



## Supplementary information note to the localization policy

<b>LOCALIZATION POLICY – GLOSSARY</b>	
<b><i>Agrifood value chain actors</i></b>	See <i>Value chain actors</i>
<b><i>Capacity strengthening</i></b>	The process whereby people, organizations and society as a whole unleash, strengthen, create, adapt and maintain capacity over time. <sup>1</sup>
<b><i>Capacity sharing</i></b>	A collaborative process where different organizations, agencies, or partners share resources, knowledge, skills and expertise to strengthen their collective ability to respond to humanitarian crises effectively. This approach is meant to ensure that actors can complement each other's capacities, avoid duplication, and maximize the efficiency of humanitarian response. <sup>2</sup>
<b><i>Community-based organization (CBO)</i></b>	Entities that encourage individuals to take control of different issues impacting their life, be it economic, social, cultural, environmental or even political. They are meant to supplement and not replace the state, local, territorial laws, rules and regulations. CBOs may also create alternative systems and societal structures outside the established power structures. They are guided by the values of justice, equality, freedom and fraternity. <sup>3</sup>
<b><i>Collaborative partnership</i></b>	Collaborative relationships between actors that achieve better outcomes for the people we serve by: combining and leveraging complementary resources of all kinds; working together in a transparent, equitable and mutually beneficial way; and sharing risks, responsibilities and accountability, to achieve objectives that could not be achieved as efficiently, effectively or innovatively alone, and where the value created is greater than the transaction costs involved. <sup>4</sup>  <i>See Equitable and inclusive partnership.</i>
<b><i>Civil society organizations (CSOs)</i></b>	A CSO or non-governmental organization (NGO) is any non-profit, voluntary citizens' group which is organized on a local, national or international level. Task-oriented and driven by people with a common interest, CSOs perform a variety of services and humanitarian functions, bringing citizens' concerns to governments, monitoring policies and encouraging political participation at the community level. <sup>5</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD). 2012. *Supporting Partners to Develop their Capacity: 12 Lessons from DAC Peer Reviews*.

<sup>2</sup> Inter-agency Network for Education in Emergencies. *Glossary Term: Capacity Sharing*; Trócaire. 2023. *Reinforcing Capacity Sharing and Mutual Learning Between Local and International Humanitarian Actors*.

<sup>3</sup> United Nations Inter-Agency Task Force on Social and Solidarity Economy. 2022. *Community-Based Organizations*.

<sup>4</sup> WFP. 2014. *WFP Corporate Partnership Strategy (2014–2017)*.

<sup>5</sup> United Nations. *Civil Society – Who We Are*.

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<b><i>Cooperating partners</i></b>	WFP defines a cooperating partner as a non-profit entity that enters a contractual relationship with WFP to assist in the performance of WFP’s work. WFP cooperating partners include government entities, NGOs and United Nations organizations. <sup>6</sup>  Note: For the purpose of the localization policy, WFP is focusing on local and national non-state cooperating partners, mainly local NGOs.  <i>See Local cooperating partners.</i>
<b><i>Emerging actors</i></b>	An organization, entity or stakeholder that does not have a formalized or established long-standing presence in its community but that is gradually becoming an influential actor by stepping up to address food security and nutrition needs, often in a humanitarian setting, while not yet reaching the level of prominence or recognition of more established actors. Sometimes referred to as ‘non-traditional’ actors.
<b><i>Enabling actors</i></b>	Actors who help create the conditions that empower and support local and national key actors to take on central decision making roles and amplify their impact at the systems level. These enabling partners include national governments, international NGOs, the International Committee of the Red Cross, the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, international financial institutions, donors, private sector, and academic and research organizations.
<b><i>Equitable and inclusive partnership</i></b>	Collaborative relationship where all parties are treated fairly, have equal opportunities to contribute, and mutually respect and appreciate their distinct characteristics, values, capacities, contexts and challenges.  <i>See Collaborative partnership.</i>
<b><i>Indigenous Peoples’ organization (IPO)</i></b>	A broad term used to describe a set of multiple organizations led by Indigenous Persons. IPOs tend to organize themselves according to their ethnicity, language spoken or geographical area or territory. They can have a local, regional, or international focus. They can exist at the national, provincial or local levels. What distinguishes these organizations from others is that they represent a specific constituency’s needs, rights, aspirations and perspectives, at the global, national, or local level they work to support. They can be member-based, made up of traditional authorities, or representative of a collection of peoples or nations. <sup>7</sup>
<b><i>Localization</i></b>	WFP defines localization as a process that shifts the way that WFP’s humanitarian and development work is designed, delivered and funded to better support locally led efforts that are responsive to the unique needs and priorities of affected people.
<b><i>Local and national actors</i></b>	State and non-state actors who have the mandate to address the essential needs of their populations, represent people in need, and/or have context-specific knowledge and resources to enhance the efficiency, effectiveness and scalability of humanitarian and development programmes.
<b><i>Local and national non-state actors</i></b>	Actors that have their headquarters and operate in their own aid-recipient countries and maintain fundraising and governance systems that are independent of international foreign organizations and companies. <sup>8</sup>

<sup>6</sup> WFP. 2024. [Synthesis of evidence and lessons on WFP’s cooperating partners from centralized and decentralized evaluations; “Anti-Fraud and Anti-Corruption Policy”](#) (WFP/EB.A/2021/5-B/1).

<sup>7</sup> United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs. [Indigenous Peoples at the United Nations](#).

<sup>8</sup> Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC). 2018. [Definitions Paper: IASC Humanitarian Financing Task Team, Localisation Marker Working Group](#).

