



## NOHA 25th Anniversary

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LIFE AS A HUMANITARIAN:  
CHANGES AND CHALLENGES

PROGRAMME



“NOHA is a journey through cultures and societies that pushes your personal and academic limits, giving you a better understanding of humanitarian realities.”

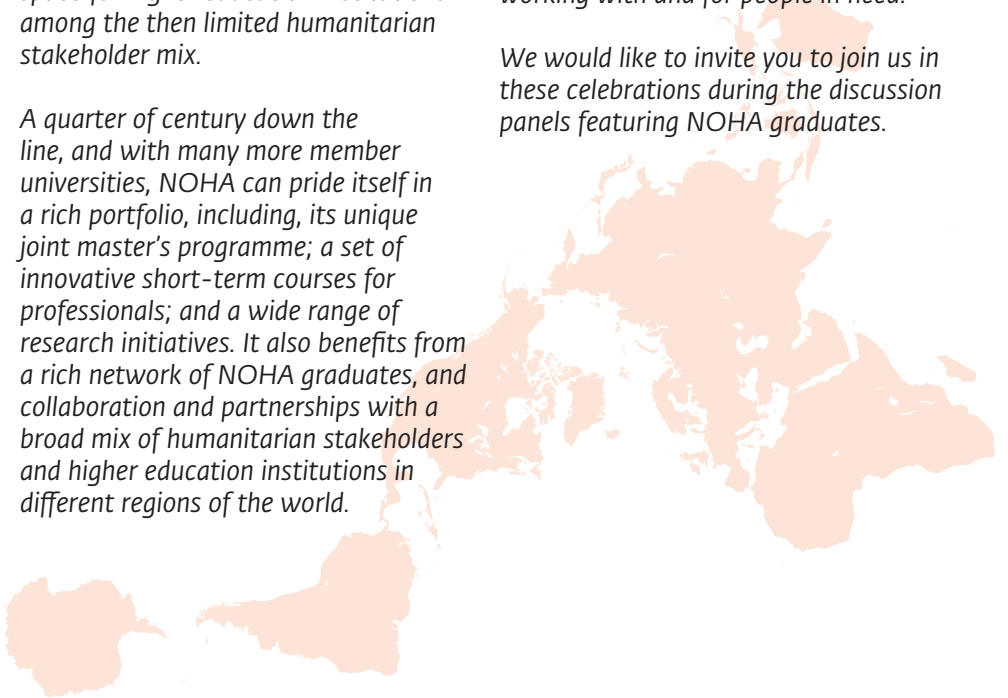
-Alisa Ananbeh (alumna 2015)

**25** years ago, the NOHA Network on Humanitarian Action was born from the idea that academia has an essential role to play in enhancing professionalism in the delivery of humanitarian aid through education, training and research. Five universities that composed NOHA at the time set on board the pioneering task of finding space for higher education institutions among the then limited humanitarian stakeholder mix.

A quarter of century down the line, and with many more member universities, NOHA can pride itself in a rich portfolio, including, its unique joint master's programme; a set of innovative short-term courses for professionals; and a wide range of research initiatives. It also benefits from a rich network of NOHA graduates, and collaboration and partnerships with a broad mix of humanitarian stakeholders and higher education institutions in different regions of the world.

As we celebrate our 25 years, it is time for introspection and reflection. We do so by looking at the life of humanitarian professionals, in particular how it has changed over the years, the contributions made by humanitarians in alleviating suffering, the challenges they face in an increasingly complex sector, and the achievements and rewards of working with and for people in need.

We would like to invite you to join us in these celebrations during the discussion panels featuring NOHA graduates.



