



The Humanitarian-Development Nexus in South-Central Somalia and Yemen.

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THE NEW WAY OF WORKING (1 The theory)

- The New Way of Working (NWOW) is probably one of the biggest outcomes of the 2016 World Humanitarian Summit (WHS). It was conceived to uniform the ways of working of humanitarian and development actors in order to **meet** people's immediate **needs**, while at the same time reducing **risk** and **vulnerability** in line with 2030 agenda towards the achievement of the (17) Sustainable Development Goals.
- The NWOW is a method of work where humanitarian, development and peace actors work towards **collective outcomes** over multiples years based on their comparative advantage across silos.
- The NWoW focuses on removing the “unnecessary barriers” that are hampering the collaboration between humanitarian and development actors.

THE NEW WAY OF WORKING (2 the theory)

ELEMENTS:

- Collective outcome
- Comparative advantage
- Context specificity

A result or impact that is:

- quantifiable
- measurable
- reduces people's needs, risks and vulnerabilities
- increases resilience
- requires the combined effort of different actors
- is commonly agreed

3 to 5 years

MULTI-YEAR TIMEFRAMES

- (common) Analysis
- Planning/Programming
- Leadership/Coordination (RC/HC)
- Financing

THE HUMANITARIAN – DEVELOPMENT NEXUS

- The essence of the humanitarian-development nexus is to build resilience of the most vulnerable, tackling the root causes of recurrent crises and making aid more efficient and effective.
- Although the need for a strong collaboration between humanitarian aid and development action has long been discussed at the international level, the public endorsement it received at the World Humanitarian Summit last year was such that it is now part of the core commitments of the Agenda for Humanity.



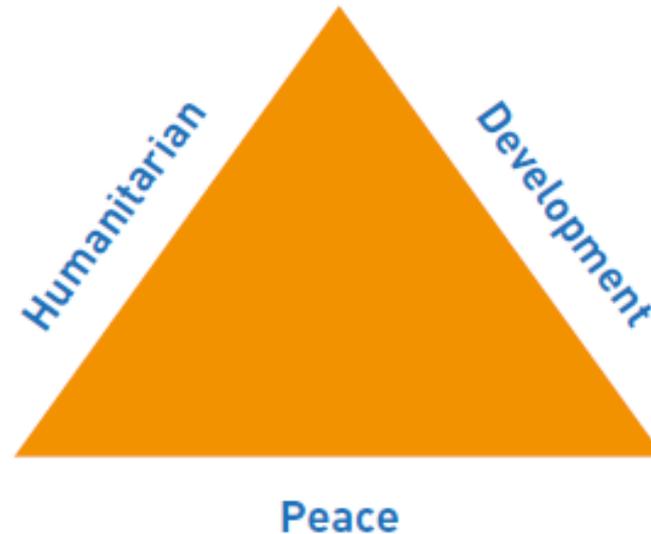
Changing People's Lives - From Delivering Aid to Ending Need

Commitment to Action: Transcend Humanitarian-Development Divides
= work together, toward collective outcomes that ensure humanitarian needs are met, while at the same time reducing risk and vulnerability over multiple years and based on the comparative advantage of a diverse range of actors.

The primacy of humanitarian principles will continue to underpin humanitarian action.

PEACE AND THE TRIPLE NEXUS

- Peace also plays a fundamental role, together with humanitarian and development efforts (SDG 16th focus on promoting peaceful societies).
- The result is a triangle, where each element is meant to work for and with the other two.
- As the rationale goes, it cannot exist peace without development, nor development without peace. And of course, in emergency contexts, humanitarian aid remains fundamental.



NWOW: OPPORTUNITIES FOR NGOs (The hope)