<b>LOCALIZATION POLICY – GLOSSARY</b>	
<b><i>Local cooperating partners</i></b>	A locally based non-state, non-profit entity that enters a contractual relationship with WFP to assist in the performance of WFP's work. <i>See Cooperating partners.</i>
<b><i>Locally led</i></b>	Responses that are planned, coordinated, and implemented by local and national actors based on local knowledge, capacities and leadership, supported by international actors only when necessary, and designed to ensure meaningful participation and decision-making power for local actors in coordination structures. <sup>9</sup>
<b><i>Micro, small and medium size enterprises (MSMEs)</i></b>	Independently owned and operated businesses that fall within a specific range of size, typically measured by the number of employees (micro: <10, small: 10–50, medium: 50–250) or financial metrics such as annual revenue. MSMEs are vital partners in WFP's mission to achieve zero hunger (Sustainable Development Goal 2), as they play a critical role in local procurement, food processing, distribution and strengthening food systems. By collaborating with and building the capacity of MSMEs, particularly in vulnerable regions, WFP supports local economies, fosters innovation and enhances community resilience against challenges like climate change and market disruptions. <sup>10</sup>
<b><i>Multi-year funding</i></b>	Funding with a duration of 24 months or more based on the start and end dates of the original formal funding agreement. <sup>11</sup>
<b><i>Organization of persons with disabilities (OPD)</i></b>	NGOs led, directed and governed by persons with disabilities, who should compose a clear majority of their membership. OPDs play a critical role in representing the viewpoints of persons with disabilities. Article 4.3 of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities calls on States parties to engage with persons with disabilities through their representative organizations; OPDs accordingly serve as representative organizations and intermediary bodies between policymakers and individuals with disabilities. <sup>12</sup>
<b><i>Partnership</i></b>	WFP defines five main categories of partners: <sup>13</sup> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Resource partners, which provide human, financial and technical resources.</li> <li>• Knowledge partners, which contribute information, evaluation and analysis.</li> <li>• Policy and governance partners, which work on policies and governance, as well as regional and national hunger and nutrition policies, and hunger and institutional governance.</li> <li>• Advocacy partners, which support WFP's work to advocate for food security and nutrition.</li> <li>• Capability partners, which support the design and implementation of programmes and operations.</li> </ul>

<sup>9</sup> IASC. 2021. *Guidance: Strengthening Participation, Representation and Leadership of Local and National Actors in IASC Humanitarian Coordination Mechanisms.*

<sup>10</sup> United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific. *Definitions of MSMEs.*

<sup>11</sup> OECD. *Definitions Guidance Summary: Narrative.*

<sup>12</sup> United Nations Development Programme. 2002. *Sourcebook on Building Partnerships with Civil Society Organisations;* United Nations Inter-Agency Task Force on Social and Solidarity Economy. 2022. *Community-Based Organizations.*

<sup>13</sup> WFP. 2014. *WFP Corporate Partnership Strategy (2014–2017).*

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<b><i>Principles of partnership</i></b>	<p>As adopted by the Global Humanitarian Platform:<sup>14</sup></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Equality: Implies mutual respect between members of the partnership.</li> <li>• Transparency: Implies nurturing dialogue through early consultation and early sharing of information.</li> <li>• Result-oriented approach: Effective humanitarian action needs to be reality-based and action-oriented.</li> <li>• Responsibility: Humanitarian organizations must have an ethical obligation to each other to accomplish activities they have committed to.</li> <li>• Complementarity: Humanitarian organizations need to build on their comparative advantages and complement each other's contributions.</li> </ul>
<b><i>Women-led organizations</i></b>	<p>An organization with a humanitarian mandate and/or mission that is governed or directed by women; or whose leadership is principally made up of women, demonstrated by 50 per cent or more occupying senior leadership positions.<sup>15</sup></p>
<b><i>Risk sharing</i></b>	<p>A reasonable sharing of the burden of preventative measures and reasonable sharing of responsibility for materializing risks.<sup>16</sup></p>
<b><i>Smallholder farmers</i></b>	<p>Smallholders are small-scale farmers, pastoralists, forest keepers and fishers who manage areas varying from less than one hectare to ten hectares. Smallholders are characterized by family-focused motives such as favouring the stability of the farm household system, using mainly family labour for production and using part of the produce for family consumption.<sup>17</sup></p>
<b><i>Value chain actors</i></b>	<p>Individuals or entities involved in the production, processing, distribution and sale of agricultural and food products. They operate at various levels:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Micro-level, including smallholder farmers, micro-entrepreneurs and community-based groups such as village savings and loan associations, producer associations and self-help groups who are directly engaged in producing and managing small-scale agricultural operations.</li> <li>• Meso-level, comprising agrifood SMEs such as processors, aggregators and cooperatives, which facilitate the processing, aggregation and marketing of agricultural goods.</li> <li>• Macro-level, involving international food distribution companies, large agribusiness corporations and governments, which manage the global distribution and regulation of food products and influence the overall market dynamics.<sup>18</sup></li> </ul>

<sup>14</sup> IASC. 2007. *Principles of Partnership: A Statement of Commitment*.

<sup>15</sup> IASC. 2024. *Guidance: Engagement, Participation and Decision-Making by Women-Led Organizations in Humanitarian Action*.

<sup>16</sup> IASC. 2023. *Risk Sharing Framework: Enhancing the Impact of Humanitarian Action through Improved Risk Sharing*.

<sup>17</sup> Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO). 2013. *Smallholders and Family Farmers*.

<sup>18</sup> FAO. 2014. *Food systems and value chains: definitions and characteristics*.