

Center for Disaster Philanthropy

The when, where and how of informed disaster giving

LOCAL HUMANITARIAN LEADERSHIP PHILANTHROPIC TOOLKIT | RESOURCES

SECTION IV – MORE EXTENSIVE STUDY: Books and research studies on localization and effective partnership models.

Resource	Description	Tips for the Reader
<p><u>Views from the Ground: Perspectives on Localization in the Horn of Africa</u> Publication Type: Research Study Publication Date: October 2019 Authors: Kimberly Howe, Jairo Munive, Katja Rosenstock</p>	<p>“As local as possible, as international as necessary” has become the slogan of one of the latest trends in humanitarianism—localization. While there are no internationally agreed upon definitions of localization, it generally refers to putting local actors at the center of the humanitarian system. This study interrogates the assumptions that underpin a localized response and identifies factors that enable and hinder local actors in providing a high-quality, principled and effective response in three countries in the Horn of Africa: Kenya, Somalia/Somaliland and South Sudan.</p>	<p>Most relevant sections:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Executive Summary (for bird’s eye view of the findings) - Under Findings – See sections on: - Capacities as conceived by the local organizations - Costs - Donor and INGO practices - Alternative funding mechanisms
<p><u>Understanding Capacity and Complementarity in Humanitarian Response</u> Publication Type: Research Study Publication Date: October 2019 Author: Veronique Barbelet</p>	<p>Challenges to a more local humanitarian action include two central issues: capacity building through more direct and better-quality funding, and complementarity or the rebalancing of power relations in the humanitarian sector. This research project explores these two questions in the localization debate.</p>	<p>Most relevant sections:</p> <p>1.2 Executive Summary</p> <p>3.5 The Role of Donors in Supporting Complementarity</p> <p>4.1 Factors that Impact on Complementarity</p> <p>4.2 Rethinking Capacity: Ways Forward and Innovative Approaches</p> <p>4.3. Supporting Complementarity: Ways Forward and Innovative Approaches</p> <p>Conclusions and Recommendations</p>

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<p><u>People-Driven Response: Power and Participation in Humanitarian Action</u> Publication Type: Report with Advocacy Call Publication Date: September 2019 Authors: Jeremy Konyndyk and Rose Worden, Center for Global Development</p>	<p>The humanitarian system has struggled to practice the commitment that aid should center on the people it serves. Corresponding reform efforts have failed to systemically broaden accountability to and participation of aid recipients in response efforts. This paper proposes a set of mutually reinforcing recommendations centered around three imperatives: 1) enshrining the influence of aid recipients at all levels of decision-making, 2) developing independent channels for soliciting the priorities and perspectives of crisis-affected people and 3) institutionalizing a set of enabling changes to humanitarian operational and personnel practices.</p>	<p>Listen to a discussion of these topics: Power, Money and Influence: Tackling the Imbalances at the Heart of Humanitarian Response recorded on Sept 23, 2019.</p>
<p><u>ALNAP 2018 State of Humanitarian System Report (SOHS) Emergency Capacity Building Network</u> (Resources archived and hosted by ALNAP) Publication Type: Videos Publication Date: 2018 Author: ALNAP</p>	<p>Videos feature authors speaking about:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Localization and SOHS findings - Migration, security and the humanitarian principles - Keynote SOHS findings by ALNAP's head John Mitchel (21 mins.) 	<p>The Executive Summary can be uploaded separately.</p> <p>More SOHS videos can be found here.</p>
<p><u>Localising Aid: Can Using Local Actors Strengthen Them?</u> Publication Type: Working Paper Publication Date: 2012 Authors: Jonathan Glennie, et. al. /ODI.</p>	<p>Tentatively proposes a new formulation: 'localizing aid,' meaning channeling aid to recipient-country entities including public (ministries, parliament, accountability bodies and local government) or private (civil society organizations, media, NGOs and the for-profit sector).</p>	<p>Executive Summary outlines the issues and critiques along with the authors' proposed re-thinking of the problem.</p>
<p><u>Patronage or Partnership: Local Capacity Building in Humanitarian Crises</u> Publication Type: Book Publication Date: 2001 Authors: Ian Smillie/Humanitarianism and War Project</p>	<p>From the author: Examines this dilemma from various local perspectives, through... case studies from Bosnia, Guatemala, Haiti, Mozambique, Sierra Leone and Sri Lanka.</p>	<p>This text provides case studies with calls for evidence-based arguments for localization.</p>

