

# SPOTLIGHT

2025

The Charter for Change (C4C) Commitments support meaningful change towards the localisation of aid through targets for INGOs. Since 2015, 44 signatories have joined the Charter, supported by over 1,200 local and national NGOs holding signatories accountable. This Annual Spotlight presents self-reporting from 32 signatories at global headquarters, and 173 country level responses representing 22 signatories. The reporting focuses on key areas of support for locally-

led response: offering **quality funding**, building **quality partnerships**, and supporting change at the **country-level**. The 2025 Spotlight has the highest reporting rate in recent years, though a quarter of signatories still did not report showing the need for continued improvement in commitments to reporting. Of those who did report, they sent a weighted average of 27% of humanitarian funding directly to national partners, exceeding the 25% goal of the C4C commitments.

## Commitments

### Funding



27 %

Commit to pass 25% of humanitarian funding to National NGOs

Based on 32 complete responses

### Partnership



3.7

Reaffirm principles of partnership

### Transparency



3.5

Increase transparency around resource transfers to national and local NGOs

### Recruitment



4.1

Address and prevent the negative impact of recruiting NNGO staff during emergencies

### Advocacy



4.4

Emphasise the importance of national actors to humanitarian donors

### Equality



3.9

Address subcontracting and ensure equality in decision-making

### Support



3.7

Provide robust organisational support and capacity building

### Promotion



4.0

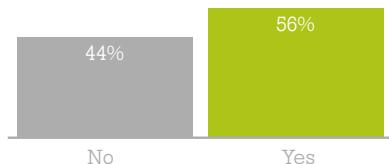
Promote the role of local actors to media and public

Scores calculated from 32 signatories ranking compliance with each commitment on a scale of 0-5.

## Transparency & Quality of Funding

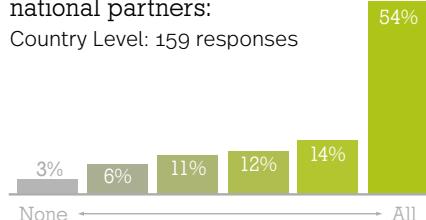
Organisational policy supports core/admin funding for local partners:

HQ: 32 responses



Core funding is provided to local and national partners:

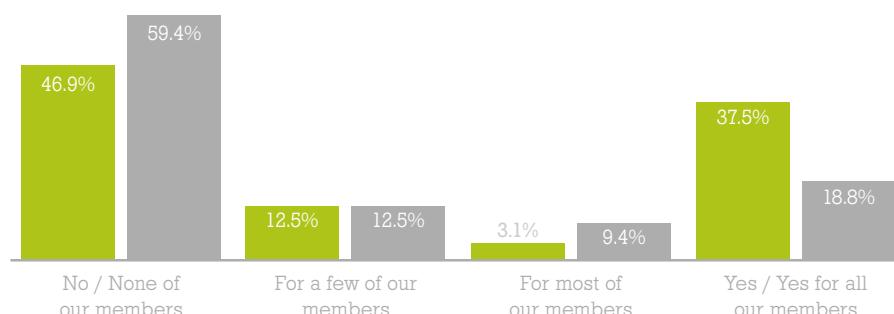
Country Level: 159 responses



The amounts going to national and local partners are published:

HQ: 32 responses

■ in public accounts ■ in IATI



More than half of the organisations continue to have an organisational policy supporting indirect cost recovery for partners, and most country offices provide such funding for all or most of their partners, with nearly 70 percent doing so. This is consistent with last year's reporting, however nearly a third still do not, despite commitments to do so. Transparency in funding also remains consistent, with only half of reporting signatories publishing their accounts publicly and/or through IATI.

# Quality Partnerships

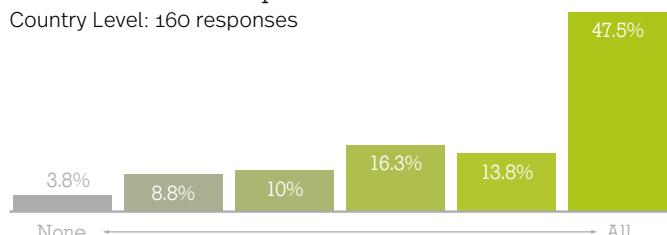
We have long-term strategic partnerships and partnership agreements with our partners:

Country Level: 155 responses

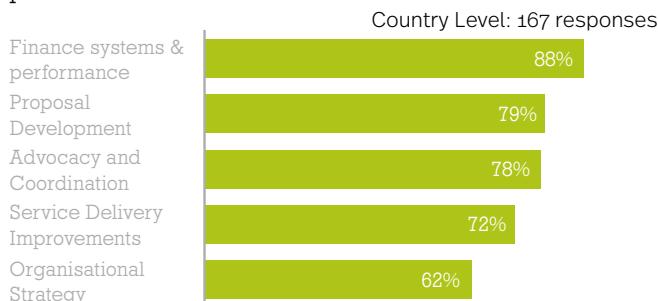


We have two-way partnership review and feedback mechanisms with our partners:

Country Level: 160 responses



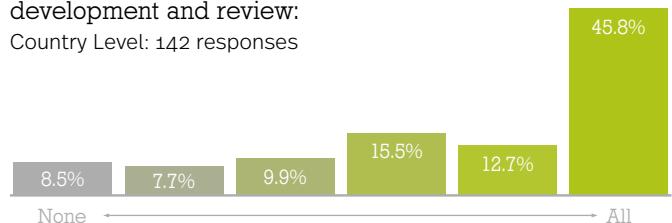
We have supported the organisational development of our partners in these areas\*:



\*This chart shows the top five responses. Respondents could select more than one area, so results will total more than 100%.

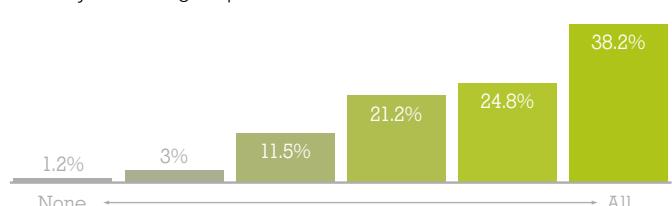
Our partners have taken part in our country strategy development and review:

Country Level: 142 responses



Our partners have taken a leadership role in joint activities or project design:

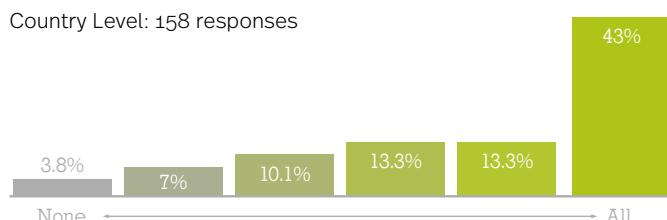
Country Level: 165 responses



At the country level, 59% report all or most partners being involved in country strategy, and 63% of signatories report partners taking leadership roles in activities and projects. This is a slightly broader spread than last year which can be explained by significantly higher reporting numbers. Overall, reporting remains consistent with previous years, showing that more investment is still needed in developing long-term partnerships. Organisational development continues to prioritise the same areas.

We actively support our local and national partners to network, coordinate and advocate for locally-led humanitarian action:

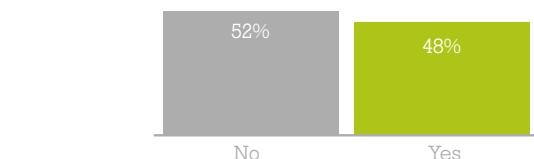
Country Level: 158 responses



For localisation to be effective, it must be led at the country level, and signatories continue to show their commitment to this, with 56 percent of country level respondents supporting local and national partners to network and collaborate with others at the country level. In line with the 2024 C4C Spotlight, just under

The performance of our country director/leadership is regularly measured against progress on the C4C and other localisation commitments:

HQ: 31 responses



fifty percent of signatories measure the performance of their country directors against localisation commitments, indicating that including localisation in performance measurement remains a key area for future change.

## Conclusions

The Charter for Change offers an important roadmap towards meaningful change to shift the balance of power in the humanitarian sector away from large INGOs towards local and national NGOs. These commitments provide concrete targets for change in organisational ways of working at the global and programme level. This survey looking at 2024, found that some progress continues to be made, particularly an increase in share of funding going to national and local actors despite significant difference between signatories. However, many of the commitments responses remain consistent, showing the pace of change is slow. Some commitments were scored

lower than last year, including advocating to donors and promoting the role of local and national actors in communications and media.

The increased response rate this year is encouraging, allowing for a more accurate picture of progress towards the C4C commitments. It is hoped that this Spotlight will support renewed commitment by senior management and decisionmakers to drive the localisation agenda in their own organisations and contribute to further accelerating real change in the humanitarian sector at this time of funding shocks and a crisis of trust in humanitarian action.