



Funding of Local and National Humanitarian Actors

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1 Introduction

Since 2010, the Local to Global Protection Initiative (L2GP) has published a number of studies of major humanitarian crises, including Sudan, South Sudan, Myanmar, Zimbabwe and oPt.¹ All studies stress the importance of local and community led responses to protection threats but also demonstrate that genuinely locally-led responses are poorly understood and only very rarely supported by international humanitarian and protection actors. In the discussions leading up to the World Humanitarian Summit in 2016, locally-led humanitarian responses finally appear to have gained some attention within the humanitarian community,² and several NGOs and alliances are advocating for increased funding flows to local and national NGOs, while other actors are considering increased investments in capacity building of local actors.

Indeed available data on humanitarian funding shows that funding directly from the largest donors does privilege a few large international agencies over other international agencies – and to an extreme degree over local and national actors. In 2013, just three large international (multilateral) agencies received more than 50% of the available humanitarian funding as reported to UN OCHA FTS, i.e. they receive more ‘first level’(direct) funding than all other humanitarian actors combined. The largest six international agencies – making up less than 1% of the ‘recipient agencies’ as reported to OCHA FTS – received more than two thirds of the overall reported humanitarian expenditure by the major donors. The distribution of this ‘first level’ income reported by OCHA FTS for 2013, is displayed in figure 1. While the direct funding flows from major institutionalized donors to large and medium-sized humanitarian actors is relatively well documented, this briefing note demonstrates that not only is national and local humanitarian actors’ share of the global humanitarian funding very modest, it is also very poorly tracked and documented.

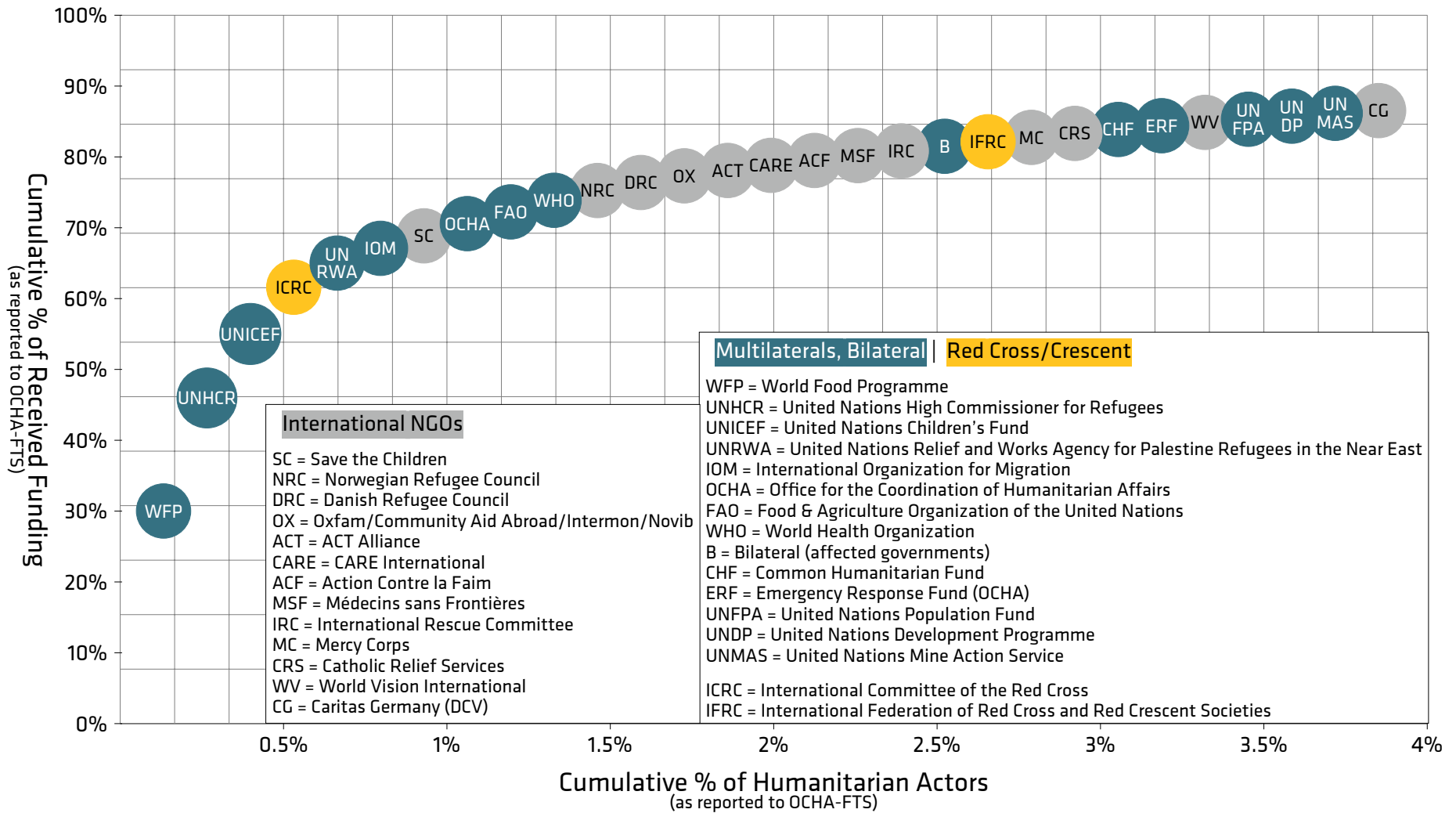


Figure 1: First level recipients of international humanitarian funding. The figure shows, in descending order, the 29 humanitarian agencies, governments and institutions, which received the most humanitarian funding in 2013 according to OCHA FTS. These 29 actors constitute less than 4% of the recipients of humanitarian funding reported to OCHA FTS. Between them, they receive more than 85% of the total first level (direct) funding from large institutional donors (governments and major foundations reporting to OCHA FTS). Local and national NGOs are not among these 29 actors and would only begin to appear towards the right side of the figure, if it was more than four times as wide. Do note that the OCHA FTS data does not systematically include private fundraising by the individual agencies and is based on voluntary reporting.³ Source: OCHA FTS, GHA coded OCHA FTS data.

Existing data on ‘first level’ recipients (funding coming directly from a DAC/non DAC donors⁴ or UN – led pooled funds) indicates, that local and national humanitarian actors are only known to have received about 0.2% (USD 49 million) of the overall global humanitarian response in 2013.⁵ By all accounts though, ‘second level’ funding (funding channeled through one or more international agencies before reaching local and national actors) is much bigger and far more important than the ‘first level funding’.

