



WORLD HUMANITARIAN SUMMIT

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UN Photo/Kibae Park

AT A GLANCE

The world is at a critical juncture. We are witnessing the highest level of human suffering since the Second World War. This is why, for the first time in the 70-year history of the United Nations, UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon has convened the World Humanitarian Summit. We must act now to unite around our shared humanity and take global action to end the suffering of millions of women, men and children affected by conflicts and disasters.

One humanity, shared responsibility

In 2016, more than 125 million women, men and children across the world are in need of humanitarian assistance. Not since the Second World War have so many been forced from their homes: more than 60 million people, half of them children. The human and economic cost of disasters is escalating and the impacts of climate change become more profound, disasters are expected to become more frequent and more severe.

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The World Humanitarian Summit in Istanbul on 23-24 May 2016 will mark a major shift in how the international community prevents human suffering by preparing for and responding to crises. At the Summit, world leaders must stand behind their responsibilities to the world's people, by committing to taking forward the Secretary-General's **Agenda for Humanity**, which charts a course for change.

A New Agenda for Humanity

The Secretary-General's call to change builds on a three-year consultation process which reached over 23,000 people in 153 countries. As a result, he has called on world leaders from all sectors of government and society to uphold **five core responsibilities**:

1. **Prevent and end conflict**
2. **Respect rules of war**
3. **Leave no one behind**
4. **Working differently to end need**
5. **Invest in Humanity**

The Agenda for Humanity lays out the key actions that are needed to deliver on the five core responsibilities. Delivering on them is a moral imperative and a strategic necessity to confront today's global challenges.

Istanbul: from vision to action

In 2015, world leaders demonstrated that it is possible to come together and tackle global challenges. They agreed on new frameworks for disaster risk reduction and development financing, adopted the historic Sustainable Development Goals and reached a landmark climate agreement.

In 2016, our challenge is to harness this momentum and deliver the action that ensures that no one is left behind. At the World Humanitarian Summit, the Secretary-General will call on global and local leaders to commit to collective action and deliver on the Agenda for Humanity.

All of us have a role to play in delivering the Agenda for Humanity. This is why the Summit will bring together leaders from Governments, businesses, international and regional organizations, humanitarian organizations, first responders, community networks, academia and civil society. Working together, we can achieve a major shift in how the global community prevents human suffering by preparing for and responding to crises, and make sure that the Summit is a starting point to ensure that we put humanity – people's safety, dignity and the right to thrive – at the heart of global decision-making.