



Humanitarian
Leadership
Academy

HLA Webinar Series

From innovation to impact: How will digital humanitarian learning evolve?

Welcome to this session!

Introduce yourself in the chat



Session format

- Welcome and introductions
- Housekeeping
- Audience poll
- Presentations
- Audience Q&A

Speakers



Mazen Alhousseiny

Capacity Strengthening
Advisor
HelpAge International



Emily Marr

Director - Education & Science
Governance & Integrity
International



David Peters

Capacity Strengthening Advisor
Start Network



James Maltby

Head of Global
Engagement, Platforms &
Communications
HLA [co-host]



Fay Loosley

Sales & Account Lead
HLA
[co-host]

Housekeeping

- **Session is being recorded:** Link & slide deck will be emailed
- **Zoom captions** are enabled including translations
- Use **chat** to share comments & reflections
- Submit questions via the **Zoom Q&A** function
- **Kind reminder:** Keep questions and comments respectful and on-topic
- **HPass badge:** You will receive an email next week

Audience poll



Scale learning. Strengthen capability. Amplify impact

Together, HLA, Kaya and our Learning Design team help people and organisations build practical skills, expand access to learning and turn knowledge into action.



HLA

INSPIRE & AMPLIFY

We connect sector expertise, partnerships and learning to strengthen capability and accelerate locally led humanitarian action.



Kaya

REACH & SHARE

A global platform helping learning reach more people through flexible access across devices, languages and low-bandwidth settings.



