

The problems of politicisation



UNDERSTANDING
**THE HUMANITARIAN
RESPONSE INDEX**
2010

DONORS ARE KEY /

DONORS ARE KEY TO ENSURING THAT AID REACHES THE PEOPLE WHO NEED IT MOST. THEY HAVE THE POWER TO MAKE THE HUMANITARIAN SYSTEM MORE EFFECTIVE. THAT'S WHY DARA DEVELOPED THE HRI – A TOOL TO ENSURE THAT DONOR GOVERNMENTS' AID FUNDING HAS THE GREATEST IMPACT FOR PEOPLE AFFECTED BY CONFLICT AND DISASTER.

WHAT IS THE HRI? /

The Humanitarian Response Index (HRI) is the world's foremost independent initiative that measures the quality and effectiveness of donors' funding and support for humanitarian assistance. The HRI aims to identify and promote good donor practice and contribute to greater transparency, accountability and impact in humanitarian action.

By providing an objective assessment of donor performance in different crises around the world, the HRI allows policy makers, humanitarian organisations and civil society to monitor and improve the quality of assistance and ensure that humanitarian aid has the greatest possible impact for people in need.

THE AIM OF THE HRI IS TO ENSURE THAT DONORS' HUMANITARIAN AID HAS THE GREATEST POSSIBLE IMPACT.

WHAT DOES THE HRI MEASURE? /

The HRI assesses 23 of the world's main donor governments against five pillars of donor practice:

1
PILLAR

RESPONDING TO NEEDS

Are donors' responses based on needs of the affected populations and not subordinated to political, strategic or other interests?

PREVENTION, RISK REDUCTION AND RECOVERY

Do donors support strengthening local capacity, prevention of future crises and long-term recovery?

2
PILLAR

3
PILLAR

WORKING WITH HUMANITARIAN PARTNERS

Do donors' policies and practices effectively support the work of humanitarian organisations?

PROTECTION AND INTERNATIONAL LAW

Do donors respect and promote international humanitarian law, and actively promote humanitarian access and protection of civilians?

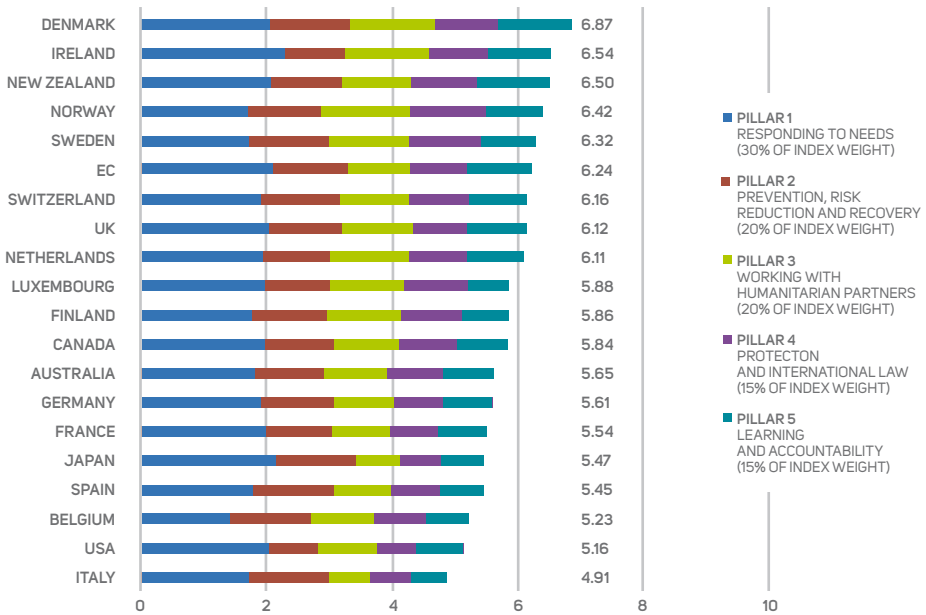
4
PILLAR

5
PILLAR

LEARNING AND ACCOUNTABILITY

Do donors contribute to transparency, accountability and learning in humanitarian action?

HRI 2010 DONOR RANKINGS/



HOW IS THE HRI BUILT?/

► THE HRI IS BUILT AROUND 35 INDICATORS

of good practice aligned with the Principles of Good Humanitarian Donorship (GHD), agreed to by the world's main donor governments.

