



URBAN RESPONSE



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PUBLICATIONS



177

WEBINAR
ATTENDEES

4,435

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With more than half the world's population living in urban settings, humanitarian agencies are recognising the need to adapt approaches to urban contexts. ALNAP is playing a pivotal role in gathering evidence to determine what works in terms of approaches and practices to foster context-appropriate urban humanitarian responses.

Through an ongoing, wide-ranging research project and numerous Network activities, ALNAP has engaged with many Members over the past year, as well as participating in sector-wide urban events and initiatives.

Outputs this year have included the Good Practice Review on urban humanitarian response, a case study, various webinars and an in-country workshop. Positive feedback from participants suggests ALNAP's research is both accessible and striking a chord in this area.

Key achievements

Not only are urban populations growing – particularly in Asia and Africa – they are also enduring more frequent and more acute crises. Whether climate change-related or driven by conflict and violence, these varied crises badly affect the poorest urban residents. Rising numbers of forcibly displaced people are meanwhile sheltering in cities rather than camps.

Yet camps and rural areas remain the template for much humanitarian response. Through its urban research project, ALNAP is sharing learning among agencies on adapting programming to urban contexts.

As part of this, ALNAP produced a series of case studies on navigating complex urban spaces. The first, '[Barrio Mio and Katye: PCI's neighbourhood approach in cities](#)' on Guatemala City's informal settlements, was published this year in English and Spanish, and was warmly received by practitioners. The second on programming by CARE and partner Akkarouna in Lebanon was published just after year-end.

Presentation and the discussion on the five new ways of humanitarian responses. The group discussion also helped to identify some of the gaps and challenges we face in responding to emergencies.

Workshop participant from Plan International



Participants discussing at ALNAP urban workshop in Freetown, Sierra Leone. Photo credit: Leah Campbell.

ALNAP took emerging findings direct to urban response practitioners in the first of several in-country workshops. Held in Freetown, Sierra Leone, the workshop was well attended by ALNAP Members and local organisations, who praised its usefulness in identifying gaps and improving responses. Further workshops are planned once COVID-19 travel restrictions allow.

Network activities complemented this research work. Jointly with HPN, ALNAP launched the [Good Practice Review on urban humanitarian response](#), accompanied by [a short animation](#), at events in London and Canberra.

ALNAP hosted the [20th urban webinar on protection responses in urban contexts, as part of an ongoing series](#). Speakers from ICRC and Medair presented to one of the largest live online audiences for an ALNAP webinar in this workstream.

Continuing its support for sector-wide urban initiatives, ALNAP co-hosted three webinars with the Global Alliance for Urban Crises, and presented to Members on urban crises, drawing on previous ALNAP work on the West African Ebola response.

Thank you for this wonderful report. I really like your conclusions and do hope that this type of project becomes more of the norm.

Displacement advisor, OCHA, on Barrio Mio case study



The informal settlement of La Limonada in Guatemala City. Photo credit: Leah Campbell.