



LOCAL LEADERSHIP AND POST WHS VISION

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NEAR

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- ▶ NEAR (Network for Empowered Aid Response) launched at the in May 2016 at the WHS
- ▶ Established in response to exclusion of local communities and beneficiaries from the larger international humanitarian aid system
- ▶ A movement of civil society organizations with a bold ambition – to reshape the top-down humanitarian and development system to one that is locally driven and owned, and is built around equitable, dignified and accountable partnerships
- ▶ NEAR aspires to increase genuine accountability to donors, the public, and affected communities by promoting greater transparency in local and national responses to humanitarian and development challenges.
- ▶ NEAR hopes to close the gap between the traditional aid system and the communities it aims to serve.





What We Do

1

Advocacy



We enhance policy-level and operational collaboration between local and national organizations. We aim to increase local influence on decision-making at international, regional and national policy level

2

Organizational Development



We believe that robust and resilient organizations are key to increasing local capacity to respond to crisis and development challenges. We offer a platform for collaboration, along with learning and resources to strengthen

3

Financing



We advocate for increased access to direct funding for local and national organizations. As part of this we are exploring the design of innovative financing models including piloting independent, pooled funding

4

Research



We counteract the lack of visibility in the international space of organizations working with local communities by actively promoting their work through research and evidence-based publications.

OUR REACH & MEMBERS



“The “one-size-fits-all approach in the traditional aid system has failed to cope with the immense challenges of the day. The answer to the challenges of the system is not some radical move to abolish the international community, rather, to work together as a global community.”

- ▶ In the new way of working, post WHS commitments,
 - ▶ we must promote more equitable humanitarian response and ensure that it is people-centered for maximum results

- ▶ A huge amount of capacity already exists within local actors and
 - ▶ the new way should make sure that it can recognize and promote these capacities to achieve greater results.

- ▶ Mechanisms such as nationally managed pooled funds will encourage direct funding and financing as it is open to transparency and accountability at local and national levels.

“We need to support Local and National NGOs by providing equitable partnerships, staff capacities and ensuring that we are providing as much resources as possible and directly as possible. The support needs to drive them to Sustainability”

Challenges

- ▶ Quantity and Quality of Funding
- ▶ The lack of appropriate overhead allocation.
- ▶ The inequitable partnership with INGOs and the UN

Challenges cont...

- ▶ Shrinking space for local and national organisations
- ▶ The trend now by International NGOs nationalising by registering in countries in the global south
- ▶ Exclusion from coordination mechanisms
- ▶ Lack of recognition from INGOs
- ▶ A great concern about the legitimate CSOs

Solutions

- ▶ Increasing direct multi-year funding to local organisations
- ▶ Investing in strengthening organizational capacity of organisations is key for longer-term sustainability
- ▶ Finding a more medium to long-term accompaniment approach with some unrestricted funding to invest in the necessary capacity.

Solutions cont...

- ▶ common compliance and reporting mechanisms
- ▶ Tracking mechanism to track how much money is being passed to local and national organisations and reaching to the community.
- ▶ Investing in building trust in the work of local and national organisations



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