



Humanitarian Observatories

Understanding humanitarian governance

THE HUMANITARIAN OBSERVATORY

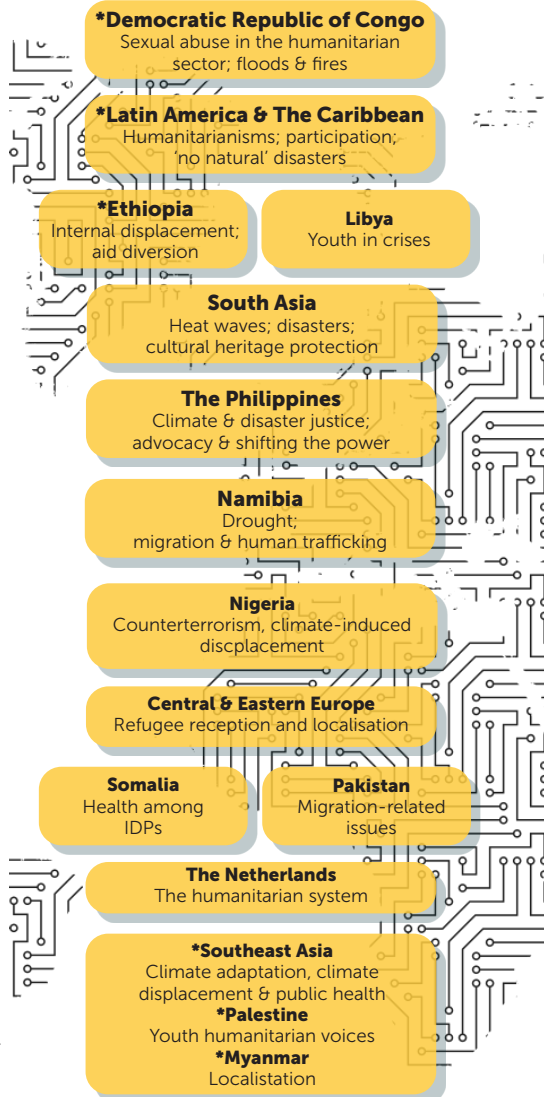
is an organized space where participants, representing multiple actors across the humanitarian arena, discuss a variety of topics in relation to trends and processes in humanitarian governance and effect change where identified in their given contexts.

Humanitarian governance refers to how multiple and diverse actors work together (or not) to address humanitarian needs. Collaboration processes between these different actors are often associated with many challenges, including the effectiveness of aid, accountability, trust and the localization of aid.

Beyond international trends, it is important to look at what can be done to improve humanitarian governance considering specific regional and national contexts. The Humanitarian Observatory is a method that can be used to address this need.

The Observatories are spaces of **Learning Exchange Strategic Thinking Action & Influence**

OBSERVATORIES AT A GLANCE





Humanitarian Observatories

Understanding humanitarian governance

under the
principle of
**self-
governance**

- Rooted in country or regional contexts; independent choice of thematic focus, membership, fund management
- Form an international knowledge and advocacy network (Inter-Observatory collaboration)
- Inclusive, participatory and member-based
- Practices flexible and participatory funding

IMPACT AND ADVOCACY

As a space for action and influence, the Humanitarian Observatories are vehicles for reform. Through advocacy, informed by context-based knowledge of humanitarian issues, the Observatories seek to affect change through a variety of methods such as:

- Open letters to governments
- Independent investigations
- Publications through various platforms
- Radio broadcasts
- Communication materials like websites; infographics; newsletters
- Dialogues
- Alternative practices such as community philanthropy

Find out more at
www.humanitarianstudiescentre.nl/HO



Inter-Observatory roundtable in Dhaka, Bangladesh 2023

The Humanitarian Observatories are supported by the The Hague Humanitarian Studies Centre (HSC) which is a hive of activities around Humanitarian Studies aimed at academic and applied research; teaching and training; networking and impact. The HSC is based in The Hague at the International Institute of Social Studies, part of Erasmus University Rotterdam. The HSC also hosts the International Humanitarian Studies Association (IHSA), KUNO: Platform for Humanitarian Knowledge Exchange in the Netherlands and the Safety & Security Research Initiative (SSRI).

HSC The Hague
**Humanitarian
Studies Centre**

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Email | humanitarianstudiescentre@iss.nl | Website | humanitarianstudiescentre.nl