



Christian Aid commitments to the World Humanitarian Summit

Christian Aid commits to the Charter for Change (Annex 1) and to the ACT Alliance WHS commitments (Annex 2). In addition, Christian Aid makes the following additional individual commitments.

2C Speak out on Violations

1. We will systematically amplify urgent calls from local communities for greater safety and humanitarian access, and call for an international architecture which tackles impunity. We will campaign for the protection of civilians and to prevent the erosion of international law.

2D Eradicate sexual and gender-based violence and treat survivors with dignity

2. We will substantially improve our understanding of and efforts to tackle gender based violence, and enhance Christian Aid's gender-sensitive programming and policy work.

3A Reduce and address displacement

3. We will support efforts to address the causes of forced displacement, will empower refugees and displaced people and advocate for their rights and protection and will reduce the vulnerabilities of those displaced in our humanitarian response.

3D Empower and protect women and girls

4. We will improve our practice to be increasingly gender-sensitive and inclusive by embedding gender and inclusion awareness in our internal ways of working, policy and procedures, and communications.
5. We will train all humanitarian staff in gender and inclusion awareness.
6. We will significantly increase the percentage of our programmes that support local women's groups and that promote women's rights and empowerment

4A Put people at the centre: invest in community resilience

7. By 2018, in collaboration with Start Network partners, we will develop, test and share new approaches to building gender-sensitive community resilience in conflict settings and to designing humanitarian response interventions in ways that build a platform for longer-term community resilience, through our leadership of the "Linking Preparedness, Response and Resilience" programme.

4B Anticipate do not wait for crises

8. We will develop and deepen evidence from our programme work on climate change adaptation, enhance our capacity for early response to slow-onset impacts of climate change, and strengthen advocacy on risk reduction in climate disasters, climate resilience and community participation, ensuring that the voices and experience of women and men in poverty inform decision making.

5A Invest in local capacities

9. By 2018, in collaboration with Start Network partners, we will significantly strengthen the humanitarian capacities of at least 100 local and national NGOs, including through the "Shifting the Power", "Financial Enablers" and "Transforming Surge Capacity" programmes
10. We will work with the Start Network to advocate for and set up a pioneering new "Start Local" Fund, for the exclusive access of national and local NGOs.

5B Invest according to risk

11. We will ensure that at least 10% of the funding raised for each major Christian Aid humanitarian appeal is invested in disaster risk reduction

ANNEX 1: CHARTER FOR CHANGE

1. Increase direct funding to southern-based NGOs for humanitarian action: At present only 0.2% of humanitarian aid is channelled directly to national non-government actors (NGOs and CSOs) for humanitarian work – a total of US\$46.6 million out of US\$24.5 billion. We commit through advocacy and policy influence to North American and European donors (including institutional donors, foundations and private sector) to encourage them to increase the year on year percentage of their humanitarian funding going to southern-based NGOs. We commit that by May 2018 at least 20% of our own humanitarian funding will be passed to southern-based NGOs. We commit to introduce our NGO partners to our own direct donors with the aim of them accessing direct financing.
2. Reaffirm the Principles of Partnership: We endorse, and have signed on to, the Principles of Partnership, (Equality, Transparency, Results-Oriented Approach, Responsibility and Complementarity) introduced by the Global Humanitarian Platform in 2007.
3. Increase transparency around resource transfers to southern-based national and local NGOs: A significant change in approaches towards transparency is needed in order to build trust, accountability and efficiency of investments channelled to national actors via international intermediaries. We commit to document the types of organisation we cooperate with in humanitarian response and to publish these figures (or percentages) in our public accounts using a recognised categorisation such as the GHA in real-time and to the IATI standard
4. Stop undermining local capacity: We will identify and implement fair compensation for local organisations for the loss of skilled staff if and when we contract a local organisation's staff involved in humanitarian action within 6 months of the start of a humanitarian crisis or during a protracted crisis, for example along the lines of paying a recruitment fee of 10% of the first six months' salary
5. Emphasise the importance of national actors: We undertake to advocate to donors to make working through national actors part of their criteria for assessing framework partners and calls for project proposals.
6. Address subcontracting: Our local and national collaborators are involved in the design of the programmes at the outset and participate in decision-making as equals in influencing programme design and partnership policies.
7. Robust organisational support and capacity strengthening: We will support local actors to become robust organisations that continuously improve their role and share in the overall global humanitarian response. We undertake to pay adequate administrative support. A test of our seriousness in capacity building is that by May 2018 we will have allocated resources to support our partners in this. We will publish the percentages of our humanitarian budget which goes directly to partners for humanitarian capacity building by May 2018.
8. Communication to the media and the public about partners: In any communications to the international and national media and to the public we will promote the role of local actors and acknowledge the work that they carry out, and include them as spokespersons when security considerations permit.



