How can Dutch humanitarian organisations contribute to improve the provision of relief aid during major crises?

Thirteen Dutch humanitarian organisations want to offer concrete answers to this question. That is why they are teaming up to organise the Dutch Humanitarian Summit. The summit will result in a closing statement, which will serve as input for the World Humanitarian Summit that the United Nations is organising in 2016 in Istanbul.

Debates, conversations and keynote speeches will take place at Humanity House and at the neighbouring Paard van Troje venue. The program features guests from at home and abroad, five columnists who reflect on the humanitarian principles of independence, neutrality, impartiality, humanity and universality, an innovation market, a film and side events. Minister Ploumen (Foreign Trade and Development Cooperation) will deliver a keynote speech about changes needed in the system of humanitarian aid.

The closing discussion at Paard van Troje will report on the day and focus on the closing statement to which the ten NGOs have committed themselves. That statement will then serve as input for the World Humanitarian Summit that the UN is organising in Istanbul next year.

The following pages present a concise timetable, a short introduction to the debates and program elements, and short CVs of all speakers.

Dutch Humanitarian Summit
Official language: English
Doors open : 09.30 am
Program starts : 10.00 am
Program ends : 19:30 pm

The initiators of the Dutch Humanitarian Summit are:
CARE Nederland, Cordaid, Healthnet TPO, Humanity House, ICCO/Kerk in Actie, NCDO, Netherlands Red Cross, Oxfam Novib, Save the Children, Netherlands Refugee Foundation, University of Groningen, War Child and ZOA.
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<th>LOCATION</th>
<th>10:05 - 10:30</th>
<th>10:45-11:45</th>
<th>12:00 - 13:00</th>
<th>LUNCH</th>
<th>14:00-15:00</th>
<th>15:15-16:30</th>
<th>BREAK</th>
<th>17:00-18:15</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Column 1</strong></td>
<td>Column 1: Humanity: By Naema Tahir + Welcome + Interview with Tineke Ceelen</td>
<td>Column 2: Impartiality: by Minka Nijhuis + Local versus international capacity With Lahpai Seng Raw, Tamam Aloudat, Evert van Bodegom</td>
<td>Column 3: Neutrality: by Bright O. Richards + Keynote speech: Minister Ploumen. Co-referent: Ed Schenkenberg</td>
<td><strong>From Relief to Development</strong> With Jan Pronk, Mark van Ommeren, Thea Hilhorst. Lunchbuffet is served at Humanity House and Paard van Troje</td>
<td>Column 4: Independence: by Maite Vermeulen + The UN and their different roles With Sir John Holmes, Arjan Hehenkamp, Farah Karimi</td>
<td>Column 5: Universality: by Boris van der Ham</td>
<td><strong>Informal reception</strong></td>
<td><strong>Closing discussion</strong> Presentation of the final declaration and discussion with Pim Kraan, Farah Karimi, Robert Smith, Bertrand Taithe, Maite Vermeulen +</td>
<td><strong>Meeting place</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Paard van Troje</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Humanity House</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Urban Refugees</strong></td>
<td>Bram Jansen, Arco van Wessel Perry Heijne en Tineke Ceelen</td>
<td><strong>Innovation Market + Lecture Fail or Failure</strong> Yannick du Pont</td>
<td><strong>Innovation Market + Lecture</strong> Graham Saunders and Annemieke Tsike-Sossah de Jong</td>
<td><strong>Urban Refugees</strong> film in loop</td>
<td>Supervising the humanitarian sector, the role of board members with Peter Bakker and Cees Breederveld (until 16:45)</td>
<td><strong>Meeting place</strong></td>
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**#NHT15**

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The Humanitarian sector suffers from a lack of capacity. Does the solution to this lie in strengthening local organisations? Or should international capacity be strengthened instead?

For years organisations have tried to find solutions to the gap that exists between humanitarian aid and development. An important but difficult to tackle issue. What did we learn? What works and what not? Which direction do we go? What is the role of local capacity? And what does this mean for young people that grow up in crisis situations and are often referred to as Lost Generations.

In both coordinating and implementing relief aid, the UN performs various roles, from peacekeeper to mediator to donor. Does this hinder the provision of adequate relief aid? And how could NGOs offer an alternative?

Half of all refugees and displaced people in the world do not live in refugee camps, but stay in urban areas. How can NGOs adapt their activities to reach this group of refugees?

