

PRESS RELEASE

World Humanitarian Summit in Istanbul: Welthungerhilfe calls for new approaches and partners for people in need

Bonn, 19.5.2016. This Monday, the first UN summit on humanitarian aid will begin in Istanbul. In 2015 alone, almost 78 million people worldwide were dependent on humanitarian aid and this figure is rising. At the same time, there is less and less money available to look after people in acute need.

"We urgently need new partnerships in the fight against hunger, in order to close the funding gaps over the long-term. Insurance can help against the effects of climate change and private sector initiatives can contribute to improving the long-term income situation of families. In order to reduce the risks and vulnerabilities of people in emergency situations, we need the joint commitment of many partners", emphasises Dr. Till Wahnbaeck, chief executive officer of Welthungerhilfe. At the humanitarian summit Wahnbaeck will speak on the subject of climate risk insurance as part of a top-class panel.

Welthungerhilfe also stresses that the previous separation of humanitarian assistance and longer-term development cooperation no longer meets the requirement. National and local systems and organisations must be strengthened and more intensively integrated into the coordination of international actors. "Aid works best if it is as local as possible and as international as necessary", says Wahnbaeck. Welthungerhilfe has committed to give even more support to local partners and provide them with training, in order that they themselves are in a position in the long-term to act quickly in disaster situations.

Dr. Till Wahnbaeck is participating in the World Humanitarian Summit in Istanbul and is available for interview enquiries.

Further information at <http://www.welthungerhilfe.de/world-humanitarian-summit-whs> & <http://www.welthungerhilfe.de/en/home-en.html>

Welthungerhilfe is one of the largest private aid organisations in Germany. It provides aid from a single source: From fast disaster relief to reconstruction and long-term development cooperation projects with local partner organisations, based on the principle of help for self-help. Since its foundation in 1962, more than 7,733 overseas projects in 70 countries have been supported with 2.84 billion Euro - for a world without hunger or poverty.

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