**Learning
Design**

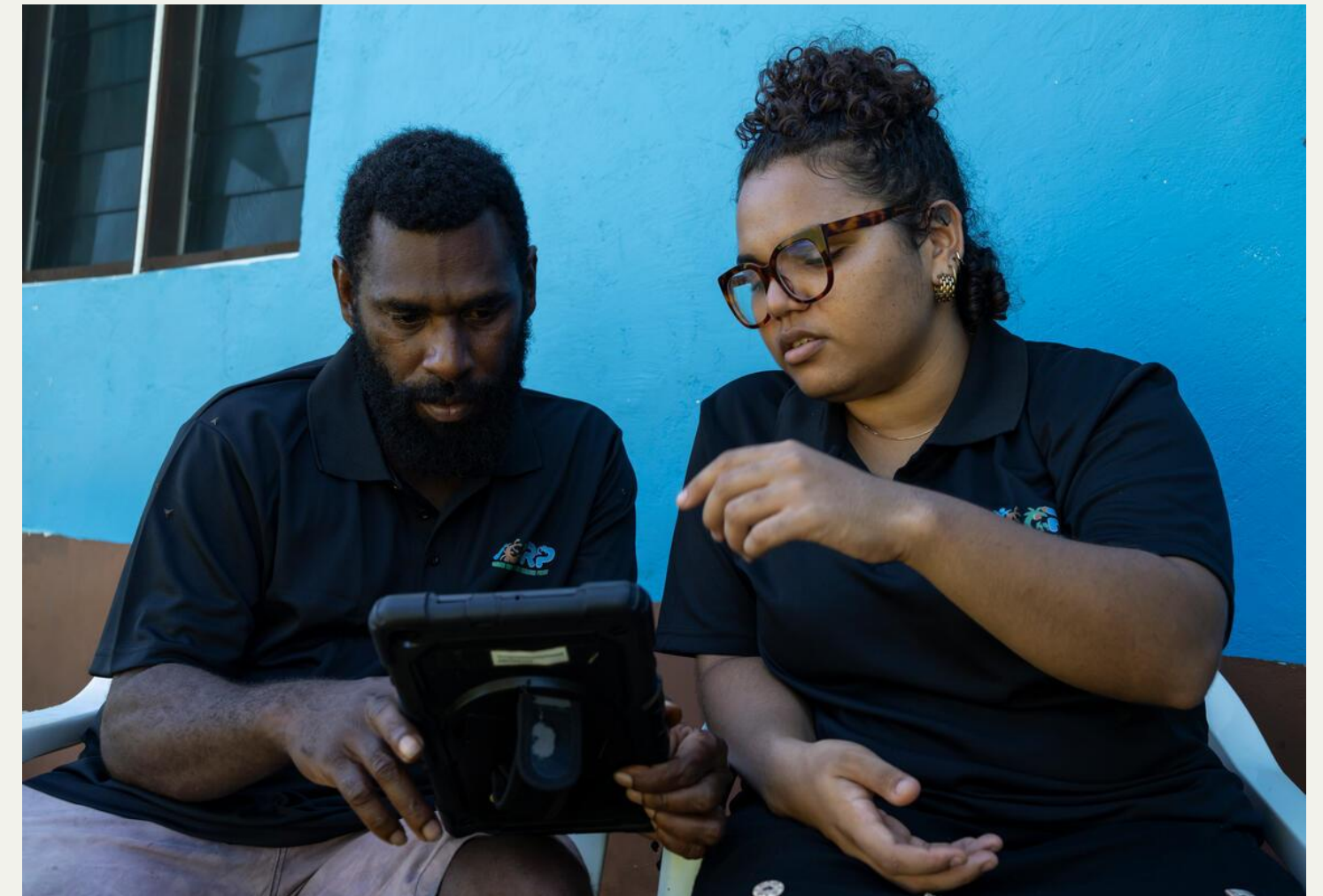
CREATE & ACTIVATE

Transforming expertise and static resources into engaging, learner-centred experiences that build capability and support action.



Digital Learning at the HLA

We believe the effective and equitable use of digital learning can help us enhance and extend the reach of humanitarian training, enabling us to support more communities worldwide.





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Mazen Alhousseiny

Capacity Strengthening Advisor
HelpAge International

HelpAge

International





Digital Learning in capacity sharing

8th Oct 2026

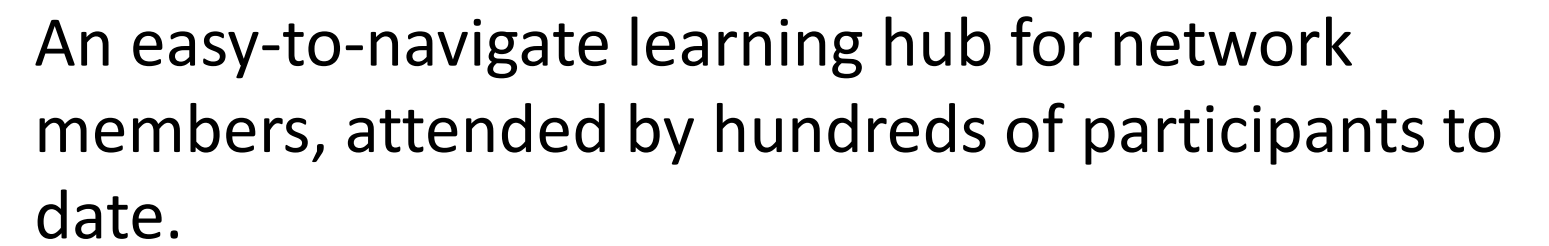
Capacity sharing

is the process of recognising, connecting, exchanging, strengthening, and sustaining the knowledge, expertise, relationships, resources, and other capacities that people and organisations need to achieve shared goals.

Individual capacity sharing

A colorful illustration of a diverse group of people walking together in a city. From left to right: an elderly woman in a yellow shirt and red pants is seated in a black wheelchair, holding a brown bag; a young man in a red and white striped vest and brown pants is walking; a young boy in a yellow shirt and brown pants is walking; a woman in a white dress and red headscarf is walking; a young girl in a blue shirt and brown pants is walking; an elderly woman in a grey coat and white headscarf is walking with a cane; and an elderly man in a blue jacket and orange scarf is walking with a cane. They are walking on a sidewalk with a cityscape in the background.

Select your avatar below to begin.



Live online courses

115 sessions, around **1,200** participants between Jan 2024 & Dec 2025:

Cash

Voice/ OPA

Resource
mobilisation

Project
Management

Climate
change
adaptation

HIS

Organisational
change

Technical

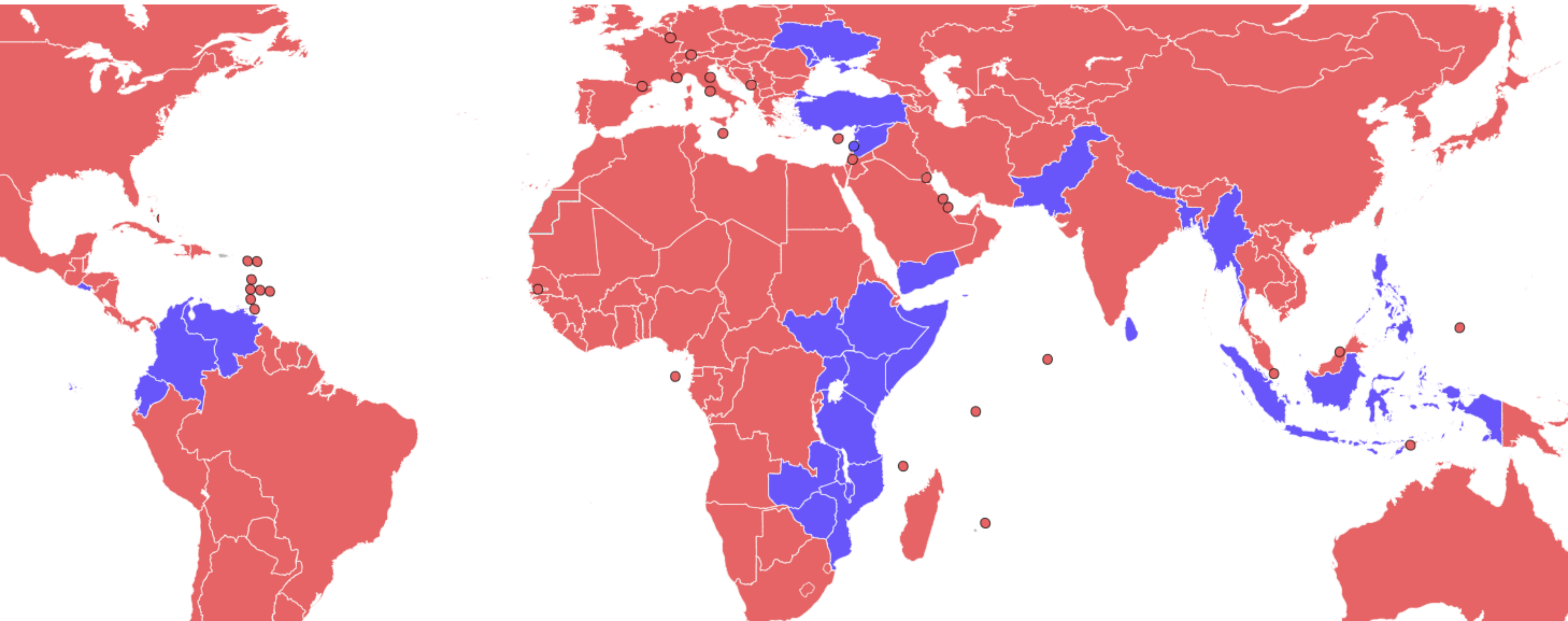
Regional workshops

Advanced level of knowledge on the same topics covered through the learning hub and online sessions



