



## Key Messages

- On World Humanitarian Day, **we call for a more humane world** and seek to inspire action from people all over the world to bring this about.
- Today, tens of millions of people in countries across the world struggle for daily survival as they face the impact of natural disasters, conflict, displacement, hunger or disease. In a more humane world, every woman, man and child would receive the assistance and protection they need.
- We recognize that each one of us can **make a difference** in the lives of others; and each one of us has the power to **inspire our fellow human beings** to take action to create a more humane world.
- We **celebrate the spirit that inspires humanitarian work** around the world and **pay tribute to all the heroic aid workers** who have given their lives helping the world's most vulnerable people.
- But the world is becoming an ever more volatile place and the **scale of humanitarian crises** is more acute than ever before - humanitarian needs are outstripping our capacity to respond.
- Every day brings reminders of the **urgent need to realize a greater sense of responsibility** to each other and develop a **greater sense of global citizenship** where we act to support those most in need.
- In an age that is more **digitally connected** than ever before, we can seize a new opportunity to act together as global citizens for a more humane world.
- This year's campaign aims to inspire people all around the world to get involved in creating a **more humane world** by sharing the stories of the people affected by humanitarian crises, sharing their dignity, strength and humanity to inspire us all.
- Using the hashtag **#ShareHumanity**, WHD 2015 will launch a global digital campaign in which celebrities, influential individuals and the public donate their social media feeds for 24 hours in order to reach out globally with the real human stories that are behind today's headlines.
- This WHD campaign aims to create a mass global display of public support for humanitarian action and leverage that support for action at the first-ever **World Humanitarian Summit** in Istanbul in May 2016.
- The WHS is a **call to action** by UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon to **reduce human loss and suffering from crises**. The Summit will be a **global rallying cry for humanity** where global leaders from government, business and communities will commit to global action to save more lives and search for solutions to the enormous humanitarian challenges of today and the next generation.



## Fact Sheet

- Year on year, humanitarian needs are outstripping our capacity and the resources made available to respond to the tens of millions of people in countries around the world facing life-threatening humanitarian crises.
- This year the United Nations and its partners are aiming to reach **78.9 million** of the world's most vulnerable people across **37 countries** with life-saving humanitarian assistance. That is nearly double the number from just ten years ago.
- Around the world, **nearly 60 million** people are now forcibly displaced. This is a crisis of forced migration on a scale that we have not seen in the post-World War era.
- We are now routinely called on to meet humanitarian needs in a world in which civilians living in densely populated towns and cities are in the direct line of fire; in which for millions, chronic drought is the norm, not the exception; in which terrorist networks operate effectively across continents; and in which a displaced person will remain, on average, displaced for **17 years**.
- More than 840 million people - around one in eight people around the world – are chronically undernourished. As it stands, **20 million people** are at risk of hunger in the Sahel alone.
- Natural disasters are occurring with greater frequency and intensity around the world, often recurring before communities and countries have time to rebuild. By 2050, we estimate that up to **one billion** people around the world could be displaced by the impact of climate change.
- Global economic losses from natural disasters are now around **\$300 billion** annually, and are projected to increase dramatically. Humanitarian crises halt or even reverse development progress, meaning that millions of the world's most vulnerable people get left behind.
- More than a billion people – one sixth of the world's population – live in poverty on **less than \$1.25 a day**.
- Halfway through the year, global humanitarian action is just **26 per cent funded** – the lowest figure ever. We have only received a total of \$4.8 billion out of the \$18.8 billion we requested for this year's global humanitarian appeal, leaving a **shortfall of US \$14 billion**.
- Many people languish for years in protracted, often man-made humanitarian crises. The number of highly violent political conflicts has increased an average of one per year since 2003, reaching a total of **46 conflicts in 2014**.
- In **Yemen**, some twenty million people - **80 per cent** of the population - are now in need of humanitarian aid; in **Syria**, **12.2 million** people need urgent assistance; in **South Sudan**, **4.6 million** people face severe food insecurity.
- Aid workers carry out life-saving activities around the world, often in dangerous and difficult circumstances. In **2014, 329 aid workers were victims of attacks**. While this is roughly 30 per cent less than last year's all-time high, the number of incidents remains alarmingly high. The countries with the most attacks on aid workers in 2014 took place in Afghanistan, Syria, South Sudan, Central African Republic and Pakistan.