► FIELD RESEARCH IN MAJOR CRISES

representing over two-thirds of international humanitarian funding to assess how well donors are supporting humanitarian action in different contexts

► INTERVIEWS WITH MORE THAN 400 SENIOR REPRESENTATIVES

from 250 organisations directly engaged in providing humanitarian assistance, and with donor agencies

► A FIELD-BASED SURVEY

on donor behaviour with over 2000 responses

► QUANTITATIVE DATA

on donor funding, policies and practices from the UN, the World Bank, the Red Cross/Red Crescent Movement and other organisations to complement the field research

THE ADDED VALUE OF THE HRI/

The HRI makes a significant contribution to efforts to improve aid efforts by:

IDENTIFYING the strengths and weaknesses of the international humanitarian system

ASSESSING the role and performance of donors in different crises

MEASURING the quality of individual donor government's humanitarian aid

RESEARCHING key themes and issues affecting the quality of aid

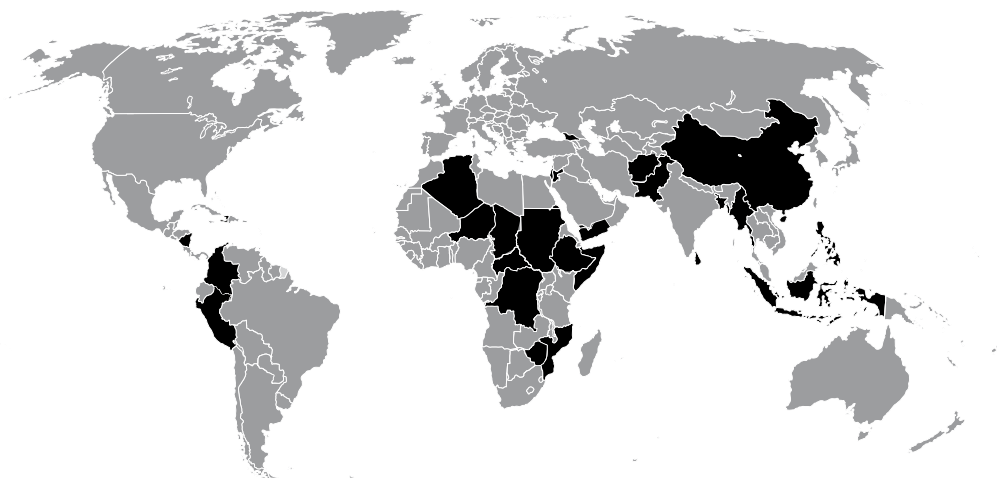
OFFERING Offering a forum for dialogue to identify and promote good donor practice

PROVIDING tailor-made recommendations and technical assistance to help governments and their partners improve aid effectiveness

SCALE AND SCOPE OF THE HRI RESEARCH/

Since it was created in 2007, the HRI has assessed 23 donor governments' responses in over 40 humanitarian crises. This makes the HRI the largest exercise of its kind in the

humanitarian sector, and allows DARA to provide comprehensive analysis of what is working well and what needs improvement in the way the world responds to humanitarian crises.



Since it was created in 2007, the HRI has assessed donor governments' responses to 40 humanitarian crises in: Afghanistan (2008, 2009, 2010), Bangladesh (2008), Central African Republic (2008, 2010), Chad (2008), China (2009), Colombia (2007, 2008, 2009, 2010), Democratic Republic of the Congo (2007, 2008, 2009, 2010), Ethiopia (2009), Georgia (2009), Haiti (2007, 2009, 2010), Indonesia (2010), Lebanon (2007), Myanmar (2009), Mozambique (2007), Nicaragua (2008), Niger (2007), occupied Palestinian territories (2008, 2009, 2010), Pakistan (2007, 2010), Peru (2008), Philippines (2010), Somalia (2009, 2010), Sri Lanka (2008, 2009, 2010), Sudan (2007, 2008, 2010), Timor Leste (2007, 2009), Yemen (2010) and Zimbabwe (2010).

DARA has analyzed humanitarian aid funding each year from the governments of the following 23 OECD-DAC countries: Austria, Australia, Belgium, Canada, Denmark, the European Union Commission, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Portugal, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the United Kingdom and the United States.

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The Humanitarian Response Index 2010

was made possible by the generous support of private donors and:



SUPPORT FOR THE HRI/

The Humanitarian Response Index serves as a crucial tool to help ensure that no disaster is ignored, and that every dollar spent helps those most in need.

KOFI ANNAN

The lofty ideals contained in political declarations are not enough - concerted actions must follow - and these efforts must be monitored vigilantly. That is why the Humanitarian Response Index is so important.

DESMOND TUTU

The HRI is an enormously innovative tool for preparing for a world of greater humanitarian shock and urgent needs. We need to put humanitarian response on a greatly scaled up basis. The HRI will bring us much closer to this goal.

JEFFREY SACHS

The HRI brings together principles and efficiency and that can help make people confident that their efforts and their money are of value and reach the most vulnerable.

EMMA BONINO

Founded in 2003, DARA is an independent organisation committed to improving the quality and effectiveness of aid for vulnerable populations suffering from conflict, disasters and climate change.

DARA has recognised expertise in the field of humanitarian aid as well as climate change and disaster risk reduction management. We have conducted evaluations of humanitarian operations in over 40 countries across five continents for a variety of government, United Nations and European Union agencies, as well as other major international humanitarian organisations, such as the Red Cross/Red Crescent Movement.



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