



CHS LOCALED¹ Collective Peer Assessments Terms of Reference for CHS Peer Assessors

1. Introduction

CHS LOCALED is an exciting new initiative that aims to provide a comprehensive picture of aid effectiveness and drive improvements to close the gap in expectations between those providing assistance and those experiencing it. It takes a collective and localised approach, building on the [Core Humanitarian Standard \(CHS\)](#) as a common collective framework to meet communities' expectations.

Under this initiative, assessments of how organisations collectively meet their CHS commitments will be conducted alongside community perception assessments within specific humanitarian responses.

It is a three-year project starting from 1 October 2024 and will include four countries, which have been selected to cover a mix of regions and types of emergency context. The selected countries are the following:

- Bangladesh, South Asia
- South Sudan, East Africa
- Ukraine, Eastern Europe
- TBD.

2. Purpose of the Collective Peer Assessments

The collective peer assessment aims to increase understanding of how organisations are meeting their CHS Commitments. The Collective Peer assessments will provide a collective overview on aid actors' efforts to meet their CHS commitments by collecting and analysing information and data from CHS Alliance members and partners in selected countries as well as other aid actors including local and national authorities, local national and international NGOs, UN agencies, donors, humanitarian coordination bodies, relevant working groups and task forces. The collective peer assessment will be complemented by community perception surveys that will be collected by GTS.

¹ Leveraging Organizations' Collective Accountability: Locally Owned and Evidence Driven

3. Functions for the CHS peer assessors

The CHS peer assessors from the CHS Alliance membership will form part of an assessment team in a given country and will be responsible for **conducting collective assessment**. The assessment methodology will be participatory. The CHS peer assessors will collect and analyse necessary information and data to help actors in countries to draw conclusions and ways forwards for a greater quality and more accountable humanitarian action in their country. The detailed assessment methodology will be shared and discussed with the CHS peer assessors and will at minimum include:

- Documentary review
- Interviews with key stakeholders
- Observations of practice

CHS Alliance will develop the methodology and materials, provide necessary financial resource (including travel and subsistence costs) and logistic (including assistance for visa, venue, etc.) for the training and country visits. The CHS peer assessor's role is not remunerated by CHS Alliance. CHS peer assessors participating in this collective effort must obtain approval from their organisation to ensure that this role is recognised as part of their employment agreement.

The CHS peer assessors will generate collective learning on assessing quality and accountability of humanitarian action in countries through an approach allowing groups of individuals to create, accumulate, share unique knowledge and information, and build upon knowledge over time. This collective learning will build on the existing knowledge and experience among CHS Alliance membership on the CHS verification and improvement processes and contribute to increasing CHS assessment capacities in organisations and countries/regions.

CHS peer assessors are expected to commit their time for the following:

- **Two-day training session:** To prepare the CHS peer assessors and ensure the collective assessments in all countries follows a harmonised approach, a training session is planned to take place in **March 2025 in Geneva**. All the CHS peer assessors are expected to attend this training session to validate their participation in the process.
- **Country visits:** Each of the CHS peer assessors are expected to commit to take part in, at least, one country visit in one of the four selected countries in the first year of the project. There will be a group of approximately 5 CHS peer assessor per country. The country visits will last a maximum of 10 days (including in country visit preparation and reporting time). The country visit schedule will be communicated to the CHS peer assessors ahead of time to allow for travel and logistical arrangements.
- **Meeting and workshops:** CHS peer assessors may be required to attend remote meetings and workshops for preparation and analysis, as necessary.

The whole peer assessment process will be designed and run to ensure CHS peer assessors increase their capacities and knowledge in terms of quality and accountability measurement

and advocacy. They will also be equipped to provide similar training to other peers in the future.

4. Composition

The group of CHS peer assessors will be composed by 20 CHS peer assessors (approx. 5 per country) led by CHS Alliance representatives.

CHS peer assessors will be identified in the CHS Alliance network of organisations engaged in the CHS verification.

Priority will be given to:

- Focal points from CHS verified (all verification options including self-assessment, independent verification, certification) members organisation based in aid recipient countries or regions.
- Individuals with solid knowledge of the CHS and experience in research, evaluations, monitoring and learning.
- Individuals with solid knowledge and experience the humanitarian and development actions in their country/region.
- Individuals with firm commitments to the CHS peer assessors' activities mentioned in section 3. of the ToR).

Applicants should declare any conflict of interest in case of any before engaging in a collective assessment.

The working language of the CHS peer assessors' group is English.

6. How to apply

To apply, please email a short response to the questions below to localed@chsalliance.org by **20 November 2024**:

1. Why are you interested in joining the group of CHS peer assessors?
2. What assessment experience do you bring?
3. How could you bring back the learning to your organisation/country?
4. Can you commit to attend an in-person training session in March 2025 in Geneva and take part of at least one country visit (max. 10 days) in the next year?
5. Confirmation that your organisation supports your application.

Applications from staff of national NGOs and the global south will be prioritised.

You will be informed of the selection process in December 2024.

For more information, please contact Bonaventure Sokpoh at bsokpoh@chsalliance.org.