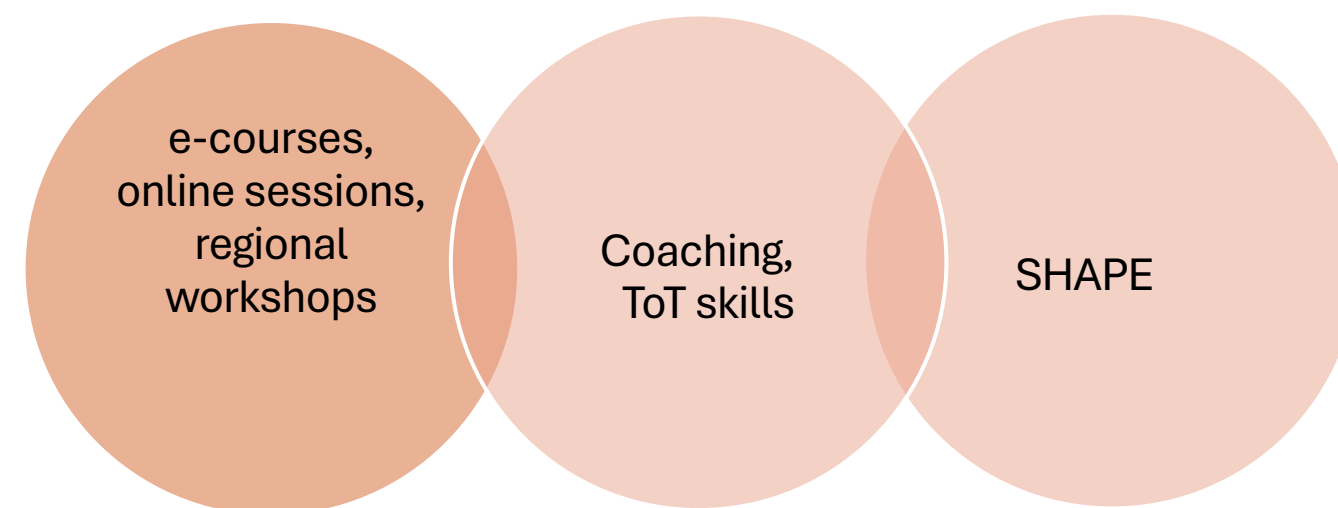
Organisational Capacity Sharing

Organisational development grants



Key evaluation findings

Coherence & Relevance



Coherence

HCS activities were well aligned with strategic objectives and programme components complemented each other effectively within a consistent yet flexible methodology.

Relevance

HCS addressed priority gaps to a high or very high extent; the demand-driven SHAPE ensured activities matched organisational needs.

Impact on Partners

93%

observed
organisational change

77%

improved inclusion
of older people

74%

operations moderately/
fundamentally altered

Governance

Clarified roles, transparent decision-making, revised constitutions

Systems

HR, procurement, finance, MEAL
manuals updated

Inclusion

Age-inclusive strategies, PSEA,
safeguarding

External

UNHCR/WFP partnerships, Start
Fund, cluster participation

Stronger coordination & Advocacy

CONVITE

Venezuela

Led creation of Age & Inclusion Working Group; produced guide for inclusive humanitarian action adopted at country level

NANZ

Zimbabwe

Contributed substantially to national aging policy revision; recognised by government as core stakeholder

ALSARE

El Salvador

Introduced age inclusion as key topic in intergovernmental coordination dialogues

LMMPO / POMAGAEM

Yemen / Ukraine

First-time active participation in cluster meetings as a result of HCS

FAYA

Nepal

Invited to government-led local disaster management committee with inclusion lens

Financial accessibility

NANZ

Zimbabwe

Recently we were able to raise an alert and respond to a drought, we accessed fund through the START fund.

MANEPO

Malawi

We had resources from WFP, we are the only national NGO funded by WFP, and we attribute it to SHAPE because now we were more strategic in developing the proposal and we shared with WPF our policies, strategic plan which were well aligned with their policies, as they speak about inclusive humanitarian actions

STOP

Zambia

Recognised by UNICEF as key partner for outreach to marginalised populations

Impact on Older people

Policy & Practice Changes

- ✓ Adopted Washington Group Questions in needs assessments
- ✓ Age-disaggregated data integrated into MEAL systems
- ✓ Inclusive emergency response manuals developed/revised
- ✓ Safeguarding policies & codes of conduct updated
- ✓ Dedicated inclusion officers/specialists hired with HCS resources
- ✓ Household-level distribution replacing public points
- ✓ Older persons included in community outreach teams

Since HCS, have you noticed any of the following in your work?

Answers	Percentage
Older people consulted more during assessments	83.33%
Better use of age-disaggregated data	79.17%
Adjustments made to improve access or dignity	72.92%
Better feedback or complaint mechanisms for older people	68.75%
Not applicable	4.17%

Key figures

How did strengthened capacity affect your ability to respond to change or shocks timely and adequately?

More than **95% answered “improved” and “greatly improved”**. While less than 5% answered no change or others

Receiving adequate support to apply what was learned (follow-up, guidance, accompaniment):

75% answered agree and strongly agree. While 23% answered neutral and the rest disagree.

Overall, how would you rate the quality of delivery (facilitation, materials, methods)?

91.67% answered good and excellent, while 8.33% answered fair

How well did the HCS interventions align with local needs and strategic priorities in your context?

87.5% answered well and very well aligned. While 10.41% for partially aligned and 2.08% for other



