

HUMANITARIAN HORIZONS 2018-2021 MONITORING AND EVALUATION FRAMEWORK

Humanitarian Horizons is Humanitarian Advisory Group's three-year strategic research program. It aims to contribute evidence and progress thinking and action towards better humanitarian outcomes for crisis-affected populations in the Indo-Pacific region.



HUMANITARIAN HORIZONS 2018-2021

Humanitarian Horizons 2018–21 incorporates the four interlocking streams outlined below, identified as a priority by humanitarian practitioners worldwide.

We aim to push the boundaries in terms of our research methodologies and stimulate transformative change together with traditional and new humanitarian partners. This research program underpins our aspiration to thought leadership on humanitarian action in the Asia Pacific region.



Intention to impact: localised humanitarian action

The current momentum for supporting localised humanitarian action will only persist with evidence that demonstrates its impact. This stream addresses the localisation measurement gap. It will explore and test approaches to measuring the activity and impact of localised humanitarian action across different levels and actors.



Drawing on our diversity: humanitarian leadership

Humanitarian leadership does not currently reflect the broad diversity of talent across gender, age, ethnicity and culture; anecdotal evidence suggests that this hinders humanitarian effectiveness. This stream focuses on understanding the real and potential benefits to organisations and disaster-affected populations of diversifying humanitarian leadership.



Building a blueprint for change

This stream provides an evidence base to progress the implementation of transformative systemic change in the humanitarian system. It will investigate what reform has been possible and how it occurred, and draw lessons to support selected national governments to plan for transformative systemic change for practical improvements to humanitarian action in the short term.



Partnerships and practice

Just as important as what is researched is how it is researched, communicated and debated. Humanitarian Horizons will leverage its research outputs to influence policy and practice in the region and globally. It will amplify Australian and Indo-Pacific voices on humanitarian policy, build knowledge and collaboration, and communicate strategically for greater impact.

APPROACH TO MONITORING AND EVALUATION

Humanitarian Advisory Group is taking an exploratory approach to its monitoring and evaluation to allow for innovation, testing and learning. As such, indicators may evolve with the program. We will monitor and evaluate research activities, outputs and outcomes. The causal link between Humanitarian Horizons research and systemic outcomes is too difficult to measure.

THEORY OF CHANGE

Systemic outcomes to which the research program contributes

Effective humanitarian action in the Indo-Pacific

Evidence and action support effective humanitarian action in the Indo-Pacific

Humanitarian action in the Pacific is more localised Humanitarian organisations in the Indo-Pacific have more diverse leadership Humanitarian response at a country level is improved systemically Contemporary humanitarian issues are debated in a more informed manner

Research program outcome

Evidence is used by the right stakeholders and partners to inform actions and change that support effective humanitarian action

Research stream outputs and activities

Evidence is communicated to the right stakeholders and partners in the right way at the right time

Evidence demonstrates localised humanitarian action has a positive impact	Evidence supports the positive impact of more diverse humanitarian leadership on organisational performance and indicates how this can be achieved	A blueprint for how to enact systemic change	Evidence and/ or fresh thinking on contemporary issues challenge the sector's response
Tools and approaches measure to what extent the Pacific has adopted more localised approaches	The impact of diverse leadership in other sectors is identified to inform research	Evidence demonstrates how systemic change can and has successfully occurred	Contemporary issues are identified where HAG can offer value-add
Tools and approaches are developed to measure the activity and impact of localised humanitarian action	Diverse leadership in the humanitarian sector is defined	A vision for systemic reform is contextualised and articulated	

Research evolves and is conducted with the right stakeholders and partners using innovative and localised methodologies

Research is responsive to regional needs to support effective humanitarian action in the Indo-Pacific