Which innovations and innovative projects do relief agencies deploy to improve humanitarian aid? What types of innovation and collaboration exist with the private sector? Find inspiration at the continuous Innovation Exhibition in the New York room.
Loval versus International Capacity
The humanitarian system suffers from a lack of capacity and cannot offer sufficient assistance in an increasing number of major disasters. Is the solution to strengthen local capacity? Or should international capacity be increased instead? And what effect will that have on responsibility, humanitarian principles and effectiveness? A representative of a local organisation in Myanmar will discuss these issues with a representative from Médecins Sans Frontières.


With a spoken column by Minka Nijhuis about the humanitarian principle of 'Impartiality'.

Resolving the Problems of Lost Generations: Linking Relief, Rehabilitation and Development
During major disasters, whole generations grow up with traumas and without opportunities to develop. They are known as the Lost Generations. As the focus is put on providing relief aid, development activities grind to a halt. Since a long time emergency aid, reconstruction and development seek to get better connected. What is the situation now? What works and what doesn’t? And how can we prevent that Lost Generations emerge. And what is the role of psycho-social assistance?

With: Mark van Ommeren and Jan Pronk. Moderator: Thea Hilhorst.

Coordination and Special Attention for the United Nations and its Different Roles
According to the report ‘Where is everyone’ by Médecins Sans Frontières, the provision of humanitarian aid is failing and one of the biggest stumbling blocks is the role of the United Nations. The various roles of the UN, as mediator, peacekeeper, donor, intermediary and supervisor of relief efforts, conflict with one another and hinder the provision of adequate aid. Is this criticism justified? Do NGOs rely too much on the UN, in particular for information, contacts and safety? And can NGOs offer an alternative to the UN in crisis situations?


With a spoken column by Maite Vermeulen about the humanitarian principle of ‘Independence’.

Fair of Failure? The Humanitarian Sector and Innovation
According to some critics, the humanitarian sector is afraid to take risks and therefore opposes change. Is this an accurate picture of the humanitarian sector? And are mistakes really so life-threatening? Representatives of the Netherlands Red Cross bring you up to date on their research into the humanitarian deployment of new and emerging technologies. Yannick du Pont of SPARK delivers a lecture on the importance of making mistakes and learning lessons through its initiative Brilliant Failures.

With: Yannick du Pont
Innovations in the humanitarian sector: what is happening? What are the bottlenecks? What needs to happen in order to accelerate innovations? These and other questions will be discussed.

With: Graham Saunders (Head Shelter Department IFCR) and Annemieke Tsike-Sossah de Jong (IKEA Foundation, Special Assistant to the CEO).

Moderator: Peter Heuntze.

Urban Refugees

The image of refugees in refugee camps shows just part of the truth. After all, more than half of all refugees and displaced people around the world live in urban areas. Donors, UN agencies and NGOs are aware of this reality, but encounter difficulties in adapting their activities to meet the needs of urban refugees. How can this be improved? Bram Jansen will discuss this issue with the public and with the directors of CARE Nederland, the Netherlands Refugee Council, and ZOA.


Keynote speech

The Minister will highlight the changes needed in the system of humanitarian aid. She will outline her policy to achieve those changes and challenge NGOs to contribute ideas. While humanitarian needs are substantial, resources are not keeping pace. How can we make the provision of relief more efficient? And how can we reach people in need more effectively? The Minister will also discuss the most important issues put forward by the NGOs during the summit.

With: Minister Lilianne Ploumen. Moderator: Ruben Maes.

Innovation market

We live in rapidly changing times. Innovations in technology and process and new forms of collaboration between NGOs, government agencies and the private sector, offer humanitarian agencies numerous opportunities to save and improve the lives of millions of people all over the world. However, such opportunities are not apparent enough to donors and partners. Take an inspiring look at some major examples of innovation within Dutch NGOs, including E-learning, resilient recovery and contingency planning.

With a spoken column by Bright Omansa Richards about the humanitarian principle of ‘Neutrality’. Moderator: Peter Heuntze.
How can Dutch relief organisations contribute to better relief aid? That is the key question all day. The findings of all discussions are brought together in a closing statement, expressed in 10 concise points, to which the thirteen relief organisations commit themselves. But where does the sector go from here? The closing statement will be presented to Robert Smith of the World Humanitarian Summit but will first be commented on by the directors of Oxfam Novib and Save the Children, in conversation with Maite Vermeulen and Bertrand Thaite. Also, an inspiring glance back at the day's proceedings by Visual Minutes.

With: Rob Smith, Pim Kraan and Farah Karimi. Bertrand Taithe en Maite Vermeulen

Moderator: Ruben Maes.

