

# The New Humanitarian|

Journalism from the heart of crises

A photograph of a woman with her hair in cornrows, wearing a yellow and pink floral patterned shirt, holding a baby. The baby is wearing a blue shirt and looking off to the side. They are in a wooden structure, possibly a refugee camp, with a red and white striped tent visible in the background.

Annual Report  
2019

# Foreword

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2019 was another turbulent year for journalism, with thousands of layoffs and news businesses closing, an ongoing breakdown of global press freedom, and a continued lament about the state of the media industry.

But in many ways, 2019 was our coming of age.

In every area of our work – from our journalism to our finances – we have transitioned from a start-up finding its way to a stable organisation thriving in a challenging landscape. 2019 was the culmination of efforts we have been making for five years to build a sustainable, impactful organisation for the future.

We professionalised our journalistic offering, grew our audience, shifted most of our financing to multi-year contracts, and institutionalised our systems. Oh, and we left behind that funny UN acronym IRIN for a new brand: The New Humanitarian.

This new identity is the final stage of a shift long in the making, in line with the transformations in the world around us.

The drivers of humanitarian needs are changing, thanks to new threats like climate change, decentralised and longer-lasting conflicts, and a geopolitical landscape that makes the resolution of crises at the international level more challenging.

The impacts of humanitarian crises are changing too, becoming more global in their repercussions.

And the humanitarian response to crises is changing, with new players emerging to fill an increasing gap between needs and response, including the private sector, development institutions, citizen volunteers, and social media activists.

In many ways, humanitarianism has been democratised. It is no longer the exclusive domain of governments and the UN – nor is it only about disaster relief and aid delivery. Today, a generation of new humanitarians is emerging – and demanding a voice in the conversation.

This is a huge opportunity for The New Humanitarian.

It represents renewed interest in our beat, and thus a chance to engage more people in these most important questions of life and death, from climate change – one of the defining issues of 2019 – to the threat of infectious diseases, which is now top of everyone's mind, but which was already apparent well before the COVID-19 pandemic took hold.

This is also a moment for us to collectively reflect on what humanitarianism means in this brave new world.

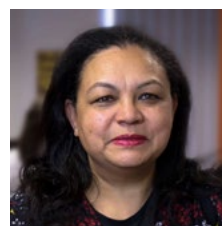
Our journey over the last five years has positioned us well to rise to these challenges.

We are producing impactful reporting more often, investing in audience engagement and growth, experimenting with revenue generation, and looking inwards: to build a culture that allows us to meet our ambitions in the long term.

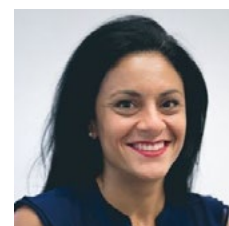
## **2019 was the culmination of efforts we have been making for five years to build a sustainable, impactful organisation for the future.**

In the meantime, we continue to be humbled by the impact of our journalism. In 2019, our stories pushed the South Sudanese Ministry of Health to prepare for the potential spread of Ebola; served as evidence by the International Criminal Court prosecutor in the trial of a commander of Uganda's Lord's Resistance Army; and informed a study group of the US Congress. We were cited in a UK Charity Commission report; prompted a reader to donate money to support the work of a local hero helping Boko Haram victims get healthcare, and prompted one philanthropic foundation to give a large multi-country grant for the Sahel.

In the fragile environment in which we operate, the road ahead will not be easy – it never is. But we've built a strong foundation to continue fulfilling our mission of informing the world's response to crises and contributing to more effective and accountable humanitarian action.



**Paula Fray**  
President



**Heba Aly**  
Director



“ At a time where we are surrounded by a lot of noise, and people, and institutions clamouring for sound bites, The New Humanitarian speaks to truth and diversity. And now, more than ever, these are the things that we need to drive for a better world. ”

Aarathi Krishnan,  
Humanitarian Futures and Strategic Foresight Advisor



Protesters gathered in Haiti to demonstrate against the \$2 billion that the government and private sector has been accused of embezzling from Venezuela's subsidised PetroCaribe oil programme. (Jessica Obert/TNH)

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## About Us

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# The New Humanitarian

The New Humanitarian (TNH) is an independent news organisation that puts quality, independent journalism at the service of the millions of people affected by humanitarian crises around the world. We report from the heart of conflicts and disasters to inform prevention and response.

Our journalism contributes to more effective and accountable humanitarian action by:

- | **Informing decision-makers and practitioners**
- | **Providing accountability and transparency**
- | **Raising awareness among wider audiences**

Through a network of more than 200 local and international correspondents, a core staff of experienced editors, and an intimate knowledge of the humanitarian sector, TNH provides unique multimedia coverage from more than 65 countries.

We tell the local story globally, with integrity, authenticity, and authority. We blend award-winning journalism, analysis, and data to give decision-makers, influencers, and anyone interested in or affected by crises a real-time, in-depth view of the realities on the ground and the policy debates surrounding them.

# Executive Summary

## 2019 at a glance



17,000 new followers on social media



6 awards and nominations



13 new funding contracts and a total of 18 donors



More than 500 reports



170,000 monthly readers



5 successful TNH events



30 special reports



110 countries covered



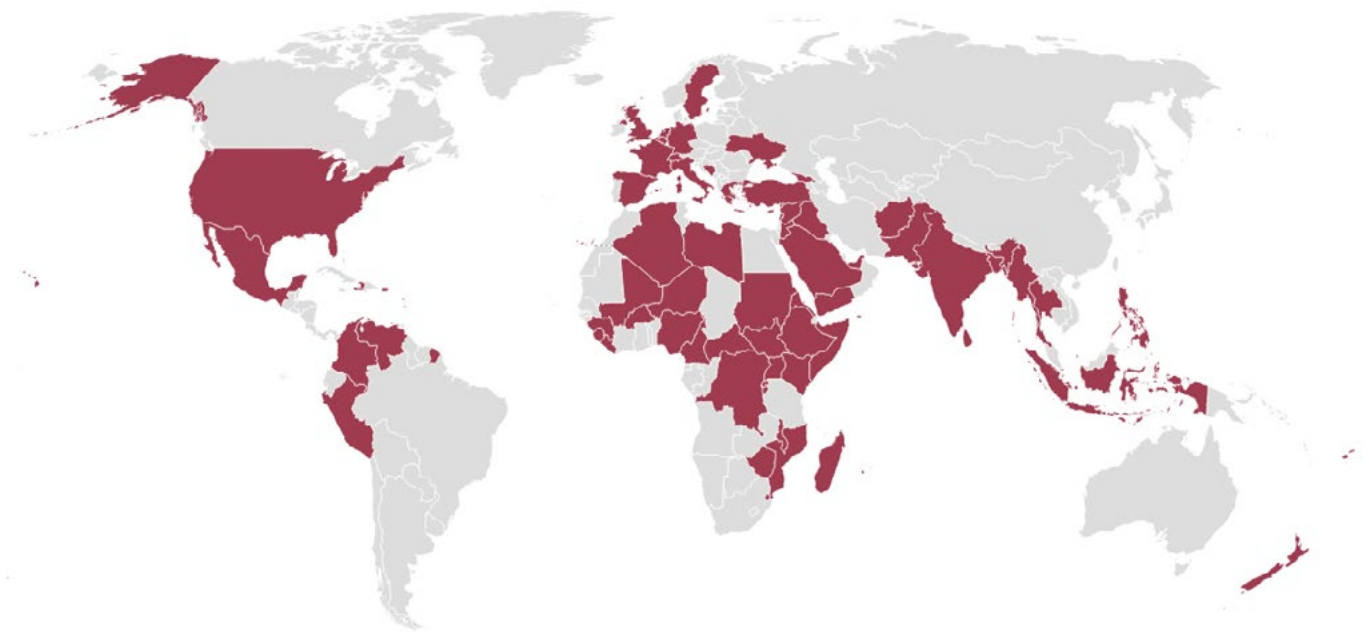
4 university lectures

## Our impact

In 2019, our coverage of humanitarian crises informed high-level decision-making in the interest of those most affected – from the Rohingya crisis in Bangladesh, where TNH reporting inspired a better focus on palliative care in the response, to the emerging crisis in the Sahel, where our journalism prompted one philanthropic foundation to give a large multi-country grant.

We provided greater accountability and transparency in the aid sector: our reporting on the neglected displacement crisis in Gedeo, Ethiopia, was soon followed by a visit from the Prime Minister and additional material support from the government. After we revealed that children were dying at al-Hol camp in Syria, weakened by their journeys fleeing so-called Islamic State, the Syrian Democratic Forces allowed the UN to open a transit centre.

By making humanitarian issues more accessible to a wider audience, we raised awareness and inspired further support: one reader, for example, donated money towards the work of a Bangladeshi doctor, while our reports appeared to prompt further media coverage on a scandal at the aid agency GOAL.



## Places we reported from in 2019

## Our journalism in 2019

The New Humanitarian's journalism seeks to do three things:

### Provide in-depth, field-based perspectives on humanitarian crises:

We mapped the spread of infectious diseases (even before COVID-19), with a focus on Ebola in the Democratic Republic of Congo and measles, HIV, and diphtheria worldwide.

While many people continued to see climate change as a distant threat, we documented the humanitarian impacts it was already having on many communities, including displacement from Bangladesh to Somalia.

We highlighted abuses against displaced people, from Syrians in Europe to Central Americans on the US-Mexico border.

### Shine a spotlight on forgotten stories and emerging trends:

We flagged the rise of militancy, particularly in the Sahel, but also in other emerging hotspots such as Mozambique.

We kept an eye on places like Colombia that continue to be plagued by violence and economic hardship despite supposed peace deals.

### Cast a critical eye over the emergency aid sector

Our investigations team exposed neglect and abuses of power by aid agencies, from a bungled UN investigation into sexual abuse by peacekeepers to a questionable deal between the World Food Programme and CIA-linked data mining firm Palantir.

We provided a platform for debate on aid policy, from the negative effects of counter-terror legislation to the development-humanitarian-peacebuilding nexus.



## Becoming The New Humanitarian

On 21 March, we officially changed our name and brand from IRIN News to The New Humanitarian, marking our move from a UN project to an independent newsroom. Our mission remains the same, but our new name reflects the renewed importance of our role in chronicling the changing nature of – and response to – humanitarian crises.

It also speaks to our audience: from high school students marching for climate change to local communities leading their own responses, a new generation of humanitarians is redefining the way the world is tackling crises.

Our new brand reflects our commitment to examining what humanitarianism means in the modern era and speaking to a wider audience of new humanitarians.

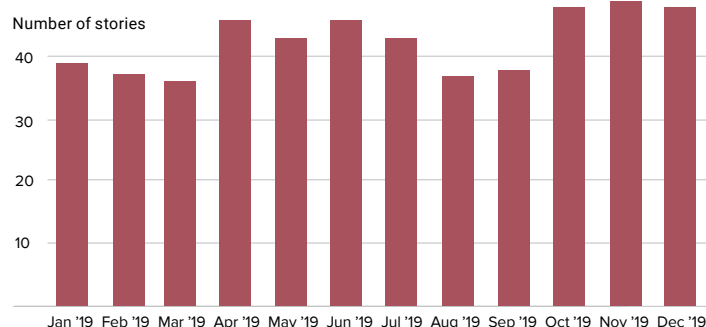
## Developing our reader experience

We sought to enhance our reader experience in 2019 with a number of improvements to our web platform and online presence. These efforts were rewarded in the final quarter of the year, when unique visitors to our website increased to an average of 209,000 per month, up from 157,000 in previous months.

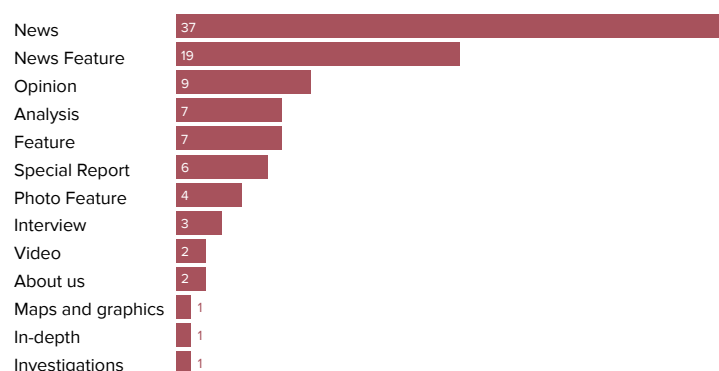
Newsletter sign-ups were boosted with banner messaging on the website, in-person outreach at events, and a social media campaign, resulting in a 37 percent increase in registrations compared to 2018. Our content also reached new users through platforms like Apple News, Medium, and Instagram, where we continued to grow our output, including with bespoke content.

Our work on social media outreach and engagement throughout 2019 was recognised by the Geneva Engage Awards: The New Humanitarian won first place in the Non-profit Organisations and Associations category.

## Editorial Production



## Production by format (%)

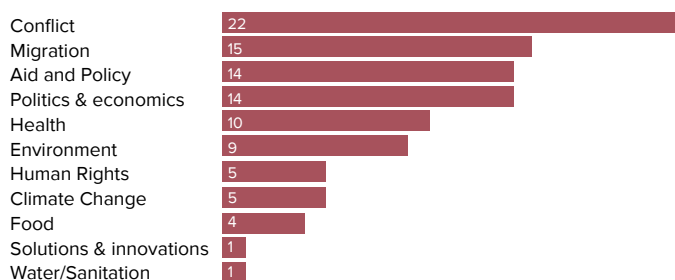


## Thought leadership

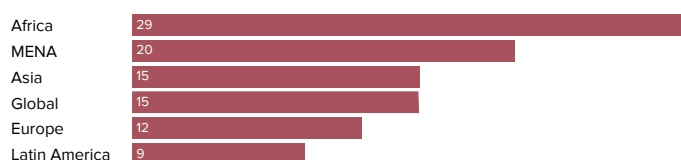
We were recognised as an authoritative voice in the humanitarian and media sectors, with invitations to speak at high-level events around the world. We gave keynote speeches at the International Conference of the Red Cross and Red Crescent and Constructive Journalism Conference; we chaired discussions at the World Economic Forum in Davos, the Humanitarian Congress in Berlin, and the Dubai International Humanitarian Aid & Development Conference; and we briefed private foundations, governments and university classes alike.

TNH also hosted our own well-attended events: in June, our frank conversation on the Grand Bargain aid reform package was lauded as the “best event at ECOSOC”, the UN’s Economic and Social Council. In January, our breakfast conversation at the World Economic Forum in Davos redefined what it means to be a humanitarian in today’s changing world, featuring a range of voices, from the CEO of the Conrad N. Hilton Foundation to YouTube star Jérôme Jarre, and attracting a full house. Other TNH events deepened debate on locally led humanitarian response and launched the Fragile States Index. .1

## Production by theme (%)



## Production by region (%)



## Finding our place in the media sector

We raised our profile in media circles in 2019, joining well-respected bodies like the **Global Investigative Journalism Network** and the International Press Institute. We struck a deal with the **Associated Press** to co-publish our investigation into the sexual abuse of women and girls by peacekeepers in Central African Republic; we were invited to write an **op-ed** for the UK's Prospect Magazine; and we were featured in the **Nieman Journalism Lab**, which covers the news industry.

Our editors and freelancers were interviewed by the BBC World Service, the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation, and Switzerland's national broadcaster, among others, and regularly solicited for behind-the-scenes advice on covering specific crises. We spoke at the Global Investigative Journalism Conference in Hamburg and the African Investigative Journalism Conference in Johannesburg, and attended the invitation-only NewsGeist, a gathering of leading media organisations throughout Europe organised by Google. The New York Times, the Washington Post, the Guardian, Al Jazeera, Politico, BuzzFeed, Le Monde, and Deutsche Welle were among those who republished, cited and/or linked to our reporting throughout the year.

## Our funding

We made great strides with our funding and sustainability in 2019, increasing our funding portfolio to 18 partners, up from 13 in 2018, bringing on board five new donors – the Canadian government, the Danish government, Humanity United, the IKEA Foundation, and the Wallace Global Fund. Multi-year funding agreements now account for 75 percent of our funding. Our overall income grew by 15 percent over 2019 to CHF 1.95 million. In addition, we conducted market research that identified an appetite among our readers to participate in a voluntary paid membership model, as we seek to engage with our audience and diversify our income. All of these achievements enabled us to step into 2020 with growing confidence and a much stronger financial footing.

## Our organisation and governance

In 2019, our founding president, Pulitzer-Prize nominated journalist Howard French, handed over the presidency of our Board of Directors to award-winning South African journalist, editor, trainer and media manager, Paula Fray. Later in the year, we also recruited HR specialist Dominique Ben Dhaou to our board.

Six new staff members joined our team, bringing skills in investigations, reporting from Africa, audience engagement, marketing, and administration and finance.

We continued improving our governance procedures, to increase transparency and trust from our donors, our audience, our staff, and those on whom we report. This included the introduction of a Freelancer Services Agreement to govern our relationship with our correspondents, improvements to our data security practices, and a Risk Management Framework.

# How our journalism creates real impact

TNH's reporting informs the prevention and response to humanitarian crises by contributing to better decision-making, accountability and transparency, and greater awareness. In so doing, we seek to contribute to more effective and accountable humanitarian action.

We monitor the impact of our journalism through our reach, reference to our work in online and offline spaces, our ability to influence the wider media narrative, feedback from our readers, audience surveys, independent evaluations, and through examples of tangible, real-world impact prompted by our reporting. In many cases, simply bringing awareness to an overlooked issue can result in positive change.

In 2019, our stories pushed the South Sudanese Ministry of Health to prepare for the potential spread of Ebola; **served as evidence** in the International Criminal Court trial of a commander of the Lord's Resistance Army; and were used to inform the work of government bodies like the US Congress and the UK Charity Commission.



Young Eritreans while away time in the Mebrat Hail suburb of Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. (Sara Creta/TNH)

“ TNH provides really up to the minute, transparent information that is fantastically useful for policy-makers and those of us who are looking to change the way the humanitarian sector works. It's very much based in evidence. I like the fact that you have local reporting, and I like the fact that it's not just about the next big bang, that you also follow things through and really deliver on those long term protracted crises. ”

Dylan Winder, Senior Adviser for Humanitarian and Protracted Crises at the UK mission to the UN in Geneva



Dr. Farzana Khan is the woman behind the only palliative care programme in Bangladesh's Rohingya camps. (Rajib Mohajan/TNH)

We continue to see concrete evidence that we are fulfilling our mission of informing the world's response to crises. Here are three examples of the impact of our reporting:

## Shining a light on palliative care in Rohingya refugee camps

TNH ramped up our **coverage of the Rohingya crisis** as needs increased and the media focus shifted. In one of our most impactful stories, we introduced the world to **local aid worker Dr. Farzana Khan**, the woman behind the only palliative care programme in Bangladesh's Rohingya camps – the first programme of its kind in any humanitarian response the world over.

While nearly 100 NGOs, UN agencies, and government bodies worked on the refugee response, The Fasiuddin Khan Research Foundation focused on the neglected field of palliative care, treating people with life-threatening or severe chronic illnesses in their homes – an area of need

often overlooked in humanitarian emergencies.

The Foundation described TNH's coverage as a "wake up call", as the importance of palliative care in Rohingya camps was finally recognised by the Cox's Bazar Health Sector, the cluster of humanitarian organisations working on health issues in the camps. The Health Sector then asked the Foundation to develop guidelines on "minimum standards for palliative care" to be included in the Joint Response Plan to the Rohingya crisis, meaning palliative care may be included in the official UN-led response for the first time.

The Rohingya, a mostly Muslim minority in Myanmar's western Rakhine State, have faced discrimination for decades, but 2017 saw the violent ouster of more than 700,000 people from Myanmar into Bangladesh. Relief agencies have now been attempting to deliver humanitarian aid to nearly one million people in the camps, including previous generations of refugees.



## Bearing witness to Ethiopia's neglected crisis

Starting in 2018, a merry-go-round of forced evictions by groups of armed young men and government-pressured returns left tens of thousands of ethnic Gedeos from Oromia's West Guji zone trapped in dire conditions in makeshift shelters across the neighbouring Gedeo district of southern Ethiopia.

TNH **told the stories** of the atrocities experienced by those displaced in the village of Gotiti, where an estimated 20,000 to 30,000 people lived in overcrowded shelters without roofs and sanitation.

At the time, the Ethiopian government did not formally acknowledge them as eligible for humanitarian aid, and food aid had been blocked for months in certain areas in order to encourage inhabitants to return to Oromia.

After publication of our report, which was soon followed by further reporting by other media, Ethiopia's Prime Minister and Minister of Peace visited the internally displaced people sheltered in the area. Additional medical professionals, medicine, and food from the government then arrived.

## Highlighting data protection concerns with a new UN deal

In February 2019, TNH **published a story** about the World Food Programme's partnership with **CIA-linked software firm Palantir** to analyse its data, opening a fierce debate in the aid sector and beyond over responsible handling of data in humanitarian settings.

"The recipients of WFP aid are already in extremely vulnerable situations; they should not be put at additional risk of harm or exploitation," explained a spokesperson for activist NGO Privacy International. Palantir's main clients thus far had been US security and intelligence bodies, and it was known for its work on the enforcement of immigration regulations. Critics said the deal could put "highly sensitive" data about millions of food aid recipients at risk of harm or exploitation.

Shortly following publication, WFP responded with a statement addressing concerns on data privacy. Our report was circulated by the Engine Room's Responsible Data mailing list, which organised an open letter to WFP to reconsider the terms of the agreement. The story was recommended reading by Global Data Justice and the Centre for Innovation, and prompted further reporting by Slate, Devex, De Correspondent, and others.

## Awards

In 2019, The New Humanitarian won or was nominated for the following awards:

### UN Correspondents Association Awards

Contributor Abu Anas in Bangladesh won the top prize in the climate change category for **his reporting for TNH**.

### ATT

At the most recent annual conference of the Arms Trade Treaty (ATT) held in Geneva, contributor Paula Dupraz-Dobias was recognised for her **exemplary reporting** on the connection between the arms trade and gender-based violence.

### One World Media Awards

TNH's series "Destination Europe" was longlisted for the Refugee Reporting Award; "How Climate Change is Plunging Senegal's Herders into Poverty" was longlisted for the Environmental Reporting Award.

### Geneva Engage Awards

TNH won **first place** in the Non-profit Organisations and Associations category, in recognition of our social media outreach and engagement throughout 2019.





“ I have been an avid reader of IRIN for years and now I'm pleased to see that it has become TNH and it is deepening its important work at a time when the foreign correspondent is becoming almost extinct – going to places where other journalists are not, covering issues that are just so vital to humanity, and hopefully thereby driving more empathy, more action, and a better informed public about the issues of our time. ”

Melissa Fleming,  
UN Under-Secretary-General for Global Communications



# The year in review: Our most powerful stories

Here are highlights of our most notable reporting during 2019.

## In-depth, field-based perspectives on humanitarian crises

Our specialist editors and on-the-ground correspondents provide deep analysis and reportage with informed insider takes.

In 2019, TNH played a leading role in dissecting critical and complex trends across the humanitarian landscape, including distrust and lack of community engagement in the Ebola response in Democratic Republic of Congo; the continued plight of millions of Syrian lives upended by war; and the life-and-death choices faced by Venezuelans at home and abroad.

### Unpicking the response to Ebola in Congo

The Ebola outbreak that had erupted in the Democratic Republic of Congo in 2018 worsened in 2019. Our reporting chronicled the multiple challenges facing health workers and residents as the emergency response in an active conflict zone became derailed by violence.

TNH reports were part of a wider body of critical thinking that highlighted problems with the response, but we also looked to amplify the voices of residents and aid workers. Our reporting was instrumental in helping aid groups understand the resentment in local communities that ultimately cost many lives, with this [Reporter's Diary](#) providing insights on that deep mistrust.

We showed the crisis from a range of different and important on-the-ground perspectives: frontline responders risking their lives, local citizens bearing the brunt of the epidemic, including Ebola survivors affected by [stigma](#) and mental health challenges.



"I had no desire to live." Alsény Touré, from the small town of Forécariah in southern Guinea, struggles with depression after surviving Ebola but losing his wife, mother, father, and so many others. (Emmanuel Freudenthal/TNH)

As the epidemic progressed, we covered the impact of [fake news and social media](#), the futility of the [experimental vaccine](#), risks faced by [local responders](#), the consequences of mixed messages on sexual transmission and breastfeeding, and the impact of [armed conflict](#) on the response. Our coverage ranged from personal essays and op-eds from healthcare workers to analysis of how the outbreak [became so deadly](#). We covered angles other media barely touched upon, like sexual transmission, and the importance of communicating with affected people in their local [language](#).

Following our report on the [potential spread of Ebola from Congo to South Sudan](#), the South Sudanese Ministry of Health contacted the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to discuss its content. Our report on [militarisation](#) was cited by [senior aid workers at Médecins Sans Frontières](#), becoming part of a wider investigation into the role of security forces in the response.



Rosa Nabu and her family fled the border town of Ras al-Ayn in northeast Syria when Turkey began an air and land incursion against Kurdish forces in October 2019. (Sofia Barbarani/TNH)

## Telling the stories of Syrian lives upended by war

As a government-led offensive forced people to flee bombing in Syria's rebel-held northwest and a Turkish invasion did the same in the Kurdish northeast, TNH was on the ground with civilians whose lives were turned upside-down, again and again.

In the northwest, we **spoke to doctors** who insisted on staying and doing their jobs on Idlib province's front lines, in spite of airstrikes and intense psychological pressure. We were the first to report on the humanitarian situation following Turkey's incursion in the northeast, when our correspondent **spoke directly** with people who had run for their lives, and were often beyond the reach of aid. As aid agencies and NGOs evacuated staff and struggled to get help to people quickly, we reported how **local citizens** became aid workers to fill in the gaps.

TNH called attention to the needs of tens of thousands of people stuck in a **no man's land in Rukban on the Syria-Jordan border** for years, facing an uncertain fate. We reported on a **planned voluntary evacuation**, and on

why, despite desperate circumstances, some did not want to leave.

Tips from trusted sources allowed TNH to publicise UN policy decisions that were widely criticised in the aid sector and beyond. We reported on a **UN plan to overhaul aid operations in Syria**, a move critics said would hand too much influence over humanitarian work to President Bashar al-Assad. **TNH broke the story** when the UN backtracked on the reshuffle.

Our impact was widely felt, from government and policy circles to decision-making on the ground. TNH contributor and Syria expert Aron Lund participated in a call-in panel with the US Congress "Syria Study Group" to discuss his **TNH analysis** of where the political process in Syria stands. The Syrian Democratic Forces allowed the UN to **open a transit centre** for people fleeing the so-called Islamic State in Syria towards al-Hol camp in Hassakeh province, shortly after **TNH's report** revealing that security screenings at the camp were delaying urgent medical care, and children were dying as a result.



## Life and death choices for Venezuelans at home and abroad

An economic collapse was leading to a mass exodus from Venezuela at the same time as causing a humanitarian crisis within the country denied by the government. Like many, we covered the millions of migrants fleeing to overburdened host countries in the wider region, but we also reported on the millions of Venezuelans who stayed behind, facing the daily indignities of hunger, healthcare shortages, and hyperinflation.

We started 2019 with unique reporting from inside Venezuela exploring how **local groups** were shifting to emergency response in the absence of international aid. It was **the culmination of a month-long trip** from journalist Susan Schulman, who discovered how food aid had become a political tool and was withheld from those who defied President Nicolás Maduro's increasingly authoritarian government. Our short film about **the indigenous Warao people** examined a marginalised group whose survival had become threatened by drug shortages and the exodus of trained medical professionals.

In February and March, as an international aid stand-off intensified, TNH looked beyond the geo-political drama to see what it meant out for those most affected, **on both sides of the Colombia-Venezuela border**. And when the mainstream media had moved on, we kept an eye on the **deal-making** that followed, often behind the scenes, to deliver assistance to desperate Venezuelans.

While many then focused on the growing exodus, TNH

Children queue for lunch served by the NGO Mi Convive in the San Miguel neighbourhood of Caracas, Venezuela. (Susan Schulman/TNH)



looked deeper, at the plight of those left behind, people who often faced greater hardship. In Magnus Boding Hansen's **"true crime tale"**, we exposed in longform how Venezuela's middle class had been decimated by the crisis, a sign of the rapid descent of a country that was once an economic powerhouse in the region. Other important angles included **the growing risks Venezuelan women faced from gender-based violence**, and **how those with HIV were coping with the medicine shortages**.

But the exodus was not forgotten either and, as the patience of Venezuela's neighbours began to wear thin towards the end of 2019, **we mapped the flight of Venezuelans** and investigated the different and changing restrictions they faced in host countries.

## Casting a critical eye over the emergency aid sector

We ask tough questions of the aid sector to uncover the hidden truths of how aid is delivered, who benefits, and where the money comes from and goes.

Our stories in 2019 drove discussion on the criminalisation of aid, sexual abuse by peacekeepers, and the controversial use of biometric data in aid delivery.

### The creeping criminalisation of aid

Throughout 2019, TNH chronicled the criminalisation of aid, showing how counter-terror legislation presented a significant legal hazard for NGOs while policies and laws in many countries left aid workers at risk of arrest for simply doing their jobs.

In a bid to keep aid out of the hands of extremists, donor demands were stopping aid from reaching those who need it most. Michiel Hofman, senior humanitarian specialist with Médecins Sans Frontières, wrote in an **op-ed** published by TNH about his concerns as he testified against a proposed Dutch counter-terror law that “proposes to criminalise citizens’ travel – without Dutch government permission – to areas it designates as controlled by ‘terrorist’ organisations”.

Our reporting highlighted NGO concerns that donors are not taking on their fair share of the risks in delivering aid to warzones, seeking to wash their hands of liability.

Following our earlier reports on Idlib in Syria, which broke the news on several cases of **aid diversion** to militants and the **tighter controls** over aid that followed, the debate around anti-terror compliance **continued**, with questions around how detailed NGO due diligence should be, and who is to blame if money goes astray.

The UK **temporarily froze** its cash aid in northeastern Syria, a lifeline for tens of thousands of people, to avoid the risk of diversion to members of Islamic State. Our reporting inspired Swissinfo’s podcast “**Inside Geneva: Humanitarians and counter-terror laws**”, and as a result of one of our **stories**, USAID was forced to defend its policy in northeastern Nigeria in an Office of the Inspector General’s report to **Congress**.

We also explored **the trial of Scott Warren**, a US migrant aid group volunteer who helped two undocumented migrants, and reported on the increasing number of people being arrested across Europe. In May, TNH profiled **Sarah Mardini**, a Syrian refugee who had been volunteering for an NGO in Greece’s Moria

“TNH is fulfilling a very imperative role because it’s covering the stories which a lot of the mainstream media are no longer doing.”

Edward Girardet, Editor of Global Geneva magazine

refugee camp before she was arrested and charged for belonging to a criminal organisation, people smuggling, money laundering, and espionage.

### Investigating failings of the aid system

TNH continues to hold the aid sector accountable to those it serves and those who fund it.

In 2019, **we revealed** how the World Food Programme opened an investigation into 50,000 tonnes of substandard nutrition-boosting porridge mix that could have made women and children sick.

In 2018, TNH revealed that few of the women and girls allegedly raped, sexually abused, and exploited by UN peacekeepers in 2015-16 knew the status of their claims for compensation. In 2019, TNH Investigations



Editor Paisley Dodds obtained the draft report of an internal review commissioned by the UN, revealing a litany of mistakes made by investigators that may explain why so many cases have been dismissed and why, according to UN data, there hasn't been a single prosecution.

TNH also showed how an internal UN refugee agency investigation into allegations of corruption in its Sudan resettlement operations determined that a staff member abused their power by soliciting bribes from refugees.

TNH reporting examined accountability to affected communities, tracking shortcomings in disaster recovery and the impact of protracted displacement. In Bangladesh's Rohingya camps, for example, refugees say humanitarian organisations have often failed to adequately consult on everything from **biometric ID cards** to education or simply communicating in the right language. TNH coverage highlighted the untapped potential of Rohingya educators and a network of **unofficial refugee-run schools**, the unaddressed needs of **male rape survivors**, and the challenges faced by women taking on new leadership roles after **camp elections**.

## Digital security and privacy

When CIA-linked software firm Palantir partnered with the World Food Programme to analyse its data about vulnerable aid recipients, **TNH's coverage** of the deal opened fierce debate in the aid sector and beyond over responsible handling of data in humanitarian settings.

Following our report, the story was circulated by the Engine Room's Responsible Data mailing list, which organised an **open letter to WFP** to reconsider the

More than 130 women and girls made sexual abuse and exploitation allegations against peacekeepers in Dekoa, a remote town in the Central African Republic countryside. (Philip Kleinfeld/TNH)



terms of the agreement. **WFP itself** responded two days after the publication of TNH's report, which was recommended by the **Global Data Justice** and **Centre for Innovation**.

In 2019, TNH continued reporting on how new technologies are changing the way emergency relief efforts are carried out. The use of **biometric data in aid delivery** has been the focus of much scrutiny as privacy advocates are concerned its necessity has yet to be proven, while aid agencies argue in favour of its efficiency. In the meantime, thousands of children between the ages of one and five were **due to be fingerprinted** in Bangladesh and Tanzania in the largest biometric scheme of its kind.

We highlighted the use of biometrics in the European Parliament's latest strategy for **controlling irregular West African migration**, which would include sharing data on who is migrating and to which countries they can be returned, again bringing into question the privacy of asylum seekers and potentially vulnerable people.

## Shining a spotlight on forgotten stories and emerging trends

We highlight crises, angles, and communities overlooked by mainstream media, and flag brewing problems before they erupt into full-blown crises.

We broke new ground with our comprehensive Sahel in Flames special package, while also going deep on the ongoing impact of climate change and emerging crises in Mozambique and Colombia.

### Sahel in flames

TNH was among the first international media organisations to call attention to the rapid increase in violence and displacement throughout the West African Sahel and its ramifications for civilians.

Described as “excellent”, “important”, and “comprehensive” by readers and analysts, the 12-part **Sahel in flames** series combined 10 months of reporting on three interlocking crises in Mali, Niger, and Burkina Faso.

While the world watched closely as Islamic State lost the territory it once held in Iraq and Syria, little attention was paid to the explosion of jihadist and inter-communal violence tearing a swathe across western Africa’s Sahel region, killing thousands, ripping communities apart, and displacing some half a million people.

Our journalists were some of very few on the ground, embedded with ethnic militias, witnessing the charred remains of villages, going on patrol with border guards and security forces, and visiting displacement camps and hospitals. This project untangled a complex and escalating crisis for a wide audience, giving this underreported story the urgency it deserved.



A member of the Koglweogo, one of the growing number of ‘self-defence’ groups, manages the crowd at a community gathering in the town of Ziniaré, Burkina Faso. (Philip Kleinfeld/TNH)





A boy watches river protection work near Kedarpur village, Bangladesh. Authorities are reinforcing the banks with sandbags and concrete structures. (Shafiqul Alam/TNH)

Our coverage prompted one philanthropic foundation to give a large multi-country grant; and **a panel of experts report** pursuant to a UN Security Council resolution on Mali cited TNH articles among its sources. **The UN's emergency aid coordination body, OCHA, issued an updated "snapshot"** shortly after *The Sahel in Flames* was published, while TNH correspondent Philip Kleinfeld also gave a number of briefings on the topic to peacekeeping officials.

## On the front lines of climate change

Climate change has traditionally been considered an abstract threat for the future. However, in graphic on-the-ground detail, TNH made clear in 2019 that the impacts of climate change have arrived much sooner than many anticipated, in communities where lives and livelihoods are already being irreversibly disrupted.

In a series of three stories for The New Humanitarian, journalist **AZM Anas** explored the humanitarian fallout of a changing climate in his home country of Bangladesh. His reporting uncovered **new evidence** of climate-fuelled migration, and illustrated how **everyday decisions** can

reduce – or worsen – disaster casualties today. The **UN Correspondents Association** awarded this reporting with its top prize for climate change coverage.

We covered the impacts of twin cyclones **Idai** and **Kenneth** in Mozambique and neighbouring countries, from the early responses through to **stalled recovery efforts**. As insurgent attacks, contested elections, and drought added to the aftermath of the cyclones, an increasingly dire humanitarian situation was forming with almost 10 percent of the population in need of assistance. Our coverage of **Hurricane Dorian** in the Bahamas and **Cyclone Fani** in India examined the post-disaster fallout on migrants and livelihoods.

TNH reported on how climate shocks are compounding existing problems in countries like **Somalia**, but also explored grassroots solutions and response strategies: the local aid worker **fighting for peace** as pastoralist communities clash over dwindling resources in Kenya, for example, or the Pacific Island women who have quietly become their communities' unheralded **frontline disaster responders**.

Other notable coverage included early reporting on the **Indian Ocean Dipole**, which explored how record-breaking temperature changes in the Indian Ocean have led hundreds of thousands of people in East Africa to be affected by heavy rains and floods.

In November, we launched **The Drought Diaries** – a monthly series examining what it looks like to struggle with drought, through the experiences of six families from Kenya, Somalia, and Zimbabwe. This series puts a human face to the drought taking hold in eastern and southern Africa.

And our reporting on the UN climate summit, **COP25**, tied the different strands of our reporting together, **underscoring the links** between high-level negotiations and their ground-level humanitarian implications.

## The Colombia forgotten by peace

By chronicling life shaped by economic hardships and social unrest, TNH revealed just how frayed the peace agreement in Colombia's decades-long civil war had become.

Through **our coverage**, we revealed the emerging failure of the much-trumpeted peace accords. The Nobel Peace Prize-winning effort from President Juan Manuel Santos was taken at face value by much of the media, with most outlets moving on. But, beneath the surface, the real story was the emergence of new rebel groups replacing the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC), and the continued **displacement** in places like Tumaco.

Thanks to our network of reporters with deep on-the-ground contacts and trust among local communities, we were able to continue covering **the situation as it became more explosive**, with FARC commanders announcing a relaunch of their armed struggle.

“ I especially like that TNH does investigative journalism, which I find incredibly important, when very often the wider world is not prepared to go underneath the headlines. ”

Hugo Slim, Senior Research Fellow at the Institute of Ethics, Law and Armed Conflict at University of Oxford

We also looked at **the wave of attacks and murders on political candidates and community leaders** – many of them women – and explored deeper societal problems like **rising displacement, widespread hunger, and lack of basic infrastructure**. In Tumaco, **we showed how the murder rate is four times Colombia's national average and violent clashes have displaced at least 2,700 people**. We chronicled the situation in **a town where even the police do not enter** to reveal new displacements and new violence, before also looking at **efforts to make peace work**.

## The rise of violence in Mozambique

In an area largely off limits to journalists, TNH Africa Correspondent and Editor Philip Kleinfeld **spent a week on the ground** in Mozambique's Cabo Delgado province in late 2019, reporting on the civilian fallout of a poorly understood but fast-evolving Islamist insurgency.

Communities in the gas-rich but impoverished province were still recovering from the impact of Cyclone Kenneth when attacks began to multiply in an area where few international aid groups were on hand to help.

From interviews with families fleeing violence to local authorities overwhelmed by the arrival of displaced people, we were one of the first organisations to describe the humanitarian crisis befalling the province.

Through interviews with residents, Mozambican researchers, and UN officials, we also explored the shadowy Islamic State-linked group behind the violence, and the local grievances driving recruitment.

# Engaging the widest possible audience

## IRIN becomes The New Humanitarian

On 21 March 2019, we officially **said goodbye to IRIN News and hello to The New Humanitarian** at a launch event in Geneva with speeches by our director and new board president, messages from some of our journalists, a panel discussion with our editors, and the world premiere of the play “The New Humanitarian”, written specially for the occasion.

This rebrand allows us to officially mark our move from UN project to fully independent newsroom, while solidifying our role chronicling the changing nature of – and response to – humanitarian crises.

Humanitarian is expanding to reach this wider group of people who want to better understand and improve our complex world. With our new brand, we aim to reach these new audiences around the world and make TNH *the* essential read for our growing community.

We stand firm in our mission to inform crisis prevention and response by amplifying the voices of those most affected; to shine a light on forgotten crises; and to resist superficial, sensational narratives about the crises of our time.

## The New Humanitarian represents independence, courage, and trustworthiness

Humanitarian represents independence, courage, and trustworthiness – values we apply to all of our coverage.

The TNH brand gives us a renewed sense of focus and purpose that fuels our desire to get to the heart of crises and provide the kind of reporting that sets us apart from other media outlets.

We recognise that change is inevitable and, as a brand, we have to move with the times to remain relevant. Humanitarianism is evolving in important ways. From the private sector’s response to refugees; high school students marching for climate change; local communities reclaiming agency in shaping their own futures, today, a new generation of humanitarians is redefining the way the world responds to crises – demanding a seat at the table and a voice in the conversation.

We remain the trusted news source for policy-makers and practitioners in humanitarian response, but The New

### Improving our reader experience

In 2019, we improved how we engage and serve our readers. We made our site more accessible, with numerous improvements to the layout, speed, navigation, performance, and optimisation for mobile users.

Key to our approach has been understanding how our audiences interact with our content; learning from data, surveys, and other points of feedback; and putting it all together to give TNH readers more of what they want, both in terms of substance and presentation. We enriched our content with added visual elements, more interesting representations of data, graphics, and videos, and more interactive features.

These enhancements led to significant audience growth, with almost 200,000 people visiting our website in December, an increase of more than 20,000 since January.

We also saw hefty increases in the amount of time people spent reading our stories and the number of clicks to our content from our curated newsletters, pointing to an increasingly interested and engaged audience.

Editorially, we covered emerging trends and more stories pegged to the breaking news to increase our relevance, while also providing more analysis and in-depth coverage of the latest happenings in the humanitarian sphere.

We've also seen more readers take further action after reading a story, such as reading another story or subscribing to our newsletter. With improved content came better visibility in search engines and increased traffic – up 150% for the year – from people searching for an ever-widening range of topics.

## Newsletters

In 2019, we boosted newsletter sign-ups through banner messaging on our website, old-fashioned pen-and-paper lists at events, and campaigns on social media, growing our mailing list to more than 41,000 subscribers.

We sent multiple targeted, relevant mailouts for must-read stories, special packages, investigations, and relevant archival content, driving more traffic to content of interest to our subscribers.

## Social media

We posted more of our material on Medium, Long Reads, Instagram and other platforms – at times attracting a readership that surpassed that of the TNH website. We also reached 134,000 news readers by publishing our content through Apple News.

We continued to grow and increase output on Instagram, Twitter, Facebook and LinkedIn, growing our audience by 17,000 on those platforms in 2019.



International media brands, local newspapers, think tanks, aid organisations, and governments regularly republished, cited, or linked to our work, including the above.

## TNH on the global stage

Throughout the year, we made a splash in the media landscape through partnerships, interviews, and events, while setting the agenda in the humanitarian sector through our own events and speaking gigs.

We raised our profile by joining well-respected bodies like the Global Investigative Journalism Network, striking a deal with AP to give greater visibility to a big investigation, reaching out to other non-profit media to exchange best practice, and responding to an invitation to write an op-ed for the UK's Prospect Magazine.

Our editors and freelancers were interviewed by major media outlets around the world, including the BBC World Service, the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation, Switzerland's national broadcaster, Austria's Radio FM4, Deutschlandfunk, Indus News Lahore and the Humanitarian News Research Network.

International media brands, local newspapers, think tanks, aid organisations, and governments regularly republished, cited, or linked to our work, including the organisations shown above.



We organised a number of popular events, with a diverse range of guests and topics: from a package of humanitarian reforms known as The Grand Bargain to the changing face of aid; from the up and downs of fragile states to the latest trends on local aid.



TNH Senior Editor Ben Parker (pictured, left) moderated “In conversation with The New Humanitarian: The Grand Bargain – where to now?”

Speakers included Sema Genel Karaosmanoğlu, Chair of the Leadership Council, NEAR Network, Jeremy Konyndyk, Senior Policy Fellow, Center for Global Development, Katie Sams, Director of External Resources, International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), Rachel Scott, Team Lead and Senior Policy Analyst for Crises and Fragility, OECD, Bonaventure Gbétoho Sokpoh, Head of Policy, Advocacy and Learning, Core Humanitarian Standard Alliance, and Birgitta Tazelaar, Deputy Director-General for International Cooperation, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Netherlands.



TNH Director Heba Aly (centre, in red) led a breakfast conversation at the World Economic Forum in Davos with the voices redefining what it means to be a humanitarian in today's changing world.

Speaking on stage were Peter Maurer, President of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), Tara Nathan, Executive Vice President, Humanitarian and Development, Mastercard, Peter Laugharn, President and CEO, Conrad N. Hilton Foundation, Rob Acker, CEO, Salesforce.org, Jérôme Jarre, Founder, Love Army, and social media activist, and Mayuri Bhattacharjee, Founder, Sikun Relief Foundation, Assam, India.

## TNH staff and contributors were also invited to speak at various high-level events worldwide, including:

Giving a keynote speech on trust in humanitarian action at the International Conference of the Red Cross and Red Crescent in Geneva, Switzerland;

Giving a keynote speech on the importance of quality journalism at the Constructive Journalism Conference in Geneva, Switzerland;

MCing of the award ceremony of the Young Activists Summit, with Nobel Peace Prize winner and Yazidi human rights activist Nadia Murad, in Geneva, Switzerland;

Chairing of panel discussion on counter-terrorism laws and criminalisation of humanitarian action at the Humanitarian Congress in Berlin, Germany;

Speaking at various events at the World Economic Forum in Davos, including a press conference on the humanitarian crises that will shape 2019, alongside Peter Maurer, President of the International Committee of the Red Cross;

Giving a presentation and moderating a discussion on localisation at a donor event hosted by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation in Seattle, United States;

Participating in a panel discussion on the future of multilateralism organised by the University of Geneva, the Swiss Federation and others in Geneva, Switzerland, alongside the Swiss Foreign Minister Ignazio Cassis;

Participating in a high-level dialogue on engaging media in disaster risk communication, organised by the Asian Disaster Preparedness Center, hosted online;



< TNH Director Heba Aly gave the keynote speech on the importance of quality journalism at the Constructive Journalism Conference in Geneva, Switzerland.



< TNH Director Heba Aly MC-ed at the award ceremony of the Young Activists Summit in Geneva, with young, female activists, including Nobel Peace Prize winner Nadia Murad. Photo: Antoine Tardy/YAS

> TNH Director Heba Aly moderated a discussion at the World Economic Forum on "The Next Upheaval: Food Crisis", with CEO of Mercy Corps Neal Keny-Guyer, CEO of Syngenta J. Erik Fyrwals, and Minister of Foreign Affairs and East African cooperation of Tanzania Augustine P. Mahiga.

Photo: Jakob Polacsek

> TNH Executive Editor Josephine Schmidt spoke on a panel about the media's contribution to peacebuilding, at Geneva Peace Week.

Photo: Nicolas Boissez/Fondation Hirondelle



# Managing with excellence

## Successes in our funding strategy

The New Humanitarian is primarily funded by grants from governments and foundations.

In 2019, we saw a 15 percent increase in our funding levels thanks to further diversification in our funding portfolio.

We had a total of 18 partners throughout the year ([listed here](#)), an increase from 13 the year before. We also struck an increased number of multi-year funding agreements,

We also introduced new software-based tools to improve the scope and efficiency of our counter-terrorism and sanctions checking procedures.

We hosted a workshop to increase our team's awareness of data security risks and increased the IT security of our internal platforms.

We also began developing new and more comprehensive policies in human resource management and child safeguarding.

**In 2019, we saw a 15 percent increase in our funding levels**

which now account for 75 percent of our overall funding. Diversification was further emphasised by no one donor contributing more than 15 percent of our overall budget.

Finally, we improved our level of unearmarked funding, which in 2019 accounted for 66 percent of our overall income, an increase from 43 percent the year before.

## Institutionalisation of our systems

Steady improvements to our internal policies, procedures, and systems continued throughout 2019, helping us build and sustain transparency and trust from our donors, audience, and those on whom we report.

We introduced a Freelancer Services and Licence Agreement to govern relationships with contributors we work with in the field, while our new Risk Management Framework provides a critical tool to enable senior management and our Board of Directors to better understand key risks that could disrupt our operations.

## Building the right team

During 2019, we hired a number of motivated, highly experienced and talented professionals.

At the beginning of the year, award-winning journalist Paisley Dodds, who spent 23 years with the Associated Press, joined us as Investigations Editor to ramp up our investigative coverage. After a year-long fellowship with Open Society Foundations, Obi Anyadike returned to TNH as Senior Editor of our Africa desk, bringing with him extensive experience covering aid and crises, including more than a decade with IRIN. To deepen our Africa coverage and reinforce our editorial team, we hired experienced reporter Philip Kleinfeld as Correspondent and Editor, Africa.

We appointed Whitney Patterson, formerly our Digital Content Producer, as Audience Engagement Editor to develop and execute a new audience engagement strategy. Matt Crook, a marketing and communications specialist with experience in journalism, non-profits, and



“Reporting from NGOs, reporting from donors, reporting from UN agencies – they all have their own interests that are informing what they put out there. It’s very important to have a voice like this that is focused just on digging out the truth, even when, as a former government official, that was sometimes inconvenient for me.”

Jeremy Konyndyk, Senior policy fellow at Centre for Global Development and former head of the Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance

start-ups, joined our team to lead our marketing strategy and help bring more readers into the TNH circle.

We also strengthened our administration and finance team with the recruitment of Cécile Bonin, who specialised in accounting, financial management, and auditing, as Administration and Finance Assistant.

## Strengthening our governance

In March, Paula Fray, an award-winning South African journalist, editor, trainer, and media manager, became the new president of our Board of Directors. Ms. Fray was the first female editor of the South African Saturday Star newspaper and a recipient of the prestigious Nieman Fellowship at Harvard University. She founded and now runs frayintermedia, which trains African reporters and newsroom managers. Ms. Fray brings a wealth of experience in media, strategic communications, and project management to our board.

Ms. Fray succeeded author, professor, former New York Times correspondent and Pulitzer Prize nominee Howard French, the first president of what was then the

IRIN Association, following our spin-off from the United Nations.

“We are at a very critical moment right now,” Ms. Fray told audiences gathered for the launch of The New Humanitarian. “The nature of humanitarian crises is changing, and the impacts of humanitarian crises are a lot more global. The way we tell stories about humanitarian crises needs to change too. We need to rethink the way we tell, share, and research our stories. This is what I am hoping to achieve, as we embark on this new chapter.”

In 2019, TNH also recruited a new HR specialist onto our Board of Directors to strengthen our expertise on compensation, leadership, succession planning, and organisational culture: Dominique Ben Dhaou’s career spans 30 years of HR experience across the private, public, and non-profit sectors.

2019 also saw the Board of Directors put in place a process to measure its own effectiveness, ensuring that we can continually review our diversity at the governance level, as well as our succession strategy, the relationship between board and management, and the board’s ways of working.

# Our board



**Paula Fray**

**President**

Founder and Managing Director,  
frayintermedia



**Andy Martin**

**Vice-President**

Founder and Director,  
Firetail



**Martin Aked**

**Treasurer**

Chartered Accountant  
and Business Consultant



**Sacha Meuter**

**Secretary**

Head Of Policy And  
Research and Legal Advisor,  
Fondation Hirondele



**Dominique Ben Dhaou**

Founder and Managing Director,  
PointNorth International



**Nanjira Sambuli**

Digital Equality  
Advocacy Manager,  
World Wide Web Foundation



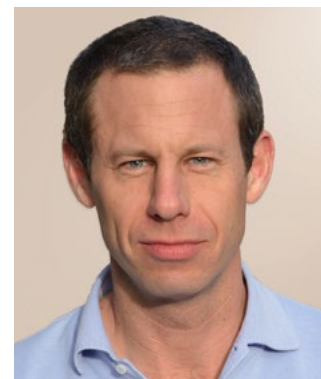
**Peter Bouckaert**

Acting Director,  
Global Observatory on  
Human Rights at Sea



**Dr. Sara Pantuliano**

Executive Director, Overseas  
Development Institute



**Turi Munthe**

Venture Partner,  
North Base Media  
Investment Group

# Our team

Heba Aly, *Director*

## Editorial

Josephine Schmidt, *Executive Editor*

Andrew Gully, *Managing Editor*

Ben Parker, *Senior Editor*

Paisley Dodds, *Investigations Editor*

Obi Anyadike, *Senior Africa Editor*

Annie Slemrod, *Middle East Editor*

Irwin Loy, *Asia Editor*

Philip Kleinfeld, *Correspondent and Editor, Africa*

Whitney Patterson, *Audience Engagement Editor*

Marc Fehr, *Senior Web Developer*

## External Relations

Sarah Noble, *Director of External Relations*

Matt Crook, *Marketing Manager*

Emmeline Booth, *External Relations Officer*

## Finance and Administration

Richard Golding, *Director of Finance*

Victoria Bytsko, HR, *Administration and Finance Manager*

Cécile Bonin, *Administration and Finance Assistant*



# Our partners

TNH's funding comes largely from governments and foundations. We also generate small amounts of revenue from other sources, including advertising, honorariums for speaking roles, and donations from individual readers.

Our main donors in 2019 included:

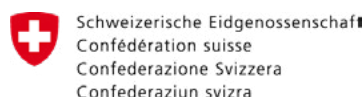
- | Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade
- | Belgian Federal Public Service of Foreign Affairs
- | Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation
- | Fondation Pro Victimis
- | Foreign Affairs, Trade and Development Canada
- | Foundation Open Society Institute
- | The H2H Network's H2H Fund, hosted by DRC and supported by DFID
- | Humanity United
- | Loterie Romande
- | Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Denmark
- | Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- | Open Society Initiative for West Africa
- | Service de la solidarité internationale
- | Stichting IKEA Foundation
- | Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency
- | Swiss Federal Department of Foreign Affairs
- | Wallace Global Fund



BILL & MELINDA  
GATES foundation

FONDATION  
PRO VICTIMIS  
GENÈVE

Canada



WALLACE  
GLOBAL FUND

# Our finances

A summary of the 2019 income and expenditure together with the year-end balance sheet, alongside the 2018 comparatives, are provided below and on the opposite page. Our financial statements are produced according to the Swiss Code of Obligations (CO) and subject to independent audit by Berney Associés of Geneva. Their audit report and our 2019 financial statements in Swiss CO format can be found in Annex 1.

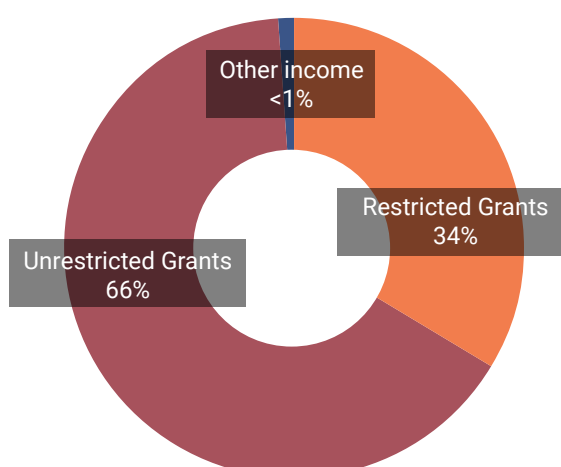
Our total income for 2019 was CHF 1.953 million with a significant increase this year in the proportion of unrestricted donor grants compared to restricted donor grants. Our expenditure totaled CHF 1.944 million with a small net surplus for the year of CHF 9,000. After almost four years of operations as an independent entity, we had accumulated reserves of CHF 41,000 by the end of 2019.

Two-thirds (66 percent) of our grant income for 2019 was in the form of unrestricted grants for our core operations, with the remainder earmarked for specific parts of our core operations or in support of additional projects that are aligned with our core mission and objectives. This compares with 43 percent unrestricted grant income for 2018.

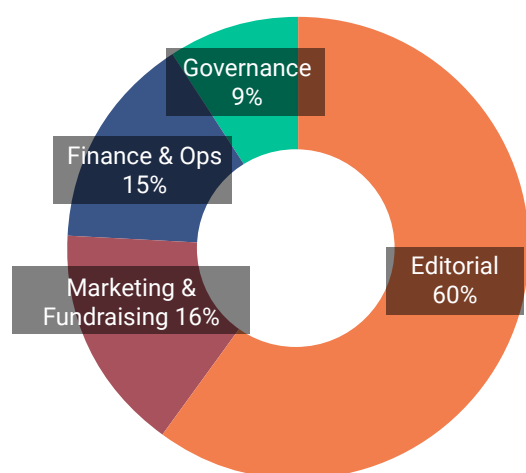
Income (CHF)	2019	2018
Unrestricted grants	1 283 365	714 833
Restricted grants	658 189	962 482
<b>Total Grant Income</b>	<b>1 941 554</b>	<b>1 677 316</b>
Other income	11 617	13 934
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>1 953 172</b>	<b>1 691 250</b>

Expenditure (CHF)	2019	2018
Editorial costs	1 159 723	(977 153)
Marketing & Fundraising	304 845	(282 600)
Finance & Operations	299 612	(245 114)
Strategy & Governance	179 999	(172 612)
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>1 944 180</b>	<b>1 677 479</b>
<b>Net Surplus / (Deficit)</b>	<b>8 992</b>	<b>13 771</b>

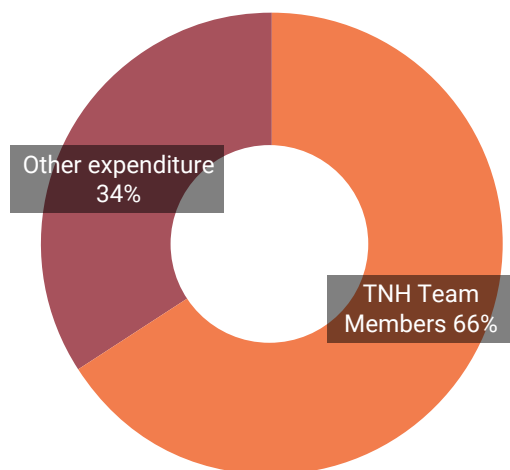
## TNH 2019 Income



## TNH 2019 Expenditure



## TNH Team and Other Costs



Editorial production remains our priority expenditure area, representing 60 percent of total costs (up from 58 percent in 2018). The overall allocation of 2019 expenditure across each of our operating functions is illustrated in the chart above.

## Assets

### Current Assets

Cash & cash equivalents	685 289	623 710
Other current receivables	3 889	3 061
Prepaid Expenses	156 591	134 250

<b>Total Current Assets</b>	<b>845 769</b>	<b>761 021</b>
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### Other Assets

Office security deposit	14 635	14 635
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<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>860 404</b>	<b>775 656</b>
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## Liabilities & Available Funds

### Short Term Liabilities

Creditors & other current liabilities	19 638	34 825
Other current liabilities	191 308	199 131
Deferred income	602 565	500 859

<b>Total Short Term Liabilities</b>	<b>813 511</b>	<b>734 815</b>
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### Other Liabilities

Sub-let office security deposit	5 880	8 820
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<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>819 391</b>	<b>743 635</b>
--------------------------	----------------	----------------

## Available Funds

### Short Term Liabilities

Brought forward from prior year	32 021	18 250
---------------------------------	--------	--------

Net Surplus / (Deficit) for the year	8 992	13 771
--------------------------------------	-------	--------

<b>Total Available Funds</b>	<b>41 013</b>	<b>32 021</b>
------------------------------	---------------	---------------

<b>Total Liabilities &amp; Available Funds</b>	<b>860 404</b>	<b>775 656</b>
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# Berney Associés

Geneva, April 3, 2020

## Report of the statutory auditor on the limited statutory examination to the general meeting of THE NEW HUMANITARIAN, Geneva

As statutory auditor, we have examined the financial statements (balance sheet, income statement and notes) of THE NEW HUMANITARIAN for the financial year ended December 31, 2019.

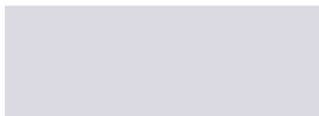
These financial statements are the responsibility of the Board of Directors. Our responsibility is to perform a limited statutory examination on these financial statements. We confirm that we meet the licensing and independence requirements as stipulated by Swiss law.

We conducted our examination in accordance with the Swiss Standard on the Limited Statutory Examination. This standard requires that we plan and perform a limited statutory examination to identify material misstatements in the financial statements. A limited statutory examination consists primarily of inquiries of company personnel and analytical procedures as well as detailed tests of company documents as considered necessary in the circumstances. However, the testing of operational processes and the internal control system, as well as inquiries and further testing procedures to detect fraud or other legal violations, are not within the scope of this examination.

Based on our limited statutory examination, nothing has come to our attention that causes us to believe that the financial statements, disclosing available funds of CHF 41'013, do not comply with Swiss law and the Association's articles of incorporation.

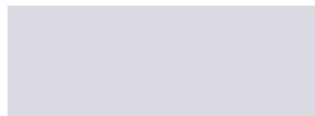
Berney Associés Audit SA

**BA** Signature électronique authentifiée



**Cosimo PICCI**  
Licensed Audit Expert  
Auditor in charge

**BA** Signature électronique authentifiée



**Claude HERI**  
Licensed Audit Expert

Enclosure: financial statements (balance sheet, income statement and notes)

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berneyassociés.com  
info@berneyassociés.com

Audit

Comptabilité

Expertise & Conseil

Fiscalité

Payroll

Corporate finance

THE NEW HUMANITARIAN, Geneva

BALANCE SHEET AT DECEMBER 31, 2019

<b><u>ASSETS</u></b>	<b><u>Notes</u></b>	<b><u>31.12.2019</u></b>	<b><u>31.12.2018</u></b>
		CHF	CHF
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>			
Cash and cash equivalents		685'289	623'710
Other current receivables		3'889	3'061
Prepaid expenses and accrued income	5.1	156'591	134'250
<b>TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS</b>		<b>845'769</b>	<b>761'021</b>
<b>FIXED ASSETS</b>			
Sub-let building security deposit	4.	14'635	14'635
<b>TOTAL FIXED ASSETS</b>		<b>14'635</b>	<b>14'635</b>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>		<b>860'404</b>	<b>775'656</b>

THE NEW HUMANITARIAN, Geneva

BALANCE SHEET AT DECEMBER 31, 2019

<b><u>LIABILITIES AND SHAREHOLDERS' EQUITY</u></b>	<b><u>Notes</u></b>	<b><u>31.12.2019</u></b>	<b><u>31.12.2018</u></b>
		CHF	CHF
<b>SHORT TERM LIABILITIES</b>			
Trade creditors		19'638	34'825
Other current liabilities	5.2	191'308	199'131
Deferred income and accrued expenses	5.3	602'565	500'859
<b>TOTAL SHORT TERM LIABILITIES</b>		<b>813'511</b>	<b>734'815</b>
<b>LONG TERM LIABILITIES</b>			
Sub-let building security deposit	4.	5'880	8'820
<b>TOTAL LONG TERM LIABILITIES</b>		<b>5'880</b>	<b>8'820</b>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>		<b>819'391</b>	<b>743'635</b>
<b>AVAILABLE FUNDS</b>			
Voluntary retained earnings			
- Brought Forward		32'021	18'250
- Net result for the year		8'992	13'771
<b>TOTAL AVAILABLE FUNDS</b>		<b>41'013</b>	<b>32'021</b>
		<b>860'404</b>	<b>775'656</b>



**IRIN ASSOCIATION, Geneva****INCOME AND EXPENDITURE STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2019**

	<b>Notes</b>	<b>2019</b> CHF	<b>2018</b> CHF
<b><u>INCOME</u></b>			
Grants received		1'941'554	1'677'316
Other operating income		11'617	13'934
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>		<b>1'953'171</b>	<b>1'691'250</b>
<b><u>EXPENDITURES</u></b>			
Editorial commissioning		(333'406)	(236'249)
Staff costs		(708'845)	(628'973)
Operating expenses*	5.4	(882'301)	(796'096)
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES</b>		<b>(1'924'552)</b>	<b>(1'661'318)</b>
<b>EARNINGS BEFORE INTERESTS AND TAXES</b>		<b>28'619</b>	<b>29'932</b>
Financial income	5.5	25'619	10'590
Financial costs	5.6	(45'246)	(26'751)
<b>SURPLUS FOR THE PERIOD</b>		<b>8'992</b>	<b>13'771</b>

\* Includes costs of journalists and editors contracted as consultants to produce the Association's journalism

# The New Humanitarian Association

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AT DECEMBER 31, 2018

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### 1. GENERAL

The Association was incorporated in Geneva on March 29, 2016.

The Association's charitable purpose is to improve understanding of natural and/or man-made humanitarian emergencies, particularly those less reported or overlooked. The Association will enhance the well-being of affected people by advancing public education and research in the humanitarian field and providing independent and non-partisan reporting, analysis and information on the causes, consequences and responses to crises. In doing so, the Association seeks to bolster justice and equity; promote human rights, peace and preventative action; improve humanitarian response; and, ultimately, save the lives of people at risk around the world.

Prior to becoming an Association, IRIN existed for 20 years as part of the United Nations. Its establishment as a Swiss association was the conclusion of IRIN's transition to becoming an independent entity. The Association was registered with the Geneva Commercial registry on the March 29, 2016 and opened a bank account in May 2016. During 2019, the Association changed its name from IRIN to "The New Humanitarian" and this name change was registered with the Geneva Commercial Registry on May 17, 2019.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Swiss law (articles 957 to 960 of the Swiss Code of Obligations) and under the historical cost convention. Revenues and expenses are recorded on an accrual basis.

### 2. NUMBER OF FULL-TIME POSITIONS

	<u>2019</u>	<u>2018</u>
The number of full-time equivalents on a yearly average did not exceed :	10	10

### 3. RESIDUAL AMOUNT OF LIABILITIES ARISING FROM LEASE OBLIGATIONS EXPIRING IN MORE THAN TWELVE MONTHS

	<u>31.12.2019</u>	<u>31.12.2018</u>
	CHF	CHF
Rent covenant	36'687	99'579

A part of this covenant is supported by subtenants.

4. **TOTAL AMOUNT OF ASSETS PLEDGED OR ASSIGNED TO SECURE OWN LIABILITIES AND ASSETS UNDER RESERVATION OF OWNERSHIP**

	<u>31.12.2019</u>	<u>31.12.2018</u>
	CHF	CHF
Sub-let building security deposit to our lessor	14'635	14'635
Sub-let building security deposit from our sub-tenants	(5'880)	(8'820)

5. **INFORMATION AND EXPLANATIONS RELATING TO ITEMS ON THE BALANCE SHEET**

5.1 Prepaid expenses and accrued income

Prepaid expenses	20'685	28'829
Accrued income	135'905	105'420
<b>Total</b>	<b><u>156'591</u></b>	<b><u>134'250</u></b>

5.2 Other current liabilities

Liabilities due to third parties	191'308	199'131
<b>Total</b>	<b><u>191'308</u></b>	<b><u>199'131</u></b>

5.3 Deferred income and accrued expenses

Deferred income	563'679.99	491'844
Rent collected in advance	1'962	1'015
Accrued expenses	36'924	8'000
<b>Total</b>	<b><u>602'565</u></b>	<b><u>500'859</u></b>



# The New Humanitarian Association

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AT DECEMBER 31, 2018

<b>Unrestricted grants</b>	<b>Received 2019</b>	<b>Spent 2019</b>	<b>*Unspent 31.12.2019</b>
Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency	207'283	207'283	-
Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade of Australia	157'732	157'732	-
Department of Foreign Affairs, Trade and Development	110'922	110'922	-
Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs	228'644	228'644	-
Federal Public Service of Foreign Affairs of Belgium	99'488	99'488	-
Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Denmark	146'763	109'623	37'140
IKEA Foundation	219'994	210'553	9'441
Humanity United	120'347	34'458	85'889
Others	124'663	99'730	-
Sub-total	1'415'835	1'258'433	132'470
<b>Restricted grants</b>	<b>Received 2019</b>	<b>Spent 2019</b>	<b>*Unspent 2019</b>
Loterie Romande	50'000	50'000	
Department of Foreign Affairs, Trade and Development	99'503	53'203	46'300
Foundation Open Society Institute	254'663	136'179	118'484
Swiss Federal Department of Foreign Affairs	123'605	63'045	60'559
Service de la solidarité internationale - Canton de Genève	80'000	39'959	40'041
H2H Fund under Danish Refugee Council	140'744	49'166	91'578
Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation	323'155	248'908	74'247
Others	17'730	17'730	-
Sub-total	1'089'399	658'189	431'210
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2'505'234</b>	<b>1'916'622</b>	<b>563'680</b>

\*Unspent grant balances at 31 December 2019 are deferred for ongoing financing of 2020 expenditure.

# The New Humanitarian Association

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AT DECEMBER 31, 2018

5.4	<u>Other operating expenses</u>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2018</b>
		CHF	CHF
	Office charges	(30'034)	(29'381)
	Insurance costs	(12'343)	(16'539)
	Administrative costs	(23'252)	(18'834)
	Telecommunication costs	(2'357)	(2'710)
	IT costs	(32'895)	(37'446)
	Professional fees - editors and journalists	(538'592)	(410'624)
	Professional fees - other	(114'414)	(97'780)
	Legal fees	(2'564)	(14'695)
	Travel costs	(20'042)	(88'608)
	Advertising, events and campaigns costs	(105'808)	(79'479)
	<b>Total</b>	<b>(882'301)</b>	<b>(796'096)</b>
5.5	<u>Financial income</u>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2018</b>
		CHF	CHF
	Bank interest income	1'439	990
	Foreign exchange gain	24'180	9'599
	<b>Total</b>	<b>25'619</b>	<b>10'590</b>
5.6	<u>Financial costs</u>		
	Interest and bank fees	(10'884)	(10'193)
	Transfer costs	(228)	(451)
	Exchange Loss	(34'134)	(16'107)
	<b>Total</b>	<b>(45'246)</b>	<b>(26'751)</b>





Leaders of the IDP committee in Ethiopia's Gedeo district say several thousand people live in a makeshift shelter near the Mekane Yesus Church in Gotiti village. (Tom Gardner/TNH)



**The New  
Humanitarian|**

Journalism from the heart of crises

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