



**AGENDA
FOR HUMANITY**
5 CORE RESPONSIBILITIES
24 TRANSFORMATIONS



Individual Self Reflection 2020 on World Humanitarian Summit Commitments and Initiatives - Caritas Internationalis



Stakeholder Information

Organisation Name

Caritas Internationalis

Organisational Type

Faith-based Organisation

City and Country where Headquartered

State of Vatican City

Focal Point Name

Suzanna Tkalec

Region

Global

Twitter ID

@CI_Emergencies

Attachments

[Caritas_commitments.pdf](#)



2B Ensure full access to and protection of the humanitarian and medical missions

Individual Commitments

Commitment	Commitment Type	Core Responsibility
Caritas commits to advocate for ensuring effective (legal) protection of humanitarian aid workers in conformity with international humanitarian law and human rights law.	Advocacy	Uphold the Norms that Safeguard Humanity
Caritas commits to continue to maintain and reinforce its promotion and application of humanitarian principles across its network, which are in line with the body of Catholic social teaching that serves as the basis of Caritas mission in humanitarian action	Advocacy	Uphold the Norms that Safeguard Humanity

Core Commitments

Commitment	Core Responsibility
Commit to ensure all populations in need receive rapid and unimpeded humanitarian assistance.	Uphold the Norms that Safeguard Humanity

1. Highlight the concrete actions taken between 1 January – 31 December 2017 to implement the commitments which contribute to achieving this transformation. Be as specific as possible and include any relevant data/figures.

From Caritas Internationalis (CI) Emergency Guidelines: “All CI MOs (member organisations) are bound to uphold the CI Statutes and Rules, CI Partnership Principles, the Red Cross-NGO Code of Conduct, the SPHERE Projects’ Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Disaster Response, the provision of gender equity, CI’s Child Protection Policy and the protection of civilians” (CI Emergency Guidelines, Part I, Guiding Values and Principles, page 9.

Caritas Internationalis is signatory of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) and NGOs Code of Conduct.

It is an explicit requirement that humanitarian staff recruited or seconded to Caritas Internationalis have a thorough knowledge of the Caritas Internationalis and ICRC and NGOs Code of Conduct.

2. A. How are you measuring progress toward achieving your commitments? Only the categories selected by the organisation will be seen below.

- Through existing, internal systems or frameworks for monitoring, reporting and/or evaluation.

Keywords

Humanitarian principles



2C Speak out on violations

Core Commitments

Commitment	Core Responsibility
Commit to speak out and systematically condemn serious violations of international humanitarian law and serious violations and abuses of international human rights law and to take concrete steps to ensure accountability of perpetrators when these acts amount to crimes under international law.	Uphold the Norms that Safeguard Humanity

1. Highlight the concrete actions taken between 1 January – 31 December 2017 to implement the commitments which contribute to achieving this transformation. Be as specific as possible and include any relevant data/figures.

Caritas Internationalis continues to advocate for the respect and promotion of human rights especially in protracted crisis situations.

Advocacy activities in support of the National Caritas and local church were undertaken between January and December 2017 particular in the Central African Republic (CAR) to support peace and reconciliation efforts carried out by the CAR Interfaith Peace platform. Other crises addressed in conjunction with Human Rights Council sessions and relevant human rights mechanisms are South Sudan, Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), Ukraine and post conflict in Colombia.

2. A. How are you measuring progress toward achieving your commitments? Only the categories selected by the organisation will be seen below.

- Through existing, internal systems or frameworks for monitoring, reporting and/or evaluation.
- By reporting to, or using reports prepared for, UN principal organs, UN governing boards, or other international bodies

3. A. Please select no more than 3 key challenges faced in implementing the commitments related to this transformation. Only the categories selected by the organisation will be seen below.

- Data and analysis
- Field conditions, including insecurity and access
- Institutional/Internal constraints



3A Reduce and address displacement

Individual Commitments

Commitment	Commitment Type	Core Responsibility
Caritas strongly advocate for the protection of refugees and migrants as well as the responsibilities of host governments to recognize and guarantee the right to a secure stay in host countries, with adequate access to safe and dignified services and support	Advocacy	Leave No One Behind

Core Commitments

Commitment	Core Responsibility
Commit to a new approach to addressing forced displacement that not only meets immediate humanitarian needs but reduces vulnerability and improves the resilience, self-reliance and protection of refugees and IDPs. Commit to implementing this new approach through coherent international, regional and national efforts that recognize both the humanitarian and development challenges of displacement. Commit to take the necessary political, policy, legal and financial steps required to address these challenges for the specific context.	Leave No One Behind
Commit to actively work to uphold the institution of asylum and the principle of non-refoulement. Commit to support further accession to and strengthened implementation of national, regional and international laws and policy frameworks that ensure and improve the protection of refugees and IDPs, such as the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees and the 1967 Protocol or the AU Convention for the Protection and Assistance of Internally Displaced Persons in Africa (Kampala convention) or the Guiding Principles on internal displacement.	Leave No One Behind

1. Highlight the concrete actions taken between 1 January – 31 December 2017 to implement the commitments which contribute to achieving this transformation. Be as specific as possible and include any relevant data/figures.

