

STREAM - EU Horizon 2020 Research and Innovation Program

Humanitarian Innovation

WU

WIRTSCHAFTS
UNIVERSITÄT
WIEN VIENNA
UNIVERSITY OF
ECONOMICS
AND BUSINESS

Shtefi Mladenovska

September 17, 2019



ESR Fellow since March 2019

A successor of Evgenia Filipova

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My role as part of STREAM



Hackathon Organization

Technology Transfer in Humanitarian, Social and Sustainable Mobility
18 – 19 September 2019

D6-2 Deliverable Report

“Report on valorisation potential and market entry strategy for depleted CMOS technologies”

Financial Reporting

Preparation of the financial records and related information for the STREAM project

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Digital Humanitarians

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Digital Humanitarians

Professional Background

Academic and practical experience in the areas of business development, design-thinking and sustainable entrepreneurship.

 B.Sc. Economics



 M.Sc. Consumer Affairs




 Master Thesis in Zimbabwe



 StartHub Africa LTD



 PhD Studies



Philosophy for success?

- ✓ Explore the unknown
- ✓ Accept challenges
- ✓ Use tools to solve them
- ✓ Make an impact
- ✓ Have fun



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Digital Humanitarians

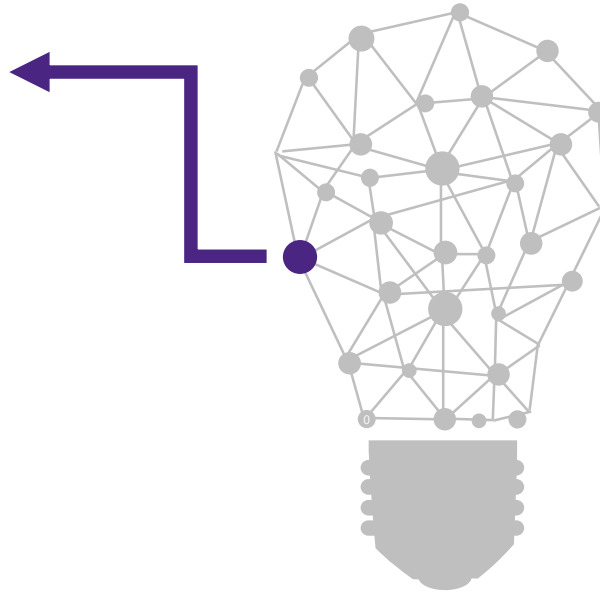
Open Humanitarian Innovation



Open Humanitarian Innovation

**“The humanitarian sector
is not capitalizing on its
innovative potential”**

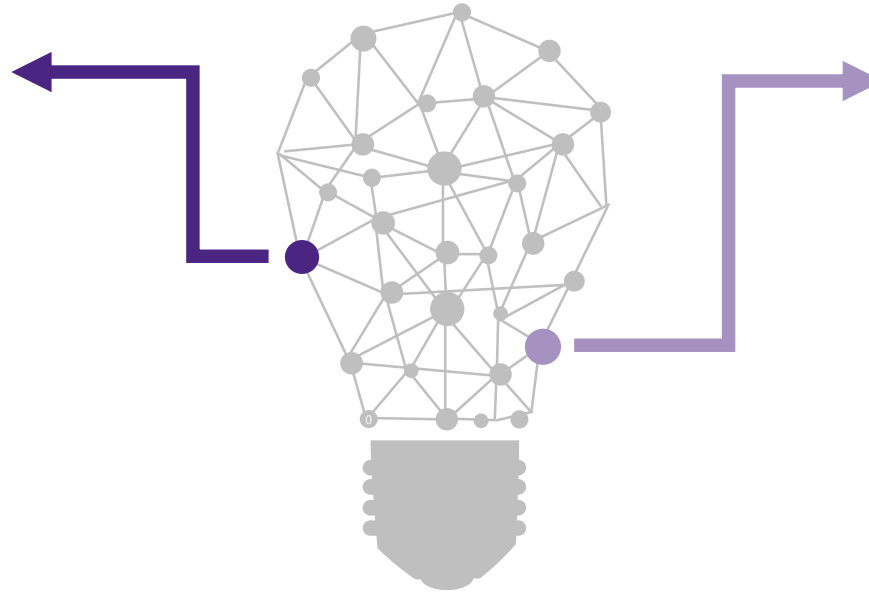
Ramalingam, Scriven & Foley 2009



Open Humanitarian Innovation

“The humanitarian sector is not capitalizing on its innovative potential”

