

# GeONG 2016 - Future assessments for the humanitarian sector: Who are the providers and what can be and should be outsourced?

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# A political question

- «**Needs assessments**» **objective** : to understand and finally to interpret reality to design strategies of intervention, relevant and effective.
- **A question of power**
  - **The power of ICT** : a new process of knowledge production, definitely link with governance.
  - The power of the **humanitarian system** : a basis for the prioritisation, funds allocation and for leading the coordination.
  - The power of **NGOs** : a basis for fundings, a basis for its intervention,
  - The power of **providers** – what's next ? What's behind ?
  - The power of **national and local actors and authorities** in the countries of intervention : their role within the response.
  - The power of **the people affected by** the crisis or poverty situation : their role within the response, their power to voice their demands, rights and dignity.

## Why it is not a neutral and technical operation ?

To be rudely provocative : a need, a demand do not exist per se, by itself !

- **The way humanitarians understand the situation, and the solution they have, will influence** their choice of data and methods to collect them, data processing, their question to people, the analysis grid etc..
- **The demand expressed by people and national actors will be also influenced by** their understanding of humanitarian aid, the relationship they have with interviewers, the solution they think feasible
- **All this can be contained with :**
  - Clear positioning, ethics, Q&A standards including ICT uses.
  - Methodology, skills and «time to listen»
  - Accountability on who we are and what we intend to do
  - Debates

# Why it has to be done by or with NGO ?

Needs assessment should be also an **assessment of resources, capacities, assets** of the country, the people, actors system : **a situation analysis.**

- Situation analysis aims to better understand the problem **but also to identify possible solutions and levers for potential action.** It prepares action.
- And contribute **to create the conditions required for implementation** – communication, common understanding, prerequisites for trust.

**→ Objectives and processes that rely on the identity, the mission of each NGO.**

# What has to be defined, mastered by the NGO ?

## NGO should define

- the **objective** of the situation analysis,
- **information requirements**,
  
- the necessary **data**,
- the **way data will be collected and processed** to feed these needs
  
- the way information will be **displayed, disseminated, discussed**
- the way information will be **analysed**
  
- the way new **information requirements can be redefined** – agile process
  
- **The decision-making process.**

# How it can be partially outsourced and to what type of organisation ?

## Requirements :

- **An ethical framework** for all professionals involved in situation analysis studies, including those involved in information management and ICT,
- A clear **policy and guidance** to frame the studies, information management and the use of ICT,
- Clear **guidelines to enshrine information management** in clear methodological processes , roles and responsibilities.
- **Capacity building for Ngos staff to enable them to lead the process – methodology, information management, ICT.**

## Partially outsourced to whom ?

- **Always in close collaboration with NGO** or with their representatives (global level)
- Always to an organisation respecting **humanitarian principals and quality standards (CHS) – the role of H2H**