Refugees

On September 27th, 2017 Caritas Internationalis officially launched a two-year campaign “Share the Journey” aimed at strengthening the bonds between migrants, refugees and host communities. Pope Francis officially launched the initiative in Saint Peter’s Square. Caritas Internationalis plans on engaging members, communities and individuals on a regional/national basis throughout the campaign lifecycle.

2. A. How are you measuring progress toward achieving your commitments? Only the categories selected by the organisation will be seen below.

- Through existing, internal systems or frameworks for monitoring, reporting and/or evaluation.

Keywords

Displacement, Migrants



3B Address the vulnerabilities of migrants and provide more regular and lawful opportunities for migration

Individual Commitments

Commitment	Commitment Type	Core Responsibility
<p>Caritas strongly advocate for the protection of refugees and migrants as well as the responsibilities of host governments to recognize and guarantee the right to a secure stay in host countries, with adequate access to safe and dignified services and support</p>	<p>Advocacy</p>	<p>Leave No One Behind</p>

1. Highlight the concrete actions taken between 1 January – 31 December 2017 to implement the commitments which contribute to achieving this transformation. Be as specific as possible and include any relevant data/figures.

Caritas Internationalis strongly advocates for the protection of refugees and migrants along their journey (including legal and safe pathways for migration) as well as appealing to host governments to recognize and guarantee the right to a secure stay with adequate access to services. Caritas advocates for alternatives to detention for minor migrants as stated in the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC). Caritas has contributed to three important international advocacy documents for the protection of migrants and asylum seekers to be used during the negotiations on the Global Compact for Legal and Safe Migration and the Global Compact on Refugees: “Towards the Global Compacts on Migrants and on Refugees 2018” 20 Points Action Points of the Dicastery on the Promotion of Integral Human Development; Document of the Initiative for Child Rights in the Global Compacts; and “Now and how” 10 Acts for the Global Compact. A civil society vision for a transformative agenda for human mobility, migration and development.

Keywords

Migrants, Protection



4A Reinforce, do not replace, national and local systems

Individual Commitments

Commitment	Commitment Type	Core Responsibility
Caritas acknowledges cash transfers as an effective humanitarian tool and commits to using or facilitating use of cash wherever feasible and appropriate in humanitarian response.	Operational	Change People's Lives: From Delivering Aid to Ending Need
Caritas commits to build a stronger Caritas Confederation by strengthening the knowledge and adherence of its members to international standards in emergency responses - enshrined in Caritas Internationalis Management Standards - to ensure accountability to the people we serve.	Training	Change People's Lives: From Delivering Aid to Ending Need
Caritas commits to invest in quality assurance to demonstrate its adherence to humanitarian standards and good practices, including in how it demonstrates accountability to people affected by crisis, in line with Caritas Internationalis' Management Standards.	Operational	Change People's Lives: From Delivering Aid to Ending Need
Caritas will strengthen its network by building the capacity of each organization to effectively identify and respond to needs, developing specific (aid) services, leadership and responsibilities. Each national Caritas will be the point of reference for other member organizations in a given country. This in turn will allow us to empower grassroots to fully participate in decision-making and promote greater resilience of affected communities.	Capacity	Change People's Lives: From Delivering Aid to Ending Need
In line with the preferential option for the poor, Caritas Internationalis has always put people at the heart of its humanitarian action and will continue doing so to support them to rebuild their lives in full respect of their dignity. In doing so, Caritas will strive to uphold the highest ethical and professional standards of accountability to the people it serves.	Policy	Change People's Lives: From Delivering Aid to Ending Need

