ANNUAL REPORT 2019-2020
VOICES AND ECHOES
HUMANITARIAN AID INTERNATIONAL

From Chair of HAI Board

NM Prusty

Humanitarian Aid International, within such a short span of time, is leaving significant footprints on the global humanitarian sector, leveraging lessons and evidences from empowered local actions to inform, influence and inspire global humanitarian thinking, architecture and approach.

The world is witnessing cycles of changes that are unprecedented – In social, economic and political arena. New normal, notions and structures are replacing older ones. Prolonged periods of uncertainties are forcing governments, businesses and people to continuously reinvent and alter processes and products. Exposure to risks through climate, health pandemics, economic shocks and political unrests are exacerbated, putting an already vulnerable population far deeper into vulnerability.

These changes are a huge challenge to humanitarian sector. We need to realise and accept that newer problems need newer solutions. Centralised thinking, design and action which may have been relevant decades ago has to give way to decentralised, empowered local actions. Structures, systems and solutions should be driven from ground and how-much-ever we may find difficult, time has come for the sector to let go some of our deep-rooted notions and possessions.

HAI was built to inform, shape and inspire new humanitarian thinking and action, leveraging the collective experience and wisdom of affected people while embracing newer methodologies and technologies like Drone for Humanity that will help governments and institutions to help people better. Time is ripe now, more than ever before, to bring about fundamental reforms in humanitarian sector.

It is my privilege and honour to be be associated with HAI that has become a prominent face and voice of localisation. Generous support of our partners, friends, well wishes and patrons have been crucial so far, more so in the coming days.

Thank you for your confidence in HAI.

From HAI CEO

Sudhanshu S Singh

HAI completed its four years of existence on 4 May 2020. It has been an exciting journey so far, towards the ambitious mission HAI has been established for. During the year, HAI consolidated its footprints nationally and expanded further internationally.

During the year, HAI responded to 7 disasters of varying magnitude we faced in India, consolidated its footprints in 9 states through 10 grass root local organisations reaching out to nearly hundred thousand people in crisis either directly or indirectly.

In the same period, HAI was selected to manage the international secretariat of Charter4Change, earlier managed in London by CAFOD. HAI also became member of Asian Disaster Reduction and Response Network (ADRRN), and United against Inhumanity. HAI continues being a member of the Membership Committee of Start Network. HAI was also invited to be part of the Result Group 2 of the Inter Agency Standing Committee (IASC). HAI was also invited to be part of the Steering Committee of World Humanitarian Action Forum (WHAF), which was held in the month of October 2019 in Istanbul.

HAI was one of the few organisations from global South to submit commitments to Agenda for Humanity. Like previous two years, HAI filed self-report on the works done on the commitment to the PACT platform of Agenda for Humanity. The report can be accessed here.

HAI was elected one of the two international coordinators of Alliance for Empowering Partnership (A4EP), a global network for humanitarian advocacy, founded in 2018 by a few Southern humanitarian organisations including HAI. HAI is also part of the Moderating Team in India, which has been constituted to establish a national hub in India, connected with Start Network. The hub is expected to work on three pillars, i.e., financing, localisation and innovation, to further strengthen humanitarian architecture in India, which is led and managed by local actors.

We are thankful to our donors, patrons, partners and friends for continuing to generously support and encourage us. It means a lot. Thank you!

43,998	24,500	2,500
# people supported	# women supported	# children supported

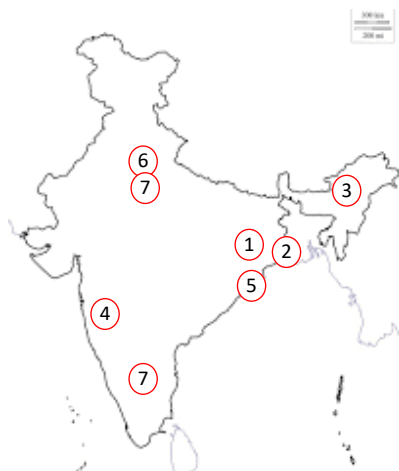| 10	9	7
# HAI program partners	# intervention States	# disasters responded

Disaster	Food Security	Livelihood	WASH/ Shelter	Health/ Hygiene
1. Jharkhand Fire	132			
2. Cyclone Fani			12,625	471
3. Assam Flood	200	900	4,400	600
4. Maharashtra flood	500			
5. Cyclone Bulbul	3,100	270	7,750	700
6. Urban Refugees	1,400	150	1,400	1,400
7. Covid19 response	8,000			
TOTAL	13,332	1,320	26,175	3,171

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Pakistani Refugee Project

HAI initiated the Pakistani Refugee Project in 2018 to meet the need for the provision of humanitarian, developmental and integration assistance to Pakistani refugees from the Hindu minority community, living in Majnu ka Tila camp, Delhi. HAI has now expanded activities to a new Pakistani refugee camp that has come up under Signature Bridge, Delhi.

