The contributions companies have made in previous disasters demonstrate that business can play an important role in disaster relief, providing logistics and as donors of cash, in kind resources and staff time. The Humanitarian Emergency Response Review, commissioned by Secretary of State Andrew Mitchell and led by Lord Ashdown outlines how the private sector represents a huge source of untapped capacity and expertise to reduce suffering and help rebuild communities in the aftermath of a disaster.

In addition, given the increased scale of needs and vulnerability, there is an increased focus on efforts on disaster risk reduction and building resilience.

There is clearly a need for better understanding of how business can play a role in disaster relief, both for business and humanitarian organisations.

The session will offer:
- An overview of how business is supporting humanitarian and disaster relief efforts.
- Examples from businesses with a developed Disaster Relief programme.

The session will explore:
- Which private sector skills and expertise are most needed.
- Trends in humanitarian emergency response and implications for the private sector.
- The opportunities and barriers of business engagement for humanitarian organisations.

Audience: NGOs and Humanitarian Organisations
Date: 11 September 2012
Time: 10:30 to 15:30
Venue: Allen & Overy, 1 Bishops Square, London E1 6AD
Cost: No charge
To register please contact Clare.Jenkinson@bitc.org.uk