But, as this briefing note will demonstrate, accessible figures on this ‘second level’ funding are sporadic and inconsistent to a degree where the actual size of this channel remains unknown. Available data, however, suggests that this indirect (‘second level’) channel is more than ten times larger than the direct (‘first level’) funding channel. A ‘third level’ funding channel, national and local actors fundraising with their own constituencies, remains completely unknown at a global level. Overall, the current reporting and tracking of funding flows to national and local actors is so limited and so lacking in terms of quality, consistency and depth of detail, that **it is hardly possible to establish a single overall actual figure or percentage with a reasonable degree of certainty.** Given the importance of local actors in humanitarian crises throughout the world, this finding in itself could **indicate a failure in transparency and accountability for the global humanitarian system as a whole.**

While the L2GP initiative’s research so far has focused on qualitative research into local understandings of protection, this article focuses primarily on quantitative data as it attempts to summarize existing and available information on funding flows to local humanitarian actors in general.⁶ Any analysis of the magnitude of funding flows to local humanitarian actors is of course linked with discussions about the nature of the funding relationship, coordination and priority setting. It is also intimately connected with the capacity of local actors to meet the accountability demands of international donors and agencies. Any such analysis is equally connected to the capacity of international donors and agencies to use proposal, reporting and accounting modalities, which would allow national and local actors to access available global humanitarian funding on an equal footing with international agencies.

This desk-based research though, will not go into a detailed discussion about these more qualitative issues but will focus on providing the clearest possible overview of how much of the global humanitarian funding actually reaches national and local actors given the current policies, structures and systems. The briefing note also explores the quality and the depth of the available information in order to make recommendations as to how better to monitor future trends in this area and thus contribute to a more qualified discussion and decision-making throughout the global humanitarian system – before, during and after the World Humanitarian Summit in 2016.

While terms such as ‘local humanitarian actors’, ‘local NGOs’ (LNGOs) and ‘national NGOs’ (NNGOs) are frequently used in the humanitarian community and associated literature, there are no universally agreed definitions of these terms in place. For the sake of simplicity, this report will use the term ‘local and national NGOs’ or L/NNGOs when referring to the collective of national and local NGOs as defined in GHA Report 2014. The term ‘local and national humanitarian actors’ in this briefing note, includes national Red Cross/Crescent Societies. But, as this work draws on many different sources, it cannot only employ one universal set of definitions of local and national NGOs throughout the briefing note, but will use the several different definitions of the respective sources of data on funding flows where relevant. The importance of this absence of universally agreed definitions will be demonstrated throughout the briefing note; for instance figure 4 provides a dramatic example of the consequences of using different definitions.⁷

2 Main Funding Channels for National and Local Humanitarian Actors

Funding to local and national humanitarian actors primarily flows through three main channels, as depicted in figure 2:

- (I) **International Donors, Pooled Funds**; funding directly from international donors to national and local humanitarian actors.
- (II) **INGOs, UN Agencies, Red Cross/Crescent**; funding channeled via international NGOs (INGOs), UN agencies and the Red Cross/Crescent Movement to national and local humanitarian actors. These indirect funding flows may involve several humanitarian actors before reaching local and national organisations. Available data indicates that the majority of funding for national and local humanitarian actors is channeled this way.
- (III) **Local Fund Raising, Diaspora Groups**; Many local and national NGOs often also engage in direct fund raising beyond what is recorded in the ‘formal’ humanitarian system. This may be through national fund raising from individual benefactors, private enterprises or foundations in the country or area where the national or local NGO is based but for instance also from diaspora groups. Due to the nature of this funding channel unfortunately, no global level data is available on its size.⁸

When available, data for both 2012 and 2013 is provided.⁹

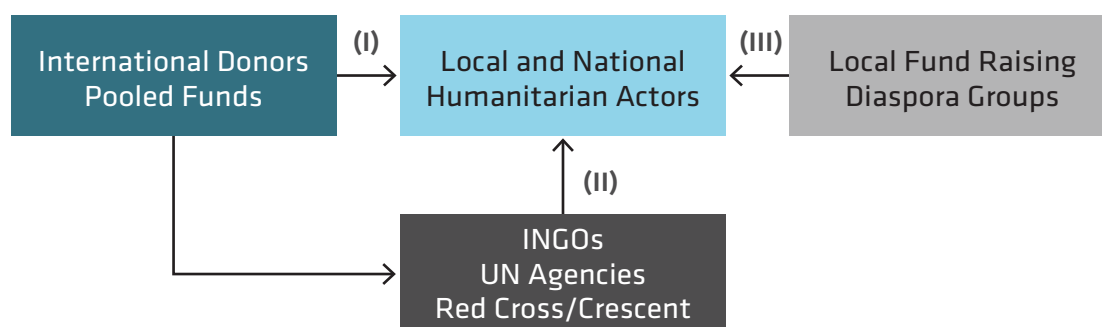


Figure 2: Three Main Funding Channels for National and Local Humanitarian Actors

OCHA's World Humanitarian Data and Trends 2012 estimated that NNGOS in 2011 received 95 Million (0.7%) from the overall reported contributions to OCHA's Financial Tracking System.¹⁰ In contrast, a 2013 study by the INGO CAFOD¹¹ estimated that in 2011, USD 728 million were received by national and local NGOs, when considering funding from a limited number of humanitarian actors (international donors, international pooled funds, the three largest UN agencies, the IFRC and five UK-based INGOs). This estimate, amounting to almost 4% of the international humanitarian response in 2011,¹² would indicate that the above quoted OCHA figures may have underestimated the total amount of funding to local and national NGOs in 2011.¹³

Given the significant variations in the two estimates of local actors *overall* share of global humanitarian funding quoted above, this briefing note will examine in more detail the size of funding flows through the respective different funding channels. In particular, (I) direct funding and (II) indirect funding flows to national and local humanitarian actors will be explored. For the third funding channel unfortunately, no global level data is available.

3 Direct Funding from Pooled Funds and Major International Donors

3.1 Direct Funding Flows to Local and National NGOs

In 2012 and 2013, the international humanitarian response (including funding flows from DAC/non-DAC donors and private fund raising) was estimated to be USD 17.3 billion and USD 22 billion respectively, according to the GHA Report 2014.¹⁴ In 2012, the first-level recipients of more than 30% of this international humanitarian response were unknown.¹⁵

The GHA Report 2014 also features data on funding that is directly channeled from international donors to national and local NGOs. In the period between 2009 and 2013, these organizations received 0.2% (USD 212 million) of the international humanitarian response. This represents 1.6% of the resources given to *all* NGOs (INGOs, NNGOs and LNGOs) in that period.¹⁶ In 2013 alone, LNGOs and NNGOs in total received also 0.2% (USD 49 million) of the international humanitarian response.¹⁷ This number slightly decreased from 2012, when USD 51 million (or 0.3%) went to local and national NGOs.¹⁸ Both, in the period between 2009 and 2013, and considering 2013 only, NNGOs received about 80% of these funding flows while LNGOs only received about 20%.¹⁹