Ramalingam, Scriven & Foley 2009



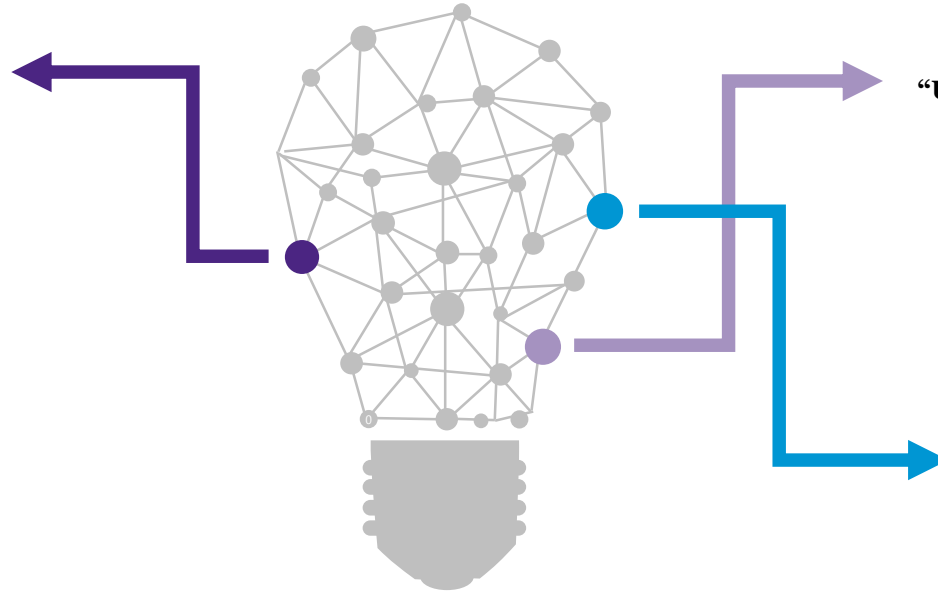
“User innovation studies have almost exclusively been conducted in countries in the Global North”

Goeldner, Kruse, Herstatt 2017

Open Humanitarian Innovation

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Decision-makers have introduced new product development processes, *decentralizing* the solution search via Open Innovation Challenges”

UNHCR, 2015

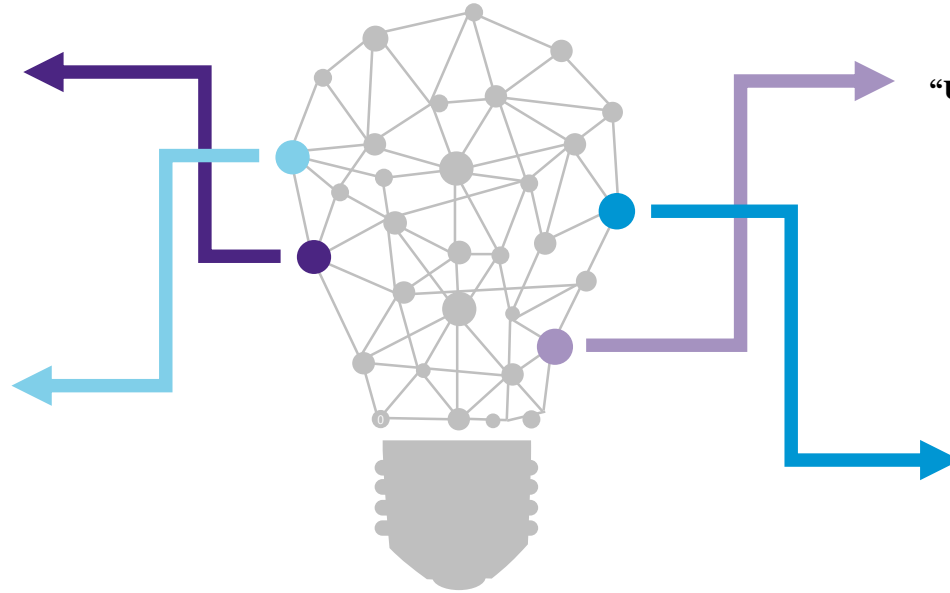
Open Humanitarian Innovation

“The humanitarian sector is not capitalizing on its innovative potential”

Ramalingam, Scriven & Foley 2009

“Crowdsourced Big Data can enable an inclusive humanitarian response at times of crisis”

Mulder, F., Ferguson, J., Groenewegen, P., Boersma, K., & Wolbers, J. 2016



“User innovation studies have almost exclusively been conducted in countries in the Global North”

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UNHCR, 2015

The Humanitarian System

Definition

Actors

Needs vs. Funding

Humanitarian Innovation

The network of inter-connected institutional and operational entities that receive funds, directly or indirectly from public donors and private sources, to enhance, support or substitute for in-country responses in the provision of humanitarian assistance and protection to a population in crisis.

ALNAP (2018) *The State of the Humanitarian System*. ALNAP Study. London: ALNAP/ODI.

The Humanitarian System

Definition

Actors

Needs vs. Funding

Humanitarian Innovation

1. All organizational entities funded specifically to undertake humanitarian action, which constitutes their primary mandate or mission:

They include:

- local, national and international NGOs
- UN humanitarian agencies
- The International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement
- Host government agencies and authorities
- Donor agencies: government agencies, trusts and other donors.