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David Peters

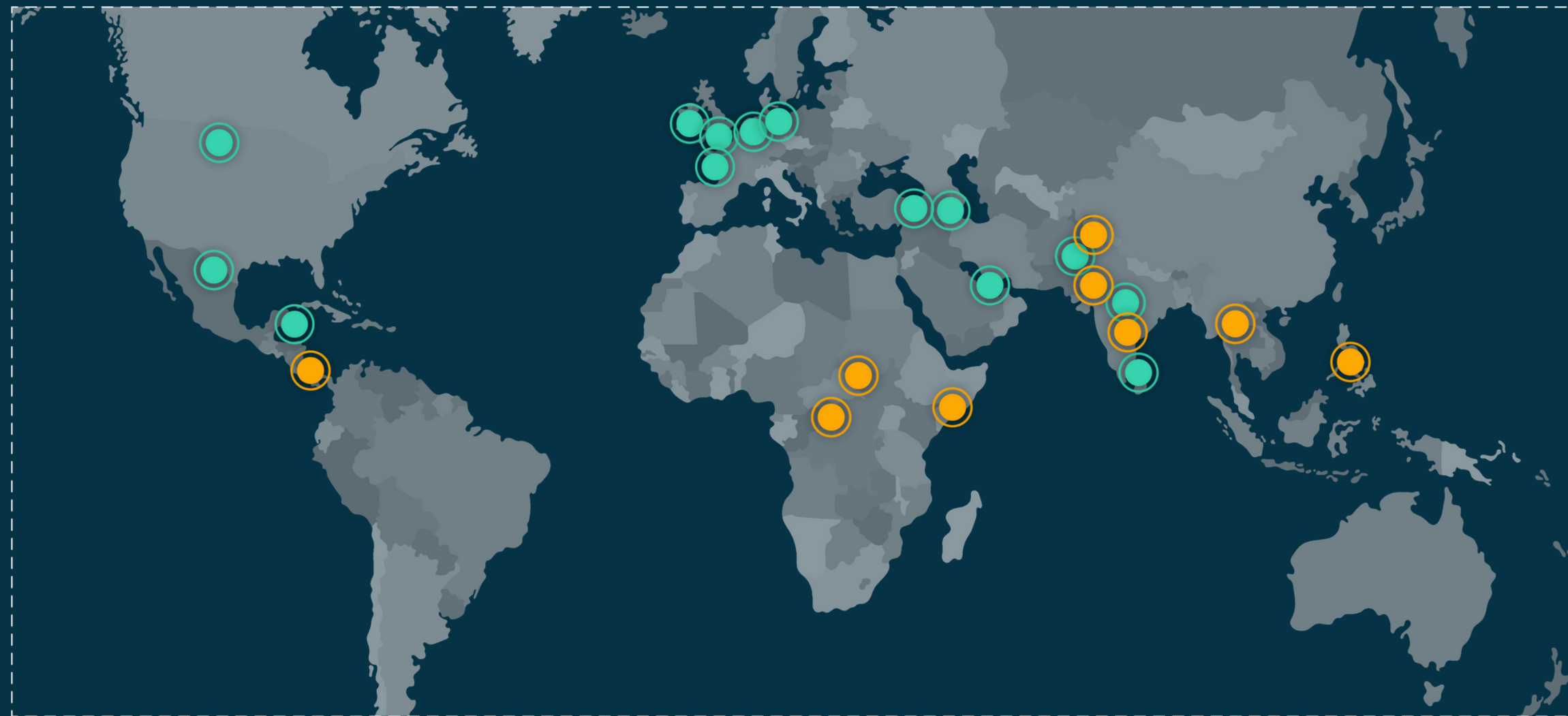
Capacity Strengthening Advisor
Start Network

START NETWORK



START NETWORK

WE ARE A GLOBAL NETWORK OF NGOS



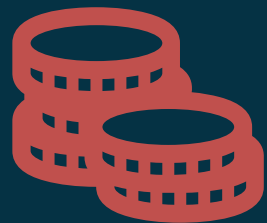
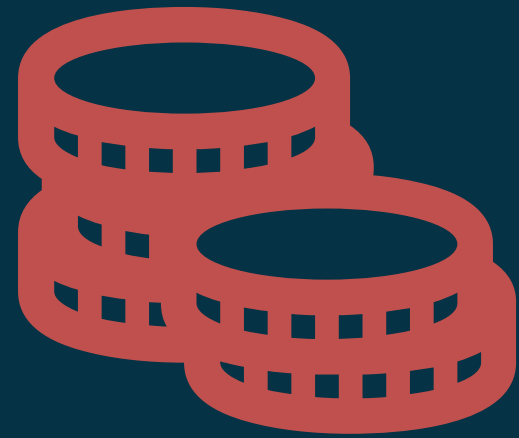
160

160 NATIONAL & INTERNATIONAL NGOs

10

10 LOCALLY-LED HUMANITARIAN HUBS

Digital Learning in 2026



Zoom Poll 1

Start Network E-Learning



Start Fund Essentials



Disaster Risk Financing



Financiación del riesgo de
desastres

[Start Fund Essentials](#)

[Disaster Risk Financing](#)

Principles & Process

Introduction to Disaster Risk Financing

100% COMPLETE

What's In This Course For Me? ✓

Traditional Humanitarian Response ✓

Learning Resources on DRF and Anticipatory Action ✓

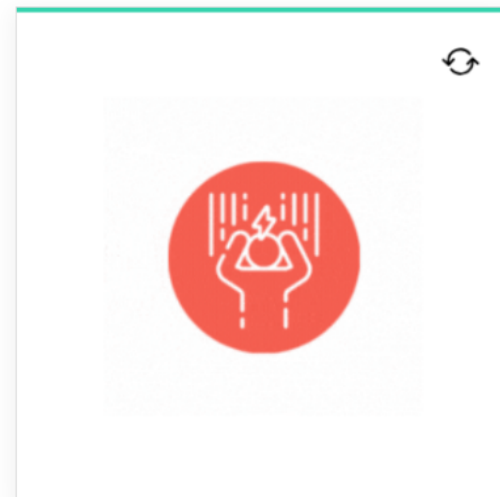
X-Land and Disaster Risk Finance ✓

Introduction to the Building Blocks ✓



Traditionally, humanitarian responses have been reactive

After a disaster occurs, NGOs responded to the needs with a reactive humanitarian intervention. The system has been reliant on media coverage and political interest to initiate and mobilise funding and act.



Module 4: Contingency Planning

100% COMPLETE

What's In This Course For Me? ✓

Anticipatory Action System ✓

Developing the Contingency Plan ✓

Impact and Vulnerability Analysis in X-Land ✓

Past Flood Impacts in X-Land ✓



Step 3

Government Involvement



Active government participation ensures that contingency plans are aligned with national policies, legal frameworks, and response systems.

Simulations

Module 2: Start Fund:
Don't Wait...
Anticipate

29% COMPLETE

START FUND PROCESS

Start Fund Anticipatory Window

Raising an Anticipation Alert

X-Land Scenario

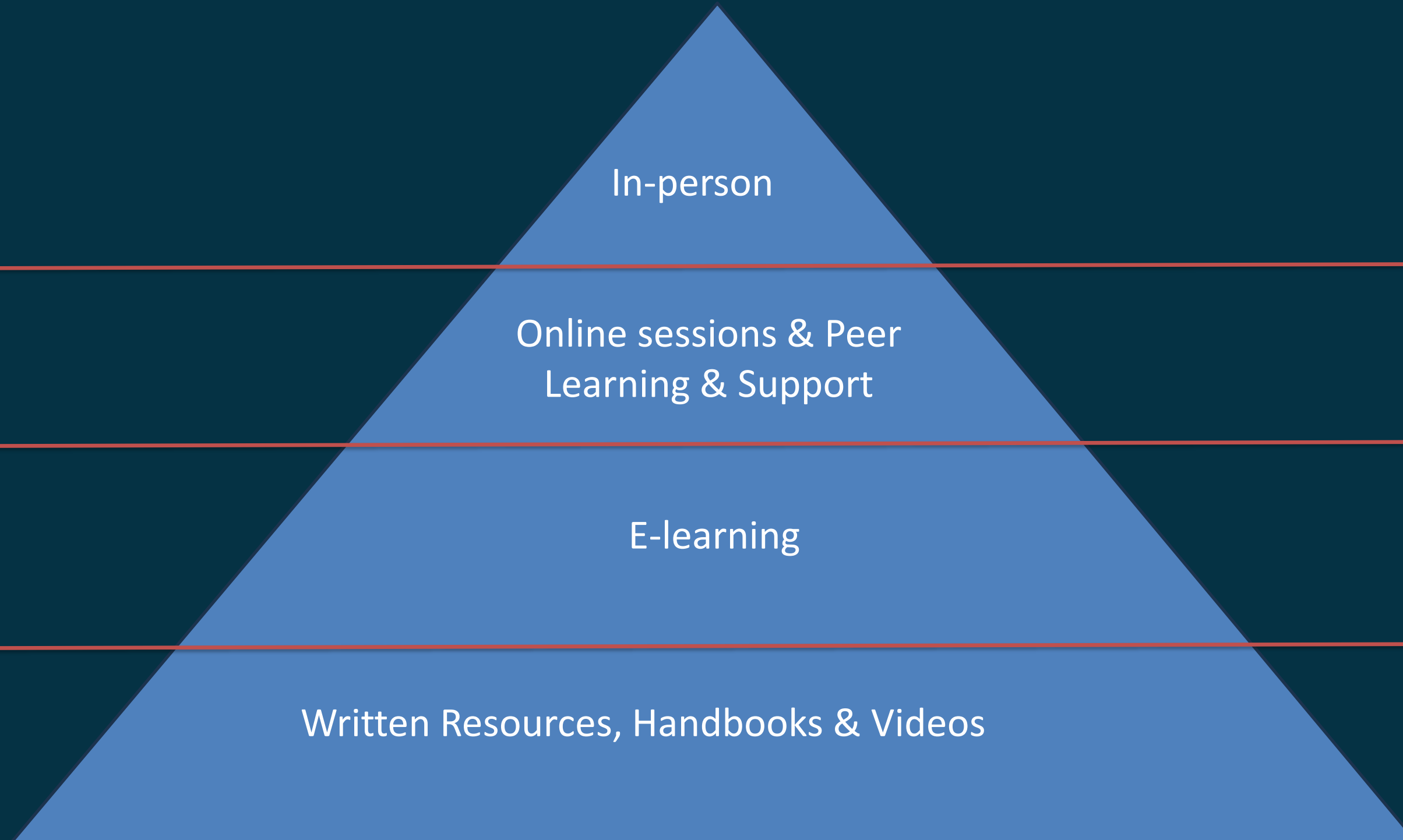
In Module 1 we visited X-Land and looked back at some past crises to consider what was most appropriate for Start Fund Response Alerts.