# Life as a humanitarian 14 - 15 NOVEMBER 2018 AT AIDEX



**Sulagna  
Maitra**

NOHA



**Jesper Holmer  
Lund**

UN OCHA



**Isabelle  
Amorim**

University of Lisbon



**Jeanine  
Rasoarinoro**

Action Contre la Faim



**Liliane  
Bitong Ambassa**

Diakonie Katastrophenhilfe



**Wiet  
Vandormael**

Médecins sans Frontières



**Cornelia  
Walther**

UNICEF



**Jonelle  
Armstrong**

Medair



**Stefano  
Moschini**

GOAL



**Lara  
Horstmann**

Independent Consultant



**Iris  
Schneider**

Bundesanstalt Technisches  
Hilfswerk



**Moira  
Fratta**

Blockchainaid



**Ronald  
Guzmán**

Government of Bavaria



**Artur  
Malantowicz**

NOHA



**Loek  
Peeters**

HumanSurge



**Lawrence Neil  
Barry**

Humanitarian Adviser



**Catalina  
Jaime**

Red Cross Red Crescent  
Climate Centre



**Elżbieta  
Mikos-Skuza**

NOHA



**Anna  
Khakee**

NOHA

# #beNOHA

# LIFE AS A HUMANITARIAN

WEDNESDAY 14 NOVEMBER 2018

10:50 - 11:45 

**LIFE AS A HUMANITARIAN (1):**

**PERSONAL AND PROFESSIONAL LIFE - FINDING THE RIGHT BALANCE**

**Isabelle Amorim**, University of Lisbon

**Jeanine Rasoarinoro**, Action Contre la Faim

**Wiet Vandormael**, Médecins Sans Frontières

**Moderator:** Sulagna Maitra, NOHA Director, University College Dublin

14:00 - 14:55 

**LIFE AS A HUMANITARIAN (2): WOMEN IN THE HUMANITARIAN SECTOR**

**Liliane Bitong Ambassa**, Diakonie Katastrophenhilfe

**Iris Schneider**, Bundesanstalt Technisches Hilfswerk

**Cornelia Walther**, UNICEF

**Moderator:** Anna Khakee, NOHA Director, University of Malta

15:30 - 16:25 

**LIFE AS A HUMANITARIAN (3): INNOVATION AND TECHNOLOGY**


**Jonelle Armstrong**, Medair

**Moira Fratta**, Blockchain4aid

**Stefano Moschini**, GOAL

**Moderator:** Artur Malantowicz, NOHA Director of Operations

THURSDAY 15 NOVEMBER 2018

10:00 - 12:30 

**WORKSHOP: ENHANCING EMPLOYABILITY IN THE FIELD OF HUMANITARIAN ACTION**

**Neil Barry**, Independent Consultant

**Jesper Lund**, UN OCHA

**Loek Peeters**, HumanSurge

**Sulagna Maitra**, NOHA

**Moderator:** Peter Furu, NOHA Director, University of Copenhagen

13:30 - 14:25 

**LIFE AS A HUMANITARIAN (4): COMMUNITY OF PRACTICE**

**Ronald Guzmán**, Government of Bavaria

**Lara Horstmann**, Independent Consultant

**Catalina Jaime**, Red Cross Red Crescent Climate Centre

**Moderator:** Elżbieta Mikos-Skuza, NOHA Director, University of Warsaw

## VENUES:

 Auditorium 2

 Room 1101AB

## GRADUATES SPEAKERS

### Personal and professional life: finding the right balance



#### **Isabelle Amorim | University of Lisbon**

Isabelle is a Psychologist with the NOHA Master's Degree in Humanitarian Action from the University of Groningen (Netherlands) and Université catholique de Louvain (Belgium). She has over 15 years' experience working as project coordinator in emergency and post-conflicts contexts in countries such as India, Thailand, Cambodia, Timor-Leste, Bangladesh, Ecuador and Jordan. The areas of research she is interested are social protection, humanitarian aid, conditional cash transfers and sustainable development.



#### **Jeanine Rasoarinoro | Action Contre la Faim**

Jeanine started working in Madagascar in the field of Health and Nutrition with the Ministry of Health and the National Office of Nutrition (2004 to 2010). The training in the NOHA Master's Degree in Humanitarian Action opened the door to expatriation; she carried out nine months in Hodeidah, Yemen, as Community Development Referent of a Nutrition project (2012-2013), and continued expatriation as a health nutrition delegate for one year in Ati, Batha region in Chad (2014-2015). Jeanine now works in the Nutrition and Health Department at Action Contre la Faim Madagascar.



#### **Wiet Vandormael | Médecins sans Frontières**

Wiet initially worked in social services in 2001 at a day care centre for children in Brussels. After spending some time traveling and starting his own small Non-Profit organisation, he then joined the NOHA Master's. He did a semester in Louvain-la-Neuve and Groningen, and ended up in Melbourne at Monash Asia Institute to write his thesis. The encounters in the region pushed him towards humanitarian work in particular, especially the stigmatisation of aid and the geopolitics behind the aid businesses. After completing an internship with Caritas International, he then left for his first assignment in Afghanistan as a logistic manager with MSF. He has worked with MSF for 7 years and has been on missions in Afghanistan, Lebanon, Turkey, Syria, Tunisia, Central African Republic, South Sudan, Haiti and the Mediterranean Sea (Search and Rescue) working at project, mission and HQ level.