2. Entities involved in crisis contexts, but not related to the same funding mechanisms as the humanitarian system and/or whose main objectives are not the provision of humanitarian aid and protection

They include:

- National militaries and civil defense groups
- Development actors
- The private sector
- Diaspora groups
- Civil society groups (e.g. faith groups) that do not have an explicitly humanitarian function
- The media
- **Academia**

ALNAP (2018) *The State of the Humanitarian System*. ALNAP Study. London: ALNAP/ODI.

The Humanitarian System

Definition

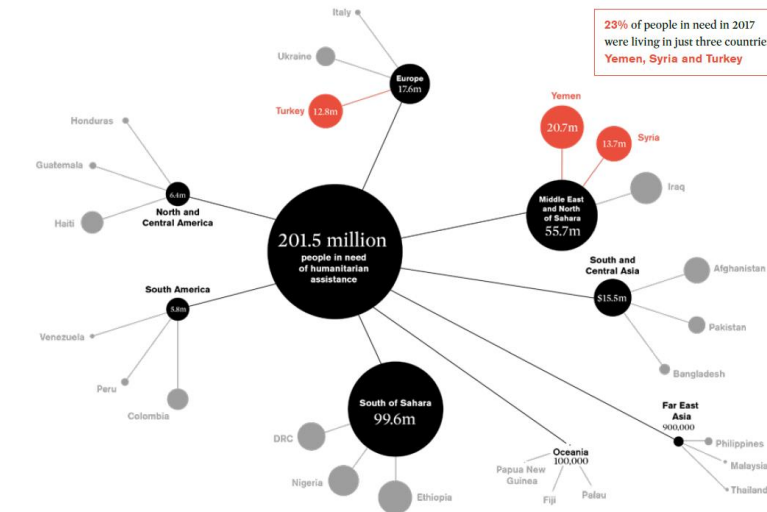
Actors

Needs vs. Funding

Humanitarian Innovation

1. Humanitarian needs

- 2017 – 201.5 Million people
- 2016 – 164.2 Million people
- 2015 – 124.7 Million people



Sources: Development Initiatives based on ACAPS, FAO, GRPC Population in Crisis, United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), United Nations Relief Fund/Work Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA), Centre for Research on the Epidemiology of Disasters and UN OCHA.
Notes: DRC: Democratic Republic of the Congo. Region naming conventions used throughout this report are primarily based on those used by the OECD DAC: the Middle East and North of Sahara regions have been combined.

ALNAP (2018) *The State of the Humanitarian System*. ALNAP Study. London: ALNAP/ODI.

The Humanitarian System

Definition

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Needs vs. Funding

Humanitarian Innovation

2. Humanitarian funding

- 2017 – \$27.3 billion
- 2016 – \$26.4 billion
- 2015 – \$25.8 billion

Figure 6 / International humanitarian assistance, 2013–2017

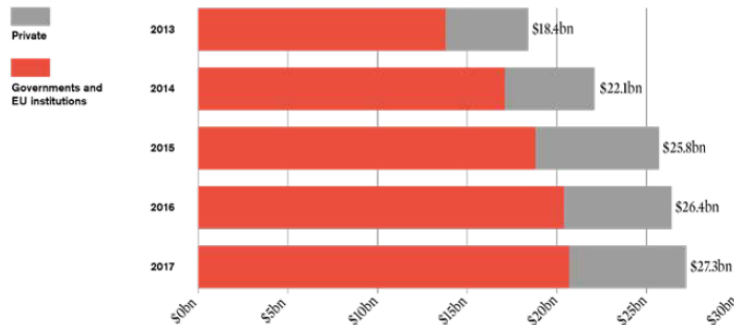
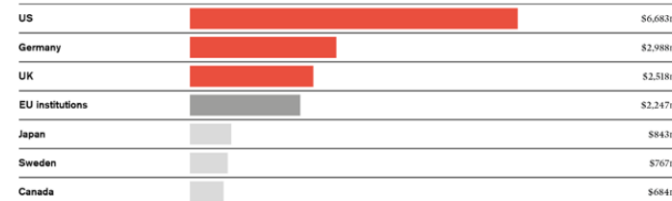


Figure 7 / Humanitarian assistance from donor governments, 2017



ALNAP (2018) *The State of the Humanitarian System*. ALNAP Study. London: ALNAP/ODI.

