Humanitarian Aid (HUMA)

EU Humanitarian Partnership Certificate

2028-2034

Version 1.0
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EU HUMANITATIAN PARTNERSHIP 2028-2034

The European Commission hereby awards this Certificate to:

[PIC] — [name of organisation]

The Organisation undertakes to:

- Respect applicable EU, international and national law (in particular the EU Humanitarian Aid Regulation 1257/96[1], Article 214 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (TFEU), the European Consensus on Humanitarian Aid[2] and the national laws of the country of registration and the country where the assistance is implemented).
- Respect the fundamental humanitarian principles and, in situations of armed conflicts, international humanitarian law.
- Take into account general EU policy principles, such as policy coherence, complementarity, efficiency and effectiveness.
- Comply with the following minimum standards for the preparation and implementation of humanitarian actions:
    - Propose activities based on a qualitative and impartial needs assessment.
    - Define clear and verifiable objectives, which can be achieved within the given timeframe and with results that can be measured through specific, achievable, relevant and time-bound indicators.
    - Implement the actions in accordance with EU policy objectives and standards (both sector-specific and cross-cutting), as well as visibility and communication guidelines.
    - Ensure that all humanitarian activities are results-oriented, are delivered in the most effective, efficient and rapid manner, and comply with the principles of prioritising safety and dignity, accountability, and the empowerment and active participation of affected persons in the design, implementation and evaluation of actions.
    - Respect ethical and humanitarian values and observe the highest ethical standards and best practices in the sector and the specific operating environment.
    - Design the actions so that they are culturally appropriate and adapted to the specific needs of different groups (such as women, girls, boys, men, older persons, persons with disabilities).
    - Take into account the situation of the affected persons within the circumstances and context of the intervention, including assessments of the different needs, capacities and roles that might exist for men and women of different age groups within the given situation and cultural context.
    - Ensure a locally-led response, respecting the culture, structure and customs of the communities and of the countries where actions are carried out, without prejudice to the fundamental rights of the persons affected.
    - Ensure ‘zero tolerance’ for sexual exploitation, abuse and harassment, as well as any (other) type of unethical behaviour, such as discrimination, forced and child labour, modern slavery, exploitative practices towards staff[3], partners, contractors or aid recipients and illegal employment, through effective and coordinated prevention, reporting and response mechanisms (in line with relevant internationally agreed principles and standards promoting effective and qualitative safeguarding policies).

[1] Currently Council Regulation (EC) No 1257/96 of 20 June 1996 concerning humanitarian aid (OJ L 163, 2.7.1996, p. 1).

[2] Joint Statement by the Council and the Representatives of the Governments of the Member States meeting within the Council, the European Parliament and the European Commission (OJ C 25, 30.1.2008, p. 1).

[3] For the purposes of this document, the term ‘staff’ refers to all persons working for (or on behalf of) the Organisation, including employees, volunteers and other salaried or non-salaried personnel.

  - Design actions that take into consideration the humanitarian-development-peace nexus, in order to help the affected populations regain self-sufficiency and resilience to the largest extent possible, whenever possible taking long-term development objectives into account.
  - Strengthen the capacities of affected communities, to prevent, prepare for, reduce and respond to humanitarian crises.
  - Provide fair working conditions for the staff, with special attention to their safety and security in the field and, to the extent possible, their professional development.
  - Either set up an environmental management policy or strategy with relevant actions and clear targets, covering both its humanitarian operations and own offices and staff, or sign the Climate and Environmental Charter[4], to reduce as much as possible the environmental and carbon footprint of the aid operations.
  - Ensure effective coordination with other humanitarian actors to address gaps and to avoid overlaps.
- Ensure transparency and accountability, compliance with applicable rules, policies and procedures, and internal control, notably through:
  - Procurement procedures which ensure best value for money (or if appropriate the lowest price) and that there is no conflict of interest, as well as compliance with high-level quality standards, in particular for medical supplies.
  - An effective and efficient internal control system for the management of actions (which includes effective segregation of duties and appropriate risk management mechanisms, identifying risks and appropriate risk responses).
  - Informing the Commission about instances of grave professional misconducts, such as sexual exploitation, abuse and harassment.
  - An accurate, complete and timely accounting system.
  - The availability of all relevant information and the timely submission of technical and financial reports for the proper management of actions, as well as for a sufficiently detailed audit trail, including the provision of ad hoc information at any time upon request.
  - The facilitation of access to project sites and activities by EU representatives for needs assessment, evaluation, monitoring and control purposes.

To uphold this Certificate, the Organisation further commits to:

- Ensure continuous compliance with the conditions for the Certificate for its entire duration and proactively inform the Commission – without delay – of any significant changes regarding rules, procedures, governance arrangements or practices that were assessed for the award of the Certificate or that may affect compliance.
- Ensure the full and effective implementation of the principles of the Certificate.
- Ensure that the principles of the Certificate are clearly communicated, understood and consistently applied by staff at all levels of the Organisation.
- Commit to regular, comprehensive, and transparent exchange of information to ensure a maximum of coordination and enable monitoring by the Commission[5].
- Promote, through appropriate publicity, visibility and communication activities, the actions supported by EU Humanitarian Aid, along with their results, highlighting their relevance and impact, while duly respecting and protecting the safety and dignity of the final recipients of the assistance.

The Organisation acknowledges that compliance with the conditions for the Certificate will be monitored by the Commission and that the violation of any of the above principles and commitments,

[4] See: Climate Charter - Sign the Charter.

[5] The Commission will not interfere with the organisation's procedures or systems beyond monitoring the continued compliance with the Certificate, based on the criteria set out in the Call document.

including failure to promptly provide requested information or communicate relevant changes, may lead to its temporary suspension and/or withdrawal.

Brussels, [date]

HISTORY OF CHANGES		
VERSION	PUBLICATION DATE	CHANGE
1.0	01.06.2026	Initial version (MFF 2028-2034).