INDICATORS

OUTCOME / OUTPUT	MONITORING INDICATORS	EVALUATION INDICATORS	DATA SOURCE			
Research program outcome						
Evidence is used by the right stakeholders and partners to inform actions and change that support effective humanitarian action	Examples of how research was used (most significant change) Examples of actions and change based on HAG research to support effective humanitarian action (most significant change)	% survey responses indicating research was read	2021 survey			
		% survey responses indicating research was used to inform action	3 x annual most significant change interviews			
		Examples of action and change using most significant change interviews	Reports to HAG of representation of research nationally, regionally, globally			
Common research s	tream outputs and activities					
Research is responsive to regional needs to support effective humanitarian action in the Indo-Pacific	# and type of consultations conducted to inform research (e.g. initial survey, RAC, stream consultations)	% survey responses indicating research was useful / responsive to needs				
Research evolves and is conducted with the right stakeholders and partners using innovative and localised methodologies	% research products conducted in partnership % research products where design and methodology is conducted in partnership # and type of adjustments to research approved by RAC in response to regional needs Comparative research cost vis a vis 100% international researchers—I research project example per year as costed by HAG [for DFAT] # partnerships with other DFAT research partners to contribute to the bigger picture Qualitative: how have the methodologies ensured right stakeholders and partners with innovative and localised methodologies? examples of ways in which HAG and partner have built each other's capacities.	% survey responses indicating research from their country was appropriately contextualised % of research program receiving funding / # funding partners	2021 survey Mid-term and final comparative methodology reports (HAG methodology v traditional methodology)			

OUTCOME / OUTPUT MONITORING INDICATORS EVALUATION INDICATORS DATA SOURCE

OUTCOME / OUTPUT	MONITORING INDICATORS	EVALUATION INDICATORS	DATA SOUNCE
Common research s	tream outputs and activities cont.		
Evidence is communicated to the right stakeholders and partners in the right way at the right time	# emails and shares / mentions on social media by location	% of survey responses from national actors	Social media tracking
	List of comments on social media responding to research		Media tracking
	# instances of local media (radio, print etc)		Regional associates / advisors reporting representations
[ownership of the research] [filling the	# of downloads by location		Survey and
	% partners report ownership of research products		interviews with research partners [3 months following and at evaluation]
global gap in representation	# products translated		
from the Asia Pacific]	# national partners asking HAG to support their research		
	\$ raised by local partners leveraging HAG partnership		
	# opportunities HAG has facilitated for partners to present the research		
	# representation of research in policy fora by (a) HAG and (b) others; separated by (i) global (ii) regional and (iii) national fora		
	# launches in country attended by local government and civil society		
	List examples of ownership of research expressed by partners		
	(internal metric) List partners approached by HAG / partners who approach HAG to partner		
Individual research	stream outputs		
Evidence demonstrates localised humanitarian action has a positive impact	NA	Yes/ No: did evidence demonstrate localised humanitarian action work?	Deliverables / Annual achievements report
Evidence supports the positive impact of more diverse humanitarian leadership on organisational performance and indicates how this can be achieved	NA	Yes / No: did evidence support the positive impact of more diverse humanitarian leadership on organisational performance Yes / No: did research indicate how this could be achieved?	Deliverables / Annual achievements report

OUTCOME / OUTPUT MONITORING INDICATORS EVALUATION INDICATORS DATA SOURCE

Individual research	stream outputs cont.		
A blueprint for how to enact systemic change	NA	Yes / No: is there a blue print for how to enact systemic change?	Deliverables / Annual achievements report
		Yes / No: is the blueprint being used (by whom and how often)?	
Evidence and/ or fresh thinking on contemporary issues challenge the sector's response	# of practice papers produced	% responders who report being challenged by a paper produced by HAG word map of readers surveyed describing HAG reports includes reference to being challenged	Deliverables / Annual achievements report Survey response
Individual research	stream activities		
Activities per theory of change and Humanitarian Horizons Research plan	% activities delivered per plan		Annual achievements report

TIMELINE

This Framework applies from July 2019. Humanitarian Advisory Group has monitored Humanitarian Horizons throughout its first year using activity level indicators, in line with sector expectations and standards. This framework informs more strategic data collection and reporting on the final two years of the 2018-2021 Humanitarian Horizons research program.

An evaluation will be conducted towards the end of the program. Humanitarian Advisory Group aims to contract an independent third party from the Asia Pacific region to conduct the evaluation.





Media tracking

HAG staff and regional associates / advisors reporting representations of research nationally, regionally, globally

Q Survey and interviews with research partners

ANNUALLY / MID-TERM by December 2019

2 3 x annual most significant change interviews presented as case studies or blogs

Mid-term comparative methodology reports (HAG methodology v traditional methodology)

Annual achievements report

Report of data collected monthly: word map of social media tracking, list of media we are aware of and featured media, lists of representations of research, research partner data

2021 survey

Final comparative methodology reports
(HAG methodology v traditional methodology)

Final most significant change reports

Final achievements report

Final report on monthly data

Certified

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This little logo means we work hard to ensure that our business is a force for good. We have chosen to hold ourselves accountable to the highest social, environmental and ethical standards, setting ourselves apart from business as usual.