#### **Sulagna Maitra | NOHA**

Sulagna is a Lecturer/ Assistant Professor in Humanitarian Action and Director of NOHA Joint Master's Degree in International Humanitarian Action at the Centre for Humanitarian Action, University College Dublin. Her main areas of interest are conflict resolution and reconciliation, especially role of identity in conflict resolution, grassroots level reconciliation and transboundary river water conflicts.



### **Liliane Bitong Ambassa | Diakonie Katastrophenhilfe**

Liliane is the Head of Mission Chad, Cameroon, Niger and CAR for Diakonie Katastrophenhilfe. A Partnership Broker and formerly Independent Consultant, she has, in the last 18 years, served in several positions including Regional Representative of NGO coalition International Council of Voluntary Agencies (ICVA), Head of the NGOs and Humanitarian Reform projects in DR Congo and Cote d'Ivoire, Deputy Director of DRC-based Initiative for Cohesive leadership Cohésif, Reintegration Coordinator for GTZ in DR Congo, and Sierra Leone, Reporter for IRIN. A founding member of the West Africa Think Thank (WATHI) and a member of the Francophonie Expert pool, she holds the NOHA Master's Degree in Humanitarian Action from the Rijksuniversiteit Groningen.



### **Iris Schneider | Bundesanstalt Technisches Hilfswerk**

Iris has worked in humanitarian assistance and crisis management for 25 years. She started with project work with Care Germany, moved to the OSCE to work at both field office level and the HQ in Vienna in Operations and Reporting, then moved to Brussels as Head of Office for the Order of Saint John (Johanniter) and Johanniter International. She worked as a lecturer in Humanitarian Assistance and Crises Management at the Federal Academy for Civil Protection and was Head of Section of the International Security and Crises Management Section at Daimler. Now Iris is a Research Associate/ Desk Officer with the Federal Agency for Technical Relief (THW).



### **Cornelia Walther | UNICEF**

Cornelia combines praxis and research. Currently she is based in New York, designing the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) new global communication and advocacy strategy. As a humanitarian practitioner, Cornelia worked for UNICEF and the World Food Program (WFP) for the past 18 years, operating as head of communication in large scale emergencies in Africa, Asia and the Caribbean. Since 2018 she is collaborating with the Center for Humanitarian Leadership at Deakin University as a coach and lecturer. Prior to which she lectured in the Master in Humanitarian Action at Aix-Marseille University (AMU) in Communication and Media relations. Cornelia holds a PhD in Law, a NOHA Master's Degree in Humanitarian Action with specialization in International Law, and a Post Graduate Degree in Protection/Rule of Law, Human Security from AMU. She is a certified yoga teacher.



### **Anna Khakee | NOHA**

Anna is a Senior Lecturer at the Department of International Relations at the University of Malta. Prior to that she worked as a Senior Researcher at the Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies in Geneva and for several years as a consultant to think tanks and international organizations, including the Norwegian Peacebuilding Centre, FRIDE, EuroMeSCo, The Policy Practice, Geneva Centre for the Democratic Control of Armed Forces (DCAF), and the United Nations Development Program (UNDP). Her research interests include democratization/democracy promotion and development issues. Her previous work experience has also focused extensively on human security.

## GRADUATES SPEAKERS

### Innovation and technology



#### **Moira Fratta | Blockchain4aid**

Moira received the NOHA Master's Degree in Humanitarian Action at the University of Deusto in 2007. She is an aid worker specialized in emergency preparedness and response; she has worked in the Americas, in East and West Africa, and in Asia with UN agencies and NGOs. She is now an independent consultant. As the co-founder of blockchain4aid, she likes to explore how technology can support and improve humanitarian action and development.



#### **Stefano Moschini | GOAL**

Stefano is a Turkish/Italian humanitarian practitioner with almost 20 years of experience at a senior level in international development and humanitarian aid. After obtaining the Law degree, he specialized in humanitarian action in the NOHA Master's programme, studying at University of Deusto (Spain) and Université catholique de Louvain (Belgium). Since then, Stefano has worked for a wide variety of organizations, including NGOs, in many different countries, with a special focus on the Middle East region. Among others, he worked with the Italian Red Cross as an International Delegate in several missions. During the last five years he has been engaged in the Syrian conflict humanitarian response remote management from Turkey with different organizations. He started with People in Need (PIN) as MEAL manager, to then pass to Norwegian People's Aid (NPA) as peacebuilding and governance program manager, while recently he joined the Irish NGO GOAL as Partnership Coordinator.



