Inclusive Data Charter
Christian Aid's Action Plan
Last revised: October 2023

Background

- Launched in 2018 by the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development Data (GPSSD).

- Supports the 'Leave No one Behind' commitment in for the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

- This is done by promoting more inclusive data.

- The IDC was developed to advance inclusive and disaggregated data, so that organisations better understand, address, and monitor the needs of marginalised people.

Principles

Principle One - All populations must be included in the data
We can only achieve the "leave no one behind" goal by empowering the furthest behind. This means ensuring their voices are heard and their experiences are represented through data and analytics. We need to acknowledge all people, make them visible in the data to understand their lives, and inc-lude them in the development process.

Principle Two - All data should, wherever possible, be disaggregated in order to accurately describe all populations
We recognize that data should be disaggregated by sex, age, geographic location, and disability status and, where possible, by income, race, ethnicity, migratory status, and other characteristics relevant in national contexts.

Principle Three - Data should be drawn from all available sources
We recognize the need to make high-quality, timely data from official and non-official sources accessible, and that these should include new data sources, where consistent with internationally accepted statistical standards.

Principle Four - Those responsible for the collection of data and production of statistics must be accountable
We will balance the principles of transparency - maximizing the availability of disaggregated data – confidentiality, and privacy to ensure personal data is not abused, misused, or putting anyone at risk of identification or discrimination, in accordance with national laws and the Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics.

Principle Five - Human and technical capacity to collect, analyze, and use disaggregated data must be improved, including through adequate and sustainable financing
We recognize that collecting and analyzing disaggregated data needs specific skills and these must be built. We recognize the need to finance data collection, analysis, and use appropriately and sustainably so that high-quality data can be collected and used by governments as well as by businesses, civil society, and citizens.

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Our goals

1. Provide practical support to country teams and partners with inclusive data collection.

2. Increase the capacity of country teams and partners in responsible data management.

3. Advocacy and policy is evidenced by inclusive data.

4. Principles of the IDC are evident in project design and inception.

Our objectives

1. Provide practical support to country teams and partners with inclusive data collection.

- As a minimum, sex data is collected in all projects, and where possible age and disability data also
- While recognizing that certain data is sensitive and difficult to collect:
  - We should ensure that our work is reaching those who are most marginalized.
  - Challenge donor reporting requirements.
- Ensure all country teams have tools available to colect disaggregated data (eg. Databased, Kobo)
- Integration of 'non-traditional' forms of data collection to enable a contextually appropriate approach for triangulation.
- Ensure wording for legitimate interest and consent forms are up-to-date.
- Christian Aid has the needed capacity in place to ensure inclusive data can be collected

Our objectives

2. Increase the capacity of country teams and partners in responsible data management.

- Only collect data that we (or others, incl. communities themselves) will use. Furthermore, ensure this data is relevant and helpful for the situation.
- Ensure data protection policies and responsible data usage policies are up-to-date and easily accessible
- To be held accountable for our work, especially around management data.
- Improved digital and data literacy through ICDL program
- Provide training for staff/partners on managing and analysing data in a responsible way

Our objectives

3. Advocacy and policy is evidenced by inclusive data

- Encourage governments to ensure all sections of populations are visible in national data so that their needs are recognised and rights progressed
- Encourage policy making that is informed by data generated by or reflecting the issues faced by people who are marginalised, for example, human rights data
- Advocate for a change in internationally accepted standards: Not all required data can be captured in line with internationally accepted statistical standards (eg. sensitive data, decolonised data…)

Our objectives

4. Principles of the IDC are evident in project design and inception.

- Ensure all projects set out at the start what the "relevant populations" are, as part of the needs assessment.

- Increase collaboration with organisations that represent vulnerable and marginalised people to make sure we understand their situation and include them appropriately, to support the self-empowerment of the further behind

- Draw data from other organisations to guide CA work - eg IATI, indicators of poverty

- Create a culture of evidence-based programming to ensure findings, actions taken, and learnings are documented and shared.

- Level of resourcing available for MEL in each project/programme.