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

**Let’s share & shift the POWER**

**Shifting the Power**
Bangladesh *calls for*
Empowered Voices of Local Actors

Localisation of AID

**Our Partners:**
**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:**

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**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.**

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**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 NGO staff during emergencies;
- **ADVOCACY** to emphasise the importance of national actors to humanitarian donors
- **EQUALITY** in decision-making
- **SUPPORT** and capacity building
- **PROMOTE** the role of local actors to media and public

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**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

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

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