The project has successfully reached 224 families (approx. 950 persons) in the Majnu Ka Tila and Signature Bridge camp through various interventions focusing on health, education, livelihood, legal assistance and access to basic amenities and essential services through a rights-based and participatory approach.

HAI launched 'Sponsor a Child' campaign to enable individual donors to invest on the comprehensive development of the refugee children as well as the community they live in. Through the programme, HAI has ensured 100% electrification in the camps through solar system installation, improved WASH, undertaken universalisation of education efforts and increased access to entitlement through a rights-based approach.

Localisation Approach

HAI has emerged a strong voice on localisation from global South since the World Humanitarian Summit held in May 2016. Currently HAI hosts the international secretariat of Charter4Change in New Delhi, India.

HAI's third annual report to Agenda4Humanity captures the constant progress made on the localisation commitments. HAI is one of the two international coordinators of A4EP, a global network founded to strengthen local voices in the localisation agenda.

HAI, as member of the Membership Committee of Start Network, successfully advocated for the tired due diligence process, so that even smaller organisation gets qualified to become the Network member and thereby eligible to access funding as well as capacity building support.

As Steering Committee member of the World Humanitarian Action Forum, HAI facilitated organisation of the summit in Istanbul in October 2019. Here is the summary report Dignity in Humanity.

Translating the Localisation Vision to Action

Empowering local partners and enhancing their capacities to become more efficient and effective is integral to HAI mission and approach. During the year, we utilised our humanitarian partnerships and grassroots action to demonstrate how local capacities can be built and sustained through transfer of skills and sharing of knowledge.

- Informed and inspired HAI partners to understand and critically engage with global initiatives and forums. 12 grassroots NGOs from India endorsed Charter4Change, thereby ensuring voices from ground reaching global platforms.

- Helped our partners understand A4EP, START Network, ECOSOC, ADRRN etc. to facilitate their membership into global forums and access to resources. Grassroots representation to C4C and A4EP platforms increased.

- Build capacities of partners to engage with and strengthen relationship with government, facilitating exchanges, building trust and transparency in on ground operations. This included sharing with partners the entire plan and budget HAI actions.

Charter4Change, Point 7. Robust organisational support and capacity strengthening: We will support local actors to become robust organisations that continuously improve their role and share in the overall global humanitarian response.

HAI

Building local capacities

For local actors to access global resources, there is a need to enhance their systems, processes and capacities to strengthen accountability and governance. HAI invested in building capacities of our partners through a system-centric approach. Armed with these evidences, HAI successfully argued for shift in global narrative from 'capacity building' to 'system building'. Some examples of our system and capacities strengthening efforts are:

- In all our operations, primacy of local decisions and actions were by our partners, including leading on design, implementation and on ground decisions.
- Presented compelling arguments to Start Network to adopt tiered due diligence process to help local organisation access membership and resources
- HAI has initiated a national hub in India to focus on localisation, financing and knowledge transfer
- HAI introduced our partners and grassroots organisations directly with donors and funding sources that was instrumental in our partners to raise INR 81 lakhs during the year.
- We have facilitated system level capacities for our 12 grassroots partners to meet documentation and compliance requirements of donors

Accountability & Transparency

As a good practice, HAI presents all financial information, including contributions made by individual and institutional donors on its website. HAI also shares the complete proposal and budget with its implementing partner organisations.

The details of humanitarian action – what, to whom and how – are shared with local people through our partners as well as with local government bodies. HAI's experiences from the field are shared at global forums to shape future frameworks.

- HAI was invited by UNICEF to join the IASC Result Group on Accountability and Inclusion. HAI participated in its meeting held in Geneva on 28 June 2019. Prior to this meeting, HAI CEO also participated in the ECOSOC Humanitarian Affairs Segment (HAS) Held in Geneva on 26-27 June 2019.

- HAI, together with other endorsers of C4C, is developing a Charter of Accountability, to ensure that endorsers make the people affected of crisis as the focus of their humanitarian work and make themselves accountable to them. It seeks to make pro-active partners in the localisation process, rather than merely playing a supportive role.

Amplifying voices from ground

HAI developed an analysis paper of two transformative commitments of Agenda for Humanity. The full report, published on UN's website, can be accessed here.

