



# PARTNERSHIP FOR CHANGE

## POLICY FRAMEWORK AND PRINCIPLES

### PEACE AND HARMONY

SHARED PURPOSE  
AND ADDED VALUES

TRANSPARENCY  
AND ACCOUNTA-  
BILITY

### MUTUAL RESPECT FOR BELIEFS AND VALUES

CLARITY ABOUT ROLES,  
RESPONSIBILITIES AND  
DECISION MAKING

LEARNING  
FROM EACH  
OTHER

***“Our approach to partnership must reflect our peaceful Islamic values, principles and shall be central to what we believe as an organization and how we think positive change will happen now and in future”***

**(Chairperson Muslim Charity)**

## **POLICY STATEMENT**

Muslim Charity works with and through others to create a world of harmony where people of all backgrounds can appreciate life and good health, education and a livelihood. Muslim Charity's partner relations are informed by and managed to a set of clear principles. These principles underpin our programme and partnership decisions in development, humanitarian, and campaigns work at every level of activity. We hold ourselves accountable to these principles and seek to be held accountable by partners, communities, and other stakeholders with whom we and partners work.

We work for fundamental change, as well as supporting vulnerable groups to meet immediate needs and build long-term thriving and resilient communities. Our work is founded on the peaceful spirit of Islam and inspired by Holy Quran teaching. We believe in partnership with others of all faiths and none.

## **WHY WORKING WITH PARTNERS?**

Muslim Charity works with others to support the actions of poor and marginalised people and communities in order to overcome poverty and suffering more effectively. We believe that this is more likely to ensure lasting, locally-owned development, and relevant and accountable campaigns and humanitarian interventions.

In Muslim Charity we believe that local communities and other civil society partners can better understand, represent, and address the rights, needs, and aspirations of poor people. All partners, including government and the private sector, are central to creating the conditions and structural changes necessary for effective people-centred, sustainable change and development. The programmes we implement together can encourage and enable the real participation of people living in poverty, be more sustainable, and have greater impact. The knowledge, skills, reach, and experience that we offer each other mean that, together, we can make more of a difference than if we worked separately.

## **WITH WHOM MUSLIM CHARITY WORKS AS PARTNERS?**

As the range of participants in social change widens – from local communities to the public and private sector, Muslim Charity aims to establish effective and diverse partnerships to bring about change within this context of increasing diversity. Muslim Charity partner relations fall into following three broad categories;

- Alliances with single organisations or forums working towards a specific goal, even though organizational/institutional mandates and long-term purpose may be quite different.
- Strategic partnerships, working together over time with sufficient alignment of goals and objectives towards achieving a lasting impact on poverty
- Project partnerships with mutually agreed aims and objectives.

These are not always clear-cut categories, and relationships may fit into more than one category at the same or different times. The policy governs all our work with local communities and other civil society organisations in both funding and non-funding relations. While differences in context may require different approaches, we believe that the same principles apply to all activities across our one-programme partner relations.

## MUSLIM CHARITY'S VISION

Create a world of harmony where people of all backgrounds can appreciate life and good health, education and a livelihood.

## MUSLIM CHARITY'S MISSION

Our mission is *Saving Lives* in emergencies and to *Help the Needy* by adopting practical ways to root out poverty from the world through provision of education and livelihood. Our work focuses not only in the fragile countries but also in the United Kingdom. Muslim Charity's mission is carried out by developing health and educational infrastructure to provide maternal health facilities in the communities along with ensuring education for all. Similarly, we have as our mission to provide access to safe water for the communities, agricultural and livestock usages. Our mission is to provide long-term sustainable assistance to the vulnerable communities and help them to make efforts towards self-reliance.

## MUSLIM CHARITY'S PRINCIPLES OF PARTNERSHIPS;

### ➤ PEACE AND HARMONY;

Muslim Charity is founded to create a peaceful world of harmony where people of all backgrounds can appreciate life and good health, education and a livelihood. In Muslim Charity we believe many of the burning questions such as providing relief to the affected people by disasters, bridging the gap between rich and poor, eradicating hunger from the earth, ecological problems, pollution, and conquest of disease along with many other suffering of mankind can be overcome by achieving the world peace and harmony through united efforts. Therefore, our partnerships are based on achieving peace and harmony in the world.

### ➤ MUTUAL RESPECT FOR BELIEFS AND VALUES;

Whilst recognising and respecting differences, sufficient common ground in terms of shared values and beliefs must be found for our partnerships with others to be viable. We must share a desire to work towards a common position on important issues, including a commitment to gender-equality and respect for diverse identities, and a belief that poor and marginalised people should enjoy their fundamental rights and are agents of their own development. Every effort is made to build mutual respect within the partnership, as characterised by open dialogue and a willingness to give and receive constructive criticism.

### ➤ SHARED PURPOSE AND ADDED VALUES;

Any partnership between Muslim Charity and other organisations is based on shared objectives to benefit suffering, poor and marginalised people and to empower them. Muslim Charity adds value in partnership through the provision of financial and non-financial humanitarian, developmental and campaigning support and expertise. We do not replace civil society in the countries where we work, but support its development, build capacities and link them with other international and national institutions. In Muslim Charity we re-

spect the right of partners to determine their own direction and priorities and are open, within the limits of our mandate and mission to learn from different experiences of, and approach to, humanitarian and development work. The diverse knowledge, experience, and skills that other organisations and local communities bring to the relationship are valued and acknowledged as essential to ensuring the success and sustainability of our joint interventions. Working together is as much about an attitude and a choice, as about a balance of material resources.

#### ➤ CLARITY ABOUT ROLES, RESPONSIBILITIES AND DECISION MAKING;

In Muslim Charity we believe that partnership is founded on good communication, competence, reliability and delivery which in turn build credibility and trust. When the rights and obligations of each partner are negotiated, the expected contribution of each organisation is clearly stated. All partners are able to do what they say they will do, or describe the process and time frame needed to develop the required capacity. The process for making decisions is also discussed and agreed. As we each take responsibility for fulfilling our agreed roles, so we take an equal share in celebrating success and learning together from failure.

#### ➤ TRANSPARENCY AND ACCOUNTABILITY;

We recognise the need to be accountable to people experiencing poverty or affected by disaster and to other stakeholders including donors and governments. As part of the process of developing partnerships, we explicitly discuss how Muslim Charity is accountable to partners and how we and our partners are accountable to the people and communities with and for whom we work.

Recognizing the importance of good financial management, we ensure joint responsibility to ensure transparency and accountability for money given by others in good faith. We realise that genuine mutual accountability is rooted in an understanding and recognition of the diversity of resources brought to the relationship.

#### ➤ LEARNING FROM EACH OTHER;

While developing partnership we aim to learn from our joint work, incorporating learning, communications, and the sharing of knowledge into the design and delivery of projects and partnerships. As Muslim Charity, we have a specific responsibility to encourage the active sharing of knowledge with and among partners.