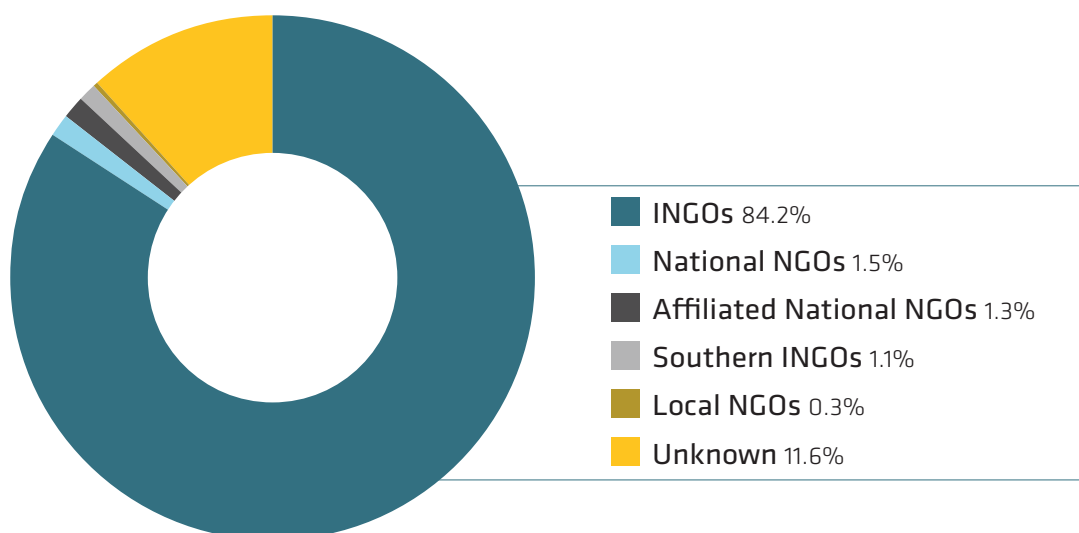


Figure 3: Direct Funding flows to NGOs in 2013. In 2013 international donors and pooled funds channeled USD 2.74 billion directly to NGOs. Out of these funding flows 84.2% were received by the INGOs, 1.5% by national NGOs, 1.3% by affiliated national NGOs, 1.1% by the southern international NGOs, 0.3% by local NGOs and 11.6% were unknown. Note that direct funding flows to national Red Cross/Crescent Societies will be discussed in figure 5. Source: GHA coded OCHA FTS data.

For 2013, the GHA data (coded from OCHA FTS sources) includes direct funding flows to LNGOs and NNGOs from the UN pooled funds:²⁰ Common Humanitarian Funds (CHF) and Emergency Response Funds (ERF), a few foundations, private individual and organizations,²¹ and nine DAC donors.

Donor [all figures in USD]	L/NNGO Funding ²²	Global Humanitarian Contribution ²³	%	# of L/NNGOs
Common Humanitarian Funds ²⁴	25,020,693	342,067,818	7.31%	48
Emergency Response Funds ²⁴	9,041,729	171,588,689	5.27%	42
United States of America	5,892,215	3,512,647,090	0.17% ²⁵	6
Private Individuals & Organ./Foundations	3,107,989	-	-	9
Unknown	2,907,785	-	-	5
Norway	1,359,349	581,847,829	0.23%	6
Luxembourg	660,801	53,015,254	1.25%	3
Czech Republic	460,009	4,440,810	10.36%	2
Switzerland	453,003	410,147,115	0.11%	3
France	202,395	79,981,836	0.25%	2

Table 1: Direct funding flows to L/NNGOs in 2013 This figure shows a complete list of donors who funded more than one L/NNGO directly - in absolute numbers and percentages of global humanitarian contribution of the respective humanitarian donor. In addition, the number of funded L/NNGOs is presented. Other DAC and non-DAC donors have not reported any funding for more than one L/NNGOs to OCHA FTS. Source: GHA coded OCHA FTS data.

In 2013, almost 70% of the total known *direct* L/NNGO funding comes from the OCHA-managed pooled funds ERFs and CHF. Direct funding flows from DAC donors to L/NNGOs appear to be almost symbolic, given the size of their global humanitarian contribution. A notable expectation among DAC donors is the Czech Republic, which spent about 10% of its global humanitarian contribution in 2013 on local and national NGOs; however, its humanitarian contribution in absolute terms is very modest.

When investigating funding flows from pooled funds, the importance of how local and national humanitarian actors are defined becomes apparent. Based on the data submitted to OCHA FTS by ERFs and CHFs, GHA's data of funding flows to local and national NGOs differs starkly from the data presented in the annual reports of these pooled funds. The differences range in a magnitude of about 100 % and are solely based on different definitions of L/NNGOs.²⁶ Figure 4 shows that in 2012 and 2013 the CHFs and ERFs' reported about twice as much funding to L/NNGOs as the GHA coded database, although their analysis is based on the same raw data submitted to OCHA FTS by the ERFs and CHF.

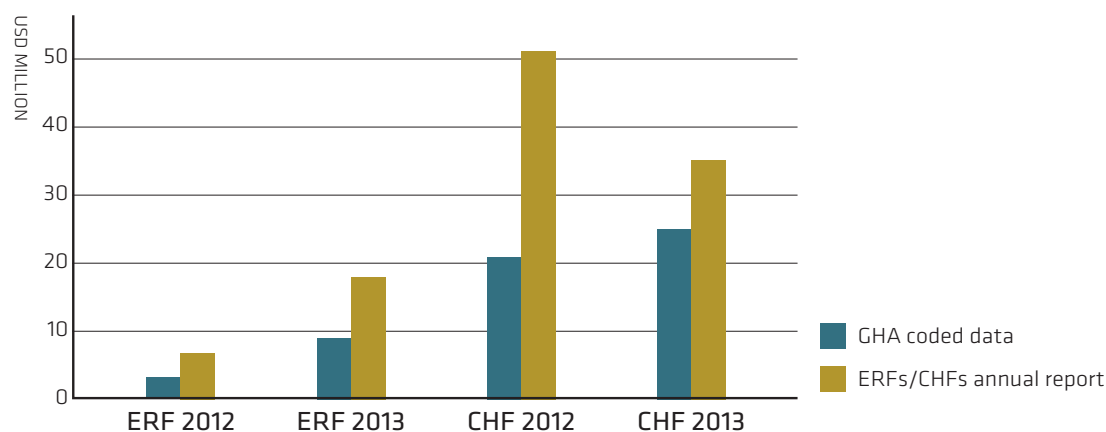


Figure 4: The importance of how local and national NGOs are defined. The funding flows by the pooled funds ERFs and CHF for 2012 and 2013 are presented. Source: GHA coded OCHA FTS data and annual reports of the CHFs and ERFs

3.2 Direct Funding Flows to National Red Cross/Crescent Societies

In addition to local and national NGOs as defined in the GHA Report 2014, another large group of national humanitarian actors, the national Red Cross/Crescent societies receive direct funding from pooled funds, and DAC/non-DAC donors. The collective first-level recipient budget of all national Red Cross/Crescent societies was USD 243.3 million in 2013 (as reported to OCHA FTS²⁷), of which USD 11.4 million (4.67%) were received directly by national societies based in countries which are non-DAC members (a category for “southern” national societies) and which acted as “national NGOs”, i.e. the funding was spent on projects within the country of the respective national Red Cross/Crescent society.²⁸

