There are various ways humanitarian experts can contribute their expertise to shape the global discussions for the World Humanitarian Summit:

**As a member of one of the four Thematic Teams:**

Expressions of interest are now being collected for experts to join each of the four thematic teams. A diverse set of eight to ten experts will be selected for each team, to contribute approximately 30% of their time (or more in some peak periods) over the course of the preparations leading up to 2016. Team members will cover a cross-section of topics within the thematic category, as well as a range of professional and geographical backgrounds. Members should have a track record of several years’ experience in fields related to humanitarian or development assistance, or in delivering services to people in the same contexts, as well as awareness of some of the key topics, concepts and methodologies being applied today to solve problems and advance the global debate in each thematic category. They should also be able to draw on a strong professional network in their area of expertise and region for interviews/feedback on thematic work.

*Detailed Terms of Reference for the thematic team member role are available on our website ([www.worldhumanitariansummit.org](http://www.worldhumanitariansummit.org)). Please send expressions of interest with CV, indication of theme(s) of interest (prioritizing themes if more than one), a short explanation of how individual expertise matches the theme, and the contact details of two professional references, to whs@un.org, by 14 March 2014.*

**As part of a global network of ‘stand-by’ experts:**

Experts from around the world and across the humanitarian community on the specific sub-issues of each theme will be brought in on an as-needed basis to contribute views, lessons learned and substantive inputs. This will not involve a long-term commitment to participate in a formal ‘working group’, but rather provide an opportunity for experts to share inputs on specific commissioned studies, regional workshops or issues of particular interest and concern to their home organizations. These consultations might take place through phone interviews, online exchanges, or through individual meetings with thematic team members on the margins of related events or conferences.

*The WHS secretariat welcomes recommendations and expressions of interest of subject-matter experts who would be interested in sharing their knowledge in this capacity, as soon as possible and throughout the preparatory process. Capturing specialized experts’ views will be an ongoing exercise, prompted by the topics and areas of regional interest identified in regional events, online consultations and thematic work.*

**As a moderator of online discussions:**

Online forums will be set up on the WHS web platform to host discussions, debates, surveys, and information exchanges on each theme. Issue-specific discussions and debates will be moderated online in different languages, in particular around key WHS consultation events, to activate broader participation in identifying priorities and setting the agenda for each theme. On the web platform, people will also be able to share studies they are working on, interact using social media and learn about events in their region. Experts can contribute to e-discussions on the web platform and are encouraged to upload relevant studies, reports, documents on the website for consideration. Experts can also offer to moderate thematic or regional discussions related to their work and in their region and language of interest. Advocacy and policy
specialists at interested organizations can also help raise awareness of the summit and invite more people to the online discussions by integrating references and links to the WHS and its website on their respective websites at HQ, regional and national levels.

The interactive web platform will be available starting in May 2014. Until then, check in at the WHS website, www.worldhumanitariansummit.org for basic information and to sign up to receive monthly updates from the WHS secretariat.

For further information and to share expressions of interest or ideas with the WHS Secretariat, please contact us at whs@un.org or visit www.worldhumanitariansummit.org