



Charter4Change – Localisation of Humanitarian Aid

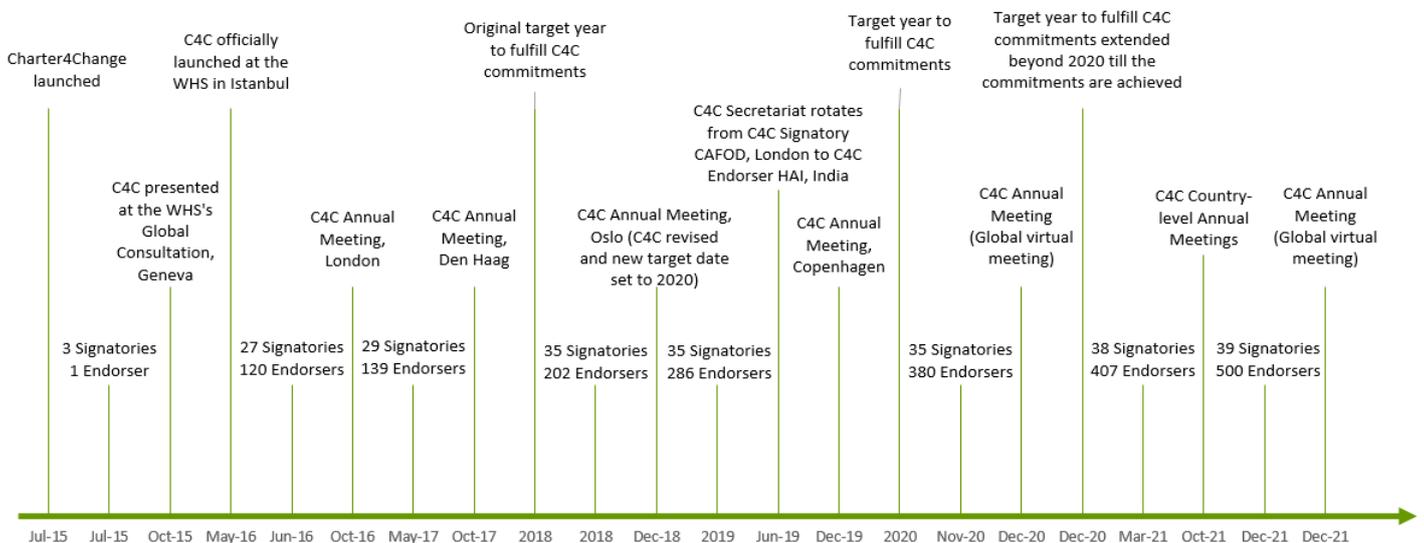
1. Introduction

The [Charter4Change](http://www.charter4change.org/)¹ (C4C) is an initiative that aims to transform the way the humanitarian system operates to enable local and national NGOs to play an increased and more prominent role in humanitarian response. International NGOs are encouraged to play an active part in this transformation towards a more locally-driven humanitarian system by changing the way that they work.

The Charter for Change was launched in July 2015 by CAFOD, Christian Aid, DanChurchAid and ADESO. It was initially presented at the World Humanitarian Summit’s (WHS) Global Consultation in Geneva in October 2015, and officially launched at the WHS in Istanbul in May 2016. The C4C brings together 39 international NGOs [Signatories](https://charter4change.org/signatories/)² working to implement the [8 Commitments](https://charter4change.org/endorsements/)³ to address imbalances and inequality in the global humanitarian system. They are joined by more than 500 national and local NGO [Endorsers](https://charter4change.org/endorsements/)⁴, keen to encourage their INGO partners to improve their partnership practices in order to deliver better outcomes for crisis-affected people.