The Humanitarian System

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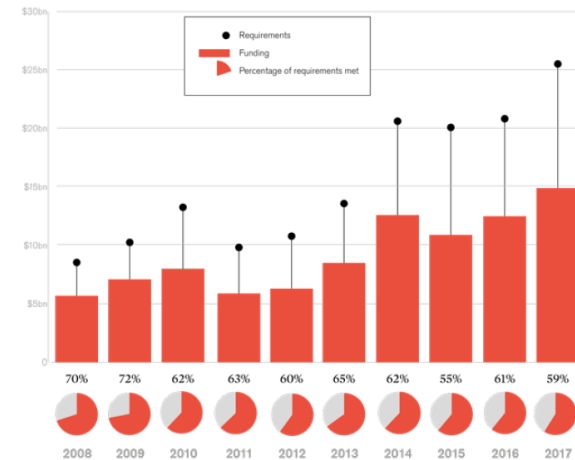
Needs vs. Funding

Humanitarian Innovation

3. Needs vs. funding

The extent to which the consolidated funding requirements of UN appeals are met = a proxy measure of the extent to which funding meets humanitarian needs.

- Collective requirement of UN appeals 2017 **\$25.2 billion**
- Total funding 2017 **\$14.9 billion**
- Shortfall: **\$10.3 billion**



ALNAP (2018) *The State of the Humanitarian System*. ALNAP Study. London: ALNAP/ODI.

The Humanitarian System

Definition

Actors

Needs vs. Funding

Humanitarian Innovation

To contend with these growing, and changing, demands, organizations are increasingly exploring the idea of **“humanitarian innovation,”** which draws upon concepts from the private sector to adapt and improve the humanitarian system.

Humanitarians have used the term **“innovation”** to refer to the role of technology, products and processes from other sectors, new forms of partnership, and the use of the ideas and coping capacities of crisis-affected people.

Betts, Alexander, and Louise Bloom. Humanitarian innovation: The state of the art. New York: United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), 2014.

The Humanitarian System

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Needs vs. Funding

Humanitarian Innovation

To contend with these growing, and changing, demands, organizations are increasingly exploring the idea of **“humanitarian innovation,”** which draws upon concepts from the private sector to adapt and improve the humanitarian system.

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Top-down humanitarian innovation

Innovation management within the humanitarian organizations; designing solutions that can improve organizational responses.



End-users as passive recipients

Bottom-up humanitarian innovation

Innovation grounded in community participation, engaging the skills, talents and aspirations of so-called beneficiary populations.



End-users as a source of innovation

Betts, Alexander, and Louise Bloom. Humanitarian innovation: The state of the art. New York: United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), 2014.

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Digital Humanitarians

Open Humanitarian Innovation

Factors driving humanitarian innovation

1 Private Sector Engagement

Open Humanitarian Innovation

Factors driving humanitarian innovation

1 Private Sector Engagement

Example

The **Better Shelter** -
a product of the **IKEA** foundation
and **UNHCR's** Innovation Service



Open Humanitarian Innovation

Factors driving humanitarian innovation

1 Private Sector Engagement

2 Technology Development

Open Humanitarian Innovation

Factors driving humanitarian innovation

1 Private Sector Engagement

2 Technology Development

Example

World Food Program uses Blockchain to make cash transfers more efficient at a refugee camp in Jordan



Factors driving humanitarian innovation

1 Private Sector Engagement

2 Technology Development

Example

The open source platform **Ushahidi** produced a crisis map based on volunteer information sharing, generating 50,000 incident reports

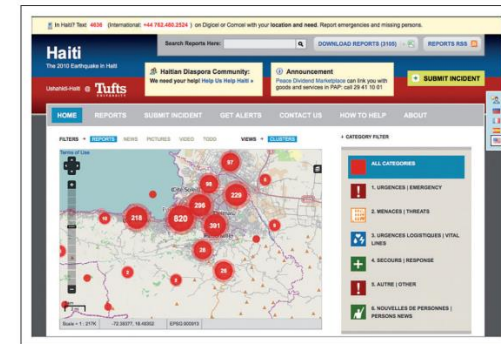


Figure 1. Screenshot of Mission4636 (run on the Ushahidi platform using OSM) for the 2010 Haiti Earthquake.

Open Humanitarian Innovation

Factors driving humanitarian innovation

- 1 Private Sector Engagement
- 2 Technology Development
- 3 New Actors and Partnerships

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Example

The **Challenge Based Innovation** initiative by **CERN**, for solving societal challenges by collaborating with students from different universities



Open Humanitarian Innovation

Factors driving humanitarian innovation

- 1 Private Sector Engagement
- 2 Technology Development
- 3 New Actors and Partnerships

Example

The **Grand Challenge** project between
CERN and **RCA**



In business, companies receive a prompt wake-up call when they don't listen to their customers... In the social sector, however, we may not get timely notice if we ignore our beneficiaries. Beneficiaries have few choices. They frequently accept a flawed intervention rather than no help at all (Twersky et al. 2013)

*How can the humanitarian system encourage **user-led design** and **open innovation** for / by affected people, that responds better to their needs?*

Thank you for your attention



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