

REAL TIME ANALYSIS AND INFLUENCE: Informing humanitarian response and practice as it happens

As part of our new 2021-24 Humanitarian Horizons Research Program, [Humanitarian Advisory Group](#) is collaborating on research to support the humanitarian sector. This stream aims to inform and influence humanitarian policy and practice in real time.

What do we mean by Real Time Analysis and Influence?

The Real Time Analysis and Influence stream aims to provide timely exploration of emerging issues and thematic areas across the humanitarian sector. Through critical thinking and creating real time evidence, this stream will stimulate discussion and inform practice in the context of humanitarian response, including conflict and disaster response operations and other practices of operational agencies such as fundraising, advocacy, or standards-setting.

The stream focuses on the Indo-Pacific region, particularly in relation to rapid assessments of response operations. It aims to amplify and elevate local voices and evidence, to inform and influence global humanitarian sector debate and reform. Research topics will be based on the opportunity to influence key decision-making processes in the sector in a relevant and timely way. We will work with our partners to identify priority papers for translation into languages other than English to ensure research is accessible to regional participants and affected communities. This also supports greater impact for the research among local and national stakeholders.

Why is influencing policy and practice in real time important?

While there is a strong current of questioning and self-reflexivity in the humanitarian sector, it faces significant challenges in translating research into practice. In the Real Time Analysis and Influence stream, we aim to help address this challenge: producing analysis that is robust and rigorous and yet timely enough to contribute to decision-making as it takes place.

What are we exploring?

This stream is led by two main questions:

1. What are the opportunities for rapid assessments to inform humanitarian operations in real time?
2. What needs does the sector have in analysing and reacting to emerging issues and debates?



Practice Papers

Humanitarian Advisory Group [uses Practice Papers](#) to engage humanitarian actors who are motivated to learn from research insights and engage in conversations to improve practice but are often busy and overloaded. Practice papers focus on timely and relevant issues, producing analysis that is robust and rigorous and yet short and digestible. We hope they will provide ideas for further exploration, generate conversations for change, and provide timely insights into important thematic areas.





Selecting the topics where we can add value

When selecting a issue to explore through a Practice Paper under the Real Time Analysis and Influence stream, we will review potential topics internally and then seek input from partners and key stakeholders on how we can add value to the sector through our work. This process will include questions such as:



Do we have established partnerships to do the work in the planned context and time frame?



Do we have the experience in the sector or area of focus?



How soon will the paper need to be produced to influence change, and is this feasible?



Are there other actors better placed to produce knowledge on the topic?



Is there a value-add in us working on the paper?



Does this research lend itself to the Practice Paper format or a different output type?



HUMANITARIAN
ADVISORY GROUP



Contact the research team: [Josie Flint jflint@hag.org.au](mailto:jflint@hag.org.au)

[Fanny Coussy fcoussy@hag.org.au](mailto:fcoussy@hag.org.au)



Humanitarian Advisory Group (HAG) is a social enterprise that aims to elevate the profile of humanitarian action in the Indo-Pacific. Founded in 2012, HAG provides a unique space for thinking, research, technical advice, and training that positively contributes to excellence in humanitarian practice. Humanitarian Horizons is HAG's three-year research initiative supported by Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. The program adds unique value to humanitarian action in the Indo-Pacific by generating evidence-based research and creating conversations for change.