

Humanitarian Innovation Fund issues first Call for Proposals

16 February 2010

Humanitarian innovators will be able to apply for grants from the Humanitarian Innovation Fund (HIF) for the first time today. The Humanitarian Innovation Fund (HIF) supports organisations and individuals to identify, nurture and share innovative solutions to the challenges facing operational agencies in the delivery of effective humanitarian aid.

Today sees the first call for proposals for the 'large grant facility' which will provide funding to projects up to £150,000 and principally support the development, implementation and testing of innovation.

Also opening today is the 'small grant facility' which will provide funding to projects up to £20,000 and will principally support the recognition, invention and dissemination of an innovation.

The Humanitarian Innovation Fund was created through a partnership between two leading humanitarian initiatives, ELRHA and ALNAP. It will be hosted by Save the Children UK and the initial funding is made up of contributions from the UK Department of International Development and the Swedish Ministry of Foreign Affairs, totalling over £1.4 million. Funding decisions will be taken by an independent panel of experts.

Jess Camburn, ELRHA Director, said:

"We are delighted to be launching today our first call for proposals for the humanitarian Innovation Fund. There is a great deal of excitement amongst all of us that have been involved in the development of this important new fund as we believe innovation has the potential to stimulate dramatic change through new and improved ways of delivering assistance to those who need it most. We look forward to hearing the great ideas out there and supporting them to get to the next stage."

Full details of the Humanitarian Innovation Fund, the call for proposals and the different types of funding available can be found at www.humanitarianinnovation.org. The HIF team will be answering questions in a live Q&A session on the website on Thursday 17th February 2011, 14:00 - 16:00 GMT.

Notes for Editors

- The Humanitarian Innovation Fund was formally launched on October 14th 2010 in London
- ELRHA and ALNAP representatives are available for comment, interview and background briefings. Please contact:

Jess Camburn, Director, ELRHA, +44 (0)29 2080 3257 - J.Camburn@savethechildren.org.uk

Kim Scriven, Innovation & Research Officer, ALNAP- 07775 582 434 or +44 (0)207 922 0300 – k.scriven@alnap.org

- ELRHA is Enhancing Learning and Research for Humanitarian Assistance. ELRHA is the first collaborative network dedicated to supporting partnerships between Higher Education institutions in the UK and humanitarian organisations and partners around the world. We believe that Higher Education Institutes represent a phenomenal resource that can and should be harnessed to support the humanitarian endeavour. The ELRHA project has been set up to help meet this challenge and aims to provide a bridge between the humanitarian and higher education communities.

ELRHA is officially hosted on behalf of the humanitarian sector by Save the Children. More information on ELRHA can be found at www.elrha.org

- ALNAP is the Active Learning Network for Accountability and Performance in Humanitarian Action. It is a unique network of the key international humanitarian organisations and experts from across the humanitarian sector, including members from donor, NGO, Red Cross/Crescent, UN and independent/academic organisations. A collective response by the humanitarian sector, ALNAP is dedicated to strengthening humanitarian performance through improved learning and accountability. More information, including their work on Humanitarian innovation can be found at www.alnap.org.

<p>ELRHA</p> <p>Hosted by Save the Children</p> <p>1st John's Lane, Farringdon</p> <p>London, EC1M 4AR</p> <p>Tel: +44 (0)207 012 6400</p> <p>E-mail: info@elrha.org</p>	<p>ALNAP Secretariat</p> <p>Hosted by the Overseas Development Institute</p> <p>111 Westminster Bridge Road,</p> <p>London SE1 7JD</p> <p>Tel: +44 (0)20 7922 0300</p> <p>E-mail: alnap@alnap.org</p>
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