Consider the situation from the point of view of the beneficiaries

Alleviate the effects of today's humanitarian funding shortfall

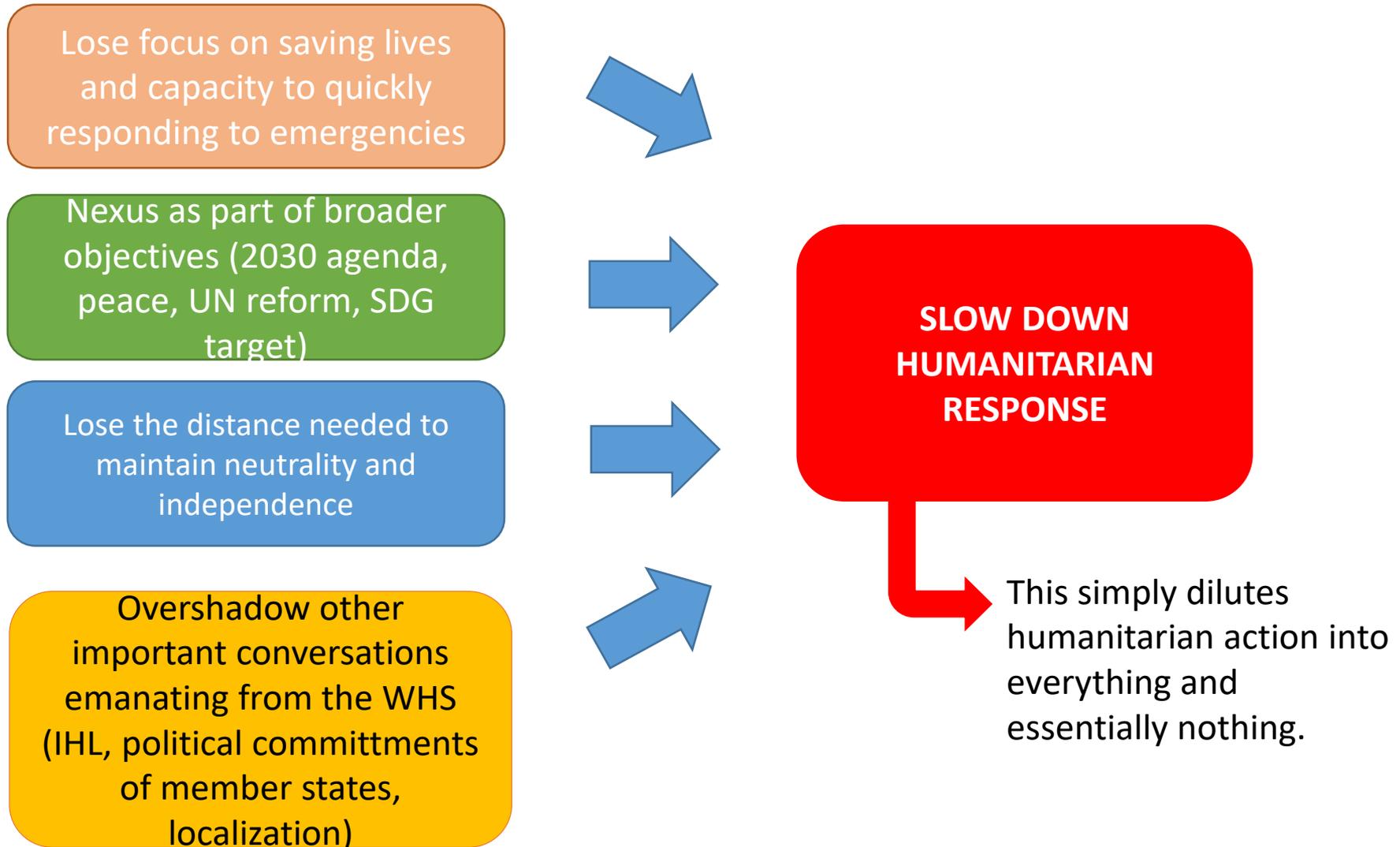
Adapt to protracted crises being the new norm

Overcome divisions, inefficiencies, and contradictions

Transition from aid dependency to sustainable development

Convince development and peace actors to change their ways

NWOW: RISKS FOR NGOs



NWOW and NGOs (some others conclusions)

- Many NGOs are already multi-mission-focused and implement a mix of humanitarian and development programming. They are investing in resilience, preparedness and early solutions planning.
- However, the role of NGOs in the NWOW is unclear, as is the likely impact of the NWOW on NGOs and humanitarian action more broadly.
- The NWOW has no articulated implementation process, no group or agency officially leading its implementation.
- NWOW: bigger role on local actors, closed relation between hum and dev agenda in order to address protracted crisis.



The integration of humanitarian action into wider efforts to tackle the root causes of crisis and needs contradicts its essence, its core mandate and its relevance in conflicts and highly politicised contexts

EMERGENCY GAP

- Today there is a clear Emergency Gap → A constant increase in humanitarian needs is not met by an equivalent increase in the humanitarian response.
- That is, even if the number of NGOs is growing, the number of those actually intervening in the front-line, when emergencies, conflicts, crises arise, is not.
- Many are the reasons behind this gap, the most relevant being:
 - Shortfall in humanitarian financing
 - Politicization of aid
 - Militarization of aid
 - Increased risk aversion
- Taken together, they result in the absence of sufficient humanitarian actors on the ground that can deliver urgent and meaningful assistance during the acute phase of an emergency.

SHORTFALL IN HUMANITARIAN FINANCING

- The current aid structure of the humanitarian sector presents a critical design inadequacy between the main recipients of funding and the main deliverers of aid.
- Traditional UN-centric donor funding systems are often perceived as being slow, inflexible and ineffective, not targeted impartially, according to needs, but following geographically or politically strategic countries.
- Furthermore, non-traditional private donors and national and international political decisions are playing increasingly important roles.
- See for example:
 - President Trump's proposal to cut the budget for foreign aid
 - The role played by China, India, Gulf States could accelerate the shift in power balance between Western and non-Western funding actors.
 - The role of private companies and individuals.