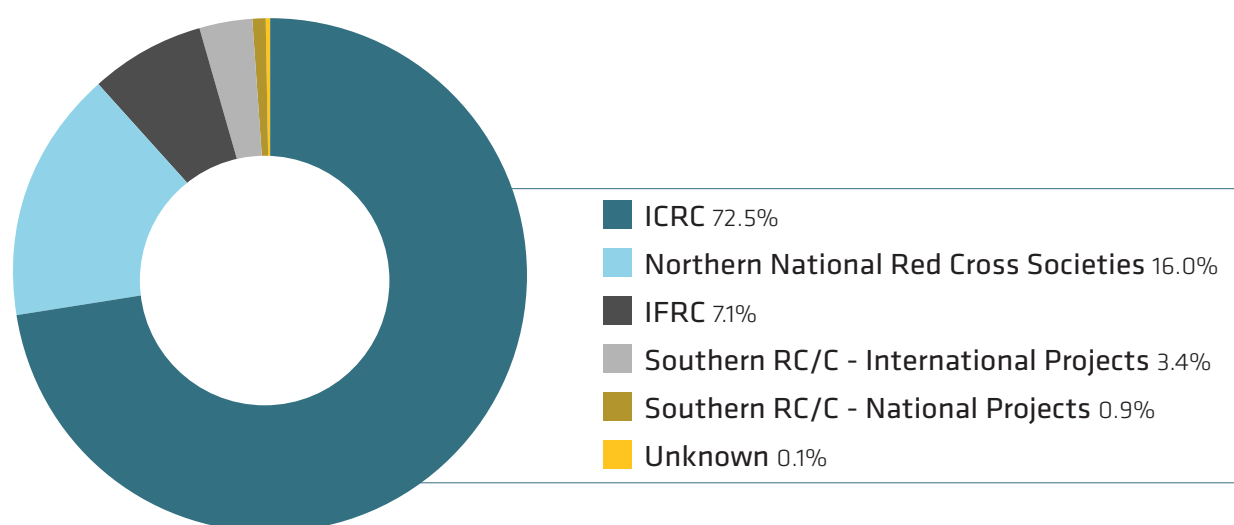


Figure 5: Direct Funding flows to Red Cross/Crescent System. In 2013 international donors and pooled funds channeled USD 1.2 billion directly to the Red Cross/Crescent System. Out of this funding 72.5% were received by the ICRC, 16.0% by national societies, which are DAC members (“northern” national societies (N)), 7.1% by the IFRC, and 4.3% by national societies, which are no DAC members (“southern” national societies). These southern members acted either similar to an international NGO by implementing projects abroad (3.4%), or worked within the country in which they are based (0.9%). Only the latter category is included in the overall sum of national and local humanitarian actors of this report. Source: OCHA FTS data²⁹

4 Indirect Funding

4.1 UN Agencies

Regarding funding flows to LNGOs and NNGOs via UN agencies, this briefing note focuses on the UN’s three largest humanitarian actors: the World Food Program, UNHCR and UNICEF. The largest multilateral first-level recipient of humanitarian funding, the World Food Program worked in 2013 with 1162 national NGOs and community based organisations,³⁰ which distributed approximately one third of the 3.2 million metric tons of food commodities in 2013, but the WFP has no data available on how much of its annual humanitarian budget is made available for national and local NGOs. The WFP suggests, however, that such data could be available after activating its new financial tracking systems later in 2015.

INGO	USD million	IATI Publisher ⁴⁰
Save the Children	No data	✓ ⁴¹
Oxfam	No data	✓ ⁴¹
Norwegian Refugee Council	8.6	✓
Catholic Relief Services	No data	✗
Action Contre la Faim	No data	✗
Médecins Sans Frontières	No data	✗
Danish Refugee Council	17.3	✗
ACT Alliance	6.7	✗
CARE International	No data ⁴²	✓ ⁴¹
Welthungerhilfe/German Agro Action	— ⁴³	✗

Table 2: Funding flows to L/NNGOs for 2013 via INGOs

UNHCR publishes figures on funding flows to local and national humanitarian actors. In 2012, USD 314.1 million or 17 % of its budget went to 603 of these organizations,³¹ - in 2013 this figure increased: USD 389 million (18.7 %) were allocated to 567 local and national humanitarian actors.³²

While UNICEF does not officially publish any data on funding flows to LNGOs and NNGOs, the agency has such data available. Upon request, UNICEF reported that in 2012, USD 63.5 million (or 7.6% of its annual budget) went towards funding 595 national and local humanitarian actors,³³ which have a partnership agreement with UNICEF. Out of this amount, USD 3.4 million went to national Red Cross/Crescent Societies. In addition to organizations with partnership contracts, UNICEF also provides funding to L/NNGOs which work under service providers contracts. However, there is no data available on funding flows to such service providers.

While the above figures demonstrate that the WFP, UNHCR and UNICEF work with a large number of local actors, the figures in themselves do not provide much information about the nature of collaboration and 'partnership' - nor do all the figures reported systematically distinguish between the cost or value of goods (for instance food, tents, education materials, WASH kits etc.) and actual monetary funding to the activities and running costs of local and national actors. Where the cost of goods and handling costs are included, this may indicate that out of an otherwise relatively high percentage of 'funding' going to L/NNGOs, a lot less ever flows to L/NNGOs in terms of actual operational funding. In fact, UN agencies have been criticized that their collaboration with local actors is "primarily contractual", and characterized by time strict bureaucratic procedures.³⁴ For instance, UNHCR does not allow overhead costs for the L/NNGOs they are working with, contrary to UNHCR's practice towards INGOs.³⁵ A similar critique has repeatedly been voiced against donors and INGOs as well.³⁶

4.2 International NGOs

For this article, ten of the largest international NGOs were asked to report on their funding flows to national and local NGOs.³⁷ The international coordination and funding mechanisms of these INGOs - or global coalitions and alliances - vary greatly and only three of the INGOs/alliances provided any data on the amount of funding they channeled to local and national NGOs.³⁸ The Danish and Norwegian Refugee Council (DRC and NRC) and the ACT Alliance.³⁹

In 2013, DRC spent USD 17.3 million on 150 different local and national NGOs which amounts to 5.6% of its annual humanitarian budget. The NRC spent USD 8.6 million on L/NNGOs which amounts to 2.66% of its annual humanitarian budget.⁴⁴ The ACT Alliance could only provide partial data on their funding flows to L/NNGOs. In total the ACT Alliance received a first-level recipient budget of about USD 100 million in 2013⁴⁵ but the alliance is only able to track the share going to L/NNGOs for USD 34.8 million of this funding. Out of this amount USD 6.7 million (19.3%) were channeled to 24 local and national NGOs.⁴⁶

4.3 Red Cross/Crescent System

4.3.1 International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

In addition to direct funding flows from DAC/non-DAC donors and pooled funds to national Red Cross/Crescent Societies, as discussed in section 3.2, there are likely funding flows within the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC), most likely from northern members to southern members, much like as within the NGO alliances. Unfortunately, the IFRC has not been able to provide figures for such possible internal funding flows. In addition, there is also the possibility that the IFRC collaborates with other local and national NGOs, but such figures are not available either.

