

# HUMANITARIAN ARCHIVES EMERGENCY (HAE) PROJECT

*Regional convening | In-person*

*Participatory Sense-Making Workshop on Humanitarian Archives, Records & Datasets*

**Aman, Bogota, Bangkok, Dakar, Nairobi**  
**Jul-Sep 2026**

## 1. BACKGROUND

Large volumes of humanitarian archives, records, and datasets (ARD) face growing threats of loss or destruction resulting from funding cuts and organisational closures to conflict and digital neglect.

The Humanitarian Archives Emergency (HAE) Project, led by the Humanitarian Conflict and Response Institute (HCRI) - University of Manchester with Elrha is building an evidence base on the scale, nature, and consequences of archival risk in the sector.

To this end, Key Aid Consulting and the Institute of Development Studies (IDS), are conducting a global mapping of these threats, risks, and impacts.

The project combines a desk-based scan, a discovery survey, a diagnostic census, and five regional convenings to build an evidence base that is both empirically grounded and ethically defensible – centering equity, decolonial praxis, and local knowledge.

## 2. WHY YOU SHOULD COME

Your experience and insights are essential. Many humanitarian organisations across the region are struggling to survive, let alone safeguard their data, records and archives. We want to understand the true scale of this crisis directly from those living and working within it. By sharing your experience you will help preserve the voices of communities and the people who serve them.

As well as creating the opportunity to share, workshop participants will collaborate and discuss, testing assumptions about ownership, value, access, and priority. You will meet peers facing similar pressures, connect with regional and international actors, and help shape a collective response. Your contributions will directly inform how we communicate the scale of the problem to global funders and decision-makers and help us to strengthen the case for urgent support, long-term investment, and protection of community knowledge.

If you cannot attend the workshop, we strongly encourage you to contribute to the registry and engage with our initiative. Sharing information about activities in your area and connecting us with partners will ensure your context is represented and your community's experience is not lost.

## 3. PURPOSE OF THE WORKSHOP

This two-day regional convening will:

- Validate and challenge preliminary findings from the mapping

- Test assumptions about ownership, value, access, and priority across the Middle East region
- Explore how risk and impact are understood differently in regional contexts
- Create space, networks, and coalitions for ethical deliberation under real-world constraints

The event is structured as working workshop rather than dissemination meetings – combining presentation of findings with facilitated discussion

#### 4. WORKSHOP PARTICIPANTS

- Archivists & Records Managers: custodians of humanitarian ARD from the region
- Practitioners & MEL Staff: UN agencies, INGOs, and national NGOs working in humanitarian response
- Researchers & Academics: Research institutions with knowledge of regional archival landscapes
- Local & National Actors: Community-based organisations and national institutions – especially encouraged

#### 5. WORKSHOP AGENDA

Time	Session
<b>Day 1</b>	
Morning	Introduction and objectives
	Archive Biographies: mapping
Lunch break	
Afternoon	Threat Mapping
	Power and Ownership Audit
<b>Day 2</b>	
Morning	Triage & prioritization of the archive
	Coalition Sketching
Lunch break	
Afternoon	Power Mapping
	Commitments and Conditions

#### 6. TRAVEL & PARTICIPATION SUBSIDIES

We are particularly keen to ensure participation from national and local actors who hold critical but often under-resourced archival knowledge.

We do have some available budget to cover up to 100% of the flight costs, within a maximum of 500 GBP per return ticket, for researchers, archivists, and practitioners working with organizations headquartered in the region with a yearly turnaround of less than 1 million USD. It will be reimbursed afterwards based on invoice.

If travel costs are a barrier to your participation and if you meet the above criteria, please contact us at [archive@keyaidconsulting.com](mailto:archive@keyaidconsulting.com) by June 15<sup>th</sup> 2026, explaining why your participation to the workshop is important.