POLITICIZATION OF AID

- The tendency towards politicization of actors represents a challenge for independent humanitarian action and creates serious issues when negotiating for greater access, acceptance and proximity to the people directly affected.
- Administrative obstacles.
- Humanitarian Imperative has become integrated with a widening agenda where many objectives has become subservient to political and development agenda
- By mixing acute and protracted crisis, natural disaster, peace building, conflict resolution and putting all them in the same concept, risks turning humanitarian action into a simple instrument of broader goal: SDG.

MILITARIZATION OF AID & ROLE OF PEACE KEEPING FORCES

- The militarization of aid refers to the use of humanitarian assistance to support military/political strategic goals. Military involvement in humanitarian work is on the increase and will continue to raise ethical dilemmas and security concerns for the traditional humanitarian community: **winning hearts and minds**
- Evolving role of peace keeping forces from monitoring and self-defence to taking part of the conflict or placing the peace keeping on one side of the conflict (AMISOM, MONUSCO, UNMISS).
- The perceived conflation of the humanitarian and military agendas has already had dangerous consequences:
 - The erosion of neutrality (and other humanitarian principles)
 - Impartiality is instantly undermined when hum aid is given as part of larger political process and no longer according to need.

INCREASED RISK AVERSION

- Humanitarian agencies are increasingly outsourcing their response, and the risk that goes with it, to local implementers → tendency towards “bunkerization” of aid and remote management. Why?
- Certain international actors, particularly at the HQ level, perceive risks much more severely than stakeholders on the ground, leading to sometimes unnecessarily cautious security approaches.
- Despite perceptions of increased vulnerability, available data suggests that major attacks on aid workers remain primarily concentrated in a small number of countries (Afghanistan, South Sudan, and Syria) and that incidents affecting international aid workers have decreased (from 22% to 13%), while incidents affecting national aid workers have increased (87%).
- Risk management should be an enabler of humanitarian action –but it looks like it has turned into a disabler.

FROM THEORY TO PRACTICE

- **WHS** has set up some good thinking about how to address **protracted emergencies** through multiannual plans/collective outcomes/improved coordination.
- The hum system has a number of multi-mandate organizations to do so BUT **humanitarian action needs to remain firmly rooted in responding to urgent needs of people caught in crisis: one size does not fit all.**
- Given the very different nature of crises and of regions and countries in which humanitarian actors operate, each humanitarian response needs to be **context-specific** without mixing protracting with acute crisis and natural disasters with health emergencies.
- **From Yemen – where in an situation of extreme conflict the main imperative is to save lives – to South-Central Somalia, where access to the most vulnerable is a real and primary challenge, we are inevitably put in front of a number of criticalities regarding the discussion on the humanitarian-development nexus and the scope of humanitarian aid.**

CASE STUDY 1: YEMEN

CASE STUDY 2: SOUTH-CENTRAL SOMALIA

COUNTRY PROFILE

- The Somalia humanitarian crisis is among the most longstanding and complex globally. While large-scale famine continues to be averted in 2017, the humanitarian impact of the drought has been devastating. More than 6.2 million people, half of the population, are now in need of humanitarian assistance and protection.
- More than 3.1 million Somalis are in acute need of humanitarian assistance for survival (IPC Phases 3 and 4). This includes 87,250 children (point prevalence) suffering from severe acute malnutrition who are far more vulnerable than any other group. Overall about 1.2 million children are expected to be suffering from acute malnutrition.
- Nearly two million people are estimated to be living in hard to reach, conflict affected rural areas in southern and central Somalia. This includes areas that are inaccessible due to presence of non-state armed actors or fighting. Humanitarian presence in conflict areas remains limited. These communities have high vulnerability and are disproportionately affected by food insecurity, malnutrition, inadequate WASH and disease outbreaks.
- Today Somalia is the world's third highest source country for refugees, after Syria and Afghanistan.
- Somalia has one of the world's lowest primary school enrollment rates – just over 40% of children are in school – and one of world's highest youth unemployment rates.

COUNTRY PROFILE



A sequence of state collapse, clan-based militia rule, local governance based on customary and religious authority, fledgling state formation.

Sever areas are under control of fairly effective **government** structures (most of Somaliland) while **local and regional administrations** at different levels have a very large degree of autonomy but remain very weak. The State-building creation has advanced with the establishment in South-Central Somalia of new States, that united together different regions.

Despite the effort of the state building process, **clan authority (Xeer) and Islamic law (Sharia)** heavily influence the administration of justice and the rule of law. Sharia law is referred applied to family law and civil dispute resolution. Especially the Al-Shabaab-controlled areas are ruled by a particularly conservative interpretation of Sharia.