4.3.2 International Committee of the Red Cross

The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) does not collaborate with national and local NGOs, but only with national Red Cross/Crescent societies. However, the ICRC does not have any data on funding flows to national societies.

5 Discussion of Results

Three major funding channels to local and national humanitarian actors have been identified. While, the first funding channel, direct funding to L/NNGOs from DAC/non DAC donors and pooled funds, is relatively easy to track and some global level data is available, the direct funding flow – a modest 0.2% (USD 49 million) of the international humanitarian response in 2013 – is likely to be underreported, given that in 2012 the first-level recipients of more than 30% of the total international humanitarian response were unknown.

Available data for the second funding channel, indirect (‘second level’) funding via UN agencies (outside of UN pooled funds), INGOs and the Red Cross/Crescent system remains incomplete as for instance the largest humanitarian actor, WFP, was unable to provide data on their funding flows to local and national humanitarian actors. The same was true for seven out of ten large international humanitarian NGOs asked. Still, the figures from UNHCR, UNICEF and the few INGOs who provided figures relevant to this research total some USD 512 million in 2013,⁴⁷ – indicating that the ‘second level’ funding channel is significantly larger than the ‘first level’ funding channels.

As for the third funding channel from local individual donations, this funding channel will, due to the enormous number of NNGOs and LNGOs⁴⁸ probably always remain extremely difficult to track and estimate unless local and national monitoring and transparency is improved very significantly.

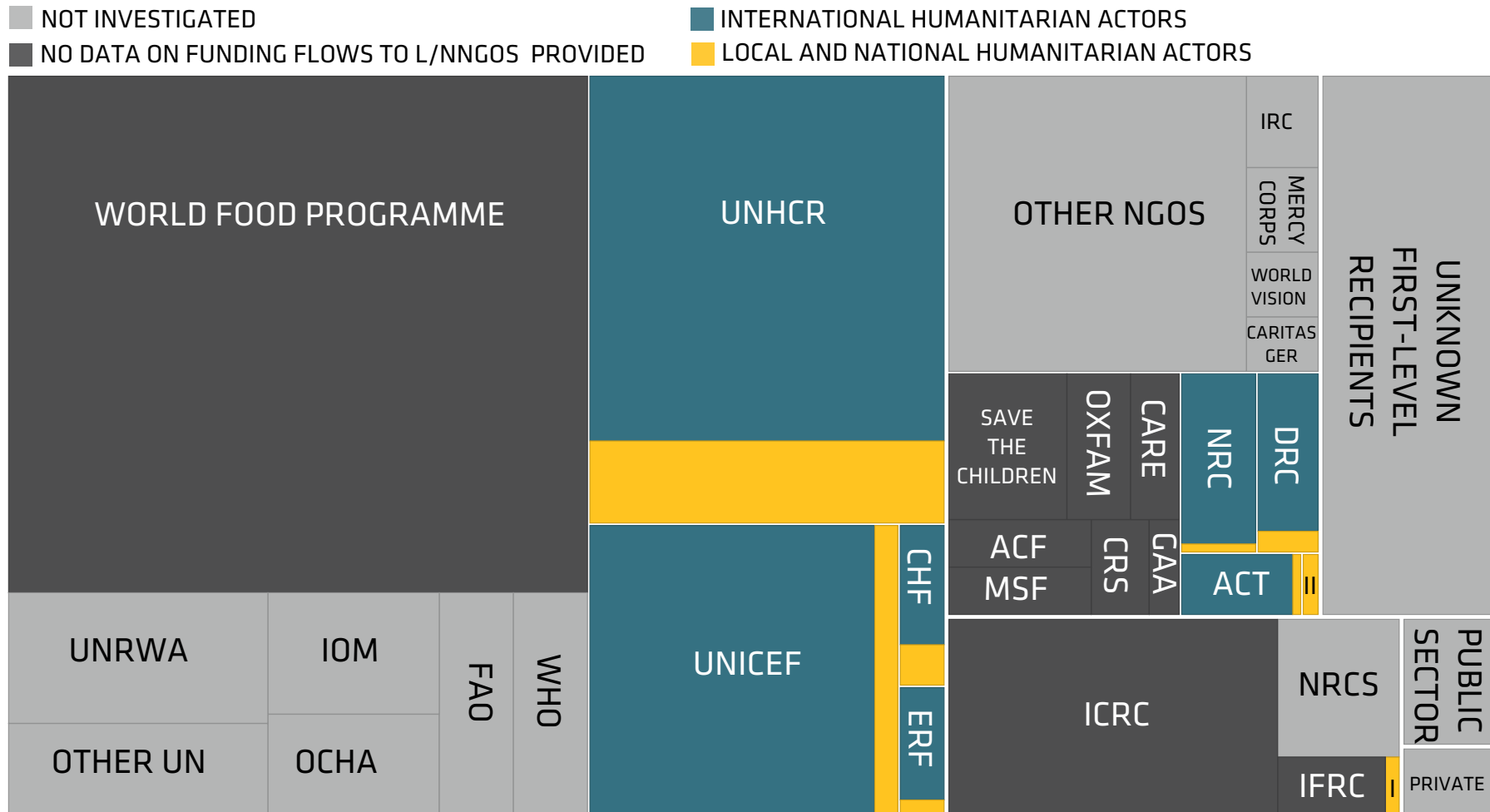


Figure 6: Available data on funding flows to local and national humanitarian actors

This figure shows the first-level recipients of the international humanitarian funding in 2013. The size of the various humanitarian actors in this graphical representation equals their annual first-level recipient humanitarian budget. UN agencies are grouped on the left, NGOs in the center with Red Cross/Crescent organisations below the NGOs. Abbreviations: I= southern national red cross/crescent organizations, II = direct funding to local and national NGOs by DAC donors and private organizations. NRCS = National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, GAA = German Agro Action/Welthungerhilfe, for all other abbreviations see Figure 1. Source: OCHA FTS, GHA 2014 report, UNICEF, DRC, NRC, ACT Alliance and UNHCR annual report.⁴⁹

As incomplete and subject to significant annual variations as these figures obviously are, they confirm what many experienced humanitarian professionals would probably already assume. While local and national humanitarian actors' overall share in the international humanitarian response remains very modest, the 'second level' funding (received by local and national humanitarian actors from or via UN agencies, ICRC/IFRC, and INGOs) are considerably higher than the 'first level' funding channel (direct from donors). Still, when considering this second funding channel, it must be kept in mind that it remains unknown how much of this funding actually was channeled to local and national humanitarian actors as actual money – and how much of it was the value of in-kind commodities (food etc.) to be distributed in specific projects and services pre-defined by a UN agency or INGO.