With the continued success of the C4C initiative as a peer support and influencing network, additional signatories and endorsers have been signed up since May 2016 and are now participants in the C4C initiative. In the 2018 C4C Annual Meeting in Oslo, signatories and endorsers both agreed that the initiative was successful in driving change – both at policy and at organizational change levels – and needed to continue beyond the original target date. The target date was therefore adjusted to 2020. It was also agreed that the C4C Secretariat should shift from an INGO signatory to a LNGO endorser and rotate every two years. In 2019, the C4C Secretariat shifted from CAFOD in London to Humanitarian Aid International (HAI) in India. In 2020 it was decided that the C4C would continue past its stated end date, and the [Future of Charter for Change](https://charter4change.files.wordpress.com/2021/02/the-future-of-charter4change-paper.pdf)⁵ sets out the key areas of focus as the C4C moves into the next phase.

Charter4Change Timeline



¹ <http://www.charter4change.org/>

² <https://charter4change.org/signatories/>

³ <https://charter4change.files.wordpress.com/2019/06/charter4change-2019.pdf>

⁴ <https://charter4change.org/endorsements/>

⁵ <https://charter4change.files.wordpress.com/2021/02/the-future-of-charter4change-paper.pdf>

2. The 8 Charter4Change Commitments

The Charter for Change includes 8 Commitments that INGO Signatories agree to implement, to address imbalances and inequality in the global humanitarian system. The commitments focus on issues of equality, effectiveness, transparency, representation, funding and resource recognition, and support for local capacity.



3. C4C Endorsers - Roles and Responsibilities

Do you agree that the Charter for Change is an important initiative to support change in humanitarian action? Do you agree that INGOs should implement the 8 points in their organisational ways of working? **Endorse and support the Charter for Change (C4C)!** You can endorse the Charter by clicking on 'ENDORSE' [here](https://charter4change.org/)⁶ or by writing to admin@charter4change.org.

To complement the C4C commitments, endorsers have also launched their own initiative, the [Charter of Accountability](https://charter4change.org/coa/)⁷ (COA), to ensure that they make the people affected of crisis as the focus of their humanitarian work and make themselves accountable to them. **Sign the Charter of Accountability**⁸ (COA) by clicking [here](https://charter4change.org/coa/)⁹ or by writing to admin@charter4change.org.

By endorsing the Charter for Change, you can:

- Participate in the C4C Endorsers discussion group** where C4C endorsers share information, and discuss progress and challenges related to implementation of the Charter for Change
- Help hold INGOs to account** in their partnerships
- Actively encourage INGOs** to sign the C4C and commit to localisation
- Identify creative ways to mobilise L/NNGOs** to actively engage in the localisation and C4C process (e.g. convening country-level dialogue/webinars)
- Advocate with C4C signatories** for the common goals of the C4C

⁶ <https://charter4change.org/>

⁷ <https://charter4change.org/coa/>

⁸ <https://charter4change.org/coa/>

⁹ <https://charter4change.org/coa/>

4. Get Involved!

- ✓ **Spread the word!** Encourage other Local and National NGOs to endorse the Charter4Change (C4C) and sign the [Charter of Accountability](#)¹⁰ (COA)
- ✓ **Document and share** good practices, case studies and blogs on localisation efforts and C4C progress
- ✓ **Become a member** of Charter4Change working groups, see the different groups below:
 - [C4C Advocacy Group](#)¹¹: The **C4C Advocacy group** is a discussion group to share information and collaborate on advancing advocacy on behalf of the Charter for Change network and to support progress on the localisation of aid agenda. Join the group, if you want to:
 - Join an active email list and semi-regular calls to share your knowledge of progress and barriers to localization
 - Strategize on collectively influencing key humanitarian decision makers or around key moments
 - Develop joint agency influencing products, like letters to donors or briefing notes that can strengthen C4C and your organisation's profile on localization
 - Capitalize on your (or your organization's) attendance at high level events, by representing the C4C network with joint agency messages
 - If you would like to participate, you can view the terms of reference for the group [here](#)¹² and apply for membership [here](#).¹³
 - [C4C Capacity Strengthening Group](#)¹⁴: The **C4C Capacity** group is a discussion group that seeks to capture local actor's capacity strengthening (CS) experiences and share resources and learning among Charter for Change network members in order to support progress on the localisation of aid agenda. Tearfund and CAFOD have agreed to act as co-leads to get the group started. The group's purpose and tasks are to:
 - Capture local actor's reflections on their CS experiences
 - Identify what CS driven by the demands of local actors could look like
 - Identify what support local actors need to take the initiative to drive their organisation's growth
 - Share CS tools, resources and learning from CS experiences
 - Develop joint capacity strengthening good practice papers/guides
 - If you would like to participate, you can view the terms of reference for the group [here](#)¹⁵ and apply for membership [here](#).¹⁶
 - [C4C Endorsers Task Group](#)¹⁷: The **Charter for Change Endorsers task group** consists primarily of endorsers and a few signatory representatives to define and drive forward an enhanced role for national NGO endorsers in the C4C process. The group facilitates dialogue among endorsers of the Charter4Change to share information and discuss progress and challenges related to implementation of the Charter4Change.
 - Help organise endorsers at the national/regional/global level for a parallel conversation, and for being proactively engaged in the localisation process instead of being reactive

¹⁰ <https://charter4change.org/coa/>

¹¹ <https://dgroups.io/g/c4c-advocacy>

¹² <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1VQmxj5mAQTNADrZld4THWs-GRFC8dNLA/view?usp=sharing>

¹³ <https://dgroups.io/g/c4c-advocacy/join>

¹⁴ <https://dgroups.io/g/c4c-capacity>

¹⁵ <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1O0Ibql-Z0rprcz1Zz4IAA-SVDA10WY7I/view?usp=sharing>

¹⁶ <https://dgroups.io/g/c4c-capacity/join>

¹⁷ <https://dgroups.io/g/c4c-endorsers>

- Develop an accountability mechanism to hold signatories accountable
- Publish annually the good practices on localisation from the endorsers' perspective
- Develop a few additional points in the charter exclusively for the endorsers such as a Charter of Accountability for endorsers
- For Signatories: Encourage local/national partners to endorse the charter
- For Signatories: Inform their local/national partners about the commitments they made through C4C and share their annual report with them to inform about the progress
- If you would like to participate, you can view the terms of reference for the group [here](#)¹⁸ and apply for membership by adding your details [here](#).¹⁹

C4C members are encouraged to join any of the C4C working groups. Please find more information on the C4C groups [here](#).²⁰

5. More Information

- The Charter4Change is currently available in [English](#), [French](#)²¹, [Arabic](#)²², [Nepali](#) and [Spanish](#)²³.
- To sign or endorse the Charter for Change, please email admin@charter4change.org
- For information on the structure of the C4C, see [here](#)²⁴
- For an overview of recent Charter for Change publications and reports, see [here](#)²⁵
- For more information on the Charter4Change, visit the [Charter4Change website](#)²⁶ or write to admin@charter4change.org
- The Charter4Change Secretariat is currently being hosted by [Humanitarian Aid International](#)²⁷, India

Contact

 www.charter4change.org

 admin@charter4change.org

 [@charter4change](https://twitter.com/charter4change)

 [charter4change](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCqR1eFvqL9YhhtSA6osGgVau6E5_2QXmeERMCQFw2R1efs)

¹⁸ <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1jLkhUIE35O21-Bv8VbUmlSqq2-egOCJ2/view?usp=sharing>

¹⁹ https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1FvqL9YhhtSA6osGgVau6E5_2QXmeERMCQFw2R1efs/edit?usp=sharing

²⁰ <https://charter4change.files.wordpress.com/2021/11/structure-of-the-charter-for-change-2021-1.pdf>

²¹ <https://charter4change.files.wordpress.com/2019/06/c4c-francais-2019.pdf>

²² <https://charter4change.files.wordpress.com/2019/06/c4c-arabic-2019.pdf>

²³ <https://charter4change.files.wordpress.com/2019/06/c4c-espac3b1ol-2019.pdf>

²⁴ <https://charter4change.files.wordpress.com/2021/11/structure-of-the-charter-for-change-2021-1.pdf>

²⁵ <https://charter4change.org/resources/>

²⁶ <https://charter4change.org/>

²⁷ <http://www.hai-india.org/>

The administration of the Charter4Change is currently based at [Humanitarian Aid International](#), India.
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For more information, please contact: admin@charter4change.org