



## **OUTCOME REPORT: NETHERLANDS BUSINESS CONSULTATION 10 June 2015, The Hague, The Netherlands**

### **Introduction**

OCHA's Private Sector Section (PSS) and the Netherlands Enterprise Agency hosted a business consultation on 10 June 2015 in The Hague, Netherlands. 72 representatives from the private sector (multi-national and national), the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and civil society attended the consultation. The consultation focused on identifying issues, providing recommendations and making commitments from the perspective of the Dutch business community in emergency preparedness and response.

### **Issues**

Key messages included the need for innovation in the humanitarian sector and the role that both the private sector and national governments can play in this area.

### **Challenges**

The following key challenges were discussed:

- a. Immediate response, rapid assessment and response hubs,
- b. From emergency to resilient recovery
- c. From food and water aid to food and water sufficiency and
- d. Providing health services in emergencies. The aim of the discussions was to identify concrete proposals for collaboration.

### **Solutions & Recommendations**

The following solutions were recommended:

- a. Creation of regional emergency response hubs, owned by local stakeholders in crisis prone countries;
- b. Setting up pre-crisis collaboration platforms for testing of innovation and negotiation of partnerships.
- c. A Dutch health and hygiene partnership offering resilient WASH and health solutions in fragile
- d. Groups of companies work together on regional preparedness plans per sector.

### **Commitments**

The following commitments were made:

- a. The participants committed to taking the initiative of the local emergency committee forward. The committee would be made up of local business (potentially through the local chamber of commerce), the local district office and the international humanitarian community (through OCHA RO). Focused meetings between parties who are interested in being included in the different identified proposals, between 25 August and 15 September facilitated by the Netherlands Enterprise Agency.
- b. Producing a position paper on innovation in the humanitarian system through Dutch initiatives for private sector engagement and innovative partnerships.
- c. Engaging with UN agencies to put specific initiatives into practice and scale up to the level of innovation for the humanitarian system.
- d. Engaging the Dutch Government in the WHS Summit, with a focus on innovation.