

## **Bond Charter revision and consultation**

Over 2020 and 2021, a steering group, made up members of the Bond Board and volunteers from within the membership, have been revising the Bond Charter. We would now like to consult the wider Bond membership on a new draft version of the Charter.

**You can provide feedback by completing this survey [here](#).**

**All feedback will be collated by Bond and reviewed by the steering group, with the aim to incorporate suggestions where possible.**

**The deadline for submitting your feedback is 19 June 2022.**

**[Start reading the draft charter now](#)**

# Bond Charter

## Charter purpose

**Bond exists to enable civil society organisations and allies to achieve greater progress towards a just and sustainable world together.**

The Bond Charter is the set of values that unites the Bond network. It is underpinned by established standards of good practice<sup>1</sup>.

The values provide a stable foundation to underpin the integrity and credibility of the international aid and development sector. This is critical in an era when the external environment is rapidly changing, and when Bond members face ongoing scrutiny around their legitimacy, finances and role in power dynamics.

Bond members are responsible for embedding and applying the values of the Bond charter in their organisations and their work. In doing so, Bond members demonstrate and ensure that they are working towards a sustainable future for international development and humanitarian assistance where

- decisions are informed by those who we seek to support;
- INGOs are more consultative and agile; and
- the UK addresses global challenges while upholding human rights and international law.

Bond members recognise that confidence in both the work of individual organisations as well as the collective reputation of the sector rests on members' mutual accountability and commitment to the values of the Charter.

## Core values

### Civil society solidarity

**Civil society acting in solidarity means consciously working as allies towards a common goal. Organisations acting in solidarity recognise the power of shared aims and collective action. They lend their voice to those without a voice and provide mutual support and help.**

### **Collaboration**

Being collaborative means sharing knowledge, expertise and power for a common cause. Collaboration means being generous-minded and open to compromise. It means recognising the strengths and contributions of others and that working together has greater impact.

### **Sustainability**

Sustainable organisations know how their actions affect future generations and the planet. They choose to interact with the world so they minimise their contribution to global heating. They challenge others to be sustainable and to take urgent action in relation to climate change.

### **Accountability**

Accountability means being willing to accept responsibility and consequences for words, behaviours and actions. Accountable organisations are transparent, take ownership and lead by example. They hold themselves and others to account in order to do ever better.

### **Anti-racism, inclusion and diversity**

Anti-racism, inclusion and diversity means recognising and actively working to eradicate the sources of injustice and inequality. Such organisations look inwards as well as outwards, and interrogate the institutional structures they operate and live in. They promote equity and equality in all their work.

### **Locally-led**

Locally-led means ensuring that the people we work with make their own decisions. We make their voices and their rights as individuals and communities integral to our way of working. Being respectful gives power and agency to others.

### **Responsible and effective organisations**

Responsible organisations are effective in achieving their goals and do so in a way that is sustainable, making effective use of resources. They learn continuously and identify opportunities to do better. They are open to adaptation and change.

### **Do no harm**

Doing no harm means ensuring that our actions do not cause or perpetuate negative impact. Organisations that seek to do no harm understand inherent power imbalances (including the need for protection from sexual exploitation, abuse and harassment). They are aware that harm can be done intentionally or unintentionally.