DIHAD exhibition is of great importance to our organization. Meeting new, possible vendors in a very well organized net-work is an asset to us.”

Harald Glevoll
Norwegian Church Aid

Other keynote speakers

- Dr. Thoraya Obaid, Executive Director, United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA);
- Mr. Filippo Grandi, Commissioner-general, United Nations Relief and Recovery Agency For The Palestinian Territories (UNWRA);
- Dr. Sergio Piazzii, Secretary-general, Parliamentary Assembly Of The Mediterranean;
- Ms. Hend Sabry, World Food Programme (WFP) Ambassador Against Hunger

OPENING CEREMONY

The seventh edition of the Dubai International Humanitarian Aid and Development Conference and Exhibition – DIHAD 2010 was officially inaugurated on 4th April by HRH Princess Haya Bint Al Hussein, wife of HH Sheikh Mohammed Bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice-President and Prime Minister of UAE and Ruler of Dubai in the presence of distinguished guests and government officials.

HRH Princess Haya formally opened the conference session by highlighting the plight of the millions that go hungry and called the attention of the Humanitarians to collectively address their grievous issue.

CONFERENCE TOPICS

The conference main theme was “Global Health Challenges of Tomorrow: Impact & Response”. The 3 day conference program included plenary and panel sessions which addressed the topics on:

- Health Trends in the context of Changing Demographics, Climate Change and Environmental Degradation.
- Killer diseases/diseases of the poor…; the impact and suggestions for enhanced action.
- People with the greatest needs in terms of health-care are, more often than not, the last to benefit from the latest developments in Science and Technology; how can access to the most beneficial biomedical innovations – by those most in need – be duly ensured?
- Health Priorities in Disasters and Crises, what does “first things first” actually mean in emergencies? What is it that responders need to focus on first, with a view to impacting positively on morbidity and mortality?
- Pandemics: the threat, reality and business continuity planning
WORKSHOPS
Various workshops were organized by during the event, which addressed a wide range of strong topics
- Briefings On Health-related Aspects of World Food Programme (WFP) In-country Operations
- Community Empowerment Tools, Including The Integration of A Gender Perspective, In The Development of Health Services and Facilities
- Raising Clean Hands: Advancing Learning, Health and Participation Through WASH in Schools by Dubai Cares
- Logistics in The Provision of Health Services by The World Health Organization
- Challenges to Delivering Humanitarian Assistance by UNOCHA

The conference was addressed by 51 speakers. Some of the speakers included Dr. Eric Laroche - Asst. Director General and Head, Health Action in Crises, World Health Organization; Dr. Paul Spiegel - Chief, Public Health and HIV, Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR); Dr. Mukesh Kapila - Chief Executive Population, Health and Genomics (PHG) Foundation, Cambridge, UK; Mr. Ross Mountain - Director General, Development Assistance Research Associates (DARA) and former UN DSRSG/HUM Coordinator; H.E. Ambassador Toni Frisch - Deputy Director General and Head, Swiss Humanitarian Aid Department; Dr. Jemilah Mahmood, Chief, Humanitarian Response Branch, United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA); Ms. Sigrid Kaag, Regional Director (Middle East and North Africa), UNICEF

NETWORKING/GALA DINNER
The organizers hosted an impressive dinner for its guests and exhibitors. The event provided an ideal opportunity to thank the scientific committee members, supporters and the platinum sponsor - International Humanitarian City for their contribution.

“We participated in DIHAD exhibition for the 4th time. The exhibition is very successful for our company. We have a lot of useful contacts. We are very much obliged to the organizers for their excellent work and cooperation.”
Natalia Akhremenko
Deputy Chief of Department Emercon of Russia

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Under the patronage of HH Sheikh Mohammed Bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice President, Prime Minister of the United Arab Emirates, and Ruler of Dubai, the 7th Dubai International Humanitarian Aid and Development Conference and Exhibition (DIHAD) took place, from 4 – 6 April 2010 in Dubai – UAE. Organized by INDEX Conferences & Exhibitions and generously supported by its strategic, humanitarian and corporate partners, especially the Mohammed Bin Rashid Al Maktoum Humanitarian and Charity Est, and UAE Red Crescent Society, Dubai International Humanitarian City, Dubai Cares and the United Nations, DIHAD has again lived up to its growing reputation as a unique, authoritative and international event.

The conference reviewed the main trends in terms of health challenges, at the global level, and attempted to identify some constructive solutions, also so as to enhance the prospects of reaching some of the related Millennium Development Goals.

In this context, it was reiterated that while Global Health is one of the greatest challenges of our time, it is a challenge we can address. Maternal and child mortality, it was agreed, must be reduced, also by implementing some identified solutions to a number of recurring diseases affecting mostly the poor (e.g. Diarrhea).

Building better and more affordable health care systems (involving thereby also the most advanced technologies) was deemed essential.

The conference concurred on the need for coherent action on the part of all concerned, especially in those actions considered to be priorities in crises and in the aftermath of disasters.

Specific workshops were held to review issues related to health, and health care, in crisis-affected countries as well as the manner in which these can and should be addressed, also especially at the community level, thereby taking into account vital perspectives (including gender).

Pandemics were reviewed in terms of how best these must continue to be addressed and prepared for.

Preparedness was, generally speaking, given much emphasis throughout the event, as was the importance of cooperation and coordinated action among all partners.

Special presentations provided highlights into individual contributions to specific medical solutions, especially involving children, and much appreciation was expressed on account of these.

Lastly, in one special presentation, it was recommended that an amendment to the Universal Declaration of Human Rights could usefully be suggested, to the effect that the protection of health (of the individual, of the family, of the community at large) should constitute an inalienable right, indispensable to the peace and security of the planet.

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EXHIBITION

The 3 day exhibition brought together NGOs, UN Agencies and relief suppliers all under one roof to facilitate negotiations for partnerships and trade. Over 600 B2B meetings were scheduled between key decision makers, procurement and exhibitors, as part of event, to aid in the initiation of trade partnerships.

QUICK STATS

- Net total space: 3900 sqm
- Number of countries represented: 66
- Total participants: 7250

EXHIBITORS

- National Exhibiting Companies: 34%
- Foreign Exhibiting Companies: 66%

Types of Goods Procured

- Agriculture & Food: 12%
- Health: 14%
- Temporary housing & shelters: 15%
- Water & Sanitation & Power: 16%
- Vehicles & Logistics: 20%
- Telecommunication and IT: 10%
- Education: 4%
- Others: 8%

Types of Organisations

- Government: 11%
- Non-Government: 50%
- U.N. Agency: 17%
- Independent Charity: 2%
- International Federation, Red Cross & Red Crescent: 11%
- Others: 9%
DIHAD 2010 is an excellent platform to meet both buyer & seller. Every year both are coming together to make a better world by providing the service and goods to the people, who are in need, in different areas of the world. Keep on doing this good work.”

Rajani Mori
Priyanka Kenya