



## Overview

The [report](#) presents insights from a process that aimed to elevate Global South voices and their experiences in humanitarian evidence and knowledge production. This process highlighted the journey of the participants as humanitarian knowledge and evidence brokers in countries in Asia and the Pacific, and contributes to the change towards an equitable humanitarian knowledge and evidence landscape.


## Methods


Storytelling was employed as a key method of exploring experiences and connecting them to systemic issues within the knowledge production landscape in the humanitarian sector. HAG and research partners also committed to working in ways that supported inclusive and constructive discussion and decision-making.





## What we found


The report highlights both enablers and blockages to Global South actors participating and leading in humanitarian knowledge production in the below five themes:

 **Agenda setting** – Participants highlighted cases where scope and objectives of humanitarian research (including needs assessments, evaluations, and other forms of analysis) were externally driven, rather than informed by communities’ needs. They shared the impacts of this top-down approach including putting communities at risk.

 **Responding to needs** – We found examples of how local actors are vital in identifying analysis gaps and brokering access to information, ensuring that local issues are prioritised and supporting better research uptake.


 **Partnership** - Participants gave examples of problematic partnerships as well as positive and empowering ones, and reflected on their impacts on the research process.


 **Visibility** – The visibility of Global South actors is often insufficient, inconsistent, or even completely absent. On the other hand, equitable visibility also means discussing effective ways of disseminating the research and ensuring Global South actors participate in or lead dissemination via dialogues, advocacy events, forums and blogs (or other avenues).


 **Credibility** – Discussions linked credibility to how Global South actors are valued, noting that tokenistic practices exist that undermine or devalue their credibility, knowledge and skills.


## Opportunities and way forward


Engaging Global South actors in knowledge production and sharing is crucial, as it significantly impacts humanitarian action. This report outlines strategies and practical steps for Global North actors based on the identified opportunities.

 **Visions and engagement:** Prioritise co-production by valuing Global South voices and insights throughout the research and evaluation process, ensuring audience needs are met.

 **Agenda setting:** Foster collaboration through respect and mutual understanding. It is essential to ensure that research conducted in affected communities is relevant and that these communities benefit from its outcomes.

 **Partnerships:** Emphasise the relational aspect of partnerships by supporting activities that build trust and camaraderie in the research process, embracing flexibility and real-time adjustments.

 **Visibility:** Acknowledge all contributors by ensuring outputs accurately reflect the roles of all actors, avoiding situations where research actors are visibly highlighted without meaningful input in knowledge production.

 **Credibility:** Encourage Global North actors to enhance their skills and capacities, rather than solely relying on Global South actors.

Read the full paper [here](#). If you'd like to learn more about our work, please contact: [info@humanitarianadvisorygroup.org](mailto:info@humanitarianadvisorygroup.org)