

# THE CENTRE FOR HUMANITARIAN DATA

**The United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) Centre for Humanitarian Data** is focused on increasing the use and impact of data in humanitarian response.

Our vision is to create a future where all people involved in a humanitarian response can access the data they need, when and how they need it, to make informed and responsible decisions.

The Centre is focused on four areas:

- 1. Data services:** We manage OCHA's Humanitarian Data Exchange platform and promote data standards such as the Humanitarian Exchange Language and the International Aid Transparency Initiative.
- 2. Data policy:** We have developed a working draft of the OCHA Data Responsibility Guidelines and support OCHA staff and partners in managing sensitive data and developing data sharing agreements.
- 3. Data literacy:** We offer in-person and remote training opportunities to improve data expertise, and we manage a Data Fellows Programme each summer in The Hague.
- 4. Network engagement:** We host workshops and events and provide thought leadership on how the humanitarian sector can use data more effectively.

“The Centre will help humanitarians to make informed and responsible decisions to meet people’s most urgent needs.”

UN Secretary-General António Guterres

The main outcomes we want to see include:

- **Speed of data:** We want to speed-up the flow of data from collection to use. We want to shift from using outdated information to understand humanitarian crises to having data that reflects a current day, real-time understanding of a crisis.
- **Connections in the network:** We want to increase the number of partners who are connected to the Centre and each other through a shared data infrastructure and shared data goals.
- **Increased use:** We want to make sure data is used better and more often by people who are making critical decisions in a humanitarian response.

“We have an enormous opportunity, but also an enormous challenge. The opportunity lies in using new technologies and data sources to inform our decisions and improve the lives of affected people. But the challenge lies in obtaining and sharing data from hundreds of sources amid the chaos of a humanitarian emergency. It is for these reasons that OCHA established the Centre for Humanitarian Data.”

OCHA Assistant Secretary-General,  
Ursula Mueller

## Locations

The Centre is based in The Hague Humanity Hub, an open, shared space for organizations working on social good initiatives. The Centre has a small number of staff in The Hague and is further supported by geographically distributed teams in Dakar, Jakarta, Nairobi, Geneva and New York, among other locations.

**We are here to help!** Let us know how we can support you with your data work. We offer services (all for free!) ranging from cleaning your data to assessing disclosure risk or creating custom data visualizations and data stories.

## Join the community

- Become part of the HDX community by sharing your organization’s data ([data.humdata.org](https://data.humdata.org)).
- Start using the HXL data standard to save time with data processing and to create interoperable data in the humanitarian sector.
- Tell us about your work and we will share it with our network, helping everyone to become more aware of each other’s efforts.

## Contact us

Visit our website at [centre.humdata.org](https://centre.humdata.org)  
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