

POLICY DOCUMENT

# Humanity First UK Framework for Accountability to Affected Populations

Jan 2025

Approved By:	Executive Committee
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Humanity First UK
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Registered Charity No. 1188494 · Company Registration No. 11512888



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### Introduction

Humanity First UK is an International Development and Disaster Relief charity, part of the Humanity First network of charities founded in 1995. The charity is run by volunteers with diverse skill sets across the world and has access to thousands of extra volunteers worldwide.

### Vision

Humanity First's vision is to help achieve a world in which every person's practical; emotional and physical nourishment needs are met. Where humans, right to learning and safety needs are addressed, and human suffering, whether it as a result of conflict, natural disaster or illness is eradicated.

## Mission

To provide appropriate humanitarian activities, interventions and solutions, with the aim of reducing/eradicating human suffering.

To help create lasting solutions to communities through forming local partnerships and that promotes and safeguards the preservation of life, dignity and peace.

To support local communities to become resilient, through the development of, skills and resources to enable self-maintenance, self-development and the preserve of physical and emotional well-being.



### **Values**

- To improve the Human experience our approach is to serve humanity by improving the quality
  of human life
- Open, transparent and accountable. To promote ourselves honestly and ensure that we are transparent in what we are trying to achieve. To be accountable to our donors and beneficiaries with regards to resourcing and funding of projects
- Inclusiveness. We approach work with others in a non-judgemental way. We welcome and embrace diversity
- **Independent**. Our actions and involvement is not aligned to any political or military action in the settings where we work.
- **Collaborative**. We work with local people to achieve the best outcomes.
- **Empowerment**. We aim to empower people to recover and to achieve their full potential as individuals, groups and communities.

## **Objectives**

The charity's objectives are specifically restricted to promoting the following charitable purposes for the benefit of the public:

- The prevention and/or relief of poverty
- The advancement of education in such ways as the Trustees think fit
- Advancement of human health through the relief or prevention of mental illness, sickness, disease, disability or other health conditions caused
- The relief of those in need because of youth, age, ill-health, disability, financial hardship or any other disadvantage
- The objects may be advanced in any part of the world and shall include the relief of those suffering as a result of a natural disaster or human conflict



## Framework for Accountability to Affected Populations

# 1. Principles of Accountability

- <u>Inclusivity and Participation</u>: Ensure that all segments of the population, including marginalized groups such as women, children, people with disabilities, and minorities, have a voice in decision-making processes
- <u>Transparency and Information Sharing:</u> Provide timely, relevant, and accessible information about humanitarian efforts and decisions affecting the community. Use culturally appropriate communication channels
- Responsiveness and Adaptation: Regularly adapt programs based on feedback from affected populations to meet their evolving needs and priorities

### 2. Mechanisms for Engagement

- <u>- Community Feedback Systems</u>: Establish robust mechanisms for collecting feedback from affected populations. This includes setting up complaint and response systems that are safe and accessible to all community members
- <u>- Participatory Assessments:</u> Conduct regular assessments involving community members to identify needs, capacities, and priorities. Use these assessments to inform program design and implementation

### 3. Coordination and Collaboration

- <u>- Collective Accountability:</u> Work in coordination with other humanitarian agencies to harmonize efforts and reduce duplication. Share information and resources to enhance the effectiveness of interventions
- <u>- Partnerships with Local Actors</u>: Build equitable partnerships with local organizations that have established trust within the community. Leverage their insights for more effective program delivery



## 4. Capacity Building

- <u>Training and Support for Staff</u>: Provide training for NGO staff on AAP principles and practices to ensure they are equipped to engage effectively with affected populations
- <u>- Empowerment of Community Leaders</u>: Support local leaders in advocating for their communities' needs and participating in humanitarian planning processes[4].

## 5. Monitoring and Evaluation

- <u>- Impact Assessment:</u> Regularly evaluate the impact of programs on affected populations, using both qualitative and quantitative methods. Adjust strategies based on findings to improve accountability
- Reporting Back to Communities: Share evaluation results with communities in an accessible format, ensuring transparency about successes, challenges, and future plans

# 6. Ethical Considerations

- <u>- Protection from Harm:</u> Ensure all interactions with affected populations prioritize their safety and dignity. Address issues such as sexual exploitation, abuse, or discrimination promptly
- <u>- Confidentiality and Privacy:</u> Respect the privacy of individuals in all data collection and reporting processes

This framework aims to create a responsive, inclusive, and transparent approach to Humanity First UK's humanitarian work in Gaza, ensuring that the needs and rights of affected populations are at the forefront of all efforts. By implementing these components, Humanity First UK can enhance its accountability to those it serves during this complex conflict scenario.



# **DECLARATION BY BOARD / STAFF / VOLUNTEERS**

I, the undersigned would like to confirm and state that I have read and understood the above policy. I will make every effort to apply the policy, where applicable within the organisation and/ or where relevant outside the UK. (The signed declaration will be kept by HR team for official records)

Name: <u>Dr Aziz Hafiz</u>	
Designation: HFUK Chairman	
Dated: 22 <sup>nd</sup> January 2025	Place: United Kingdom

Humanity First UK, is a UK registered charity (Reg No 1188494), having its main office at Unit 27, Red Lion Business Park, Surbiton, KT6 7QD.

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