#### **Jonelle Armstrong | Medair**

Jonelle has been working in Humanitarian Emergency Response in remote field locations ever since graduating from NOHA in 2006. She works with International Humanitarian NGOs to manage a remote field office providing basic healthcare, water, sanitation, shelter, and/or cash assistance in emergency contexts. She has experienced the AidEx 2018 theme of revolution in the digital age through the varied cultures of South Sudan, Iraq, Jordan, Afghanistan, Somaliland, Haiti, North Sudan, and Uganda. Currently Jonelle works as a project coordinator at Medair, South Sudan.



#### **Artur Malantowicz | NOHA**

Artur is a geographer and political scientist, with his interests focused on the Middle East and its socio-political and humanitarian crises. He has worked in academic, governmental and NGO settings and since 2012 is professionally involved in the humanitarian sector, primarily engaged in projects aiming at its professionalization. Currently, Artur works as a Director of Operations of the Network on Humanitarian Action (NOHA) and serves as a Middle East Expert at the Warsaw-based think tank Centre for International Initiatives.



**Ronald Guzmán | Government of Bavaria**

Ronald studied International Politics and then completed his NOHA Master's Degree in International Humanitarian Action. Before becoming a humanitarian, he used to work in the corporate sector in Tunisia and Venezuela. He has worked in both conflict-affected areas (Colombia) and post-disaster settings (Pakistan). In 2016, he joined the Government of Lower Franconia in Bavaria where he currently serves as Regional Coordinator in the department of Refugee Assistance & Integration.

**Catalina Jaime | Red Cross Red Crescent Climate Centre**

Catalina is the Red Cross Red Crescent Climate Centre Senior Risk Adviser. She coordinates the global strategic development of Forecast-based Financing as well as the technical support for the design and implementation of the global anticipatory funding mechanism of the IFRC, along with technical advice to FbF projects at global level. Catalina is also part of the knowledge management team of the Science for Humanitarian Emergencies & Resilience (SHEAR) programme. She has 15 years experience in the humanitarian sector working with the Red Cross Red Crescent Movement, UN agencies and NGO. Her main areas of focus are Disaster Risk Reduction, Climate Change Adaptation, Early Warning and Early Action. Her background is in Industrial Engineering with a NOHA Master's Degree in International Humanitarian Action.

**Lara Horstmann | Independent Consultant**

Lara was part of the NOHA 2015-2016 cohort. She spent one semester at the Ruhr-University Bochum, one at the University of Deusto and interned at the HQ of the German NGO Welthungerhilfe. The first mission after NOHA took her to Liberia as Junior Officer for Programme Coordination. After an intense time, she decided to focus more on academia and thus became an employee of the Institute for International Law of Peace and Armed Conflict (IFHV) in Bochum where she coordinated and taught one of the NOHA Master's classes in World Politics. Missing project work and more 'hands-on' experience, she moved from Germany to El Salvador, where she worked with the Red Cross as Coordinator for Monitoring, Investigation and Evaluation.

**Elżbieta Mikos-Skuza | NOHA**

Elżbieta is the Assistant professor in public international law at the Faculty of Law and Administration UW and a visiting professor at the College of Europe in Natolin. Member of the International Humanitarian Fact Finding Commission established under Protocol Additional I to the Geneva Conventions on the protection of war victims and a member of the Advisory Council of the European Institute of Peace. In 2004-2012 a Vice-President of the Polish Red Cross. Author of numerous publications on public international law and international humanitarian law.

## WORKSHOP

# Enhancing employability in the field of humanitarian action



### **Jesper Holmer Lund | UN OCHA**

Jesper has had a long career with the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), primarily working in the field of sudden onset emergencies. In this capacity, he has been leading the UN Disaster Assessment and Coordination mission to more than a dozen emergencies including the Bam Earthquake, Iran, Indian-Ocean Tsunami, Indonesia, Kashmir Earthquake, Pakistan, Haiti Earthquake and Typhoon Haiyan in the Philippines. He has further been deployed to act as the OCHA Head of Office in Haiti, Somalia and Syria. He is a trained disaster management officer from the Danish Emergency Management Agency and holds a master's degree in Disaster Management from the University of Copenhagen.



