

CARE's Statement of Intent for Localizing Aid

It is not only fair, but also more effective and sustainable, to partner equitably with local actors in humanitarian work.
CARE will be known for its unwavering commitment to principled humanitarian action that places affected people and first responders at the center.
In this spirit, we seek a world:

... Where **communities** are resilient, prepared for, and actively responding to the disasters that affect them
... Where participation and leadership of the most marginalized and vulnerable – often **women and girls** – lead to fundamental change in power relations

...Where **national and local actors** (including government, civil society and women's organizations) are the critical first responders
...Where they stand ready and able to respond to their emergencies, quickly and at scale, in accordance with international standards and humanitarian principles
...Where the humanitarian system facilitates access to the resources and capacities they need to deliver assistance
...Where investment is made ahead of crises to increase the effectiveness of partnered responses (with a focus on the agency and organizational readiness of local actors)

... Where **CARE**, along with **international actors**, complements their work by adding value through principled and equitable partnerships that save lives, advance gender equality and sustain local institutional capacity
... When scale and severity of need exceeds local capacity or due to other factors such as absence of political will, the humanitarian imperative compels us to respond but in ways that reinforce, not replace, local capacities