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<p><u>Time to Listen: Hearing People on the Receiving End of International Aid</u> Publication Type: Book Publication Date: 2012 Authors: Mary Anderson, Dayna Brown and Isabella Jean/CDA Collaborative</p>	<p>Reports the “cumulative evidence of five years...from people living in societies that are recipients of international aid” from teams that recorded conversations with 6,000 people across 20 countries.</p>	<p>In contrast to author and researchers reporting on aid recipients, this text records the reflections of the recipients themselves.</p>
<p><u>Emergency Gap: The Challenges of Localised Humanitarian Aid in Armed Conflict.</u> Publication Type: Reflection Essay Publication Date: November 2016 Authors: Ed Schenkenberg/Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF)</p>	<p>Analyzes the role of national and local actors in humanitarian action based on MSF’s experiences in areas within conflict-affected countries.</p>	<p>Highlights the constraints and challenges that confront these actors when delivering humanitarian assistance, especially in situations of internal armed conflict; contends these limitations have been largely ignored by localization discussions.</p>
<p><u>All Eyes Are on Local Actors: COVID-19 and Local Humanitarian Action</u> Publication Type: Briefing papers from Overseas Development Institute (ODI) Publication Date: July 2020 Authors: Veronique Barbelet, John Bryan and Barnaby Willitts-King</p>	<p>The pandemic could usher in more local forms of humanitarian action, and greater complementarity between local and international actors. There is anecdotal evidence of change in discourse, commitments and practice at the global and country levels.</p>	<p>Key Findings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Major obstacles to fast-tracking the move to a more local humanitarian system persist. They include the inability of large organizations to shift to partnership approaches in the midst of the crisis, coupled with funding trends that consolidate rather than shift existing power or structures. • For meaningful, lasting change to happen, there must be a deliberate decision to take action, confront the inequalities that have relegated local responders to the margins, and embrace the opportunities of the reform agenda.

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<p><u>Localization Across Contexts: Lessons Learned from Four Case Studies</u> Publication Type: Brief of four research reports from Feinstein International Center, Tufts University Publication Date: July 2020 Authors: Sabina Robillard, Kimberly Howe and Katja Rosenstock</p>	<p>Done in collaboration with Save the Children Denmark, these case studies in Indonesia (Sulawesi) and the Horn of Africa (Kenya, Somalia, South Sudan) are summarized in this briefing paper. Hindering as well as enabling factors are outlined.</p>	<p>Highlights:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussions on localization and local humanitarian leadership are context specific. • Common themes include the need for longer-term and more flexible funding. • Building relationships and trust with local partners is key. • Local and national actors should invest in networks that can facilitate advocacy, donor engagement and collaboration in the field.
<p><u>Case Study: Local Humanitarian Leadership in El Salvador</u> Publication Type: Research case study Publication Date: Sept. 25, 2020 Author: Oxfam</p>	<p>This case study recounts the progress in building capacity in El Salvador’s local and national organizations since Hurricane Mitch in 1998.</p>	<p>Important example of the use of “outcome harvesting” as a method of evaluation and accompanying recommendations based on the research. Outcome harvesting is a participatory technique that enables participants to identify the scope of the main outcomes—key positive or negative events—that occurred over a specific period (in this case, the 20 years since Hurricane Mitch).</p>
<p><u>If not now, when? Keeping promises to older people affected by humanitarian crises</u> Publication Type: Research report Publication Date: 2020 Author: HelpAge International</p>	<p>The report looks at the extent to which older people’s rights are being upheld in emergencies and their needs met, ending in 2019.</p>	<p>Based on interview with 8,883 people aged 50 to 80 affected by natural disasters, conflict or socioeconomic crises in 11 countries in Africa, Asia, Latin America and the Middle East.</p>
<p><u>Localisation is here to stay: Lessons from Kenya</u> Publication Type: Report Publication Date: March 2021 Author: Development Initiatives, Martha Getachew Bekele, Lead Analyst</p>	<p>Twenty-one local humanitarian Kenyan actors and ten INGOs were interviewed and participated in workshops for this report.</p>	<p>Funding, capacity building and equitable partnerships were deemed most critical to local actors.</p>

