

Peter Laugharn
President and Chief Executive Officer of the Conrad N. Hilton Foundation
Tuesday 11:42, Venue: ICC Harbiye Auditorium

Peter is a passionate leader with 25 years of foundation and nonprofit experience internationally, with a focus on improving the well-being of vulnerable children.

Statement

With a mandate from our founder to relieve the suffering of the distressed, the work of the Conrad N. Hilton Foundation includes support for practical collaborations in community resiliency efforts, investing in local capacities, and encouraging the reinforcement of national and local systems. Our philanthropic approach is rooted in responding systemically to the most vulnerable people, and we see the sustainable development goals as a “north star” to help us frame this work.

Understanding that philanthropy has a relatively small financial contribution to make in ensuring that the sustainable development goals are met, we are committed to finding new and innovative ways to foster partnerships among governments, companies, civil society and philanthropy around these global goals. One of our efforts in this space has been the establishment of the SDG Philanthropy Platform.

We recognise the necessity for a globally coordinated approach that draws on the strengths of local communities, global corporations and philanthropy. We must engage strategically and systematically with all actors to ensure that our efforts are targeted at the most vulnerable, and realize the most impact. In this regard, the Foundation is committed to working with our partners in the humanitarian sphere, and particularly the private sector, to build and strengthen networks that increase the community resilience and more effectively engage all actors in responding to humanitarian situations.

This summit represents the cumulative work of many actors and has been preceded by broad stakeholder engagement. We are at a transformative moment with the potential to have broad impact through strategic, thoughtful investments in dynamic networks.

I am pleased to make the following commitments of the Conrad N. Hilton Foundation in support of the goals of the World Humanitarian Summit:

- Support Disaster Relief and Recovery activities for a total of 10 million USD over five years (2 million USD/year)
- Award the Conrad N. Hilton Humanitarian Prize annually (2 million USD/year) to a nonprofit organization doing extraordinary work to reduce human suffering.
- Pledge 300,000 USD (through a combination of financial and in-kind support) to the Connecting Business Initiative
- Support the SDG Philanthropy Platform (1.4 million USD through 2017) as a model for multi-stakeholder engagement in the humanitarian sector