EXTERNAL ENDORSEMENT & RECOGNITION OF CHS AND CHS VERIFICATION

26 JUNE, 2025

ENDORSEMENT/REQUIREMENT i.e. concrete/formal requests for adopting the CHS as standard and using its Verification options. It is a higher level of commitment and acceptance.							
Who?	**Org. Type**	**On What?**	**Required CHS Verification option**			**Reference**	**Notes**
			Certification	**Independent Verification**	**Self-Assessment**		
Denmark, Danish Emergency Relief Fund (DERF)	Government/Public	Requires organisations to adopt the CHS. CHS Certification and Independent Verification automatically qualifies partners.	Yes	Yes		Doc: DERF Funding guidelines	Pages 5-7, 9, 11
Denmark, Ministry of Foreign Affairs/ DANIDA	Government/Public	Independent quality assurance against the CHS is a prerequisite for funding.	Yes	Yes		Doc: Guidelines Strategic Partnerships 2022-2025 With Danish Civil Society Organisations Doc: information note Full Application 2022 — 2025 Web: Strategic Partnerships 2022-2025 With Danish Civil Society Organisations Consultation of pre-qualification material for strategic partnership 2022-2025 -Question and answers Questions and answers for the Q&A meeting 26 February 2021 at	Page 6 Pages 33-37 Page 2 Pages 4, 5, 7, 12

						10-12 regarding prequalification for SPA 2022-2025	
						Hearing of application material for Strategic Partnerships 2022-2025 - Questions and answers	Page 9
						Budget note	Page 1
European Commission, Directorate-General for European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (DG ECHO)	International Organisation	Several references by DG ECHO to the CHS and its external independent verification: "External independent verification or quality assurance certification mechanisms can support and recognise these long-term institutional processes. (…) See, for example, the audit processes based on the CHS." "DG ECHO will therefore look into ways of supporting common approaches to harmonising due diligence requirements and/or making external independent verification or quality assurance certification mechanisms available or accessible to L/NAs, including through the Enhanced Response Capacity." FPA auditors other than HQAI may use HQAI audit information to fill the ECHO ex-ante FPA: "By way of example of possible reliance on other assurance providers, the Auditor could consider, if the Organisation has been certified or verified by the Humanitarian Qualitative Assurance Initiative, to rely on it to reply to the relevant questions, provided they have	Yes	Yes		Doc: Promoting Equitable Partnerships with Local Responders in Humanitarian Settings DG ECHO guidance note Terms of Reference ex-ante FPA 2021 Terms of Reference ex-ante FPA 2021_FAQ	Pages 15, 16, 24 Pages 14, 17. Paragraph 4.4.7 Using the work of others. Page 9

			Yes	Yes	Yes	
		satisfied themselves with the quality of HQAI work". DG ECHO accepts Framework Partnership Assessments and Programmatic Partnership Assessments submitted by HQAI as ex ante auditor.				HQAI Web examples: FPA of ACT Church of Sweden, 2020 PP ex-ante of CARE confederation members	
Germany, German Federal Foreign Office (GFFO)	Government/Public	Germany partner due diligence (quality profile) is designed to take into consideration the CHS. GFFO accepts the 3 CHS Verification options to shorten partner capacity assessment.	Yes	Yes	Yes	Doc: Federal Foreign Office Strategy for Humanitarian Assistance Abroad Document	Pages 15, 39, 40
Ireland, Irish Aid	Government/Public	CHS self-assessment is a minimum requirement for partners to apply for and obtain funding under Irish Aid's multi annual funding scheme "Ireland's Civil Society Partnership for A Better World" for Irish based International NGOs.	Yes	Yes	Yes	Doc: Civil Society Fund 2022 Call for Applications	Page 9
Luxembourg, Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs	Government/Public	Inclusion in Luxembourg's Humanitarian Action Strategy. Only certified organisations are eligible for financial support by Luxembourg.	Yes			Doc: Luxembourg's Humanitarian Action Strategy Web: Luxembourg's Humanitarian Action Strategy	Page 10
Netherlands, Dutch Relief Alliance (DRA)	Non-Governmental Organisation/Pooled Fund	Independent quality assurance against the CHS is a prerequisite for funding.	Yes	Yes		Doc: DRA 2022-2026 STRATEGY Web: DRA - Grand Bargain	Pages 3, 4, 6, 10, 11, 13, 15

						Web : DRA	
Sweden, Ministry of Foreign Affairs	Government/Public	In order to support quality and transparency work, Swedish civil society organisations can apply for up to 80% of their costs for the Humanitarian Quality Assurance Initiative (HQAI) CHS certification.	Yes			Doc: 2025-209 strategy	Page 8
Sweden, Radiohjälpen	Non-Governmental Organisation/Pooled Fund	One requirement for organisations applying for partnership for humanitarian response is that the organisation should be a member of CHS.	Yes	Yes	Yes	Doc: Main Guidelines Partnerships and International Activities (Swedish)	Page 2
Switzerland, Swiss Solidarity	Private Foundation/Pooled Fund	Aid organisations verified against the CHS have access to streamlined partner capacity assessments.	Yes	Yes	Yes	Doc: Accountability to affected people Swiss Solidarity Response Nepal	Pages 3, 12-14
United Kingdom, Foreign Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO)	Government/Public	Organisations certified under the CHS can now benefit from a streamlined application process when seeking FCDO grant funding. This certification, verified through independent audits by the Humanitarian Quality Assurance Initiative, demonstrates that organisations meet rigorous quality and accountability standards for humanitarian and development work. Organisations seeking funding should ensure proposals take note and adopt the CHS among other standards. FCDO Performance Effectiveness Tracker (PET), designed to monitor the performance of partners, reflects CHS indicators/requirements.	Yes			Web: Guidance - Applying for FCDO grant funding: simplified application processs with HQAI CHS Certification. Doc: FCDO Humanitarian Funding Guidelines for NGOs applying for CHASE Humanitarian Response Funding Web: Guidance Humanitarian Response Funding: guidelines for NGOs	Pages 4, 9, 14

		FCDO recognises and supports CHS SEAH initiatives, as well as HQAI verification work. "The CHS requirements are designed to improve the quality and accountability of aid including to better prevent and respond to SEAH." "Supporting HQAI to deliver verification of the Core Humanitarian Standard that provides quality assurance and helps to raise and maintain standards, improve transparency and improve capacity for local NGOs."			Web: FCDO progress report on safeguarding against SEAH in the international aid sector 2022 to 2023 Web: Guidance Safeguarding against SEAH. Due Diligence Guidance for FCDO implementing partners Doc: UK's PSEAH Strategy 2020	Section 5 and Annex A. Section 4, 5 and Annex A Pages 8, 11 "The six pillars assessed within FCDO's due diligence on Safeguarding (…) are based on the IASC and CHS global standards."
United Kingdom, Disasters Emergency Committee (DEC)	Non-Governmental Organisation/Pooled Fund	Independent quality assurance against the CHS is a prerequisite for funding.	Yes	Yes		Doc: The DEC's assurance approach Web: DEC	Page 1

		RECOGNITION i.e the general acknowledgement of the CHS as standard and/or its Verification options and/or general support, but without any formal requirement.		

Who?	Org. Type	On What?	Ref	Notes
Austria, Ministry of European and International Affairs	Government/Public	Inclusion in the Humanitarian Strategy. Due diligence referencing to CHS.	Web: Austrian Strategy on Humanitarian Assistance Doc : Austrian Strategy on Humanitarian Assistance	Pages 12, 18
Canada, Humanitarian Coalition	Non-Governmental Organisation/Pooled Fund	Reference of the CHS in the Codes and Standards of the Coalition	Web: Codes and Standards	
Canada, Canadian Foodgrains Bank	Non-Governmental Organisation/Pooled Fund	Reference of the CHS in the Standards and Affiliations of the Foodgrains Bank.	Web: Standards and Affiliations	
Grand Bargain	International Organisation	The Grand Bargain Workstream 6 – Participation Revolution includes several indicators referencing the adoption of the CHS by aid organisations and donor requiring funding partners to apply the CHS.	Doc: Success indicators against good practices related to participation of people affected by crisis in humanitarian decisions	Pages 1-3
Inter Agency Standing Committee (IASC)	International Organisation	The IASC principals agreed to five Commitments on Accountability to Affected Populations (CAAP) as part of a framework for engagement with communities. It was developed and endorsed by the IASC to reflect essential developments such as the Core Humanitarian Standard (CHS).	Doc: IASC Key Operational Guidance	Page 15
Norway, Ministry of Foreign Affairs	Government/Public	Partners are encouraged to use recognised standards in their work, such as (…) the Core Humanitarian Standard on Quality and Accountability (CHS).	Web: Ensuring respect for the humanitarian principles 2024-2029	Page 5
Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)	International Organisation	The CHS is referenced several times as a key standard, and as one of the foundational document cited in the OECD DAC recommendations.	Doc: Toolkit to Support Implementation of the OECD DAC Recommendation on Ending Sexual Exploitation Abuse and Harassment	Pages 23, 47, 54, 74, 82, 96, 112, 113, 123, 128, 134, 143, 146,

Sahel Regional Fund (SRF)	Non-Governmental Organisation/Pooled Fund	The SRF promotes the application of the Core Humanitarian Standard (CHS) as part of its commitment to quality and accountability. To uphold consistent standards across its funded projects, SRF requires its international partners to adhere to the CHS and reflects this expectation in its project selection process. As part of its due diligence, SRF generally requests partners to share evidence of CHS verification, including certification. The CHS is referenced in the SRF Strategic Framework.	Doc: SRF Strategic Framework	Pages 6-7
Spain, Ministry of Foreign Affairs/AECID	Government/Public	The CHS is referenced in the Spanish Strategy Humanitarian Action.	Doc: Spanish Strategy Humanitarian Action	Pages 18-19, 34
Spain, Government of Andalucia	Government/Public	The CHS is referenced in the Andalusian Plan for Development Cooperation.	Doc: Andalusian Plan for Development Cooperation 20-23 Web: Andalusian Plan for Development Cooperation	Pages 41, 71
Spain, Catalan Government	Government/Public	The CHS is referenced in the Catalan Development Cooperation Master Plan 2023-2026.	Doc: Catalan Development Cooperation Master Plan 2023-2026 Web: Catalan Development Cooperation Master Plan 2023-2026	Page 28
Steering Committee for Humanitarian Response (SCHR)	Non-Governmental Organisation	The SCHR supports widely accepted quality standards, primarily the Core Humanitarian Standard (CHS) and Sphere. It supports both certification against, and promotion of, standards as a preferred approach to systematically improving the quality and impact of humanitarian response.	Web: SCHR Key Areas of work	
Switzerland, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, International Cooperation	Government/Public	Switzerland has been a core donor until 2024.		

United Nations, Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (UN OCHA) / Inter Agency Standing Committee (IASC)	International Organisation	The Handbook for Humanitarian Coordinators includes a section on the CHS.	Doc: Handbook for Humanitarian Coordinators	Page 18
United States, U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID)	Government/Public	Recognition of the CHS as standard in several key policies and procedures, mostly around Accountability to Affected Population (AAP), Protection from Sexual Exploitation, Abuse and Harassment (PSEAH).	Doc: Population, Refugees, and Migration. U.S. Department of State FY 2023 General NGO Guidelines.	Pages 19, 44, 60