The results of the research into existing data on funding flows to local and national humanitarian actors are summarized in Figure 6 and 7 but, as indicated above, this only represent two out of the three funding channels available to local and national NGOs.

Besides the incomplete nature of the available information on funding flows, there is also hardly any structured and systematic information available on the nature of the LNGOs and NNGOs⁵⁰ nor on the structure and quality of the funding and collaboration 'relationship'.

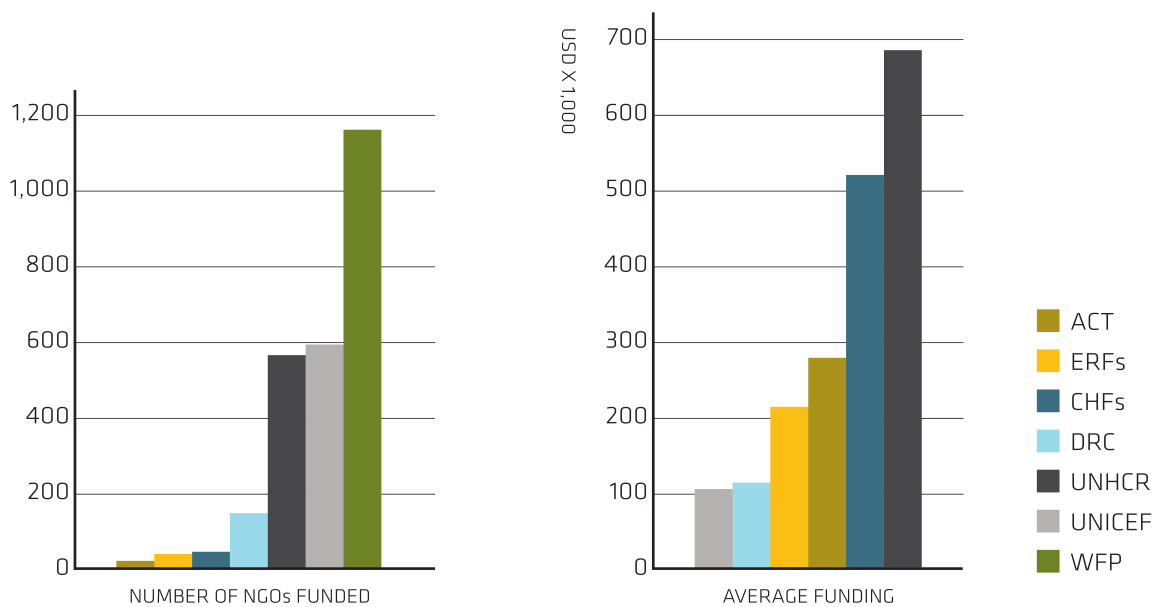


Figure 7: Number of local and national humanitarian actors funded/average funding in 2013

6 Conclusion

As documented and discussed above, funding flows to national and local organisation appear to be very modest compared to the crucial importance of local responses. However, the available data remains highly incomplete, as the level of reporting by donors, UN Agencies and INGOs is far from complete and the definitions, structures and tracking systems needed to capture the relevant data are not in place. Furthermore, existing data does not allow for a qualified and informed analysis of the nature of the local organisations in question. An analysis of the connections between funding flows and the nature and quality of the relationships between donors and implementing agencies also remains elusive given the quality of the existing data.

As indicated in the introduction, existing L2GP research into the role of local actors in seven major emergencies all confirm the crucial role played by local organisation and communities in

protection, survival and recovery. While such activities do take place in all major emergencies, few are recognized and supported by external actors. The call for increased funding for local actors, which is emerging in the dialogue leading up to the World Humanitarian Summit in 2016, therefore seems both justified and highly timely. Several NGOs and alliances are advocating for increased funding flows to local and national NGOs as for instance: a minimum of 15% of donors, UN agencies and INGOs' humanitarian funding should be directed to NNGOs,⁵¹ or 20% of all global funding to go to local organisations by 2020⁵² or country level pool funds (CHF/ERF) should allocate 50% of their funds to national NGOs.⁵³ At the same time other actors are exploring the relevance of establishing benchmarks for how much donors and international actors should invest in capacity building for local actors.

Regardless of the specific direction the discussion before, during and after the World Humanitarian Summit in 2016 will take, some initial steps are required to improve the actual knowledge of both the volume of current funding flows as well as the nature and the quality of the 'partnerships' and contractual relationships. The current lack of relevant data unfortunately serves to obscure the realities of a global humanitarian system, which, if judged by the incomplete data available, are heavily biased towards the larger international actors. Given the importance of local actors in humanitarian crises throughout the world, this finding could indicate a significant failure in transparency and accountability for the global humanitarian system as a whole.

Only if the data collection on both volume and nature of funding flows are significantly improved, a truly informed decision-making on actual and desired levels of funding to local and national actors as well as the ability to track, monitor and debate current and future trends and developments will be possible. Overcoming the current lack of transparency and the gaps in even the most basic knowledge on this issue will require improvements in several ways. The reporting of actual funding flows by donors, agencies, INGOs and L/NNGOs needs to be significantly improved as do the capacity to track, monitor and analyze the data within the relevant institutions and organisations (for instance OCHA FTS, OECD DAC and GHA). A further development and universal application of and adherence to a common set of definitions of key terms will also be required.

In conclusion, and while supporting the direction of the above-mentioned calls for increased funding and capacity building for local actors, the findings in this briefing note suggest the following recommendations for consideration during the dialogue leading to and at the World Humanitarian Summit 2016:

- All humanitarian actors (donors, international and national/local agencies and NGOs) should make detailed data about funding flows available in a form, which is transparent and universally recognizable.⁵⁴
- A sufficiently nuanced and universally agreed classification system for types of L/NNGOs and the nature of the funding collaboration ('partnership') is required in order to improve the ability to analyze more qualitative aspects of future trends.⁵⁵
- Relevant data collecting and processing entities such as DAC, OCHA FTS, GHA and IATI may, in cooperation with relevant local and national authorities and NGO coordination forums, lead in developing and agreeing on universally replicable reporting criteria, classifications and tracking modalities.⁵⁶

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Authors' bio

Christian Els currently works as a researcher for the L2GP initiative. He is also conducting an independent research project on the emergence of business concepts in the humanitarian community, focusing on the history of reputational risk. Christian Els holds a master's degree in physics and during the last few years he worked on social studies of science research projects in the US and Europe.

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About Local to Global Protection

L2GP is an initiative, which works to promote effective, efficient and sustainable responses and solutions to humanitarian and protection crises with an explicit focus on enabling locally-led responses. L2GP was initiated by a group of organizations within the ACT Alliance in cooperation with other organizations and individuals where the studies have taken place. The initiative is co-hosted by DanChurchAid and Church of Sweden and has among other been financially supported by Church of Sweden, DanChurchAid, Sida (Sweden) and Danida (Denmark).

