

DanChurchAid Humanitarian Accountability Framework Statement

DanChurchAid is an independent, church-based humanitarian organisation working with international diakonia in the form of emergency aid, long-term development aid, information activities and advocacy. It is the mission of DanChurchAid:

- To assist disadvantaged and oppressed communities and to assist in church activities, usually outside of Denmark;
- To carry out emergency aid and development activities in cooperation with local religious and popular organisations; and
- To inform the public about the causes of need and inequality as well as to mobilise popular and political will and power to change them.

Within its humanitarian response, DanChurchAid adheres to the humanitarian principles of:

- humanity (uphold the right of all persons to receive aid)
- impartiality (provide aid without discrimination)
- informed consent (ensure beneficiaries understand and agree with humanitarian assistance and implications)
- duty of care (humanitarian assistance meets minimum standards)
- witness (report on policies or practices that affect the well being of disaster of disaster survivors)
- transparency (ensure all relevant information is communicated to beneficiaries)
- independence (act under the authority of the governing body of the agency)
- neutrality (refrain from giving material or political support to parties in an armed conflict)
- complementarity (operate as a responsible member of the humanitarian assistance community)

As a member of Action By Churches Together (ACT), DCA is obliged to uphold the Principles of the Code of Conduct for the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and NGOs in Disaster Relief (commonly referred to as Code of Conduct) and to uphold indicators and standards of the SPHERE Project: Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Disaster Response (commonly referred to as SPHERE Standards) both of which are criteria for membership in Action By Churches Together International (ACT).

Within Humanitarian Mine Action program, DCA mine action work is guided by several international guidelines and regulative bodies with respect to mine action:

- DCA work in HMA is guided by the Bad Honnef Guidelines for Mine Action. The key of these guidelines is an emphasis on the empowerment and training of the community to carry out all aspects of mine action programs, on securing peace and national reconstruction through mine action programs and linking mine action to the development initiatives.
- On a technical level DCA executes its mine action activities in accordance with its Standard Operating Procedures that are guided by the UN International Mine Action Standards as well as National Mine Action Standards in the countries of DCA mine action operations. DCA aims at a 100% clearance rate in its areas of operation.

DanChurchAid works to monitor, evaluate and learn from its successes and mistakes through a close dialogue and collaboration with its partners and local populations when assessing, designing, monitoring, implementing and evaluating programs and projects. DanChurchAid is committed to Humanitarian Accountability Partnership and the accountability principles “making humanitarian action accountable to beneficiaries” and in its policy work, management systems and implementation of humanitarian activities in the field will strive to involve, respect and react to the valuable input from local partners and beneficiaries with the end goal of improving the DCA humanitarian response to disaster-impacted communities.

DanChurchAid is a registered, non-profit organisation whose activities are financed by private donations from the Danish public and businesses, a long-term framework agreement with [Danida](#), a framework partnership agreement with the [Humanitarian Aid Office \(ECHO\)](#) of the European Commission, and numerous contracts with [EuropeAid Co-operation Office](#) and several UN agencies.

Approved by DCA senior management March 6, 2008

