

Our vision of shifted power is **POWER** that is **SHARED**

Shifting the Power

A shift of power towards locally owned and led humanitarian response

A better balanced system where local actors take their place alongside international ones

Our Partners:



Let's share & shift the **POWER**



Shifting the Power
Bangladesh
calls for

Investing more on Humanitarian Capacity Building
Empowered Voices of Local Actors
Localisation of AID

**SHIFTING
THE
POWER**

Shifting the Power

Local actors are the first and main responders after a disaster strikes: they know the context and speak the language; they are there, and will stay there long after international actors have left. A growing body of evidence demonstrates that partnerships with national and local organisations enhance the relevance, appropriateness, accountability and connectedness of humanitarian responses, and ensure better linking up of relief, rehabilitation and development. Despite this, the current system favours working with large international actors, who frequently ignore local and national actors.

Shifting the Power believes re-establishing the balance is the key. A shift of power towards locally owned and led responses will result in more effective and accountable delivery of humanitarian assistance to disaster affected communities.

Shifting the Power aims to support local actors to take their place alongside international actors in order to create a balanced humanitarian system and envisions **four key changes**:

01

Local and National (L/N)NGOs partners have the knowledge, skills, processes, and policies to prepare for and respond effectively to emergencies;

02

L/NGOs are better represented and have a stronger voice in relevant humanitarian platforms and networks;

03

INGOs recognise and respond to L/NGO capacity, leadership & voice;

04

The project provides evidence of good practice in strengthening L/NGOs humanitarian preparedness and response work and their role/ influence in humanitarian action.

Shifting the Power will demonstrate how this approach can make national responses faster, better quality and more effective.

Therefore, it calls for mobilising more funding on humanitarian capacity building, localisation of aid system and empowered voices of the local actors in the national humanitarian system echoing the Charter for Change.

CHARTER FOR CHANGE

50 Southern-based national and local organisations have endorsed the Charter for Change, an initiative that intends to practically shift the way the humanitarian system operates to enable southern-based national actors to play an increased and more prominent role in humanitarian response. International NGOs (INGOs) are encouraged to play an active part in this shift towards a more locally-driven humanitarian system by changing the way that they work.

The Charter for Change includes eight Commitments that INGOs agree to implement by May 2018 for **Localisation of Humanitarian Aid System**.

8-Point Agenda of C4C:

- 20% of humanitarian **DIRECT FUNDING** to NNGOs
- Reaffirm principles of **PARTNERSHIP**
- **TRANSPARENCY** of funding that is passed to NNGOs
- Address & prevent the negative impact of **RECRUITING** NNGO staff during emergencies;
- **ADVOCACY** to emphasise the importance of national actors to humanitarian donors
- Address subcontracting and ensure **EQUALITY** in decision-making
- Provide robust organisational **SUPPORT** and capacity building
- **PROMOTE** the role of local actors to media and public

COMMUNITY VOICES

It is really hard to cope with the children without food during the flood; sometimes we manage to arrange merely one meal and sometimes nothing! We receive support from NGOs though; it is quite insufficient, like, 1000 are affected but only 100 are receiving aid. Often these come long after the flood when already we have survived somehow.

Shahnaz Begum, Community Woman of Gaibandha

VOICE
01



GUK (Christian Aid's partner) comes first to us after flood hits. But they do not have sufficient funds and seeks money from others that takes time to support. If local organisations like GUK have the money, they will be able to support us quickly based on our needs.

Moyez Miah, Community Man of Gaibandha

VOICE
02



Every year we suffer due to flood and river bank erosion and seek external assistance. But if the support comes long after flood, it is useless. So my request to you, if you plan to provide any support, take all preparation before flood engaging the local NGOs and local government who understand local reality. Only this can give us an opportunity to survive and that will be appropriate for the community.

Maleka Begum
Women Member of Uriya Union Parishad, Gaibandha

VOICE
03

