

Workshop 3: Innovations and Adaptability in Humanitarian Assistance

24 May 2022

In this workshop we make use of the experience and knowledge of the group to come up with innovative ideas for humanitarian assistance and we discuss these ideas to collectively select the best and most promising ones.

When the public thinks of humanitarian assistance they do in the traditional pictures of people lining up and getting food and water and provision of shelter. Of course the practice is different but it is often still in line with this basic picture. People are displaced for whatever reason and we, as humanitarians, deliver shelter food and non-food items to those in need. But, in the current times, is this still the best thing to do, or are there any other ways of delivering humanitarian assistance? How can we adapt the system to make it more efficient, cost-effective, environmentally friendly and climate proof? What innovative solutions can we deliver to assure that we achieve better results?

For this we will look into the three clusters of possible innovation:

- Involvement of the community
- Data driven approach
- Overcoming bureaucracy

We will use participants' experience and ideas to identify and pinpoint possible innovations, to discuss them and to select collectively some possible interesting innovations.

As an inspiration you will be given an overview of some existing innovative concepts like:

- Use of commercial room platform for housing: <https://nl.airbnb.org/about/board>
- Use of remote support and other ways of digital crowd support: <http://www.digital-humanitarians.com/>
- Cash based interventions: <https://www.unhcr.org/61fbc91a4>
- Sheltering , developed and funded by Ikea: <https://bettershelter.org>
- Telecommunications support by Ericsson: <https://www.ericsson.com/en/about-us/sustainability-and-corporate-responsibility/digital-inclusion/humanitarian-response>

The workshop will have the following setup:

Detailed programme

0-10	Introduction of the workshop , short overview of the topic with a presentation	Peter Glerum
10-30	Generating ideas for innovation	Participants (individually or in groups)
30-50	Presenting ideas for innovation, clustering the ideas	Moderator Peter Glerum
50-60	Voting on the clustered ideas for innovation	Participants
60-65	Selecting the top 3-5 of clustered ideas	Moderator Peter Glerum
65-80	Group discussion of the clustered ideas	Participants
80-90	Pitching the clustered ideas for the group	Moderator Peter Glerum