Core Commitments

Commitment	Core Responsibility
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<p>Commit to a new way of working that meets people's immediate humanitarian needs, while at the same time reducing risk and vulnerability over multiple years through the achievement of collective outcomes. To achieve this, commit to the following: a) Anticipate, Do Not Wait: to invest in risk analysis and to incentivize early action in order to minimize the impact and frequency of known risks and hazards on people. b) Reinforce, Do Not Replace: to support and invest in local, national and regional leadership, capacity strengthening and response systems, avoiding duplicative international mechanisms wherever possible. c) Preserve and retain emergency capacity: to deliver predictable and flexible urgent and life-saving assistance and protection in accordance with humanitarian principles. d) Transcend Humanitarian-Development Divides: work together, toward collective outcomes that ensure humanitarian needs are met, while at the same time reducing risk and vulnerability over multiple years and based on the comparative advantage of a diverse range of actors. The primacy of humanitarian principles will continue to underpin humanitarian action.</p>	<p>Change People's Lives: From Delivering Aid to Ending Need</p>
<p>Commit to reinforce national and local leadership and capacities in managing disaster and climate-related risks through strengthened preparedness and predictable response and recovery arrangements.</p>	<p>Change People's Lives: From Delivering Aid to Ending Need</p>
<p>Commit to increase substantially and diversify global support and share of resources for humanitarian assistance aimed to address the differentiated needs of populations affected by humanitarian crises in fragile situations and complex emergencies, including increasing cash-based programming in situations where relevant.</p>	<p>Change People's Lives: From Delivering Aid to Ending Need Invest in Humanity</p>
<p>Commit to empower national and local humanitarian action by increasing the share of financing accessible to local and national humanitarian actors and supporting the enhancement of their national delivery systems, capacities and preparedness planning.</p>	<p>Change People's Lives: From Delivering Aid to Ending Need Invest in Humanity</p>

1. Highlight the concrete actions taken between 1 January – 31 December 2017 to implement the commitments which contribute to achieving this transformation. Be as specific as possible and include any relevant data/figures.

People-centered approaches (feedback mechanisms, community engagement, etc)

As part of its Emergency Response Framework, Caritas Internationalis has set up three Sectoral Working Groups for the professional development and quick deployment of specialist Caritas Internationalis Member Organisations (CIMO) staff for emergency response.

One of the three Sectoral Working Groups focuses on Accountability, Protection and Real Time Evaluations. Accountability Sectoral Working Group members are deployed to ensure that Caritas responses are accountable to the people we serve and that people and their needs are at the centre and forefront of the response.

The core areas of focus of the Accountability Sectoral Working Group are community engagement and participation, needs assessments and analysis, information sharing, feedback and complaint handling and protection mainstreaming.

To date the Accountability Sectoral Working Group has been successful in organising trainings for its members, in developing tools and resources for each key area of work, and in deploying its members to carry out two Real Time Evaluations.

Cash-based programming

Caritas member organizations have implemented various cash-based programs for several years already. A Caritas Cash Working Group (CCWG) has been created. Its role is to support all Caritas Member Organizations through regular updates, research, development of tools, and trainings.

Caritas has conducted a mapping to understand the extent of Caritas member organizations in Cash Transfer programs. According to the mapping, cash based programs have been implemented in more than forty countries and forty emergency responses. (2016-2017).

The Caritas Cash Working Group will promote Cash Learning Partnership (CaLP) training and will put together resources that could be used by member organizations when implementing cash programs in emergencies.



Building community resilience

Caritas Internationalis is a member of the Steering Committee for Humanitarian Response (SCHR), a voluntary alliance of nine of the world's leading humanitarian organizations, which come together to support quality, accountability and learning in humanitarian action.

SCHR has identified putting people at the center of humanitarian action or the Participation Revolution as one of the priorities for collective work post World Humanitarian Summit (WHS). In September 2017, SCHR members carried out a peer review of our respective emergency responses in northern Iraq and northern Uganda to identify enablers and disablers for effective participation. In the next phase, SCHR will focus on incentives to steer the necessary mind shift for organizations to become "people-centred". SCHR is aiming to put the "participation revolution" into practice within the next 5 years.

Strengthening national/local leadership and systems

Seven Caritas member organizations are signatory of the Charter4Change which outlines eight commitments of international NGOs to change their ways of working with national NGO partners.

Caritas is currently working on the elaboration of a Caritas position paper on localization. The paper will outline how member organizations support each other when crises hit; how Caritas engages in national and international coordination mechanisms and systems; the scope and reach of Caritas members within countries; their presence and contribution to humanitarian action; and their perspectives on how local actors deliver humanitarian assistance; and the importance of the networks of support within and between Caritas members.

Adherence to quality and accountability standards (e.g. CHS, SPHERE)

Caritas Internationalis sits on the board of The Sphere Project and Caritas helped draft the original Sphere Handbook and has been closely involved in its subsequent revisions.

Caritas staff worldwide are consistently trained to ensure that they are familiar with Sphere. Caritas Internationalis has developed and rolled-out the new Caritas Emergency Response Framework which aims at enhancing our collective responses by strengthening the leadership role of our national members, enhancing internal and external coordination and setting-up additional surge capacities in Water Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH), Shelter and Settlements and Accountability.

In addition, in 2014 the Caritas Internationalis governance bodies introduced the Caritas Internationalis Management Standards as a central instrument to help the confederation and its members in their organisational development and to assess members' level of organisational health.

