



The Dutch Relief Alliance: Working together to improve the quality and impact of our humanitarian responses

*“Collaborating rather than competing makes us stronger.
We can complement and improve each other, so our
responses reach the people who need it most.”*

– Kayi Joseph Alex, joint response coordinator in South Sudan

The Dutch Relief Alliance is a coalition of 14 NGOs that have joined forces to provide humanitarian assistance to people and communities the world over. By aligning our efforts, we are able to respond to an acute crisis within 72 hours. Working in partnership with local NGOs and the Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs, we strive to enhance the impact of the humanitarian efforts of international, national and local NGOs.

Humanitarian crises are often very complex, involving a range of different contexts and scales. The Dutch Relief Alliance is geared towards collaboration, complementarity and benefiting from each other's qualities and strengths. This respect for diversity – coupled with our members' professional and geographical specialisations – allows us to keep driving for quality and cost effectiveness. By working together we can maximise our joint impact.

HOW WE WORK

The members of the Dutch Relief Alliance coordinate their efforts in joint responses, which can be either acute or protracted. These partnerships focus on providing equitable humanitarian relief based on solid plans and proven approaches. Each response is unique, with its own activities and participants, and is tailored to specific needs, challenges and capacities. The alliance is backed by a support structure made up of rotating representatives of the participating NGOs. This team manages unearmarked and flexible funds and facilitates processes on the members' behalf.

Since 2015, the Dutch Relief Alliance has assisted millions of people in more than 45 crises worldwide, providing everything from shelter, protection, healthcare and cash, to access to water, food and psycho-social services. The Dutch Relief Alliance has established itself as a global testing ground for the sector's engagement with the Grand Bargain Commitments and Core Humanitarian Standard, specifically with regard to themes like localisation, multi-year funding and programming, accountability and community engagement.



LOCALISATION FOR IMPACT

Our joint response programmes assign a prominent role to local actors. This contributes to a more equitable partnership, which increases the impact of our combined action, addresses power imbalances within the humanitarian system and leads to more sustainable results. We rely on local partners to leverage local knowledge, context awareness and ties with local communities. In 2022, we allocated over 37% of our funding directly to our national partners, and we intend to raise this share even further in the years ahead. For the Dutch Relief Alliance, localisation is not a passing interest – it is an integral part of our success.

INNOVATION AND BEST PRACTICES

One of the key advantages of our members' close collaboration is that we can share best practices and accelerate the implementation of innovative solutions. Between 2018 and 2021, we specifically allocated funds to innovations in the field of the smart use of data, cash programming, safety and security and renewable energy. Today, innovation – combined with lessons learned – has become an integral part of our approach.



For examples of our work, visit:

www.dutchrelief.org or contact: office@dutchrelief.org



 LinkedIn:
[linkedin.com/company/dutch-relief-alliance/](https://www.linkedin.com/company/dutch-relief-alliance/)

PARTNERS



Photos: ©Dutch Relief Alliance, ©Christel Stelpstra (Tearfund) and ©Mickael Franci (Cordaid)