

# Review of: "International Non-Governmental Organizations (INGOs) in Humanitarian Field: why and how to engage with Planetary Health?"

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The authors, D. Ziveri and M. Asaduzzaman, discuss a relevant subject. The paper "*International Non-Governmental Organisations (INGOS) in Humanitarian Field: why and how to engage with Planetary Health*" gives a much-valued practitioner's perspective.

As a geoscientist interested in the societal role of STEM disciplines, I feel comfortable with the subject. However, I noticed that, when studying the paper, I took a helicopter perspective to relate the different aspects the authors touch upon. The text has features of a list of bullet points, each valid, but the reader is left with the task of contextualising them, following the reader's views, and not being guided by the author's thoughts. Furthermore, the introduction explains the authors' motivation but does not introduce the subject. The sections of the paper presenting listings would benefit from more elaborated prose. Likewise, concepts/notions like 'Anthropocene' pop up as if a known terminology.

Likely the article would benefit from revising its structure, for example:

- a) Introduction: Set the stage by defining critical concepts like INGOs, the humanitarian field, and planetary health, and outline the essay's objectives and notions.
- b) Material and Methods:
  - b.1 INGOs and their Impact: Briefly highlight their crucial roles in humanitarian aid and provide examples of prominent organisations.
  - b.2) Understanding Planetary Health: Elucidate the concept of planetary health and explain its significance concerning human well-being and humanitarian efforts.
  - b.3) The Need for INGOs' Engagement with Planetary Health: Argue the importance of incorporating planetary health in humanitarian work by presenting the risks posed by climate change and environmental degradation.
- c) Discussions)
  - c.1) Strategies for INGOs to Engage with Planetary Health: Outline practical ways INGOs can integrate planetary health into their practices, policies, and collaborations while citing case studies.
  - c.2) Challenges and Opportunities: Analyse potential barriers and benefits for INGOs in embracing planetary health, suggesting ways to overcome obstacles and seize opportunities.
- d) Conclusion: Summarise the key findings of the essay.

Another approach to rewriting the paper would be to align it with the expectations triggered by the abstract. For example,

an introduction could say depending on the statements in the abstract:

- The advent of the Anthropocene, a time marked by significant human impact on Earth's ecosystems, has led to the emergence of Planetary Health as a pivotal subject. It alters our understanding of health concerns and interventions, especially as we grapple with the increasingly complex challenges of global change. This new understanding is particularly relevant for International Non-Governmental Organisations (INGOs) working in the humanitarian field. They confront many challenges further exacerbated, for example, by the intensifying climate crisis—a crisis that should be viewed as a humanitarian disaster.
- Humanitarian responses often limit their scope to disaster risk reduction and decarbonising operations. Such an approach, while valuable, can overlook the intricate interplay of factors brought into focus by the lens of Planetary Health. This essay argues that integrating Planetary Health into humanitarian work can comprehensively respond to the climate crisis's complexities.
- This paper outlines the added value of a Planetary Health approach to humanitarian programs. It identifies barriers inhibiting humanitarian actors from adopting or further exploring this approach. Additionally, it offers suggestions for implementing integrated Planetary Health programs in Low and Middle-Income Countries (LMICs).
- In a world where health and environmental concerns are deeply interwoven, embracing the insights, criticisms, and innovations offered by Planetary Health is paramount. This essay, thus, calls for an inclusive debate aimed at integrating these insights into the hard daily work of INGOs. Our ultimate goal is to strengthen the co-benefits for health and the environment, enabling a more resilient, sustainable, and healthier future for all.

Subsequently, a Material and Methods section would give the facts that support these views, and the sections Discussion and Conclusion would put them in perspective relating to the introduction.