EXIT COURSE



CRISIS FINANCING Training of Trainers

START
NETWORK



A NEW ERA OF HUMANITARIAN ACTION

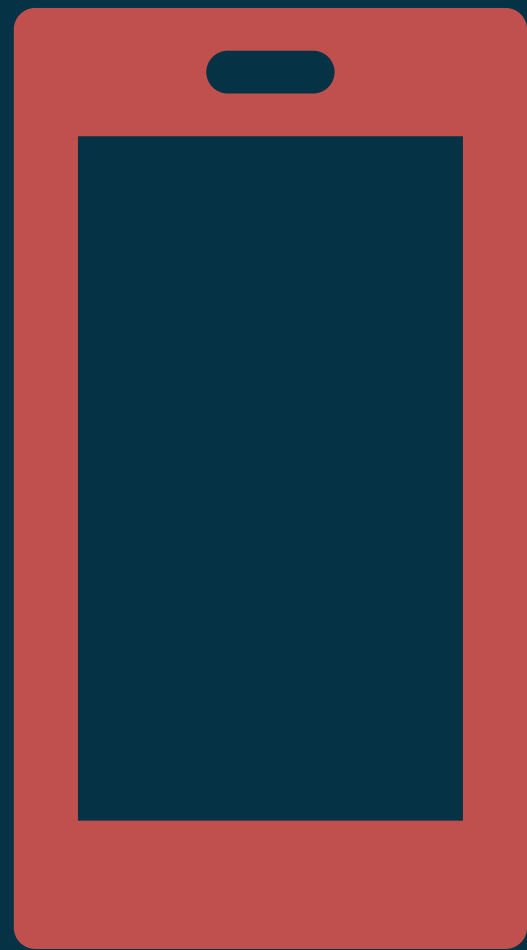


A NEW ERA OF HUMANITARIAN ACTION

Locally Led Action

Global Start Fund Data	2025	2026 (to mid-Sept)
Direct Funding to National NGOs	£2.1m	£2.1m
% of total funding to National NGOs	9%	18%
% of projects implemented by National NGOs	34%	46%

Looking Forward



Zoom Poll 2





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Emily Marr

Director - Education & Science Unit
G&I International



GOVERNANCE & INTEGRITY **INTERNATIONAL**

GOVERNANCE & INTEGRITY INTERNATIONAL

3 SHIFTS THAT WILL SHAPE THE FUTURE OF DIGITAL HUMANITARIAN LEARNING

01

PROFESSIONALISA-TION OF THE
HUMANITARIAN FIELD

02

INTEGRITY AS
ORGANISATIONAL
RESPONSIBILITY (NOT
A PERSONALITY
TRAIT)

03

A DIFFERENT
UNDERSTANDING OF
KNOWLEDGE

WHEN WE BRING IN DIGITAL TECHNOLOGIES...

