



## **World Humanitarian Summit- Pakistan National Humanitarian Network Members Consultation**

**4 June 2015**

### **National Humanitarian Network**

The National Humanitarian Network (NHN) is a decentralized network of National NGOs (NNGOs) in Pakistan, led by an elected Chair and Central Executive Committee nationally, with provincial/regional chapters (Punjab, Sindh, Balochistan, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa/FATA, Azad Jammu Kashmir and Gilgit-Baltistan).

Founded in 2010 to act as an independent and vibrant voice to engage with stakeholders throughout Pakistan for promotion of humanitarian values by influencing policies and building capacities to ensure right based humanitarian response. The network has since decentralized and established provincial chapters and has taken up a formal representational role for the NNGO community in Pakistan at high-level coordination meetings. NHN is representing Pakistani Civil Society at Humanitarian Country Team (HCT), National Assessment and Monitoring Working Group (NAWG), Pakistan Humanitarian Forum (PHF), and Accountability Learning Working Group (ALWG) and having significant role in Humanitarian Architecture in Pakistan. NHN has its representation in Advisory and Review Boards of Pakistan Country Based Pooled Fund (CBPF) previously known as Emergency Reserve Fund.

As of 9 March 2015 NHN has 177 members across Pakistan. NHN is continually improving its capacity to act as an effective institution for raising voice of national civil society in Pakistan.

### **World Humanitarian Summit**

The World Humanitarian Summit (WHS) in Turkey in May 2016 aims at major reforms to adapt the humanitarian system for future crises, as well as to better assist and protect people today. NHN held a consultation with representatives from members to discuss various issues raised to aid discussions for the summit.

Key recommendations from this national consultation for the upcoming regional consultation are as follows:

#### **Theme 1: Giving Affected People Greater Voice and Choice**

**Q1.** What are some specific examples of how crises affected communities have been able to shape humanitarian assistance programming?

- During 2014 North Waziristan IDP crisis the biggest obstacle in providing humanitarian assistance was restricted access. National Humanitarian Network formulated North Waziristan central IDP Qaumi Committee (IQC) at Bannu with representatives from all tribes. 25 sub committees and 03 district committees were established at Union Councils of Bannu. The committees held frequent meetings with different stakeholders i.e. Minister SAFRON, Governor KP, Chief Minister Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, and Chief Minister Punjab besides local military and civil officials Media, INGOs and NNGOs for better solution of their problems in their respective areas.

As a result of these meetings, the Army officials at Bannu issued the committee members a special passes to facilitate their movement to distribution/registration points and IDP camp. IQC with the support of NHN organized a Roundtable Conference on “NWA-IDPs Emergency Response Gaps, Challenges & Recommendations” where in the presence of all stakeholders committee members highlighted their issues and demands

- Involvement of LSOs, CBOs and community groups in management of relief activities during Flood 2010
- During 2010 flood the affected community supported in recovery work with humanitarian assistance through their support in construction of shelter

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**Q2.** Why is it proving so difficult to strengthen engagement with affected people and communities in preparedness, response and recovery?

- The communities often do not have the capacity to participate in these discussions
- They are also often Less organized
- Restriction of Access by government makes it difficult to meaningfully involve communities
- Security issues
- Lack of involvement of affected communities in program designing

**Q3.** How can humanitarian agencies do better at supporting, enabling (and allowing) community representatives, particularly women, youth and children, elderly people with disabilities and other vulnerable groups, to take leadership roles in humanitarian preparedness, response and recovery?

- Creating spaces for community dialogue
- More inclusive DRR policies
- By advocating capacity building for these communities groups and individuals
- Local government should have plan and budget to encourage and support community
- Prior mobilization and orientation of communities
- Involvement of local DM authorities
- Gender mainstreaming in all programming to ensure men, Women, Boys and Girls all have been representation

**Q4.** Are there Key lessons to be learned from the use of Cash Based approaches in the region?

- Targeting approach is an issue in Cash based approaches in the region
- This empowers people/communities as they are able to make individual choices
- Cash Based program itself is not an issue however its implementation is an issue (the way cash is being demanded and implemented)
- Cash Based approaches are effective as they give more choices to community
- Cash for Choice projects in IDP's crisis 2009 and Zaiarat Earthquake 2008 are the best practices from past disasters
- Joint planning, monitoring and mutual effective feedback mechanism, accountability (best practices)

### **Theme 2: Localizing Preparedness and Response**

**Q1.** How can existing relationship between international actors, regional organizations, National authorities and local organizations be improved. So as to enhance regional and domestic preparedness and response?

- Ensure that there is a Less dependence syndrome created through the various levels of engagement
- Open and transparent information sharing and accountability should be enhanced to create a smooth working environment
- Equal opportunities should be given to all to avoid misunderstandings and misinterpretations
- Adopt indigenous knowledge, practices by suing the local and national NGOs to ensure the services being given to the affected population is relevant
- Greater and better involvement of all in Program design (Clear TOR's, mutual planning) and not just identifying national NGOs to act as implementing partners after the program design. This doesn't not create ownership
- Close coordination/interaction between national, international and local actors through various forums and working closely together
- Build the capacity of national organizations to ensure they meet the Humanitarian standards and also create trust of all stakeholders involved

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- By forming preparedness and response coordination units in line with assessment carries out by National Disaster Management Authority
- By strengthen and empowering humanitarian networks

**Q2.** How can partnerships between international humanitarian organizations on their implementing partners be made less unequal?

