# Transcript: " AI as an ally for humanitarian action”

*[Text appears that reads: "AI as an ally for humanitarian action."]*

Exclamation marks appear on a globe.

**Voiceover:** In a world increasingly defined by rapid change and complex challenges, the need for effective humanitarian action is more critical than ever.

*[The word "AI" appears.]*

A farm, a factory and futuristic commuter train appear.

**Voiceover:** At the forefront of this pursuit is artificial intelligence, offering innovative solutions to aid those in need.

A globe appears alongside photos of a hurricane, a lightning strike and a volcano.

**Voiceover:** Annually, natural disasters impact the lives of over 350 million individuals.

*[Text appears that reads: "350 million."]*

**Voiceover:** The growing frequency and intensity of these events strain our capacity to respond with the necessary speed and appropriateness.

Then, a soldier helps tie a child's shoes.

A man points at a map. Then, people look at a laptop.

**Voiceover:** However, AI has the potential to change this process by forecasting disasters before they strike, transforming our approach from reactive to proactive.

A light bulb appears in the silhouette of a person's head. Then, a light bulb, gear and a satellite appear.

**Voiceover:** This proactive approach is made possible by leveraging machine learning and high-resolution satellite imagery.

*[Text appears that reads: "AI for good lab."]*

The Netherlands Red Cross logo appears. A flooded road appears. People in hard hats stand on it and look at a tablet.

*[A sign reads: "Water over roadway."]*

**Voiceover:** For example, Microsoft’s AI for Good Lab, in collaboration with the Netherlands Red Cross, has successfully developed a convolutional neural network model that harnesses satellite imagery to enhance disaster relief efforts.

Men with shovels clean the site of a ruined house.

**Voiceover:** The destruction wrought by natural disasters often leaves homes in ruins, disproportionately affecting those with the least means to recover.

People do a jigsaw puzzle. A house icon appears.

**Voiceover:** In response, AI is being harnessed to assess the vulnerability of individual homes and communities to natural disasters, focusing on construction as a key determinant of risk.

Humanitarian workers give out supplies. Then, a woman points at a line graph.

**Voiceover:** By leveraging this data and recognizing the unique impacts of various natural disasters on housing, AI is enhancing the predictive capabilities of organizations like SEEDS.

The house has been destroyed. The SEEDS logo appears. A man walks with a senior woman.

**Voiceover:** In collaboration with communities affected by disasters, SEEDS focuses on nurturing long-term resilience.

The Microsoft and Gramener logos appear above the word "AI". Two women look at a computer monitor.

**Voiceover:** Together with Microsoft and Gramener, SEEDS has created an AI model that sifts through extensive data to pinpoint local risk factors.

A bar graph appears. The X axis is labeled Time, the Y axis is labeled Disaster.

**Voiceover:** This united effort is streamlining disaster management strategies, easing the burdens on those most vulnerable.

*[Text appears that reads: "Disaster management."]*

**Voiceover:** Another critical humanitarian concern involves the displacement of individuals.

A community has been flooded. People walk together in rain gear. Two children overlook a shanty town.

**Voiceover:** With millions worldwide facing displacement, it’s crucial to optimize the distribution of resources.

*[The word "AI" appears.]*

**Voiceover:** AI plays a critical role in ensuring the efficient delivery of resources and services to refugees, ensuring assistance reaches the most vulnerable among us.

Aid workers prepare supplies.

**Voiceover:** For example, in a collaboration with the Norwegian Refugee Council, NetHope, and University College Dublin, Microsoft has developed an AI-powered chatbot designed to connect displaced youth with free, high-quality educational resources.

A team of people gather around a laptop. Then, a hand holds a smartphone.

**Voiceover:** As we look to the future, the call to action is clear.

An aid worker gives a person a box of supplies. A megaphone appears. A man works on a laptop. A sapling grows out of the globe.

**Voiceover:** With the power of AI in our hands, we have better tools to address the world’s most pressing problems, and with these tools we can work together for a better tomorrow.

The Microsoft logo appears.