



## **Christian Aid commitments to the World Humanitarian Summit**

The first priority in the agenda that Christian Aid has laid out for the World Humanitarian Summit is a **shift in power towards locally owned and led response**. Christian Aid is pleased that the UN Secretary General's report to the Summit calls for a paradigm shift towards 'reinforcing not replacing national systems' and demands 'greater investment in local capacity'. Christian Aid's own commitments that our Chief Executive Loretta Minghella will be announcing at WHS include:

1. 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
2. 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.

Christian Aid has co-founded, with CAFOD, DanChurchAid and ADESO, the **Charter for Change** ( ([www.charter4change.org](http://www.charter4change.org) ) which makes 8 concrete pledges to reform our practice to strengthen the role of national and local partners in the humanitarian system. 22 INGOs, including OXFAM and CARE, have now signed onto the Charter for Change, and well over 100 national NGOs have endorsed it. One of its 8 commitments is:

3. 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.

Christian Aid's second priority for WHS is **greater investment in building resilience and reducing disaster risks**. We are pleased that the UN Secretary General is calling for a paradigm shift towards 'anticipating not waiting for crises'. Christian Aid's commitments for WHS include:

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

Christian Aid's 3<sup>rd</sup> priority for WHS is a call for **greater investment in accountability to vulnerable and disaster-affected populations**. We are pleased that the UN Secretary General's report contains strong calls to 'put people at the centre', 'to speak out on violations' and to 'empower and protect women and girls'. Christian Aid's commitments at the WHS include:

5. We will significantly increase the percentage of our programmes that support local women's groups and that promote women's rights and empowerment
6. We will systematically amplify urgent calls from local communities for greater safety and humanitarian access, and call for an international architecture which tackles impunity

Christian Aid is a member of the **ACT Alliance** ([www.actalliance.org](http://www.actalliance.org) ), a coalition of over 140 Christian organisations in over 70 countries, committed to working together on advocacy, development and humanitarian action, Christian Aid endorses the commitments that the ACT Alliance is bringing to the WHS, including that:

7. 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 partners.