

How is the Humanitarian Leadership Academy engaged with the global localisation agenda?

The Humanitarian Leadership Academy's (the Academy) mission is to enable people to prepare for and respond to crises in their own communities. Our contribution to the improvement of the effectiveness and relevance of response is focused on increasing the quality and accessibility of humanitarian learning and know how. We need to ensure people with the right skills are available at the right time and place.

All the Academy's activities are contributing to the contextualisation and localisation of humanitarian action. Some examples include the Arabisation of existing learning opportunities through our partnership with the American University of Beirut and the Jordan Hashemite Charity Organisation; the piloting and development of learning products for Survivor & Community Led Recovery in the Philippines; and the co-creation of a framework of disaster preparedness planning at the sub national level in Kenya.

In the lead up to and since the World Humanitarian Summit (WHS) we have collaborated with partners to co-host workshops and conferences exploring what localisation means in practice, including for Somalia, Kenya, Bangladesh, Pakistan, Malawi and globally. This has resulted in a deeper understanding of the opportunities for and challenges to local humanitarian action, and commitments for further change.

The Academy has been carving out the space for the inclusion of local, national and regional voices within global discussions. During June 2017, the Academy participated in several events that took place to maintain momentum one year after the WHS. This included the Academy co-hosted Wilton Park conference (with the report to be published by the end of October), the first annual meeting of the Grand Bargain sherpas, the ECOSOC (Economic and Social Council) Humanitarian Affairs Segment and the publication of several reports analysing progress of the WHS commitments to date.