WE HAVE ENDLESS OPPORTUNITY FOR NEW
SOLUTIONS

BUT...

WE ENCOUNTER SOME NEW CHALLENGES TOO



3 KEY CHALLENGES

1. COMMUNITY MATTERS

2. AI...
COMPLICATES THINGS

3. DEPTH OF THINKING AND LEARNING ABOUT
COMPLEX CONCEPTS REQUIRES INTENSE
ENGAGEMENT



Panel discussion / Audience Q&A



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David Peters
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James Maltby
Head of Global
Engagement, Platforms &
Communications
HLA [co-host]



Fay Loosley
Sales & Account Lead
HLA
[co-host]

Submit any questions via the Zoom Q&A function

Thank you for joining us!

- **Feedback:** Please complete the short survey on Zoom
- **Recording:** This will be available on the HLA YouTube channel soon and emailed to you
- **HPass digital badge:** This will be emailed to you next week



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NETHOPE GLOBAL SUMMIT 2026

Meet the HLA at the
NetHope Global Summit 2026

26-29 October, Amsterdam
3 November, Virtual Summit

nethopeglobalsummit.org

Summit sessions



27 October 2026 (In-person, Amsterdam)

Using AI to Connect Humanitarian Talent Where It's Needed Most

Speakers: James Maltby (HLA) and Lauren Stovall (AWS)

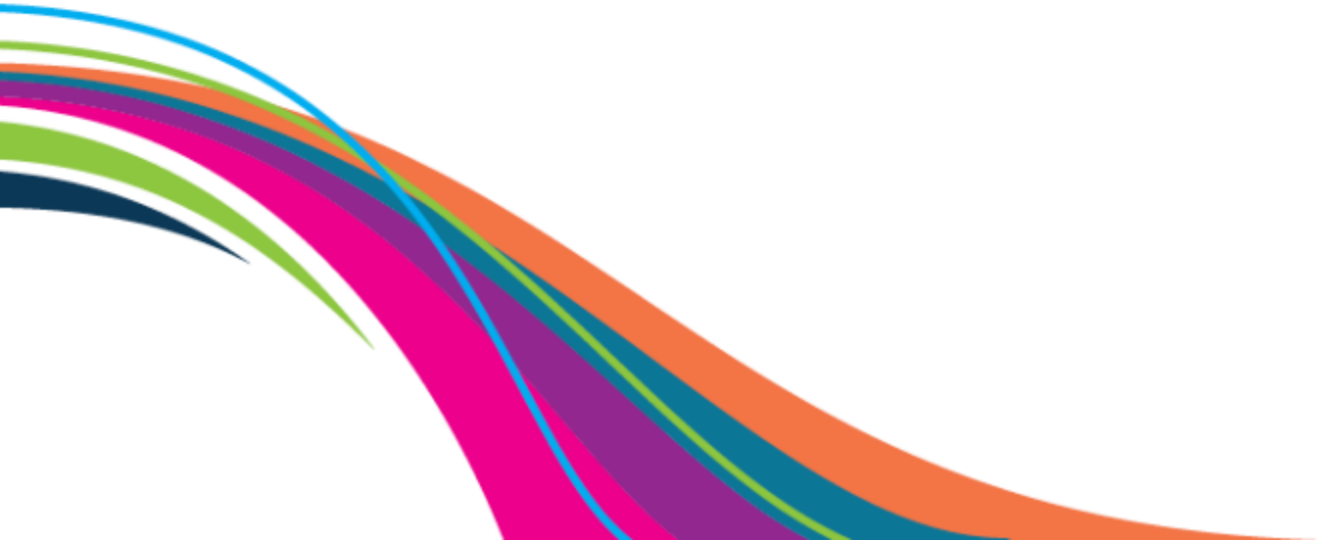
3 November 2026 (Virtual Summit - free for nonprofits)

Moving Humanitarian AI Out of the Shadows: Building a Culture Where AI Learning Happens in the Open

Speakers: Ka Man Parkinson (HLA) and Madigan Johnson (Data Friendly Space)

Meet us at our exhibition stand

Whether you're an existing partner, a new organisation exploring digital learning, or simply curious about the work we do, we'd love to meet you. Visit our stand to learn more about Kaya, digital learning design, humanitarian capacity strengthening and partnership opportunities - or just come and say hello!



NETHOPE
GLOBAL
SUMMIT
2026