FUNDING THE EMERGENCY

Apart from Somaliland, and to some degree Puntland, the Somali government **has not** the monopoly on the use of violence and the abilities and capacity to be responsible for providing protection, governance and basic services.

NGOs and civil society are the main service providers

HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE

Donor fatigue, protracted humanitarian needs and the emerging of other humanitarian crisis in the world, are heavily affecting international funds allocates for Somalia.

Donor agencies are highlighting the importance to focus on longer-term/durable solutions and responses linked to the development agenda for Somalia.

Failure of the humanitarian response and the need to look for alternative solutions.

HUMANITARIAN NEEDS

The **Health Sector** is poorly developed, externally driven, expensive and inefficiently planned, implemented and managed. Almost all the providers are supported by bilateral donors (UN agencies, and INGOs).

As of October 2017, slightly over 40% of the overall funding requested for the 2017 Somalia Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP) for health and nutrition was met; this resulted to significant unmet gaps within the health and nutrition sectors.



LESS THEN 15% OF THE
POPULATION

HAS ACCESS TO HEALTH
PROVIDERS



26% OF THE POPULATION

HAS NO ACCESS TO EMERGENCY SERVICES

INTERSOS PRESENCE IN SOMALIA

Strategy: working on the front-line, in areas affected by conflict and natural disaster, where there is the existence of poverty and exclusion, and where the government has no capacity to respond.

INTERSOS has been supporting Jowhar Regional Referral Hospital (JRRH) in Middle Shebelle, Somalia, for over 20 years, supporting the access to the vulnerable population to a **comprehensive health package**, including **primary health, nutrition, and secondary health care**, in a region with an estimated population of 516,036 people.

Jowhar Regional referral Hospital (JRRH):

The only facility in Middle Shabelle where patients can be attended to by a medical doctor, receive emergency/major surgical treatments, and access laboratory and radiological diagnostic services.

The hospital hosts a **stabilization center** for rehabilitation of SAM cases, a **static OTP** for treatment of SAM cases without medical complications, a **TB center**.

Other Health intervention by INTERSOS:

INTERSOS runs a WFP funded project which targets U5 children together with pregnant and lactating mothers with **MAM** for nutrition rehabilitation.

Until September 2017, INTERSOS was serving as the focal partner for **EPI and vaccines** management in Middle Shebelle ensuring the cold chain and the supply management for immunization.

RISKS AND CHALLENGES OF THE HUMANITARIAN, DEVELOPMENT, PEACE NEXUS

Humanitarian vs. Development

- According to the context, engaging with development and peace building actors could jeopardize the respect of the humanitarian principles of neutrality, humanity, impartiality, independence.
- The humanitarian imperative is to provide life-saving services: access to those services should be immediate, time efficient, neutral, impartial and independent and cannot depend or wait for a dialogue with all stakeholders involved with such different mandate.
- Humanitarian actors are directly involved and present in the front line where the main needs are. Development actors are normally sitting in capitals or in more secured areas with restricted movements, hence losing contact with the person in need.
- Different timing and priorities of donors agenda, strategy, call of proposal.

RISKS AND CHALLENGES OF THE HUMANITARIAN, DEVELOPMENT, PEACE NEXUS

Humanitarian vs. Peace Building

- In Somalia, the peace building 's process, in areas under the control of the federal government, goes in parallel with expanding that territory through the military. This means that the armed forces are paid for and carried out by the same actors that support the peace building.
- Engaging with local and national authorities as the main effect of taking a specific “political” side in the conflict.
- In protracted crisis corruption is deeply rooted in the governmental system, collaborating with this system (especially when setting up long term MoU) will mean to accept and contribute to this trend.

RISKS AND CHALLENGES OF THE HUMANITARIAN, DEVELOPMENT, PEACE NEXUS

Sustainability and Humanitarian Access

- Frequent internal reshuffle of authorities and government representatives make difficult to have a continuous dialogue for a long-term plan.
- Local and national authorities are in most of the cases not able to take over from NGOs the provision of basic services.
- Engaging with government actors/representatives will further increase the risks for humanitarian actors to be targeted (AS, clan conflicts, political faction conflicts).

THE HUMANITARIAN-DEVELOPMENT NEXUS: NOT OUR PRIORITY

- As examples in crisis situations clearly show, the results of merging and lumping humanitarian aid and development action into a nexus of shared responsibility comes **at the detriment of the people in need**.
- Development and peace-building are of course fundamental efforts worth pursuing. But when it comes to emergencies, we cannot ignore that our responsibility is to provide a **quick and effective response** and to **save lives** - which is exactly what humanitarian aid is about.
- Thus, in this context, shifting the focus from responding to human suffering today to reducing the likelihood of suffering tomorrow, not only is problematic, but is definitely not a priority.

Thank you!

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