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Notes

1. For more information on Local to Global Protection see <http://www.local2global.info>
2. See for example: The World Humanitarian Summit: Talking shop or game changer? Louise Redvers <http://www.irinnews.org/report/101157/the-world-humanitarian-summit-talking-shop-or-game-changer>, World Humanitarian Summit, Regional Consultation Middle East and North Africa, Co-chairs summary, March 2015 p4 <http://www.worldhumanitariansummit.org/file/483421/view/526756>

3. This figure is based on OCHA-FTS 2013 data https://fts.unocha.org/reports/daily/ocha_R31_Y2013.PDF downloaded on May 19, 2015. The OCHA FTS list contains entries for "Various Recipients (details not yet provided)", "NGOs (details not yet provided)" etc. for which the first-level recipient has not been provided to OCHA-FTS. All these entries have been removed for the calculations on which this figure is based and subtracted from the grant total of the OCHA data. Consequently there were 753 organizations left in the data set, which received first-level recipient funding. The cumulative percentages for the humanitarian actors were calculated based on these 753 organizations (100%=753 organizations). The cumulative percentages for the received funding were calculated based on the grand total as reported by OCHA FTS from which the unknown first-level recipients were subtracted. Note that funding flows reported to OCHA FTS are considerably smaller than the "international humanitarian response" as reported by the GHA 2014 report. For the calculation of the largest national NGO, GHA coded OCHA FTS data was used
4. The Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development's (OECD) Development Assistance Committee (DAC) has 29 members and includes the EU and other European countries, the United States, Canada, Japan, New Zealand and Australia.
5. Global Humanitarian Assistance Report 2014 (GHA), Development Initiatives, p55 <http://www.globalhumanitarianassistance.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/09/GHA-Report-2014-inter\active.pdf>
6. Local NGO funding has been on L2GP's agenda before but from a more regional and qualitative perspective. Myanmar/Burma: Local agencies and Global donors, Ashley South, L2GP, March 2012, http://www.local2global.info/wp-content/uploads/L2G_funding_Myanmar_final.pdf
7. UNHCR and the annual reports of the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) managed pooled funds ERF and CHF, do neither distinguish between national NGOs and national Red Cross/Crescent Societies nor between national and local NGOs. UNICEF's data differentiates between national NGOs and national Red Cross/Crescent Societies. UK based Development Initiatives' Global Humanitarian Assistant Report (GHA) 2014 as well as data provided by GHA distinguishes between three different national humanitarian actors: affiliated national, national and local NGOs (The Global Humanitarian Assistance Report distinguishes between international, southern international, affiliated national, national and local NGOs. GHA Report 2014, p119). The data by Danish Refugee Council (DRC) and Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC) presented in this report includes only funding flows to national and local NGOs, but not national Red Cross/Crescent Societies. The ACT Alliance only provided information on funding flows to southern members of their alliance, which can be categorized as national and/or local NGOs. In addition to the distinctions of all these organisations and institutions, this report also differentiates between national Red Cross/Crescent Societies, which are based in DAC members countries: ("northern") and in non-DAC members countries ("southern").
8. See for example: International and local/diaspora actors in the Syria response, Eva Svoboda and Sara Pantuliano, Humanitarian Policy Group, Overseas Development Institute, March 2015, <http://www.odi.org/sites/odi.org.uk/files/odi-assets/publications-opinion-files/9523.pdf>
9. If data for either 2012 or 2013 is unavailable the missing data is linearly extrapolated (either backwards or forwards).
10. World Humanitarian Data and Trends 2012, OCHA, p26 <https://docs.unocha.org/sites/dms/Documents/World%20Humanitarian%20Data%20and%20Trends%202012%20Web.pdf> Note that the annual budget tracked by OCHA FTS (13 billion) that was used for calculating the mentioned percentage, differs from GHA's calculation of the overall international humanitarian response, as GHA's calculation is based on additional and alternative sources such as DAC data.
11. Funding at the sharp end, Lydia Poole, CAFOD, July 2013 [http://www.cafod.org.uk/content/download/11549/90759/file/CAFOD%20national%20ngo%20financing%20study%20July%202013%20\(3\).pdf](http://www.cafod.org.uk/content/download/11549/90759/file/CAFOD%20national%20ngo%20financing%20study%20July%202013%20(3).pdf)
12. The overall international humanitarian response for 2011 was 18.6 billion USD according to the GHA Report 2014 p15
13. Note that the briefing note by CAFOD provided some estimates of funding flows to L/NNGOs for humanitarian actors for which such data was unavailable. The present briefing note, however, only presents figures reported by the various humanitarian organisations and GHA, DAC and OCHA FTS, but does not use estimates for unknown funding flows, thus highlighting both the known data but also major gaps in data on funding flows to L/NNGOs.
14. GHA Report 2014, p4
15. GHA Report 2014, p57
16. GHA Report 2014, p64
17. GHA Report 2014, p55
18. Based on GHA Report 2014, p15 and GHA coded OCHA FTS NGO data
19. GHA coded OCHA FTS NGO data, according to different types of NGOs as in GHA Report 2014 p119. LNGOs received USD million 43 between 2009 and 2013 and USD million 9 in 2013.
20. Funding from pooled funds flows mainly through two of the three major UN led pooled funds: the Emergency Response Fund (ERF) and the Common Humanitarian Fund (CHF). The country based pooled funds, CHFs, focus on large and persistent emergencies, while ERFs funding allocations are smaller and also focus on unexpected funding gaps. (What are OCHA-managed pooled funds? OCHA, 2014, http://reliefweb.int/sites/reliefweb.int/files/resources/pooled_fund_infographic_all_en.pdf). Note that in 2015 OCHA unified these two pooled funds under a single policy

and operational framework. The third, the Central Emergency Fund (CERF), only funds UN agencies and the IOM directly. While NGOs can receive funding as second-level recipients (i.e. via a CERF-funded UN agency), data is not available to show how much of this goes to NNGOs or LNGOs. Due to the structure of the current humanitarian financial tracking system, funding flows via UN pooled funds, ERF, CHF and CERF are considered as direct funding channels

21. Note that private individuals and organizations/foundations are not consistently reporting to the Financial Tracking Service. Thus the data provided about them is likely to be underreported.

