

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/2018/91000

AMOUNT: EUR 700 000

The present Humanitarian Implementation Plan (HIP) was prepared on the basis of financing decision ECHO/WWD/BUD/2018/01000 (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 them 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 1/1/2018 to 31/12/2018. 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 and sectoral 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;
5. The need expressed by experienced humanitarian actors for refresher courses enabling them to question and address contemporary humanitarian issues;

6. The need for more effective and profound partnerships with humanitarian organisations to provide students with a practical experience, in a learning environment where they can put obtained theory into action.
7. The need to extend education offers to humanitarian actors and students in both non-EU countries and regions where DG ECHO operates.

Research and Publications:

1. The need for thorough academic research and in-depth analysis, based on sound information and data, on innovative areas such as new forms of financing, private sector inclusion and new needs of the humanitarian sector, or on new ways to address gender, education or vulnerabilities and other needs in the context of humanitarian aid.
2. The need for up-to-date information and data on the humanitarian sector to better inform decision-making and policy development in areas relevant to DG ECHO priorities.

Awareness-raising, networking and partnerships:

1. 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;
2. The need for more effective and profound partnerships amongst humanitarian stakeholders, including the private sector and disaster-affected people, translating the 5 Principles of Partnership into action in education, training and research, namely: equality, transparency, results-oriented approach, responsibility and complementarity.

3. PROPOSED DG ECHO RESPONSE

In 2018, 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 a European Master's programme focusing on disciplines relating to humanitarian aid action. Such a Master's is the foundation for developing a network of professional humanitarian workers.

To complement the Master's programme, it is also important 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, gender, education in emergencies and private sector inclusion. These are amongst DG ECHO's priority topics. To reflect the reality in

the field of operations, courses on civil protection could also be added to the Master programme.

In order to reinforce the efforts made by European-based organisations on education, it would also be important in 2018 to partner with both non-governmental and governmental humanitarian organisations, as well as with third-country academic institutions, with a view of developing new joint research and training activities. Such partnerships could 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, particularly the diversification of students enrolled in such education programmes focusing on humanitarian action, through well-established networks.

In 2018, DG ECHO could support two types of operations:

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

NOHA is a unique multi-disciplinary postgraduate humanitarian programme of 24 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 foreseen for 2018, and that can be of direct benefit to DG ECHO, have been categorised along four broad lines that constitute the main areas of work of the NOHA network. These are:

- Education and training courses and seminars, including:
 - The development of online courses and/or innovative training material.
 - An offer of courses that reflects the evolving needs of the humanitarian sector.
 - The integration of elements of Civil Protection into its core curricula.
- Research and Publications, including:
 - The creation of a more structured dialogue between NOHA and DG ECHO units to identify research or thesis topics of interest for the humanitarian community, and to strengthen the scientific basis of the work carried out by DG ECHO.

- The creation of a similar dialogue between non-EU NOHA partners and DG ECHO staff and partners working in those respective regions, to identify specific areas of research relevant to the local humanitarian sector.
- Conferences and awareness-raising events, including:
 - The invitation of NOHA keynote speakers to address DG ECHO staff on humanitarian or disaster management topics (for instance on IHL, humanitarian principles, cash-based approach etc.).
- Networking and partnerships, including:
 - The enlargement and strengthening of links between NOHA and the wider humanitarian community, to broaden students' opportunities for practical experience and to potentially appeal to a more diverse student base.

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

With both an increased number of disasters and disasters of increasing complexity, humanitarian actors are confronted with new challenges when recruiting their staff. On the one hand, they need to have quick access to qualified staff at the disaster 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 3.5 million for three years,(2017-2020) for the provision of scholarships.