

CLIMATE AND ENVIRONMENT CHARTER COMMITMENTS

NCA COMMITMENTS 2022-2025



NORWEGIAN CHURCH AID
actalliance

Climate and Environment Charter

In 2021, Norwegian Church Aid signed the [Climate and Environment Charter for Humanitarian Organisations](#) and committed to set targets and develop action plans in response to the climate and environment crises. While the crises are impacting us all, those who have contributed the least to the problems are hit hardest – and it is only getting worse. Humanitarian organisations have a key role to play in addressing the crises, and our ability to protect lives and respond to rising needs depends on the choices we make. We must be part of the solution and help vulnerable people and marginalised communities adapt to a changing climate and environment, while increasing our own environmental sustainability and mobilising others to do the same.

The Climate and Environment Charter provides a vision and principles to guide humanitarian action. It sets out six commitments, which signatory organisations are expected to translate into time-bound targets and action plans that reflect their scale, capacity, and mandate within one year of signing. As of 2022, more than 300 humanitarian organisations have signed the charter commitments.

In 2022, NCA carried out extensive consultations with staff members from its Head and Country Offices to ensure organisational ownership and engagement in the development of NCA's commitments. The finalised commitments have been included in NCA's Strategic Priorities and will be integrated in all aspects of NCA's work, including humanitarian operations, long-term development, and advocacy.

The accompanying action plan is the main instrument for implementing NCA's commitments and includes a mix of short-term, intermediate, and long-term actions, which will run until the end of 2025. The roll-out of activities will take a staggered approach, allowing for revisions as our knowledge grows. The Sustainable NCA working group is responsible for monitoring progress towards achieving NCA's commitments.



NCA Commitments 2022-2025

COMMITMENT 1: STEP UP OUR RESPONSE TO GROWING HUMANITARIAN NEEDS AND HELP PEOPLE ADAPT TO THE IMPACTS OF THE CLIMATE AND ENVIRONMENTAL CRISES

1a) By 2024, NCA has integrated environmental assessments in all its humanitarian operations and long-term development programmes and documented actions taken to identify, minimise, and mitigate against climate and environmental risks.

1b) By 2024, NCA has revised its Programme Framework and technical guidance notes to reflect the Charter Commitments, integrating climate-smart Disaster Risk Reduction, community resilience, environmental sustainability, and “Do No Harm” in all global programmes and strategic initiatives.

1c) By 2025, NCA has taken concrete steps to strengthen the in-house resources and competence of its Country Offices in order to build up their expertise on climate and environment.

COMMITMENT 2: MAXIMIZE THE ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY OF OUR WORK AND RAPIDLY REDUCE OUR GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS

2a) By 2023, NCA has established a system for calculating and tracking its greenhouse gas emissions.

2b) By 2024, NCA has integrated the principle of “reduce, reuse and recycle” in all its programmes and operations to minimise pollution and decrease NCA’s use of resources.

2c) By 2025, NCA has reduced its annual carbon emissions from known emission sources (international air travel) by 25% compared to 2019 levels.

2d) By 2025, NCA has reduced energy consumption at its Head Office and Country Offices, using renewable energy sources where applicable.

COMMITMENT 3: EMBRACE THE LEADERSHIP OF LOCAL ACTORS AND COMMUNITIES

3a) By 2024, NCA has ensured that its assessments of climate and environmental risks, as well as the development of adaptation and mitigation measures, are informed by affected communities and local stakeholders through equitable representation and participation, including marginalised communities.

COMMITMENT 4: INCREASE OUR CAPACITY TO UNDERSTAND CLIMATE AND ENVIRONMENTAL RISKS AND DEVELOP EVIDENCE-BASED SOLUTIONS

4a) By 2024, NCA has integrated climate and environment in staff onboarding in order to increase staff understanding and awareness. Relevant staff and partners have received training on conducting climate and environmental risk assessments in programmes and operations.

4b) By 2024, NCA has compiled examples of lessons learned and best practice on the integration of climate resilience and environmental sustainability in our global programmes and strategic initiatives.

COMMITMENT 5: WORK COLLABORATIVELY ACROSS THE HUMANITARIAN SECTOR AND BEYOND TO STRENGTHEN CLIMATE AND ENVIRONMENTAL ACTION

5a) By 2024, NCA has shared lessons learned and made its tools, methods and data related to the Charter Commitments available for peers and partners in the humanitarian sector and beyond.

5b) By 2024, NCA has strengthened its collaboration with local, national, and international actors to scale up efforts on early warning-early action and respond to the needs identified by countries and communities that are vulnerable to climate-induced disasters and other environmental risks.

COMMITMENT 6: USE OUR INFLUENCE TO MOBILIZE URGENT AND MORE AMBITIOUS CLIMATE ACTION AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

6a) By 2024, NCA has scaled-up its engagement with the Norwegian government, public authorities, civil society, donors, and private sectors, integrating climate change resilience and environmental protection in our advocacy, communication, marketing, and fundraising campaigns in order to direct political and financial attention towards action that benefits vulnerable and at-risk people in fragile and conflict-affected countries.

6b) By 2024, NCA has increased Country Office involvement in evidence-based environment and climate advocacy, and, where applicable, supported our partners to speak with their governments.