22. USD committed/contributed

23. As reported to OCHA FTS. Accessed April 26, 2015 http://fts.unocha.org/pageloader.aspx?page=search-reporting_display&CQ=cq260415180323fPwMbsWraf

24. Note that this percentage is considerably smaller than reported by the respective ERFs and CHFs annual reports (in 2012 and 2013, 13 ERFs and five CHFs were active) , due to more comprehensive categorization of the terms local and national NGOs, as discussed in footnote 7, and the fact that not all of the ERFs and CHFs budget for 2013 was spent in that year. (ERFs allocated 61% of their available funding, CHFs 78%) <http://www.unocha.org/what-we-do/humanitarian-financing/common-humanitarian-funds-chfs> <http://www.unocha.org/what-we-do/humanitarian-financing/emergency-response-funds-erf>

25. Note that USAID aims to provide 30 % of its mission funds directly to local institutions (includes local governments and organizations, faith-based organizations and diaspora organizations as well as small businesses and covers both humanitarian assistance as well as development). USAID Forward Progress Report 2013, p14 <http://www.usaid.gov/sites/default/files/documents/1868/2013-usaid-forward-report.pdf>

26. Based on ERF and CHF 2012 and 2013 annual reports, which distinguish only between international NGOs and national NGOs. As no annual report for the CHF in Somalia and the ERFs in DRC and Syria were available for 2013, funding flows to L/NNGOs for these funds are linearly extrapolated from 2012.

27. Note that not all funding to national red cross/crescent societies is reported to OCHA FTS

28. Based on OCHA FTS data

29. Note that not all funding of the Red Cross/Crescent System is reported to OCHA FTS, accessed 3/5/2015

30. WFP Collaboration with Civil Society Partners, 2013 Facts & Figures, <http://documents.wfp.org/stellent/groups/public/documents/newsroom/wfp265744.pdf>

31. UNHCR Global Report 2012 p. 76 <http://www.unhcr.org/51b1d61eb.html>

32. UNHCR Global Report 2013 p. 84 <http://www.unhcr.org/539809d916.html>

33. UNICEF defines 'national NGOs' as those operating in only one country

34. CAFOD p27

35. Ibid p 28

36. Irin News: Survival of the biggest – side-lining of local NGOs in disasters, London, April, 2014. <http://www.irinnews.org/report/99963/survival-of-the-biggest-side-lining-of-local-ngos-in-disasters>

37. The selection of INGOs presented in Table 2 follows from OCHA FTS list of humanitarian first-level recipients "Global humanitarian funding in 2012: Totals per appealing agency", which ranks humanitarian actors based on the size of their "first-level" recipient budget by 2012. The first ten INGOs were extracted from this document. This as well as any other known ranking of INGOs according to size is debatable and subject to – among other - significant annual variations. But for the purpose of getting an indication of the magnitude of "second level" funding flows from INGOs to national and local NGOs, a selection based on OCHA FTS data was found to suffice. Note also, that the ICRC and IFRC are treated separately in a subsequent section. http://fts.unocha.org/reports/daily/ocha_R31_Y2012__1501060301.pdf.

38. Note that this survey was only carried out at international headquarters level, individual country offices were not contacted

39. While all INGOs were asked about funding flows to L/NNGOs according to the GHA definition, none of the INGOs which provided data, actually employs GHA's NGO classification in their financial tracking system.

40. The organization is a publisher on the International Aid Transparency Initiative's website (IATI), thereby indicating their commitment to funding transparency and making available funding information

41. At least one country office is IATI publisher

42. CARE International does not collect this data at headquarter level

43. Only data on the overall funding flows to partners (national and international) was provided

44. For NRC annual budget see: http://www.nrc.no/arch/_img/9185470.pdf

45. According to what was reported to OCHA FTS, http://fts.unocha.org/reports/daily/ocha_R31_Y2013__1504300301.pdf accessed 4/30/2015

46. This figure does not cover the entire funding flows to L/NNGOs by all ACT Alliance members, as ACT's headquarters only tracks funding flows ACT Alliance appeals, but do not track 'bilateral' funding flows from individual ACT members to L/NNGOs outside designated ACT appeals. Nor does the USD 6.7 million include subsequent 'secondary level' funding from 'northern' ACT members to L/NNGOs at the level of actual implementation of projects.
47. The numbers provided by UNICEF for 2012 were extrapolated to 2013.
48. Out of the 4400 NGOs included in "The State of the Humanitarian System" database, at least 64% are national or local NGOs (The State of the Humanitarian System 2012 Edition, Taylor, G. et al, ALNAP 2012 <http://www.alnap.org/resource/6565>) "only 93 national NGOs and 22 local NGOs were recorded as having received funding in the UN OCHA FTS, compared with 294 international NGOs" (GHA Report 2014 p64)
49. The size of various first-level recipient are based on OCHA FTS data. Information about 'second level' funding flows to local and national humanitarian actors are based on the GHA 2014 report, UNHCR's annual report and data provided by UNICEF, DRC, NRC and the ACT Alliance. Funding flows from the pooled funds ERFs and CHF were added to the ERF and CHF data as reported to OCHA FTS. The OCHA FTS' categories: NGOs, Private Orgs. Foundations, Red Cross / Red Crescent and UN Agencies are presented above. The data for the two categories "Government" and "Inter-governmental orgs" as categorized by OCHA FTS' was merged in a single category "Public sector". All unknown first-level recipients as reported to OCHA FTS were merged in a single category. Note that humanitarian funding as reported to OCHA FTS is smaller than the overall international humanitarian response as reported by the GHA 2014 report.
50. Which may be described as ranging from genuinely locally owned and led NGOs to so called Governmental NGOs (GONGOs) or Donor Owned NGOs (DONGOs). For a discussion of these terms see Weinberg, 2001 Background Paper on GONGO's and QUANGOs and Wild NGOs <https://www.globalpolicy.org/component/content/article/177-un/31600-background-paper-on-congos-and-quangos-and-wild-ngos.html>
51. Making the World Humanitarian Summit worth the climb, Christian Aid, December 2014, p4 <https://www.worldhumanitariansummit.org/file/471236/download/513450>
52. World Humanitarian Summit: Putting people at the centre, ACT Alliance Humanitarian Policy and Practice Advisory Group (HPPG) Position Paper for the World Humanitarian Summit. January 2015, p2 https://icvanetwork.org/system/files/versions/J3734-ACT%20Alliance%20position%20paper%20for%20World%20Humanitarian%20Summit_AW.pdf, Partnership: From Principles to Practice, Considering partnerships in preparation for the World Humanitarian Summit, March 2015 p8 https://icvanetwork.org/system/files/versions/150325ICVA_AnnualConferenceReport.pdf
53. Working Group discussion at ALNAP conference in Berlin March 3, 2015
54. Such data collection will have to accommodate security concerns and other sensitivities, which may be relevant in specific situations/countries.
55. Note that GHA's current classification system does not include a category for diaspora groups, which could qualify as INGOs. But at the same time such groups often act very similar to local and national NGOs, see also reference in footnote 8
56. The ultimate vision in tracking funding flows seems to be providing data all the way from the donor to the "end user" of humanitarian assistance (GHA Report 2014 p112). As mentioned in footnote 54, such publicly available information might constitute a considerable security threat for some L/NNGOs, especially those operating in areas of armed conflicts. In these security sensitive cases, donors should withhold detailed information about specific (named) L/NNGOs and only report overall funding flows for each NGO category.