November 2017

Putting money where it matters: what can humanitarians learn from other sectors?, webinar with ALNAP.
December 2017

Counter-terrorism, de-risking and the humanitarian response in Yemen, seminar at Whitehall. January 2018

Identity and citizenship: a response to terrorism? Analysing how the French government responded to the 2015 attacks in Paris, seminar at the European Studies Centre, Oxford University.
Oxford. January 2018

Reimagining humanitarianism: a design experiment, lecture at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine. February 2018

Effectiveness and the political economy of humanitarian action workshop, ESRC Seminar Series on Conflict and Information. February 2018

Reimagining digital humanitarianism, Goldsmiths University of London.
February 2018

International Relations Career Challenge, lecture at Kings College London. February 2018

Refugee and Migration, roundtable at Chatham House. February 2018

2018 National Security Risk Assessment production process, Meeting of experts and stakeholders on international natural hazards and humanitarian crises.
February 2018

Transitions: migrating, integrating, innovating, SOAS African Development Forum. March 2018

Migration and displacement, panel session at the British Red Cross away day. March 2018

Conflict and peacebuilding research: making the most of the evidence, Saferworld. March 2018
GSMA Disaster Response Innovation Fund, GSMA. March 2018

United States

Retreat vs Rebuild, presentation at the Harvard Humanitarian Conference.
Cambridge. April 2017

72nd session of the UN General Assembly, United Nations. New York.
September 2017

Fragility Forum 2018: Managing Risks for Peace and Stability, conference at the World Bank Group. Washington DC.
March 2018

HPG Advisory Group members

As of 31 March 2018

Advisory Group member	Organisation	Position
John Mitchell	Active Learning Network for Accountability and Performance (ALNAP)	Director
Katherine Mimiilidis	Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade	Assistant Director, Humanitarian Reform and Performance Section, Humanitarian and Refugee Policy Branch
Alexander Matheou	British Red Cross Society	Executive Director of International
Stephen Salewicz	Global Affairs Canada	Director-General
Dennis McNamara	Centre for Humanitarian Dialogue	Senior Humanitarian Adviser
Thomas Thomsen	Danish Ministry of Foreign Affairs	Chief adviser, Humanitarian Section
Sebastian Wigele	Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ)	Technical Adviser / Planning Officer (Disaster Management)
Jelte van Wieren	Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs	Director, Stabilisation and Humanitarian Aid Department
Henrike Trautmann	European Commission Humanitarian Aid Office (ECHO)	Head of Unit, Humanitarian Aid and Civil Protection
Per Heggenes	IKEA Foundation	Chief Executive Director
Margie Buchanan-Smith	Independent Consultant	Independent Consultant
Pascal Daudin	International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC)	Senior Policy Adviser
Seán Ó hAodha	Irish Aid	Deputy Director, Humanitarian Unit
Myeonjoa Kim	Korea International Cooperation Agency (KOICA)	Humanitarian Assistance Specialist (Emergency relief and DRR)
Vickie Hawkins	Médecins Sans Frontières UK (MSF UK)	Executive Director
Jehangir Malik	Muslim Aid	Chief Executive Officer
Reidun Otteroy	Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs	Senior adviser, Humanitarian Affairs Section
Mia Beers	Office of US Foreign Disaster Assistance (OFDA), US Agency for International Development (USAID)	Director, OFDA Humanitarian Policy and Global Engagement Division
Ambassador Hesham Youssef	Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC)	Assistant Secretary General for Humanitarian Affairs
Alex Thier	Overseas Development Institute (ODI)	Executive Director
Nigel Timmins	Oxfam	Humanitarian Director
Luca Alinovi	PP Sherpas Ltd	CEO and Founder
Abdurahman Sharif	Somalia NGO Consortium	Director
Gina Hong	South Korea Ministry of Foreign Affairs	Second Secretary
Susanne Mikhail	Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA)	Assistant Head of Division and Head of Unit OR Head of Humanitarian Aid on Sida
Marielle Mumenthaler	Swiss Federal Department of Foreign Affairs	Programme Officer, Humanitarian Policy and Migration, Directorate of Political Affairs, Human Security Division
Sultan Barakat	The Doha Institute	Director of Research
Hany El-Banna	The Humanitarian Forum	Founder and President
Helen Young/Dan Maxwell (alternate years)	Tufts University	Research Director for Nutrition, Livelihoods and Conflict/Professor in Food Security
Patrick Saez	United Kingdom Department for International Development (DFID)	Head of Humanitarian Partnerships, Conflict, Humanitarian and Security Department (CHASE)
Ewen MacLeod	United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)	Head, Policy Development and Evaluation Service
Hansjoerg Strohmeyer	United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA)	Chief, Policy Development and Studies Branch
Roger Zetter	University of Oxford	Emeritus Professor of Refugee Studies, Refugees Studies Centre
Zlatan Milisic	World Food Programme (WFP)	Deputy Director, Policy and Innovation Division

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As of 31 March 2018



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HPN Coordinator



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Senior Research Fellow



Matthew Foley
Managing Editor and Senior Research Fellow



Katy Harris
Communications Manager



Kerrie Holloway
Research Officer



Francesca Iannini
Head of Strategic Partnerships and Operations



Merryn Lagaida
Communications Officer (Digital Lead)



Simon Levine
Senior Research Fellow



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