



NSR 2025

Glostrup 17th to 19th of January



Workshop 1

Workshop Summary: Exploring Nordic Collaboration on Disaster Relief

After an engaging presentation by Line Grove Hermansen, Director of Communication & Advocacy at UNICEF Denmark, the NSR participants were divided into four groups for a session of discussion and knowledge sharing about the situation in the Nordic countries.

Each group had an appointed facilitator and a rapporteur, who convened immediately after Workshop 1 to compare notes.

Key Takeaways

1. Disaster Relief Across the Nordic Countries

- All Nordic countries prioritize disaster relief, but the approach differs.
- Denmark's partnership with UNICEF through Lions Katastrofehjælp (Disaster Relief) is unique, as no other Nordic country has a similar collaboration.

2. National Efforts

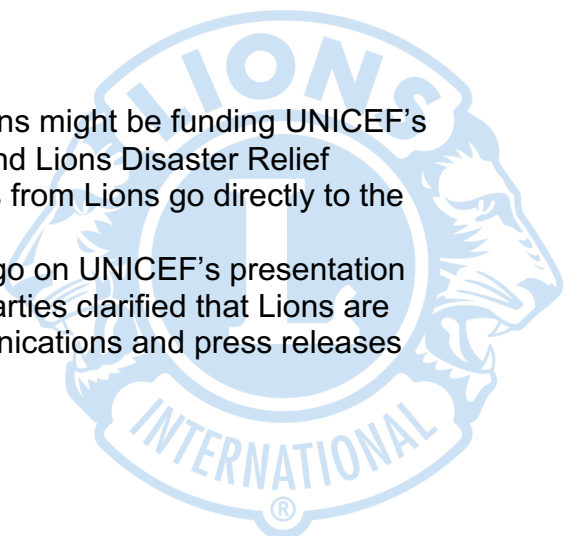
- **Iceland:** Operates a setup similar to Denmark's disaster relief approach.
- **Finland:** Faces challenges in gaining clubs' support for coordinated disaster relief initiatives.
- **Norway:** Lions Aid Norway focuses more on rebuilding efforts rather than immediate disaster relief.
- **Sweden:** Struggles with participation in short-term Nordic projects, citing structural challenges, but sees potential for change in the long term.

In general, other Nordic countries support LCIF (Lions Clubs International Foundation) during disasters.

Concerns and Discussions

UNICEF Collaboration

- Some participants expressed concerns that Lions might be funding UNICEF's administrative costs. However, both UNICEF and Lions Disaster Relief representatives assured that 100% of the funds from Lions go directly to the selected disaster relief efforts.
- There was feedback about the lack of Lions' logo on UNICEF's presentation slides, raising questions about visibility. Both parties clarified that Lions are credited and their logo is included in all communications and press releases related to supported disasters.





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Value of Collaborating with UNICEF

- Some questioned the value of the partnership, suggesting that Lions or LCIF could act independently and respond to disasters within hours.
- It was noted that LCIF also collaborates with UNICEF, and working through UNICEF is often more straightforward in certain situations.

Proposals for Nordic Collaboration

- Many participants showed openness to collaboration and emphasized the need to think innovatively.
- Several groups called for closer cooperation between the Nordic countries. An example of visibility efforts is the use of the “Red Feather” initiative in some countries to highlight Lions’ work.
- A joint Nordic fundraising effort was proposed to support Gaza, particularly focusing on the youth, who are in desperate need of aid following the recently agreed ceasefire.

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