ALNAP would like to thank CaLP, Norah Niland, John Twigg, Wendy Fenton, and the participants who were founded, facilitated discussions around change.

The ALNAP Secretariat prepared the initial timeline and invited the meeting’s participants to add their own moments of change in humanitarian action. This revised version of the timeline has incorporated many of these and also invites you to add your own moment of change. To find out more about ALNAP’s 31st Annual Meeting, please visit alnap.org/31am

Key

- ALNAP was established in 1997.
- Livestock disease is a key crisis.
- Global humanitarian initiatives and ways of working are developed.
- New humanitarian crises are created.
- The Kyoto Protocol is adopted.
- The International Criminal Court is established.
- DHA becomes OCHA.
- The Sphere Project is established.
- Mercy Malaysia sends relief teams to Turkey.
- UN Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement are established.

Number of state-based, non-state, and one-sided conflicts per year*

- 1997: 96.2m
- 2000: 96.6m
- 2001: 96.6m
- 2006: 90
- 2014: 342
- 2016: 362
- 2017: 362

Number of natural disasters globally*

- 2000: 28m
- 2016: 86
- 2017: 86

Data

- Total funding reported to the UN OCHA Financial Tracking Service each year in USD, 2000–2016 (available at: https://fts.unocha.org/global-funding/overview/2016)
- Targeted recipients of aid are defined, OCHA State of the aid data, 2007–2017 (available at: www.ocha.org)

20 years of change in humanitarian action: A timeline by ALNAP

ALNAP’s 31st Annual Meeting, held in Stockholm on 14–15 February 2017, looked at how change occurs in the humanitarian system, and how it can be done better. This timeline, capturing the twenty years since ALNAP was founded, facilitated discussions around change.

The ALNAP Secretariat prepared the initial timeline and invited the meeting’s participants to add their own moments of change in humanitarian action. This revised version of the timeline has incorporated many of these and also invites you to add your own moment of change.

To find out more about ALNAP’s 31st Annual Meeting, please visit alnap.org/31am
A timeline by ALNAP

### 20 years of change

- **1999**
  - NATO bombing of Kosovo begins.
  - World population hits six billion.
  - Northern Caucasus response
  - UNSC 1265: stresses need to address causes of conflict.

- **2000**
  - Millennium Development Goals are adopted.
  - UN Peacekeeping reform starts.
  - Great Lakes and DR Congo appeals: assistance is significantly scaled up.
  - South-eastern Europe response
  - DPRK response

- **2001**
  - Al Qaida attacks USA on 9/11.
  - USA launches military operations in Afghanistan.
  - Last time India requests international assistance.
  - Horn of Africa Drought responses

- **2002**
  - UK military intervenes in Sierra Leone.
  - Afghanistan response
  - BRAC establishes a programme in Afghanistan.
  - PSEA core principles are established.

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**Key**

- **UNISDR is created.**
- **Great Lakes and DR Congo appeals: assistance is significantly scaled up.**
- **Last time India requests international assistance.**
- **Horn of Africa Drought responses**
- **Total reported humanitarian funding**

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**Data**

- **Total reported humanitarian funding**
  - US$1.9bn
  - US$3.6bn

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**Notes**

- There is no relationship between the size of dots and any other variable. Similarly, the graphs and timelines are approximate, and are intended for illustrative and discursive purposes only. Points on the timeline are not on the same scale, but are intended to be representative of the significant scaling up of events or responses which, in many cases, lasted for many years.

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**Related**

- [ALNAP’s 31st Annual Meeting](https://fts.unocha.org/global-funding/overview/2016)
- [The Responsibility to Protect](https://fts.unocha.org/global-funding/overview/2016)
- [UNISDR](https://fts.unocha.org/global-funding/overview/2016)

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**Further reading**

- [The Kyoto Protocol](https://fts.unocha.org/global-funding/overview/2016)
- [Drought](https://fts.unocha.org/global-funding/overview/2016)
- [UN Peacekeeping](https://fts.unocha.org/global-funding/overview/2016)
A timeline by ALNAP

ALNAP is a global learning partnership (HAP) that includes 44 partners, including UN bodies, NGOs, INGOs, and other humanitarian actors in an effort to strengthen the humanitarian system.

The timeline shows key events and developments in the humanitarian sector over the past 20 years, including:

- **2001:** 9/11 attacks in the USA, US launches military operations in Afghanistan, India requests assistance of IDPs.
- **2002:** SRSG for Humanitarian Affairs is established.
- **2003:** DPRK ratifies peace agreement with South Korea.
- **2004:** Tsunami in Indonesia, UNOCHA establishes Cash Transfer Program.
- **2005:** Earthquake and tsunami in India, UNLP, UNHCR, IOM, OCHA.
- **2006:** UNHCR supported by UNDP.
- **2007:** UN Women established.
- **2012:** SDGs set by UN General Assembly.
- **2013:** Ebola an international emergency.
- **2014:** L3 emergency: South Sudan.
- **2015:** Sendai Framework for DRR 2015–2030 is adopted.
- **2016:** Global Pillar is proposed.

**Key statistics:**

- **Number of state-based, non-state, and one-sided conflicts per year**
- **World population:**
  - 2005: 6.5 billion
  - 2015: 7.3 billion
- **Number of targeted recipients of aid in millions**
  - 2007–2017: Total funding reported to the UN OCHA Financial Tracking Service each year in USD, of which 30% is provided by the EU, 25% by USA, and 17% by Japan.
- **Number of people in need:**
  - 2005: 173 million
  - 2015: 216 million

**Notes:**

- The timeline is approximate, and is intended for illustrative and discursive purposes only. Points on the timeline have been placed using key events and developments.
- Points on the timeline are not necessarily in chronological order.
- The timeline is available at: www.unocha.org/stateofaid

**Further information:**

- **Project:** Targeted recipients of aid in millions, OCHA State of Aid data, 2007–2017
- **Data:** Key version of the timeline has incorporated many of these elements.

**Acknowledgments:**

- ALNAP would like to thank CaLP, Norah Niland, John Twigg, Wendy Fenton, and the participants who contributed to the development of this timeline.

**Contact:**

- alnap.org/31am

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**Timeline notes:**

- **US$14.3bn**
- **US$6.4bn**
- **US$20bn**
- **US$24.1bn**
- **US$13.6bn**
- **US$12.9bn**
- **US$14.3bn**
- **US$369**
- **US$355**
- **US$342**
- **US$394**

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**Acronyms and abbreviations:**

- UN: United Nations
- OCHA: Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs
- UNDP: United Nations Development Programme
- UNHCR: United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
- ECHO: European Commission Humanitarian Aid and Civil Protection
- IASC: International Council of Voluntary Agencies
- Sphere Handbook: A global standard for humanitarian aid
- Core Humanitarian Standard: A global standard for humanitarian aid
- UN Women: United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women
- WHO: World Health Organization
- DHA: Development and Humanitarian Assistance
- L3: Catastrophic scale
- UNOCHA: UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs