

# Driving Quality, Accountability and Learning

## What's involved



**Established cycle of meetings of DEC Board and six sub committees providing sound governance infrastructure**

DEC Board of Trustees includes 6 independents and meets 5 times a year. Six established sub committees - Accountability, Audit, Membership & Nominations, Risk, Remuneration, Recruitment – each chaired by an independent Trustee and meeting 4 times a year.



### Risk Management in operation across all areas of work

Facilitating awareness of Secretariat and DEC Agencies of what might hinder achievement of objectives so that chosen courses of action are based on a sound understanding of the risks involved.

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### Four key priorities to achieve a 'well managed appeal'

Annual assessment against 4 Priorities: we fundraise effectively; we allocate funds promptly according to capacity; we actively review programmes and facilitate learning; we are accountable to stakeholders. This enables the Trustees to hold the Secretariat to account and keep the public informed about the relevant management processes.



### Unqualified report from annual external audit of DEC Accounts

Certifying the true and fair view of the DEC Accounts.

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### Five key priorities to achieve a 'quality disaster response'

Annual assessment against the 5 Priorities helps the Trustees hold each other to account and keep the public informed about the relevant Member Agencies' ability to support excellence and drive continuous improvement.



### Robust evaluation policy

Setting out the DEC policies for Member Agencies' independent evaluations and Secretariat commissioned joint desk and field studies. The cycle for Member Agencies' evaluations is set in advance to ensure objectivity.



### Comprehensive plans and reports regularly submitted by DEC Agencies to Secretariat for each appeal fund

Covering:

- Programme details
- Humanitarian principles and standards
- Key considerations that impact on programming
- Lesson learning
- Funding and expenditure
- Assurance

and used for decision making, monitoring, reporting to the Board of Trustees and reporting to other stakeholders.



### Focussed Learning Workshops held for Member Agencies

Providing an opportunity for DEC Agencies to share best practice in some of the most challenging areas of disaster responses.

### Formal review of compliance with DEC Membership Criteria

Establishing that DEC Agencies continue to meet the Membership Criteria and therefore represent the leading UK humanitarian aid agencies; reviewing potential new members ability to meet the Membership Criteria.



### Joint Desk and Field studies for learning and accountability commissioned regularly

Secretariat led collective initiatives for learning and accountability including the promotion of continuous improvement in standards of aid delivery.

## What's published



### Informative quarterly appeal updates – DEC website

Synthesis of DEC Agencies' reports to provide an overview of their disaster response programmes, including how money raised is spent and the successes, challenges and risks.



### Balanced Appeal Summaries – DEC Annual Report

Summary of the nature of a disaster for which the DEC has run an appeal and a synthesis of DEC Agencies' responses to the disaster.



### Progressive Management & Improvement Report – DEC Annual Report

An overview of assessments against the Accountability Priorities and progress against prior year improvement commitments.



### Trustee commissioned reports for public accountability – DEC website

To contribute to transparency and accountability in the use of public funds and support accountability to donors and beneficiaries.



### Open Information Policy – DEC website

The DEC Trustees are committed to openness and to showing leadership in public accountability through timely and transparent reporting.



### Complaints Policy improved – DEC website

Explaining how members of the public can query a donation or DEC activity; queries and complaints are taken very seriously and treated as opportunities to develop.