



Charter4Change – Localisation of Humanitarian Aid

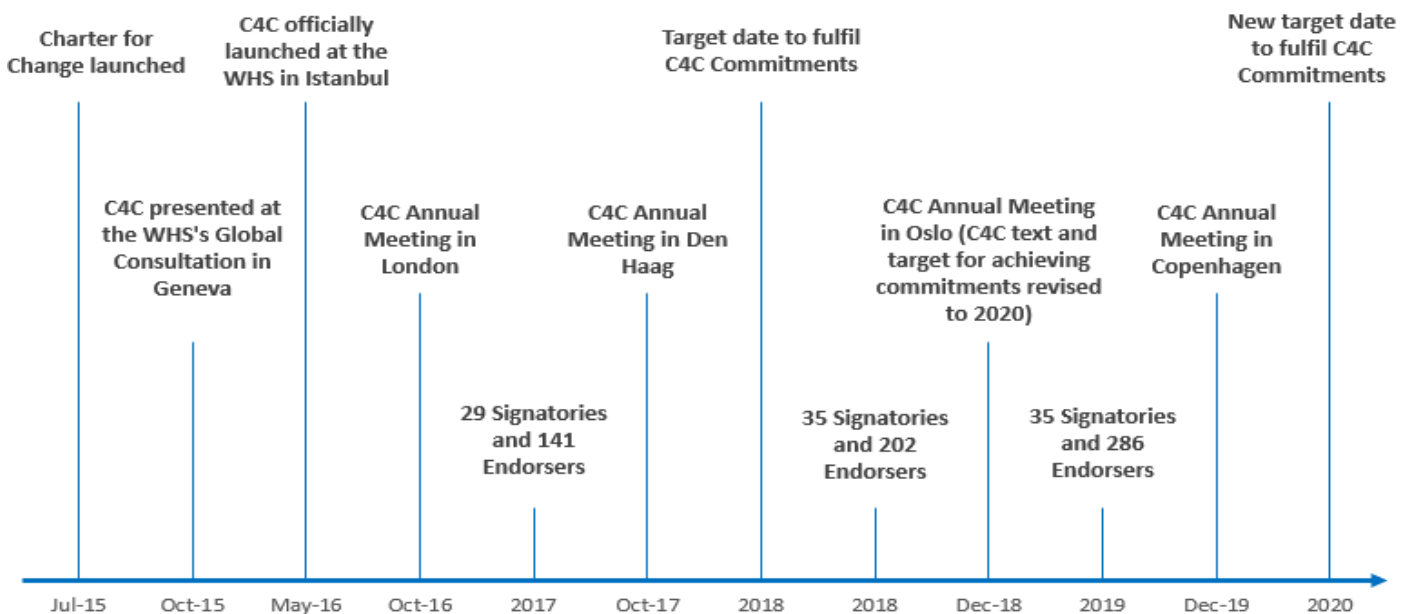
1. Introduction

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 to enable more locally-led response.

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 35 international NGOs [Signatories](https://charter4change.org/signatories/)² working to implement the [8 Commitments](https://charter4change.files.wordpress.com/2019/06/charter4change-2019.pdf)³ to address imbalances and inequality in the global humanitarian system. Signatories to the Charter for Change have committed themselves to deliver change within their own organisational ways of working so that local and national NGOs can play an increased and more prominent role in humanitarian response. They are joined by more than 280 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 therefore needed to continue beyond the original target date. The target date was therefore adjusted to 2020.

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/>

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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

- Endorse and support the Charter for Change!** You can endorse the Charter by clicking on 'ENDORSE' [here](https://charter4change.org/)⁵ or by writing to admin@charter4change.org.
- 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** who are not C4C signatories 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 signatories** for the common goals of the C4C

4. Get Involved!

- ✓ **Spread the word!** Encourage other Local and National NGOs to endorse the Charter
- ✓ **Document and share** good practices, case studies and blogs on localisation efforts and C4C progress
- ✓ **Become a member** of Charter4Change working groups:

⁵ <https://charter4change.org/>

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- i. [C4C Advocacy Group](#)⁶: 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 how we will collectively influence 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, please contact Anita Kattakuzhy: anita.kattakuzhy@oxfam.org

- ii. [C4C Capacity Strengthening Group](#)⁷: 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 a joint capacity strengthening good practice paper/ guide based on local actors' perspectives
 - If you would like to participate, please contact Laura Donkin at ldonkin@cafod.org.uk

- iii. [C4C Endorsers Task Group](#)⁸: 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 Charter4Change 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
 - 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

⁶ <https://dgroups.io/g/c4c-advocacy>

⁷ <https://dgroups.io/g/c4c-capacity>

⁸ <https://dgroups.io/g/c4c-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, please contact Sudhanshu Singh at sssingh@hai-india.org

5. More Information

- For more information on the Charter4Change, visit the [Charter4Change website](#)⁹ or write to admin@charter4change.org.
- The Charter4Change is available in [English](#)¹⁰, [French](#)¹¹, [Arabic](#)¹², and [Spanish](#)¹³.
- Read the Communiqué for 3rd annual Charter for Change meeting, December 2018 [here](#)¹⁴ and the latest C4C Annual Progress report [here](#)¹⁵.
- For links to more resources on C4C and localisation, click [here](#)¹⁶.
- The Charter4Change Secretariat is currently being hosted by [Humanitarian Aid International](#)¹⁷, India.

⁹ <https://charter4change.org/>

¹⁰ <https://charter4change.files.wordpress.com/2019/06/charter4change-2019.pdf>

¹¹ <https://charter4change.files.wordpress.com/2019/06/c4c-francais-2019.pdf>

¹² <https://charter4change.files.wordpress.com/2019/06/c4c-arabic-2019.pdf>

¹³ <https://charter4change.files.wordpress.com/2019/06/c4c-espac3b1ol-2019.pdf>

¹⁴ <https://charter4change.files.wordpress.com/2019/01/oslo-meeting-charter4change-communique-december-2018.pdf>

¹⁵ https://charter4change.files.wordpress.com/2019/06/c4c_progressreport_2019.pdf

¹⁶ <https://charter4change.org/resources/>

¹⁷ <http://www.hai-india.org/>