- Avoid donor driven approach
- Mutual accountability at all levels with clear TOR's
- Needs based program driven (intervention)
- Clear communication strategies among national, international and local actors
- Equal representation of national and international actors in humanitarian coordination forums
- By promoting and implementing Global Principals of Partnerships & agenda of empowered partnerships
- National policy developed on DRR

**Q3.** If regular people and their elected representative are the major agents of change in localizing preparedness and response, how they can be better supported by humanitarian organizations?

- Intensive engagement with them
- Priority in agenda setting (Humanitarian agenda shall be on priority based)
- Capacity building program by INGO's
- Joint planning, assessment and response strategy (coordinated humanitarian response)
- Social mobilization

**Q4.** How can coordination and cooperation among governmental and non-governmental organizations can be enhanced?

- Close coordination and engagement with government and develop interest by regular interaction.
- Resource sharing in mutual basis
- Avoid undue criticism
- Helping hand on both sides
- Joint planning and response (specifically at local level)
- Better understanding of each other roles

### **Theme 3: International Humanitarian Law and Humanitarian Action in Conflicts**

**Q1.** How can compliance and/or enforcement of national and international legal frameworks be strengthened to better assist and protect internally displaced persons?

- Government should facilitate humanitarian organizations to have their access in conflict areas by providing them NOC's with sufficient security to carry out humanitarian operations in conflict areas.
- Strong monitoring mechanism by humanitarian networks
- Building on local capacities, trends, customs and philanthropy mechanisms
- Through right based humanitarian response, by promoting & considering the UN IDP's guidelines

**Q2.** What other protection frameworks or principals exist, i.e. local customary law and practice that could be harnessed for better protecting civilians and how can these be strengthened?

- Humanitarian organization should hire local staff and should know the security threats of the area. Local Staff can be ensured the security with low profiles

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**Q3.** How can the diverse and specific protection needs of effected people including women and girls be addressed?

- More inclusive approached towards DRR

**Q4.** What role can government and/or non-state actors play in improving access for humanitarian organizations to conflict areas?

- Simple procedures
- Conducive environment for NGOS
- Sharing of clear structures, logistic based reporting organogram by the government with humanitarian organizations

**Q5.** How can the negative impact of international and national counter-terrorism measures on humanitarian actions be mitigated?

- Strict compliance to humanitarian principals and standards by being impartial
- Less involvement of humanitarian actors in political agendas and interests
- Regular coordination among stakeholders, joint planning, verification, ratification
- Joint resource mobilization by government and non-government actors

**Q6.** How can humanitarian organization enhance the security of their staff and partners without transferring risk and losing contact with effected people?

- Confidence must be build, trust building, efficient need based and transparent intervention by respecting local customs and culture, low profile

**Q7.** How can coordination with government who are a party to a conflict be better managed to ensure the humanitarian action is not compromised?

- By having consent on principled humanitarian response from government and NNGOs/INGOs actors

**Q8.** What measure might be proposed to improve international accompliance with IHL, including by the Security Council and other relevant security organization and entities?

- By implementing humanitarian and standards

### **Theme-4 New Models for Protracted crisis**

**Q1.** How can the complexities of protracted crisis in the region be better understood and managed?

- People from communities may be identified and government should also facilitate in contingency planning
- By involvement of local communities, local expertise can be utilized.
- Conflict sensitive approach to be applies to complex emergencies
- By adapting conflict sensitive approach (Minimize risk and Maximize effect)

**Q2.** How can protection best be provided to highly mobilized displaced persons in order to reduce the risk of human trafficking and other forms of exploitation?

- Age wise data should maintain at Tehsil level, Union council level
- Tribal leaders can play vital role in reducing the risk of human trafficking
- Regular meeting of humanitarian coordination forums

**Q3.** How can the humanitarian and development communities be brought to work more closely together in addressing protracted crises in the region? Or is this a dead end discussion?



- Equal sharing of benefits

**Q4.** How can improved risk reduction measures free up humanitarian resources to meet acute needs? Can you give any example of where this has worked?

- Utilization of funds at local level in DRR sector by involving local CBO's, LSO and Village organizations
- Joint (Government, Local authorities, civil society and community representative) DRR planning
- DRR should be dealt as development sector and mainstreamed in all sectors

#### **Theme 5: Adapting the Humanitarian system and Financing for the Future**

**Q1.** How can humanitarian funding more directly reach the actors that are best placed to deliver humanitarian services on the ground?

- Emergency reserve funds should be developed at local level (district/province) proportioning with government disaster management authorities
- Humanitarian funding should be given to local organizations. Their capacity building plan should also follow.
- Village organization, community organization, LSO, local government bodies
- Technologies, joint review
- Youth parliaments
- Research, volunteer seminars
- Cash grants

**Q2.** What would help donors become less risk-averse to funding national or local organizations directly?

- AGPR and third party audits which include Financial, prior capacity assessment/ mapping of the NNGO's
- Donors can be risk-averse if there are in low profile and have coordination with the government of the province
- Strong Monitoring mechanisms
- Transparent funds allocation
- Beneficiaries involvement

**Q3.** How can the role of youth and academia be enhanced to promote humanitarian innovations?

- Inclusion of risk of disasters (potential and existing at different levels) in curriculum
- By involving academia in research initiatives related to humanitarian themes and inclusion of youth in national emergency roster as volunteers
- Technical knowledge of issue (low cost solution)

**Q4.** What innovative practices of actively including gender perspective in humanitarian programming can be shared and documented?

- Developing humanitarian quality management committees in humanitarian response, programs by ensuring equal representation of men, women, persons with disabilities can help further in the context