The standards have been rolled out and member organizations have been invited to apply them and to undergo an assessment against the standards. In 2019 assessments will be ongoing, and further trainings will be provided.

2. A. How are you measuring progress toward achieving your commitments? Only the categories selected by the organisation will be seen below.

- Through existing, internal systems or frameworks for monitoring, reporting and/or evaluation.

3. A. Please select no more than 3 key challenges faced in implementing the commitments related to this transformation. Only the categories selected by the organisation will be seen below.

- Data and analysis

Keywords

Cash, Community resilience, Local action, People-centred approach, Quality and accountability standards



4B Anticipate, do not wait, for crises

Individual Commitments

Commitment	Commitment Type	Core Responsibility
Caritas commits to reduce the impact of humanitarian crisis by promoting programmes aimed at enhancing disaster preparedness and response, and by supporting communities to design and implement appropriate risk reduction strategies, including ensuring adequate resources for risk mitigation	Operational	Change People's Lives: From Delivering Aid to Ending Need

Core Commitments

Commitment	Core Responsibility
Commit to a new way of working that meets people's immediate humanitarian needs, while at the same time reducing risk and vulnerability over multiple years through the achievement of collective outcomes. To achieve this, commit to the following: a) Anticipate, Do Not Wait: to invest in risk analysis and to incentivize early action in order to minimize the impact and frequency of known risks and hazards on people. b) Reinforce, Do Not Replace: to support and invest in local, national and regional leadership, capacity strengthening and response systems, avoiding duplicative international mechanisms wherever possible. c) Preserve and retain emergency capacity: to deliver predictable and flexible urgent and life-saving assistance and protection in accordance with humanitarian principles. d) Transcend Humanitarian-Development Divides: work together, toward collective outcomes that ensure humanitarian needs are met, while at the same time reducing risk and vulnerability over multiple years and based on the comparative advantage of a diverse range of actors. The primacy of humanitarian principles will continue to underpin humanitarian action.	Change People's Lives: From Delivering Aid to Ending Need
Commit to accelerate the reduction of disaster and climate-related risks through the coherent implementation of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030, the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Paris Agreement on Climate Change, as well as other relevant strategies and programs of action, including the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway.	Change People's Lives: From Delivering Aid to Ending Need Invest in Humanity

1. Highlight the concrete actions taken between 1 January – 31 December 2017 to implement the commitments which contribute to achieving this transformation. Be as specific as possible and include any relevant data/figures.

Caritas Internationalis actively participated and delivered an official statement at the Global Platform on DRR in Cancun, Mexico. (See the attached statement).

Keywords

Disaster Risk Reduction



5E Diversify the resource base and increase cost-efficiency

Individual Commitments

Commitment	Commitment Type	Core Responsibility
Caritas commits to be transparent about the full cost of humanitarian action, including the resources transferred to members.	Financial	Invest in Humanity
Caritas commits to harmonize and simplify reporting tools and procedures, and further invest in strengthening joint needs assessments and appeal mechanism.	Operational	Invest in Humanity

Core Commitments

Commitment	Core Responsibility
Commit to increase substantially and diversify global support and share of resources for humanitarian assistance aimed to address the differentiated needs of populations affected by humanitarian crises in fragile situations and complex emergencies, including increasing cash-based programming in situations where relevant.	Change People's Lives: From Delivering Aid to Ending Need Invest in Humanity
Commit to promote and increase predictable, multi-year, unearmarked, collaborative and flexible humanitarian funding toward greater efficiency, effectiveness, transparency and accountability of humanitarian action for affected people.	Invest in Humanity

1. Highlight the concrete actions taken between 1 January – 31 December 2017 to implement the commitments which contribute to achieving this transformation. Be as specific as possible and include any relevant data/figures.

Through the revised Caritas Internationalis (CI) Toolkit, the CI Confederation was successful in adopting a streamlined approach to launch, manage and close a CI Appeal. The CI Toolkit includes key CI Appeal formats which meet the requirements of different CI Member Organisations and thereby reduce the administrative burden placed upon the responding Caritas. In addition, the CI Toolkit includes other streamlined resources for emergency preparedness and response in line with humanitarian minimum standards. The CI Toolkit Task Force is now working on a single grant agreement template to harmonise the terms and conditions for the management of funds channeled to the CI Appeal. This will also improve the timeliness of the response considering the time required to review/negotiate separate contractual obligations.

2. A. How are you measuring progress toward achieving your commitments? Only the categories selected by the organisation will be seen below.

- Through existing, internal systems or frameworks for monitoring, reporting and/or evaluation.



Additional Reports

Attachment
Cancun CI Statement.pdf
20 Action Points for the Global Compacts.EN_.pdf