

HUMANITARIAN IMPLEMENTATION PLAN (HIP)

Reinforcement of Training Provisions for Humanitarian Professionals

The activities proposed hereafter are still subject to the adoption of the financing decision ECHO/WWD/ BUD/2017/01000

AMOUNT: EUR 700 000

The present Humanitarian Implementation Plan (HIP) was prepared on the basis of financing decision ECHO/WWD/BUD/2017/01000 (Worldwide Decision) and the related General Guidelines for Operational Priorities on Humanitarian Aid (Operational Priorities). The purpose of the HIP and its annex is to serve as a communication tool for DG ECHO's partners and to assist in the preparation of their proposals. The provisions of the Worldwide Decision and the General Conditions of the Agreement with the European Commission shall take precedence over the provisions in this document.

1. CONTEXT

The main purpose of this HIP is to grant support to education, training and research activities for the period covering 1/1/2017 to 31/12/2017. Master programmes, short courses designed for humanitarian professionals, thematic seminars, researches, on-line/e-learning and awareness raising events will be supported by this HIP. The academic community is expected to actively contribute to research in order to inform, inter alia, the DG ECHO debate on priority issues.

2. IDENTIFIED NEEDS

The following needs have been identified. They reflect the on-going and continuous demand for a strengthened role of academia, research, education and training in humanitarian action.

Education, training and awareness-raising:

1. A continuous demand for higher educational qualifications specifically suited to addressing complex humanitarian emergencies;
2. A continuous need to adapt education and training initiatives and methodologies to the changes in and of the sector, with contributions from academics and practitioners across the globe;
3. The need for strengthened education and equitable training opportunities for humanitarian actors irrespective of geographical boundaries;
4. The need to develop and use innovative methods, including modern technologies, to strengthen the outreach of humanitarian education and awareness, in particular the development of on-line and blended courses; and
5. The need expressed by experienced humanitarian actors for refresher courses enabling them to question and address contemporary humanitarian issues.
6. The need to extend education offers to humanitarian actors in southern countries.
7. The need to develop and strengthen practical learning experience on key humanitarian affairs such as IHL, protection, resilience.

Research and Publications:

8. The need for up-to-date information and data on the humanitarian sector to better inform decision-making and policy development and to contribute to innovation and creativity in the sector; and
9. The need for rigorous academic research and in-depth analysis based on sound information and data, inclusive of the voices of disaster-affected people, available to humanitarian stakeholders and contributing to real-life endeavours in the humanitarian field.

Awareness-raising, networking and partnerships:

10. The need to raise awareness and further the sharing of experiences, lessons learned and knowledge on humanitarian policy (including the European Consensus and relevant EC communications) and practice as well as critical issues among the wider public and those directly or indirectly involved in humanitarian action;
11. The need to contribute to further engaging the European public in “caring about the needs of others and acting to help support the most vulnerable around the world”¹; and
12. The need for more effective and profound partnerships amongst humanitarian stakeholders, including the private sector, and with disaster-affected people, translating into action the 5 Principles of Partnership, namely, equality, transparency, results-oriented approach, responsibility and complementarity in education and training including research.

3. PROPOSED DG ECHO RESPONSE

In 2017, DG ECHO will provide support to academic and education programmes that actively contribute to enhancing the professionalism of humanitarian actors. In addition, funded activities will have to address and pre-empt the demands of the field and the changes and evolution in both the humanitarian and higher education sectors.

The first DG ECHO priority will be to support the European coordination of European master programme focussing on disciplines relating to humanitarian aid action. Such a master is the foundation for developing a network of professional humanitarian workers.

To complement these master programmes, it is important also to develop introductory and advanced courses for professionals and practitioners working or starting to work in the humanitarian sector. These courses could focus on topics such as protection, logistics, cash-based intervention, security, IHL, which are amongst DG ECHO's priority topics.

In order to reinforce the efforts made by European based organisations on education, it will also be important in 2017 to partner with humanitarian non-governmental and governmental organisations as well as with third-country academic institutions with a view to developing new joint research and training activities. Such partnerships could

¹ EU Aid Volunteer campaign “we care, we act”.

contribute to the professional delivery of humanitarian action through the provision of relevant and appropriate education and research. Such initiatives could also foster exchanges between humanitarian stakeholders across the globe through well-established networks.

In 2017, DG ECHO could support two types of operation:

1. *NOHA's Joint Masters Programme in International Humanitarian Action*

NOHA is a unique multi-disciplinary postgraduate humanitarian programme of 16 months that focuses on the following disciplines as they relate to humanitarian action: International Law, International Relations, Political Science, Journalism, Mass Media, Medicine, Anthropology, Management, Human Security, Sustainable Development and Peace and Conflict Research.

The European nature of this educational endeavour is reinforced by the joint nature of the Programme's design and delivery. Students have the possibility to move to different Partner universities to engage in specialisations and to undertake research in the subject(s) of their choice in partial fulfilment of academic requirements. The Master's is built around 5 well-integrated components: Intensive Programme, Core Course, Orientation Period, Research and Work Placement.

The activities planned for 2017 are categorised in 5 broad categories which constitute the main areas of work of the NOHA network. These are:

- Education and training courses and seminars
- Research and publications
- Conferences and awareness raising events
- Networking
- NOHA Global

2. *Small-scale initiatives promoting research and practical training opportunities on DG ECHO priority topics.*

With the increased number of disasters and their increased complexity, the humanitarian actors are confronted with new challenges when recruiting their staff. On the one hand, they need to have access quickly to qualified staff at the disaster location in the location. On the other hand, humanitarian aid workers need new competencies to respond to the specific contexts of interventions.

The small scale initiatives should aim at proposing innovative approaches to address those needs.

4. COMPLEMENTARITY AND COORDINATION WITH OTHER EU SERVICES, DONORS AND INSTITUTIONS

In the context of Erasmus+, NOHA has received a grant of EUR 347,730 for the period 01/09/2014 to 31/08/2017, for the European Humanitarian Action Partnership Project.