



Collaboration Framework Terre des Hommes Foundation – ChildFund Alliance

I. Background

ChildFund Alliance (hereinafter ChildFund) is a global network of 11 child-focused development organizations working in more than 60 countries around the world. Using an annual turnover of approximately USD 0.5 billion, ChildFund Alliance helps an estimated 14 million children and their families to overcome poverty and achieve their rights.

Terre des hommes Foundation (hereinafter Tdh), based in Lausanne, is the leading Swiss organization for children's aid. Since 1960, Tdh has helped build a better future for deprived children and their communities. Active in more than 48 countries, Tdh works with local and international partners to develop and implement projects which improve the daily lives of over 3 million children and their relatives, in the domains of health, protection and emergency relief.

Tdh and ChildFund, together known as the "Parties", bring knowledge and expertise that may enhance each other, as well as complementary resources and networks. This Collaboration Framework (CF) is a declaration of each institution's intention to further explore areas of mutual interest by drawing on each other's complementary resources and capacities. Further, the Parties recognize that this framework is broad and that any individual agreements between country offices will be defined through specific and mutually negotiated arrangements.

Similar mandates and visions for how to reduce the risks faced by vulnerable populations, especially children, establish a solid foundation for closer collaboration. The Parties have already worked together in various contexts, starting with the humanitarian response to the migration crisis in Europe in 2015, and thereafter in Bangladesh and South Sudan. The synergies identified between the Parties in these responses underline the benefit of a more formal agreement.

II. Timeframe

The initial timeframe of this Collaboration Framework will be fiscal years 2020 – 2022 (i.e. 1 July 2019 – 30 June 2022). The agreement will be reviewed annually and extended or modified if agreed by both parties. Senior management of both parties agree to meet in person once a year - if possible during the annual review period - to discuss the applicability and success of the framework.



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The initial phase of the agreement will focus on identifying: 1) the value-add of each organization in specific contexts and how they might complement each other; and 2) how Tdh and ChildFund can operationalize a partnership in said contexts. While some of these contexts and ways of working are already identified (and described below), a more complete list will be created and later added as an annex to the Collaboration Framework. Once the abovementioned documentation and exercises have been completed, headquarter staff will work to create organizational awareness and understanding of how the agreement functions and how it can strengthen the emergency responses of the parties.

III. Purpose

The Collaboration Framework is being established in order to set broad parameters for how the Parties can work together at the global level as well as give examples of practical ways of engaging at the field level. The Framework will allow for Tdh and ChildFund to facilitate a joint response to specific crises, drawing upon the convening power of ChildFund Alliance to coordinate among its members and upon Tdh's wide network of operational country offices. Individual agreements between Tdh and ChildFund members are encouraged and should not be impeded by this framework, which is set up as a supporting document that can legitimize and strengthen collaborative efforts. Moreover, both Tdh and ChildFund are free to pursue arrangements with other organizations – this is not an exclusive agreement.

The benefits of closer collaboration include but are not limited to:

- Extending the Parties' networks and operational forces in countries;
- Supporting implementation of programs for greater impact;
- Strengthening advocacy both at the global and field levels; and
- Increasing resources and capacity to fundraise.

IV. Areas of Anticipated Collaboration

Tdh and ChildFund agree to pursue, as best they can, collaborative partnerships with each other globally. Any necessary preparation needed for individual agreements between ChildFund members and Tdh, such as determining resource needs or setting benchmarks, will be conducted by the relevant parties.

Areas of anticipated collaboration include any joint efforts that improve the impact of programming and help reduce the risks to children in emergencies. In order to achieve this, the Parties are encouraged to:

- Strengthen collaboration where both organizations are on the ground;
- Be open for collaboration where only one partner is on the ground;



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- Consider collaboration in new emergencies in contexts in which neither Party is present. One example would be that in response to said emergency Tdh organizes the initial response – preferably within 72 hours - and that ChildFund supports Tdh with funding and operational support (e.g. logistical or technical support through ChildFund’s emergency response expertise);
- Strengthen global collaboration on information sharing, advocacy, and common messaging (particularly on child protection issues);
- Enhance research, program implementation, technical capacity, and response capacity.
- Identify funding opportunities and develop joint proposals for major humanitarian donors (e.g. ECHO and OFDA) in response to major humanitarian crises;
- Develop joint tools or update existing ones together;
- Develop a talent pool of expert staff ready for secondment, thus expanding both organizations’ pool of available staff skilled in humanitarian response;
- Share expertise and skills through trainings, staff exchanges, online resources, etc.;
- Assist with import clearing and other legal and regulatory processes in specific emergencies; and
- Share office space, procurement, warehouses, vehicles, and other logistics.

In order to further explore the above areas of collaboration, example activities may include:

- Further exploring a partnership between Tdh and ChildFund Alliance member Educo in Cox’s Bazar, Bangladesh;
- Creating a joint operational presence map;
- Selecting specific countries or contexts where collaboration is desirable and programming can be expanded;
- Mapping out the various ways the organizations can operate on the ground and identify where they can add value;
- Identifying best practices and lessons learned from past and ongoing collaborations, including what success would look like in a given context;
- Identifying core skills that each organization possess and what they need;
- Identifying resources needed to support local leadership on program development.

Tdh and ChildFund will endeavor to implement quality programming in line with global best practices and consequently:

- Use the Child Protection Minimum Standards (CPMS) as the base criteria for new and existing child protection programs, donor proposals, and operational practices;
- Conduct CPMS trainings and creating a common understanding of what child protection in emergencies (CPiE) entails;



- Commit to the principles listed in the Sphere Handbook: Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Humanitarian Response¹;
- Commit to strong child safeguarding policies and practices.

This Collaboration Framework accurately represents the understanding and intentions of the Parties. The Parties hereto intend to execute the Collaboration Framework starting fiscal year 2020 (i.e. 1 July, 2019).

Signed and agreed

Terre des hommes Foundation

ChildFund Alliance

Vito Angelillo
Director General

Meg Gardinier
Secretary General

Date:

Date:

¹ See Sphere Standards: <https://handbook.spherestandards.org/>