### **Lawrence Neil Barry | Independent Consultant**

Neil has 27 years of humanitarian experience ranging from leading Red Cross and DFID response teams in natural disasters and armed conflicts, to developing UK humanitarian policy at the highest level. He has worked closely with ministers, ambassadors, UN and UK special envoys/advisers, and managed programmes worth hundreds of millions of pounds. Neil provides specialist consulting services to the UN, Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, DFID and UK MoD and works as a volunteer for several NGOs. Neil was awarded the O.B.E. for Services to Humanitarian Aid in 2009.



### **Loek Peeters | HumanSurge**

Loek is the founder of HumanSurge – an innovative approach to mobilizing human resources for emergency response operations based on the principles of a sharing-economy. Previously he led teams on program evaluations and wrote UN emergency appeals, but for the most part of the last 15 years worked with international NGOs in emergency response operations around the world following man-made and natural disasters. He holds three University degrees, including a Master in Humanitarian Action from Tufts University.



### **Sulagna Maitra | NOHA**

Sulagna is a Lecturer/ Assistant Professor in Humanitarian Action and Director of NOHA Joint Master's Degree in International Humanitarian Action at the Centre for Humanitarian Action, University College Dublin. Her main areas of interest are conflict resolution and reconciliation, especially role of identity in conflict resolution, grassroots level reconciliation and transboundary river water conflicts.

## VENUE

 stand D45

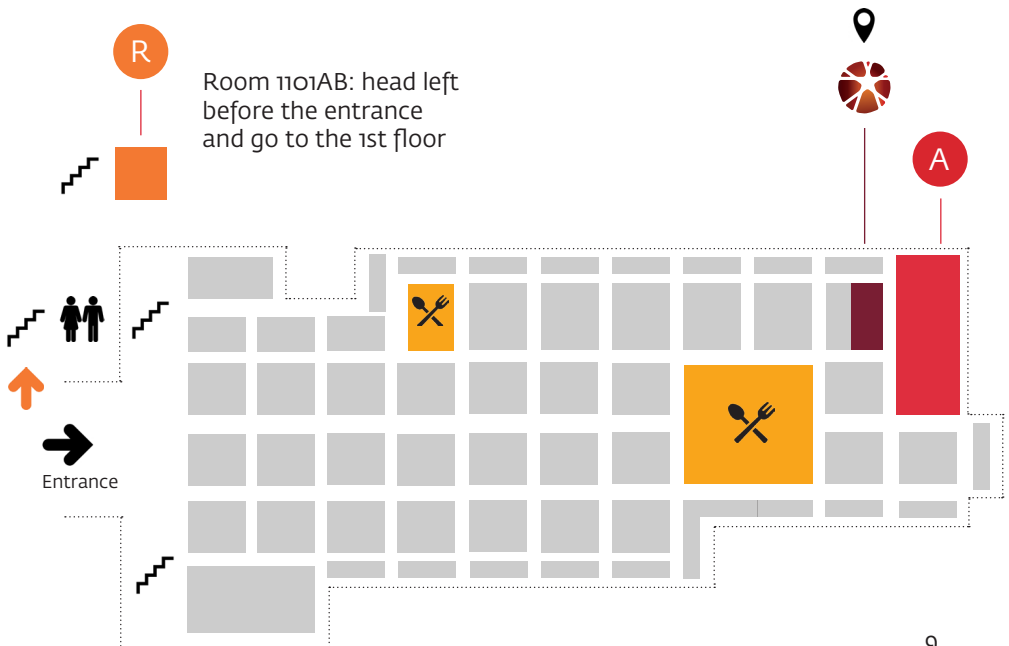
AidEx - Global Humanitarian & Development Aid Event  
Brussels Expo, Hall 11  
Place de Belgique 1,  
1020 Brussels

## OPENING TIMES

Wednesday 14 November: 09:30 - 17:30  
Thursday 15 November: 09:30 - 17:00



## Map of Hall 11



## **NOHA General Secretariat**

Regus Stephanie Square Centre  
Avenue Louise 65, Box 11  
Brussels 1050, Belgium

info@nohanet.org  
+32 2535 79 32

*nohanet.org*



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