ANNEX 2: ACT ALLIANCE WHS COMMITMENTS

CORE RESPONSIBILITY ONE – Global leadership to prevent and end conflicts

1D Develop solutions with and for people

We will use our influence with our constituencies, civil society and Government leaders to promote stability and long-term community reconciliation, strengthen social cohesion and address grievances.

CORE RESPONSIBILITY TWO – Uphold the norms that safeguard humanity

2B Meet people's essential needs

We will reinforce and highlight through our membership the integral role of faith-based responders in rapid and unimpeded access to communities in need by exhibiting full respect for the humanitarian principles. We will do this by engaging local and national members in information sharing, awareness raising and capacity building on the practical application of the guiding principles and ensuring complete and contextualized integration of the humanitarian principles into all ACT Alliance humanitarian responses.

2C Speak out on violations

In an expression of global solidarity with poor and marginalized people, we will amplify the voices that promote human rights and international humanitarian law and speak out against social and structural injustice.

CORE RESPONSIBILITY FOUR – Change people's lives – From delivering aid to ending need

4A Put people at the centre, build community resilience

We will support the agency of people by substantially increasing the proportion of our humanitarian investment that goes to cash transfer programming. Before providing in-kind inputs, we will ask ourselves whether cash would work in this context. We will share learning across the ACT Alliance network on best practice in cash approaches, and increase capacity-building on cash for local and national members.

By May 2018, we will revise and reform the ACT Alliance humanitarian response mechanisms in line with the direction set out in the UN Secretary General's Agenda for Humanity, including aiming to strengthen local capacities by reforming the ACT Rapid Response Fund so that it is targeted exclusively for national and local members and that it incentivizes greater investment in emergency preparedness, disaster risk reduction and resilience.

CORE RESPONSIBILITY FIVE – Invest in Humanity

5A Invest in local capacities

By May 2018, we will significantly increase the proportion of ACT Alliance members' humanitarian funding that goes directly to local and national members and their partners for humanitarian response and emergency preparedness. We will seek to transparently report on this amount as ACT Alliance, and encourage individual members to do the same.

ACT Alliance members commit to supporting initiatives that provide easier and better access to resources for local and national members, particularly where they are first and frontline responders.

We will continue to demonstrate, learn from, identify and share best practice in local-national-international partnerships, in line with the Principles of Partnership, that is inherent in the ACT Alliance's vision and working practices. We will also seek to encourage partnerships directly between local and national members through national and regional ACT Forums, encouraging complementarity and equality.

5B Invest according to risk

We will increase the proportion of our humanitarian investment that goes to community preparedness, prevention and resilience, with a target that over 10% of ACT Alliance programming should be invested in emergency preparedness and risk reduction.

We will use the extraordinary reach and trust of our network of faith-based and church-based organizations to raise disaster risk reduction awareness at grassroots level, including in hard-to-reach locations, by influencing local leadership and educating community members, including through the deployment of church volunteers, delivering over 30 examples of grassroots-level Disaster Risk Reduction awareness-raising activities by ACT Alliance faith-based and church-based member organizations by May 2018 as examples of good practice.

5E Improve cost-efficiency and transparency

ACT Alliance commits to streamline and harmonise requirements for partners, in line with the outcomes of the Grand Bargain. This includes a commitment to not ask more from local and national members than what donors ask of funding members.