

World Humanitarian Action Forum
Finance Roundtable
16 October 2019

Finding: Financial access continues to pose serious and systemic challenges for non-profit organizations (NPOs) in delivering vital humanitarian assistance.

Recommendations:

- Convene dialogues in affected regions to promote engagement among various stakeholders (donors, governments, international institutions, financial institutions, civil society, including international and local NPO partners) concerning financial access challenges and opportunities – to build trust and greater understanding.
- Task WHAF working groups on finance and localization to develop specific actions to address financial access problems in the near-term, while pursuing longer-term drivers of derisking in international bodies (e.g., UN, World Bank, EU, FATF and the G20 finance stream).
- Seek to lobby the German government to include issues relating to financial flows for humanitarian and development aid during their tenure in the Security Council (2019-2021)
- Plug the WHAF topical issues during the UN General Assembly 2020 to coincide with the 75th anniversary of the founding of the United Nations
- Develop guidance and tools at the national level to assist NPOs and financial institutions in complying with due diligence responsibilities, and promote risk-sharing among donors, governments, civil society and financial institutions, including specific steps to support risk management/mitigation measures.
- Gather data and monitor how counterterrorism and sanctions policies affect humanitarian actors and activities, and provide such information to various international policy communities and initiatives.
- Explore the potential of Islamic Social Finance and other faith-based financing models to rethink current humanitarian finance.