In collaboration with HAI, National Commission for Protection of Children's Rights (NCPCR) organised a workshop on the **Rights of Children of Persecuted Minorities from Afghanistan, Bangladesh and Pakistan**. Full report of the workshop can be accessed here.

Reseach and Information System for Developing Countries (RIS) organized a course under its **Indian Technical and Economic Cooperation (ITCE)** programme on 19 November 2019, having participation from 25 countries. HAI CEO was invited to address them. Highlights of the lecture can be watched here.

Voluntary Action Network of India invited HAI to speak on **Collective Action – Gearing Up for India's VNR 2020 & Furtherance of Agenda 2030: Leave No One Behind** on the importance of humanitarian-development nexus to achieve Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

HAI organised and participated in the annual meeting of C4C in Copenhagen on 10-11 December 2019, which brought together 31 local and national NGOs from global South and 25 international NGOs. Communiqué from the annual meeting, highlighting key points and resolves, can be accessed here.

Drone for Humanity (DfH):
Use of Technology in Humanitarian Action

Drone for Humanity (DfH) is a joint initiative by HAI and CDDMASS that brings together civil society, private sector, start ups and governments to collectively build a conducive eco-system for application of drone technology in disaster risk reduction and humanitarian action. More details can be found here.

Technology is touching and influencing our lives more than ever before. In recent years, there has been a quantum leap in adoption and application of appropriate technologies to enhance efficiency and effectiveness of humanitarian action. From satellite imageries to early warning systems, from mobile applications to social media platforms, there has been a plethora of innovations and approaches to deal and cope with humanitarian crises.

While keeping a close watch on technology applications and emergence of newer applications for humanitarian sector, HAI has particularly invested in piloting use of Drone technology in some of the recent disasters. In partnership with InventGrid and General Aeronautics, HAI undertook following pilot initiatives through Drone:

- Assessment of loss and damage caused by floods in Golaghat district, Assam (video)
- Assessment of loss and damage caused by floods in Bhagalpur district, Bihar (video)
- Detailed assessment of loss and damage caused by cyclone Bulbul in Sunderban delta, West Bengal (video)

Governance, Management & Operations

Our Board (2019-20)

NM Prusty, Chair
Nirmal Singh, Vice Chair
Manu Gupta
Sudhir Kumar
Ranjana Mittal
Pradeep Bhatnagar, IAS
Rajesh R Singh
V Arockiam
Sudhanshu S Singh, CEO

Our Brand Ambassador

Manish Mundra
Film Maker, Writer, Artist

Our Advisors

Smruti Patel
Krishnan Pallassana
Manish Srivastava
Abhishek Prakash
Akshat Patel

Our Donors

HCL Foundation
Care Today
Himalaya
CAF India
Sh. Manish Mundra
Individuals

Our Auditors

R P P & Co, New Delhi

Our Audited Finances FY2019-2020

In Rs. Lacs	FY19-20	FY18-19
Income	163.83	19.52
Institutional donors	100.16	3.68
Individual donors	57.40	15.62
Others	6.27	0 .22
Expenses	124.72	17.12
Direct Programs	123.00	14.98
Advocacy		
Networking & Platform		
Personnel	0 .38	0.63
Overheads	1.34	1.51
Excess of Inc over Exp	39.11	2.40

About HAI

- Humanitarian Aid International is a not-for-profit organisation in India, registered under the Indian Trusts Act, 1882 and Foreign Contributions Regulation Act (FCRA). HAI's vision is becoming "an international civil society organization from India, leading humanitarian assistance and development initiatives from the global South to reduce risks of poverty, hunger and violence in the world".

- HAI works across four thematic areas, i.e., 1) humanitarian response, 2) disaster risk reduction, 3) climate change & adaptation and 4) humanitarian advocacy across three pillars, namely 1) a national platform of grassroots organisation, 2) a national pooled fund for humanitarian action, and 3) a national roster of professionals to provide surge support to smaller humanitarian organisations to respond to humanitarian crises.

- Localisation has become a key thrust area for HAI since its inception. HAI, in addition to advocating for direct access to funding and better space for local organisations in the national and global coordination and decision-making platforms, is now gradually shifting its advocacy towards South-South and triangular cooperation, boldly taking up issues that are seldom spoken about or reflected like racism and colonialism in aid sector.

- HAI believes that wars and conflicts that causes immense human misery can be and should be resolved, and civil society has a critical role to play in forging and ensuring political resolutions. HAI has joined United against Inhumanity to make its voice more powerful in support of people facing protracted crises around the world.

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