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<p><u>Interrogating the evidence base on humanitarian localization: a literature study</u></p> <p>Publication Type: Literature review Publication Date: June 2021 Authors: Barbelet and Davies</p>	<p>This report presents the findings of a review of localization literature commissioned by the evaluation department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Netherlands.</p>	<p>Based on study the report makes five recommendations for the Netherlands and other donors.</p>
<p><u>Time to Decolonize Aid: Insights and lessons from a global consultation</u></p> <p>Publication Type: Report Publication Date: 2021 Authors: Peace Direct, Adeso, Alliance for Peacebuilding, Women of Color Advancing Peace, Security and Conflict Transformation</p>	<p>The result of a three-day online consultation with 158 activists, decision-makers, academics, journalists and practitioners across the globe exchanging insights and local experiences on the current power dynamics and imbalances that exist within the humanitarian, development and peacebuilding sectors.</p>	<p>Includes case studies and recommendations for change. Western-derived theories of change, proposals that are divorced from local needs, and capacity building — which presupposes a lack of local capacity — all come under fire.</p>
<p><u>Localisation or deglobalization? East Asia and the dismantling of liberal humanitarianism</u></p> <p>Publication Type: Research report Publication Date: 2021 Author: Oscar A. Gomez</p>	<p>This paper reviews the history of humanitarian action in East Asia as a case of norm circulation, and how the region’s agency was essential during the Cold War. In the past two decades, increased national ownership of crisis response and rejection of unnecessary support is pushing traditional humanitarian actors to rethink practices.</p>	<p>The report highlights the tension between much-needed humanitarian relief delivery change and ever-present challenges in a specific region.</p>
<p><u>Anchored in Local Reality: Case Studies on Local Humanitarian Action from Haiti, Colombia and Iraq</u></p> <p>Publication Type: Research report Publication Date: March 2020 Authors: Farfan, Gingerich, Grisgraber, Jean, Joseph, Maxwell, Mejia, Robillard</p>	<p>Deep insight into fundamental questions of the localization discussion in three different contexts: Haiti, Colombia and Iraq.</p>	<p>Case studies.</p>

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<p><u>The Grand Bargain at five years: an independent review</u></p> <p>Publication Type: Research report Publication Date: June 2021 Authors: Metcalfe-Hough, Fenton, Willitts-King, Spencer for ODI</p>	<p>This annual review analyzes both the progress made and the challenges faced during 2020, alongside longer-term outcomes achieved.</p>	<p>Includes an executive summary and an infographic.</p>
<p><u>Local Humanitarian Leadership: The View from Local Actors</u></p> <p>Publication Type: Research report Publication Date: June 2021 Contributors: Felizco and Manlutac for Oxfam</p>	<p>This study synthesizes Oxfam’s experience, practice and learning from its local humanitarian leadership approach by analyzing the power relationship between Oxfam in the Philippines and its local partners. The study first describes the meaning of the term LHL and then assesses lessons through its strategic - partnership model.</p>	<p>Another in a series of publications devoted to Oxfam’s enactment of practices that are aligned with the aims of the localization movement.</p>
<p><u>How is the humanitarian system adapting to support local humanitarian action in the COVID-19 context?</u></p> <p>Publication Type: Research report Publication Date: July 2021 Authors: Barbelet, Bryant and Spencer for ODI</p>	<p>This study aimed to identify what changes toward a more local aid model were happening in the context of COVID-19 and why or why not, using a diary method for 32 humanitarian practitioners and policy makers.</p>	<p>Draws on crowdsourced data from HPG’s COVID-19 mapping tool.</p>
<p><u>Disparities in Funding for African NGOs: Unlocking philanthropy for African NGOs as a pathway to greater impact</u></p> <p>Publication Type: Research report Publication Date: July 2021 Authors: Layode, Schwier, Hayi-Charters, Holland, and Andrian</p>	<p>A collaborative report from African Philanthropy Forum and The Bridgespan Group to provide data and essential insights for the many donors looking to make a difference in Africa.</p>	<p>Looks at the funding gap from a variety of perspectives and makes the case for funding African NGOs.</p>