



THE STATE OF THE HUMANITARIAN SYSTEM



22

IN-COUNTRY EVENTS



18,936

MICROSITE VISITS

The State of the Humanitarian System (SOHS) report is ALNAP's flagship publication. This unique, independent report compiles the latest statistics on the size and scope of the humanitarian system, and assesses the overall performance and progress of global humanitarian response.

The SOHS report plays a critical part in meeting ALNAP's strategic aims on monitoring and reporting on system-wide performance. It is intended as a readable, useful resource for all those working in, or with, the international humanitarian community.

This year straddled both the last wave of launch activities for the well-received 2018 fourth edition of the SOHS, and the newly oriented phases of planning for the fifth edition, to be published in mid-2022.

Key achievements

Activities to launch and disseminate the SOHS 2018 edition reached a rewarding conclusion this year, while impressive download numbers confirmed ALNAP's global online presence.

The SOHS 2018 edition has been downloaded 8,109 times and the [website](#) has been actively engaged with more than 16,840 times since its launch, with 29,225 unique page views.

ALNAP hosted SOHS events in partnership with Members and other organisations in more than 20 locations, spanning Asia, Africa, North America and Europe, with high levels of Member interest (see box).

Once the launches wound down, ALNAP continued to use the SOHS 2018 findings with Members and non-Members – such as developing a peer learning workshop to strengthen the use of data for gender-sensitive humanitarian programming and accountability on commitments to gender equality in crisis responses. A pilot workshop with CARE and other in-country partners to be held in Cox's Bazar in March 2020 was delayed due to COVID-19 restrictions.

Reviews of the 2018 edition fed into planning for the fifth SOHS, as part of an improved research process. For the first time, ALNAP will produce thematic studies on areas identified as evidential research gaps in previous editions and during the research period.

There will be more participatory engagement with affected populations in the research process; highly adaptive approaches to capture dynamic issues such as COVID-19; new components to address longstanding questions on certain performance criteria; and closer scrutiny of the structural and institutional issues affecting the humanitarian system.



Panel at the SOHS 2018 launch in Rome. Photo credit: WFP/Silvio Galeano and Federica Bottamedi

SOHS 2018 partnership events in 2019–2020

SOHS 2018 Symposium at the German Federal Foreign Office in Berlin, in partnership with the Centre for Humanitarian Action;

Panel discussion in Rome on 'The Humanitarian-Development Nexus, Resilience and Gender' hosted in partnership with the World Food Programme and the Food and Agriculture Organization;

Panel discussion in partnership with Global Affairs Canada and the Humanitarian Response Network of Canada, Ottawa;

Closed meeting in Ottawa with Global Affairs Canada;

Panel hosted in partnership with Groupe URD in Paris;

Panel and workshop in partnership with World Vision International in Nairobi;

Launch events in New Delhi and Trivandrum (Kerala) with the All India Disaster Mitigation Institute;

Launch event in Beijing in partnership with Beijing Normal University.

[The Berlin SOHS launch was] a great success, with interesting discussions, challenging questions and new thematic inputs.

Daina Hues, Humanitarian Advisor, German Federal Foreign Office



SOHS launch at Tufts University in Boston, US. Photo credit: Alonso Nichols/Tufts University

'The State of the Humanitarian System report is *the* means to know how we, humanitarians, are doing. It is a big deal'.

Daniel Maxwell, Henry J. Leir Professor in Food Security, Feinstein Centre, Tufts University



Participants listening to SOHS presentation in Melbourne. Photo credit: Australia Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade