HUMANITARIAN FORUM PARTICIPANTS

ACTION AGAINST HUNGER
Action Against Hunger is a global humanitarian organisation that takes decisive action against the causes and effects of hunger. For 38 years, across nearly 50 countries, we have led the global fight against hunger. We save the lives of children and work with their communities before and after the disaster strikes. We enable people to provide for themselves, see their children grow up strong, and build prosperous communities. We constantly search for more effective solutions, while sharing our knowledge and expertise with the world. We push for long-term change. We will never give up. Until the world is free from hunger. In 2014, Action Against Hunger opened an office in Germany.

AKKON – UNIVERSITY OF HUMAN SCIENCES
Akkon University of Human Sciences is a state accredited private university located in Berlin, Germany with Bachelor degrees in International Emergency & Disaster Relief, Hazard Prevention Management: Emergency Management / Disaster Management, Health Education and Healthcare & Nursing Management. Small seminar groups, hands-on projects and professional and personal guidance and support characterize the curriculum. Our students come from different healthcare-related organisations and companies and other related areas. The degree programmes convey expertise in humanitarian aid and development cooperation. Based on the theoretical knowledge learned, a hands-on qualification follows in the relevant social and political sciences as well as in the fields of medicine, logistics and administration. In the advanced internship you come in contact with potential employers on a hands-on level.

ASSOCIATION OF GERMAN-SYRIAN AID ORGANIZATIONS
The Association of German-Syrian Aid Organizations (VDSH e.V.) is an independent non-profit umbrella group founded in Berlin in December 2013. We represent 23 relief organisations of various sizes from all over Germany. Our members are mostly diaspora groups run by persons of Syrian origin with personal ties in Syria. Our main focus is providing support inside Syria, but also working with Syrian refugees and civil society in Turkey, Lebanon and to a lesser extent in Jordan and Iraq.

CARITAS INTERNATIONAL
The international department of Caritas Germany performs the international relief work of Germany's largest Catholic welfare organisation. We provide disaster relief on a global scale together with a closely knit network of more than 165 independent national Catholic welfare associations. We also sponsor social projects for children, the elderly, the ill and people with disabilities in many parts of the world. The skills, expertise and dedication of local Caritas workers guarantee the long-term success of the roughly 1000 relief projects we support every year. Caritas Germany makes a sustainable impact. We not only provide disaster relief in extreme situations that are caused by war or a natural disaster, but we also help with reconstruction and rehabilitation. In this process, we actively involve those who are affected. In our social services projects, we help people become self-reliant so they can actively shape their own futures.

DIAGONIE KATASTROPHENHILFE
We secure survival, we build futures, we prevent suffering. For over 60 years Diakonie Katastrophenhilfe has been providing help worldwide, wherever the need is greatest. We support people who have become victims of natural disasters, war or displacement and who are unable to overcome their hardship on their own. We provide help regardless of religion, skin colour and nationality – quickly, reliably and effectively, with minimal red tape.

GERMAN RED CROSS
The German Red Cross (GRC) is one of 191 Red Cross and Red Crescent National Societies worldwide. Together with the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) and the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (International Federation) they form the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, the largest humanitarian network in the world. Its mission is to alleviate human suffering, protect life and health, and uphold human dignity especially during armed conflicts and other emergencies. Each component of the Movement has its own legal identity and role, but they are all united by seven Fundamental Principles: Humanity, Impartiality, Neutrality, Independence, Voluntary Service, Unity and Universality.
Handicap International is an independent aid organisation working in situations of poverty and exclusion, conflict and disaster. For more than 30 years, Handicap International has been working alongside people with disabilities and vulnerable populations, taking action in order to respond to their essential needs, improve their living conditions, and promote their fundamental rights. This includes refugees, populations living in disaster areas or displaced by crises, conflicts, and catastrophes, as well as populations threatened by weapons and explosive devices during or after conflicts. Handicap International is internationally recognised for its action in support of people with disabilities and vulnerable groups. Our organisation was a co-recipient of the Nobel Peace Prize for its work to ban landmines and was also awarded the 2011 Conrad N. Hilton Humanitarian Prize.

Humedica e.V.
We are an international community of paid staff and volunteers, donors and sponsors, which arises through their assets, capabilities and talents in the service of assisting people suffering the effects of structural poverty in disasters or emergencies. We see ourselves as an intermediary between the parties affected and helpful people and institutions, as we call attention to specific emergencies, mobilise resources and provide effective and efficient assistance.

International Rescue Committee
The International Rescue Committee (IRC) responds to the world’s worst humanitarian crises and helps people to survive and rebuild their lives. Founded in 1933 at the request of Albert Einstein, the IRC offers lifesaving care and life-changing assistance to refugees forced to flee from war or disaster. At work today in over 40 countries, we restore safety, dignity and hope to millions who are uprooted and struggling to endure. In Germany the IRC has identified opportunities to provide technical assistance through tools, training, technical expertise, and interaction with organisations in Germany. This is a new approach for the IRC and will draw on expertise across the organisation, including our international programmes and US resettlement and integration.

International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC)
The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) is an impartial, neutral and independent organization whose exclusively humanitarian mission is to protect the lives and dignity of victims of armed conflict and other situations of violence and to provide them with assistance. Established in 1863, the ICRC is at the origin of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and contemporary international humanitarian law, which is a set of rules seeking, for humanitarian reasons, to limit the effects of armed conflict. It protects persons who are not or are no longer participating in the hostilities and restricts the means and methods of warfare. International humanitarian law is also known as the law of war or the law of armed conflict.

Institute of Public Health, University of Heidelberg
The Institute of Public Health at the University of Heidelberg, Germany, focuses on global health research and teaching for over 50 years. The Master of Science in International Health (MScIH) focuses on poverty-related health problems in low and middle income countries. The programme aims to provide participants with a solid foundation in public health principles and to equip them with the knowledge and competencies necessary to run and initiate sustainable programmes for disease control, health promotion, and health services development across a wide range of populations and countries.

Islamic Relief
The Islamic Relief Humanitarian Organisation (IRD) is a German non-governmental organisation established in 1996 in Cologne, Germany. Islamic Relief Germany is a partner of Islamic Relief Worldwide, an umbrella organisation with 13 independent partner organisations in Europe and the United States. In collaboration with project offices in Africa, Asia, the Middle East and Eastern Europe, as well as thousands of local employees, we reach people in need in 28 countries with both emergency assistance and development projects. The work is coordinated by Islamic Relief Worldwide, headquartered in London, UK.
MÉDECINS DU MONDE (MDM)/ DOCTORS OF THE WORLD
The humanitarian aid organisation “Ärzte der Welt e.V.” is the German division of the international network Médecins du Monde (MdM)/Doctors of the World, implementing domestic and international health care projects around the world. MdM provides emergency medical aid in crisis situations, supports access to health care and assists with reconstruction measures. The network is also engaged in risk reduction and preparedness as well as long-term development cooperation in neglected regions. MdM ensures that health services are provided equally to those who need it, regardless of gender, religion, political belief or ideology. We believe in the importance of local partnerships in order to ensure sustainable development. Our domestic programmes offer medical care to people without access to the German health care system. MdM documents and publishes human rights violations and leads campaigns to raise awareness of important topics like poverty, migration or drug-prices. MdM considers access to general health care to be a universal human right for everyone.

MÉDECINS SANS FRONTIÈRES (MSF)/ ÄRZTE OHNE GRENZEN E.V.
Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF)/ Ärzte ohne Grenzen e.V. is an international medical humanitarian organisation created by doctors and journalists in France in 1971. MSF operates independently of any political, military or religious agendas. Today, MSF provides aid in approximately 70 countries to people whose survival is threatened by violence, neglect or catastrophe, primarily due to armed conflict, epidemics, malnutrition, exclusion from healthcare, or natural disasters. MSF provides independent, impartial assistance to those most in need. MSF reserves the right to speak out to bring attention to neglected crises, to challenge inadequacies or abuse of the aid system, and to advocate for improved medical treatments and protocols. As part of MSF’s effort to guarantee its independence and strengthen the organisation’s link with society, we strive to maintain a high level of private income.

NETWORK ON HUMANITARIAN ACTION (NOHA)
The Network on Humanitarian Action (NOHA) is the first network of universities at the European level dealing with the development of humanitarian action education. NOHA aims to enhance professionalism in the humanitarian sector through education, training and research initiatives. To-date, over 3,000 graduates have completed the NOHA Joint Master’s Programme in International Humanitarian Action and the majority are now working in humanitarian relief and international co-operation for (inter)national organisations and institutions both in the field and at HQs around the world. The open-access peer-reviewed journal launched under NOHA auspices, the Journal of International Humanitarian Action (JIHA), provides a forum for practitioners, policy-makers and academics to highlight contemporary challenges, to critically reflect upon current practices, and to ultimately advance the field of humanitarian action.

OXFAM
Oxfam is an international confederation of 20 organisations working together with partners and local communities in more than 90 countries. One person in three in the world lives in poverty. Oxfam is determined to change that world by mobilizing the power of people against poverty. Around the globe, Oxfam works to find practical, innovative ways for people to lift themselves out of poverty and thrive. We save lives and help rebuild livelihoods when crisis strikes. And we campaign so that the voices of the poor influence the local and global decisions that affect them. In all we do, Oxfam works with partner organisations and alongside vulnerable women and men to end the injustices that cause poverty.

SEA-WATCH
Since 2000 more than 23,000 people died trying to reach Europe’s safety. After the Mare Nostrum operation ended, three families from Germany decided to found Sea-Watch e.V. We are acting politically, economically and religiously independently. The initiators started an important mission: saving lives where states fail to act. We were able to assist the rescue of 20,000 people in 2016. More than 5,000 refugees and migrants drowned in the Mediterranean or are still missing. These people are dying because of a political decision. With concern we observe political cooperation between the EU and Libya, a country where human rights are abused on a daily basis. The same „Libyan Coast Guard“ that is now receiving 200 Million Euro in funds from the EU, intervened during a rescue mission of the Sea-Watch 2 in October and caused the death of several people.

UNION OF MEDICAL CARE AND RELIEF ORGANIZATIONS (UOSSM)
The Union of Medical Care and Relief Organizations (UOSSM), founded in January 2012 in France, is a coalition of humanitarian, non-governmental, and medical organizations from the United States, Canada, United Kingdom, France, Germany, the Netherlands, Switzerland, and Turkey. UOSSM provides humanitarian and medical assistance to all victims of the Syrian war, regardless of their nationality, ethnicity, gender, religion, or political affiliation. Together with our partners and donors all over the world, we furthermore build national capacities in the region and contribute to unlocking a brighter future for the people in Syria. In the past six years, despite the challenging conditions, we have provided medical treatment for more than 1 million patients in and around Syria, treated more than 130,000 people in our mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS) centres, and trained over 10,000 qualified health care workers locally.
UNIVERSITY OF COPENHAGEN – SCHOOL OF GLOBAL HEALTH
The University of Copenhagen’s School of Global Health provides a unique platform for health promotion and development through inter-disciplinary and collaborative research, teaching and capacity building around the world. With a wide variety of educational programmes and short courses on emergency health, humanitarian action, global health and disaster management, the University of Copenhagen is one of the leading European institutions providing research-based university courses in the humanitarian sector.

VISION HOPE INTERNATIONAL
Over the last 15 years, the German organisation Vision Hope International has been dedicating its efforts towards the MENA region. Currently, Vision Hope is implementing projects in Jordan, Syria, Yemen, and Tunisia; and awareness campaigns in Germany. They range from humanitarian to transitional assistance and sustainable development. Besides engagement and private donations from Germany, Vision Hope funds its activities through institutional donors: the BMZ, UN OCHA, WFP, UNICEF and private foundations. The main sectors include food security, nutrition, health, WASH, NFI, education and protection. The vision is defined as “empowered people transform the world”, each project efforts additionally aims on building capacity of local partners and providing training wherever possible. An example for combining humanitarian and development endeavours is a maternal hospital in Syria, which was established last year and is now enhanced to a training entity for birth attendants.

WELTHUNGERHILFE/ REFLACTION INITIATIVE
Welthungerhilfe is one of the largest private aid organisations in Germany; politically independent and non-denominational. It is fighting for “Zero Hunger by 2030”. Since its establishment in 1962, more than 8,500 overseas projects in 70 countries have been supported with 3,27 billion euros. Welthungerhilfe works on the principle of help for self-help: from fast disaster relief to reconstruction and long-term development cooperation projects with national and international partner organisations. The ReflAction Initiative serves as a platform and a booster for new collaborative relationships and networks on actionable ideas for future’s international response to crises. Around 50 people from all over the humanitarian (and development) spectrum are currently connected here.