With a spoken column by Boris van der Ham about the humanitarian principle of ‘Universality’.
Gender in Emergencies

During a humanitarian crisis, men and women have their own particular relief needs. Although the need to provide gender-specific assistance is widely accepted, everyday practice lags behind. Too little attention is given to the proper integration and implementation of gender-specific assistance in relief aid. Moreover, financial resources are insufficiently available, and scarcely any financing conditions concerning the inclusion of a gender perspective are set. How can gender be integrated better in all facets of emergency aid? Which best practices could be adopted? How do we get this subject prominently on the agenda at the World Humanitarian Summit?

With: Florika Fink-Hooijer, Lara Quarterman and Jelte van Wieren. Moderator: Kirsten van den Hul en Jasveen Ahluwalia

Board of Supervisors of NGOs: Supervising the Humanitarian Sector

Every humanitarian organisation has a Supervisory Board or Executive Committee. But what does it actually mean to supervise humanitarian aid? What are the challenges and sticking points for supervisors in the humanitarian sector? Does supervising humanitarian relief efforts place other demands on supervisors than supervising other activities? At this special gathering, supervisors discuss with one another their role and how they perform it.

With Peter Bakker and Cees Breeder- veld. Moderator: Thea Hilhorst.

Film fragments about urban refugees

A continuous screening of short film fragments shows the living conditions of refugees in urban areas. What exactly NGOs do to reach them, and what type of (emergency) aid they provide to urban refugees and displaced people.

The Emergency Aid Machine

When a disaster hits, emergency aid is often provided within a few hours. If you donate money to an aid organisation, it is directly converted into blankets and food in a disaster area. But how does this conversion work? How can it be improved? Photographer Pieter van den Boogert and journalist Maite Vermeulen researched this for online journalism platform De Correspondent. Take a look at pictures of this machine and the people they met in the Foyer of the Humanity House.

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SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES

**Tineke Ceelen**
Tineke Ceelen has been director of the Netherlands Refugee Foundation since 2003. Prior to that she worked for various relief organisations, among them the Red Cross. Her 2009 publication Hier en daar een crisis: Achter de schermen van de internationale hulpverlening gave impetus to a public discussion in the Netherlands on the usefulness and necessity of international development aid. In 2011/2012 Ceelen initiated a series of debates entitled Changing Humanitarian Aid, which resulted in the initiative for this humanitarian summit.

**Lahpai Seng Raw**
Lahpai Seng Raw founded Myanmar’s largest civil society group, Metta Development Foundation, in 1997. The group helps displaced people from war-afflicted zones in the country with healthcare, agriculture and peace projects in Kachin State. In July 2013 she received an annual Ramon Magsaysay Award, established to perpetuate former Philippine president Ramon Magsaysay’s example of integrity in government, courageous service to the people, and pragmatic idealism within a democratic society.

**Tammam Aloudat**
Tammam Aloudat is a medical doctor and public health expert in emergencies and conflicts with long experience with the Red Cross Red Crescent and MSF. He joined MSF (MSF OCA) as head of the Public Health Department after working for ten years in the field and at headquarters on emergencies in more than 45 countries. He now heads for MSF Switzerland as Deputy Medical Director.

**Minister Ploumen**
Lilianne Ploumen has been Minister for Foreign Trade and Development Cooperation in the second Rutte cabinet since 2012. She was chairwoman of the Labour Party from 2007 to 2011. Prior to that, Ploumen worked for aid organisations such as Plan International, Mama Cash and Cordaid. She was director of Cordaid in the period 2004-2007.

**Mark van Ommeren**
Mark van Ommeren is focal point for mental health and psychosocial support in emergencies at WHO headquarters. He has a particular interest in early recovery, i.e. initiating the development of long-term, sustainable services during emergencies, and publishes regularly in leading public health journals. He has played a key role in drafting a range of mental health and psychosocial normative documents currently used during disasters.

**Jan Pronk**
Jan Pronk was a minister in four Dutch cabinets: Den Uyl, Lubbers III, Kok I, and Kok II. He was also a member of the Dutch parliament and of the European parliament, and worked for the United Nations in various positions. In 2004 Pronk was appointed special UN envoy to Sudan until 2006.

**Jan Pronk**
Sir John Holmes is a British former diplomat who is director of the Ditchley Foundation. From January 2007 to August 2010 he was Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator, appointed by United Nations Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon. Sir John Holmes currently became Director of the Ditchley Foundation and the chair of the International Rescue Committee UK’s Board of Trustees.

