Localisation of humanitarian action continues to create some confusion and uncertainties. ‘Supporting rather than replacing local and national actors’ in a spirit of true partnership, also raises broader questions about the role, abilities and business model of international NGOs.

What, exactly, do we mean by ‘localisation’ or ‘locally-led response’? Do we have a common understanding of this across our organisation? Does this raise concerns for our communications with our private supporters, with the media? Is this likely, over time, to negatively affect our income? How are other INGOs dealing with this issue?

These are the questions the workshop will go into. It is oriented towards directors, senior managers and board members of INGOs, as well as colleagues from finance, fundraising, communications and media relations. Different representatives from one NGO are welcome to take part to discuss their institutional progresses on localisation.

After the workshop, participants can also request further Skype/Zoom coaching support from the trainers. The workshop is the second one of a VENRO-training series on localisation. Participants in this workshop will receive a report of the first one in advance.

Smruti Patel and Koenraad Van Brabant will facilitate the workshop. They are co-founders of the Global Mentoring Initiative and bring many years of experience in working in and on humanitarian action and are familiar with localisation debates in Europe and other countries.

Participation is free of charge. Travel costs and accommodation have to be covered by the participants. The event location is mostly accessible to people with disabilities. Should you require any assistance or preparation, please notify us and we will provide corresponding support.

WHEN?
Wednesday, 1 April 2020, 9 am – 5 pm and Thursday, 2 April 2020, 9 am – 5 pm

WHERE?
Tagungs- und Gästehaus St. Georg Rolandstraße 61 50677 Köln

REGISTRATION
Please register by sending an e-mail to veranstaltungen@venro.org until 25 March 2020.

CONTACT
Karoline Krähling k.kraehling@venro.org Telefon: 030/2 63 92 99-28
WORKSHOP

PROGRAMME

Day 1, 1 April 2020

9:00 Welcome

9:30 Why localisation and what does it mean in practice?
What problem is localisation supposed to address? There are also very different interpretations of what it means in practice that lead to very different future outcomes. To discuss localisation at an organisational level, you first need to have sufficiently convergent understanding about the ‘why’ and the ‘what’.

Where are we now and why?
Localisation generates different reactions within our organisations, with some more enthusiastic about it and others having concerns and reservations. This is not only a matter of individual preferences, but inevitable given that different people have different roles and responsibilities. We look at our internal dynamics and conversations about localisation and clarify why they are not always easy. That puts us in a position where we can act on those internal dynamics.

13:00 Lunch

13:45 Localisation: incremental change
What does it take to develop an organisational position and step forward on localisation? Who needs to be engaged, what assumptions need to be tested, what would be priority steps (and why), what needs to change in our current practice, what challenges do we need to overcome? How does this fit within our current strategic planning?
(with online input of member agency of Dutch Relief Alliance)

Equitable partnerships
What do conversations about risk and about partnership look like from the perspective of ‘equitable partnerships’? What does this mean for our formal collaboration agreements?

17:00 End of day one

WHEN?
Wednesday, 1 April 2020, 9 am – 5 pm
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### Day 2, 2 April 2020

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Session</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9:00</td>
<td>Recap of day one</td>
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<tr>
<td>9:30</td>
<td><strong>Collaborative action on localisation?</strong>&lt;br&gt;Can different INGOs collaborate around localisation? If so, why and how? How to create synergies, what would be collective outcomes?&lt;br&gt;(We will invite the current Chair of the Dutch Relief Alliance, to share the experiences of engaging on localisation within this multi-agency coalition).</td>
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<td>12:30</td>
<td>Lunch</td>
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<td>13:15</td>
<td><strong>Localisation: transformative change?</strong>&lt;br&gt;“The status quo is no longer an option” says the Grand Bargain about the humanitarian sector. What are the foresighting scenarios for the future of humanitarian action by INGOs around by 2030-2035? Where does the foresighting take place in our organisations? How are we adapting to the possibility of different, possibly disruptive, futures? What can we do to try and shape the most desirable future?&lt;br&gt;&lt;br&gt;<strong>Where do we go from here?</strong>&lt;br&gt;What can and do we want to explore/do for collaborative work on localisation? What can and do we want to do to prepare our organisation for different medium-term futures?</td>
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<td>16:30</td>
<td>Concluding words and evaluation</td>
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<tr>
<td>17:00</td>
<td><strong>End of workshop</strong></td>
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