

Press release, 18th August 2018

Statement from Alliance 4 Empowering Partnerships (A4EP a newly formed independent network on the eve of 19th August, World Humanitarian Day)

Paying tribute to local and national humanitarian workers who must 'Not be A Target'

We, the International Conveners of the Alliance for Empowering Partnerships (www.a4ep.net), have been encouraged by the commitments made to support and strengthen local and national actors who are often the first responders to disasters and crisis under Agenda for Humanity, Grand Bargain and Charter4Change. We acknowledge that many international organisations and donors are actively supporting localisation. We believe in healthy collaborative relationships that support locally led response and the growth of independent, sustainable and accountable local and national organisations in the aid-recipient countries, that serve their communities and are committed to promoting democratic societies with equality and social justice.

Our mission is to create an active and effective network of independent and locally/nationally grown organisations and of global activists, to promote locally/nationally led response. This will provide a platform for information dissemination, sharing experiences, evidence, good practice and learning. We will lobby and develop evidence based advocacy strategies in our own respective countries and at global level and share our learning. Through our work, the Alliance will contribute to on-going research and debates and develop consulted and commonly agreed positions and advocacy strategies around the global agenda of 'localisation', 'participation revolution' and 'transparency'. The Alliance believes in positive engagement and positive relationships with all related stakeholders but will retain our independent and critical perspective.

On World Humanitarian day, we would like to pay tribute to all humanitarians who have lost their lives in the line of duty. We would particularly like to recognise local and national responders who work in increasingly hostile environment and shrinking humanitarian and civil society space. We would like to acknowledge and highlight their courage and commitments to ensure access to the most vulnerable populations and in their endeavour to leave no one behind.

- The Alliance urges the international actors to recognise the importance of local leadership and to ensure adequate financial and other resources, so the they are able to serve and enable affected populations with adequately qualified staff, with safety and security in place. There is an urgent need to address the problem of inadequate and just compensation for local and national partner staff who are killed in the line of duty in large relief operations.
- The Alliance urges the State and non-state actors to stop the indiscriminate killings and persecution of civilians, including aid workers and adhere to International Humanitarian and Human Rights Law.
- The Alliances urges the state actors, multilateral agencies and other key stakeholders to seek early and durable solutions to all protracted crises to bring down number of refugees and IDPs (Internally Displaced People) within stipulated time and [share the responsibility with the host countries](#)
- The Alliance urges the international actors to ensure double nexus (humanitarian and development) in responses to all natural disasters and triple nexus (humanitarian, development and peace) in all conflict responses.

- The Alliance urges the international actors to provide the space and recognise and support local leadership and actively address the power imbalances at all levels including the coordination mechanism and global bodies.
- The Alliance urges international donors to be courageous in finding solutions to ensure they can meet their localisation commitments.
- The Alliance urges the international organisations to support locally led response through empowering partnerships following Principles of Partnership.
- The Alliance urges the media, research and educational institutes to partner with local and national responders to document and disseminate (or highlight) their achievements.

International Conveners of Alliance 4 Empowering Partnerships



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