**Arjan Hehenkamp**
Arjan Hehenkamp has been working since 1992 for Médecins Sans Frontières and was involved in missions to Somalia, Sudan, Afghanistan, Bosnia, Rwanda, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Serbia, Ghana, Croatia and Sierra Leone. After returning to Amsterdam in 2004, he worked at its head office, for the past three years as general director.
SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES

Farah Karimi
Farah Karimi is general director of Oxfam Novib and a member of the Executive Committee of Oxfam International. Before taking up this position she worked for various welfare organisations at home and abroad. From 1998 to 2006 Karimi was a member of parliament for the GreenLeft party, where her portfolio included foreign policy, justice and defence.

Bram Jansen
Dr Bram Jansen is an anthropologist, specialised in research into conflicts, humanitarian aid and refugees. He has conducted field research in Uganda, Kenya, Sudan and Somalia. His doctoral research focused on the development of refugee camps into unintended cities with their own social order.

Bertrand Taithe
Professor Bertrand Taithe is a historian of humanitarian aid. He is a director of the Humanitarian and Conflict Response Institute at Manchester University, which combines the research interests of colleagues in the humanities and opens a dialogue with humanitarian workers and medical practitioners. Bertrand is editor of the Manchester University Press series in humanitarian studies. He has published widely on medicine and war.

Thea Hilhorst
Thea Hilhorst has been Professor of Humanitarian Aid & Reconstruction at Wageningen University since 2006. Her research program focuses on fragile states, conflict regions and countries hit by natural disasters, among them Angola, Congo, Mozambique, Ethiopia and Afghanistan.

Yannick du Pont
Yannick du Pont is a highly mobile professional in higher education development and the private sector in post-conflict societies. He is currently director of SPARK, an organisation that develops education and entrepreneurship so that young and ambitious people are empowered to lead their post-conflict societies to prosperity. Mr du Pont’s specialities include international relations, project development, negotiations and volatile environments.

Peter Bakker
Peter Bakker is Chairman of War Child Netherlands and the President of the World Business Council for Sustainable Development. Mr. Bakker is a distinguished business leader who, until June 2011, was the CEO of TNT NV, the Netherlands-based holding company of TNT Express and Royal TNT Post. Under his leadership TNT rose to the forefront of Corporate Responsibility via a ground-breaking partnership with the UN World Food Program and ambitious CO2 reduction targets from its Planet Me initiative.

Pim Kraan
Pim Kraan is Chief Executive Officer at Save the Children Netherlands. He has worked in humanitarian affairs (Médecins Sans Frontières), disaster response (UN Disaster Response and Coordination) and civil military cooperation. He was Deputy Head of Mission of the Dutch Embassy in Singapore and worked for the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Evert van Bodegom
Evert van Bodegom studied agricultural science at Wageningen University. He spent about ten years working in crisis situations in Mozambique, Cambodia and Kenya. For twenty years he has been working for ICCO and Kerk in Actie in Disaster Management, almost always in collaboration with national implementing partners in Act Alliance.
SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES

Lara Quarterman
Lara is Violence Against Women and Girls in Emergencies Specialist and works for the Conflict Humanitarian and Security Department Operations Team at the Department for International Development. Lara Quarterman completed a Master of Arts degree in Conflict, Development & Security at Lancaster University.

Florika Fink-Hooijer
Florika Fink-Hooijer is Director for Strategy, Policy and International Co-operation for the at the Directorate General for Humanitarian Aid and Civil Protection (ECHO). She has spent most of her career in the Commission on foreign external policy matters and in particular on crisis management and conflict prevention. Previously she was Head of Cabinet of Commissioner Kristalina Georgieva, who is responsible for humanitarian aid, international cooperation and crisis response.

Jelte van Wieren
Jelte van Wieren is Head Humanitarian Aid and Reconstruction at the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Since 1991 he served in various positions in The Hague and abroad e.g. in South Africa and Kenya. Before joining the Ministry, he worked for the United Nations Environment Programme on the linkages between security and the environment. Jelte holds Master degrees in English and International Relations from the University of Groningen.

Ruben Maes
Ruben Maes works as a freelance journalist and moderator of conferences and debates. He is also a regular advisor for public participation projects. The topics of the debates range from cultural policy to international politics. Ruben currently works extensively in the Czech Republic, where he contributes to efforts to improve the quality of public debate and the involvement of young people in Czech society.

Cees Breederveld
Cees Breederveld was trained as a paediatrician in the Academic Hospital of the University of Amsterdam, where he worked for ten years as a consultant in paediatric haematology. He moved to the field of hospital management and took assignments in several hospitals in crisis situations. He has been member of the National Board of the Netherlands Red Cross Society and was general director of the Netherlands Red Cross. After his resignation he kept on working as a volunteer for the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies in Geneva.

Perry Heijne
Perry Heijne is director of CARE Nederland. Heijne’s previous employer was TNT Express, where he pushed for environmental consciousness in the company as the Global Director Corporate Social Responsibility.

Graham Saunders
Graham Saunders is Head of Shelter and Settlements, International Federation of Red Cross & Red Crescent Societies (IFRC). As a UK trained architect, he specializes in the design, management, technical support and coordination of shelter and settlement relief and development programmes. As the interagency Global Shelter Cluster Coordinator, he is also responsible for overseeing the coordination of the humanitarian shelter sector in preparing for and responding to natural disasters at global and country level.

Annemieke Tsike-Sossah de Jong
Annemieke works closely with the IKEA Foundation’s CEO, playing a key role in keeping strategic programmes, partnerships and operations on track. She is also responsible for the Foundation’s emergency support and in-kind donations. After graduating with her Master’s degree in International Law, she worked in South Africa and Ghana with local NGOs focusing on human rights. She contributed to the Ghanaian Commission on Human Rights & Administrative Justice.
SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES

Robert Smith

Robert Smith is the Head of the World Humanitarian Summit secretariat’s Geneva office, coordinating the European-based representatives, actors and stakeholders in the consultative process. Previously he was chief of OCHA’s Common Humanitarian Action Planning Section. Before he worked with Oxfam, CARE, IRC, WaterAid and other NGOs in emergencies and development, mostly in Africa. Robert completed a Ph.D. in Development Studies at the University of London and has published three peer-reviewed articles in top social-science journals.

Peter Heintze

Peter Heintze, senior advisor NCDO & secretary of the Worldsconnectors, is an enterprising networker and manager, working to promote the public and political debate about global citizenship. As director of the Evert Vermeer Foundation he transformed the annual Africa Day into an event with NGOs, the private sector, various cultural activities interspersed with serious debate with two-and-a-half thousand visitors. Before all this Peter was a journalist for fifteen years, mostly as (foreign) reporter and editor of the Dutch public broadcasting corporation.

Jasveen Ahluwalia

Jasveen works for CARE International as the Gender in Emergencies Coordinator. She has over 15 years of experience working on Gender Equality, women’s empowerment and Gender based violence issues and expertise in gender equality programming in development and humanitarian settings. Her main focus is on mainstreaming of gender/SGBV in emergencies and the roll-out of the gender in emergencies strategy across CARE International.
**Naema Tahir**

Naema Tahir read Dutch and International Law in Leiden and worked for various Dutch ministries, and as protection officer with the UNHCR in Nigeria. Up until 2009 she worked as a lawyer, specialised in economic and social law, at the Council of Europe. She is a committee member of Human Rights Watch Nederland. She made her writing debut in 2005 with the non-fiction collection Een moslima ontsluiert, and was a columnist on the current affairs television programs Buitenhof and Altijd Wat during 2011-2012.

**Minka Nijhuis**

Minka Nijhuis has been a freelance journalist and author for over twenty years. She contributes to, among others, Trouw, Vrij Nederland, De Groene Amsterdamer and various magazines and radio programs. Nijhuis works mostly in conflict regions and countries that are difficult to access, including Burma, Kosovo, East Timor, Iraq and Afghanistan. She specialises in slow journalism and narrative, investigative reporting.

**Bright Omansa Richards**

Richards fled the war in Liberia. In the Netherlands he studied at the School of Performing Arts in Arnhem and acted with various theatre companies. He has also incorporated his experiences into dramatic works. Richards established the New Dutch Connections foundation in order to perform his works, offer new perspectives and engage in dialogue.

**Maite Vermeulen**

Maite Vermeulen studied Liberal Arts & Sciences at University College in Utrecht, and Conflict, Security & Development at King’s College in London. In 2005 she won the BBC Young Writers Award. She then worked as a journalist for Het Parool, NRC Handelsblad and nrc.next. Maite Vermeulen now covers conflict and development for De Correspondent. For this online platform she spent half a year studying the ‘emergency aid machine’ and asked herself how it could be improved.

**Boris Van Der Ham**

Boris van der Ham studied history for two years at the Amsterdam University of Applied Sciences and graduated from the Maastricht Academy of Dramatic Arts in 1998. He is currently an entrepreneur, speaker and writer. In addition, he is chairman of the Dutch Humanist Association. From 2002 to 2012, Van der Ham was a member of parliament for the Democrats 66 party. With his colleagues he runs Hamled, a consultancy firm that advises on strategy and communication.
Initiators of the Dutch Humanitarian Summit

Humanity House
Prinsegracht 8
The Hague
www.humanityhouse.org

Paard van Troje
Prinsegracht 12
The Hague

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creative disciplines, we create an instant online
magazine for you to enjoy.

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